

# BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AGENDA

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Service Center  
1100 South Sherman Street  
Longmont, CO 80501

3:30 p.m. – Water Conference Room

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1. ROLL CALL

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS

A. April 17, 2019 – Board of Environmental Affairs Regular Meeting

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Wildlife Management Plan Update presentation
- B. Button Rock Management Plan Interim Update

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- A. Quarterly progress report
- B. Sustainability Coalition

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

10. ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

- A. Update on BEA name change

11. ADJOURN

If you need special assistance to participate in a Board of Environmental Affairs meeting, please contact Heather McIntyre at 303-651-8817 in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

# BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS MINUTES

April 17, 2019

Service Center Conference Room  
1100 S. Sherman Street  
Longmont, CO 80501

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The April 17, 2019 meeting of the Longmont Board of Environmental Affairs was called to order by Vice Chair Violeta Manoukian at 3:36 pm at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

## 1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present at roll call: Violeta Manoukian, Amy Schmidt, Jim Metcalf, Wendy Jones, and Kate Collardson. Kay Vollmayer arrived at 3:47 pm.

Board Members Excused: Kai Abelkis

City Staff Members Present: Lisa Knoblauch, Annie Noble, Francie Jaffe, Maureen Wallace, Erin Fosdick, and Heather McIntyre

Public in Attendance: None

## 2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There was a quorum present with five board members in attendance.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20, 2019

Board member Schmidt moved to approve the March 20, 2019 minutes; Board member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

## 4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

There was no public in attendance.

## 5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Recording Secretary Heather McIntyre submitted draft Council Communication and Ordinance change documents for the Board to discuss later in the meeting regarding their request that City Council change the Board's name.

## 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

### A. Main Street Corridor Update

Staff member Erin Fosdick presented the Board with an update on the Main Street Corridor Plan, which included a project overview handout for all members. The Plan focuses on the future of the Main Street Corridor, emphasizing consideration of land use and growth, transportation and safety, culture and history, and market needs to identify possible improvements along the corridor.

Board member Kay Vollmayer arrived at 3:47 pm.

Four main “character areas” of the 5-mile corridor have been identified within the Plan to help in planning for revitalization and development along Main Street from Highway 66 on the north side to Plateau Road on the south side. Further discussion, with questions, answers, and comments from the Board were made throughout the presentation.

More information about the Plan is available on the Main Street Corridor webpage ([bit.ly/MainStreetCorridor](http://bit.ly/MainStreetCorridor)) or through the City’s new Engage Longmont webpage (<https://engage.longmontcolorado.gov/>).

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

Board member Manoukian stated that she met with Staff member Knoblauch about her Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) presentation, which had originally been scheduled as part of the Board’s 2019 Work Plan to happen this month. In their discussion, they decided it would be better to include this presentation in the future after the Just Transition Plan and the SOLL (Sustainable Opportunities, Lifestyles, & Leadership) program have been more established, making the PME approach more applicable to the City’s Sustainability Program.

### A. Update on Council Communication for Changing the Name of the Board of Environmental Affairs

Staff member Lisa Knoblauch stated that Council member Polly Christensen made a motion on behalf of the Board of Environmental Affairs at the April 16, 2019 City Council meeting to change its name to the Sustainability Advisory Board. The motion passed with instruction for Staff to come back with an ordinance change proposal for Council to approve. A draft communication from Staff and a draft ordinance from the City Attorney’s Office were submitted to the Board for review and input.

**A motion was made by Board Member Jones to formally recommend that City Council amend the ordinance to change the Board’s name to the Sustainability Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Board Member Schmidt; the motion passed 6-0.**

**8. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Staff member Knoblauch presented several upcoming volunteer opportunities with the Board and received responses of those who were able to help at the various events. A list of these and other volunteer opportunities will be emailed to Board members soon.

**9. ITEMS FROM BOARD**

There were no other items from Board members.

**10. ADJOURN**

**Board member Collardson moved to adjourn the meeting; Board member Metcalf seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Board of Environmental Affairs is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 3:30 pm at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, Colorado 80501.

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**Violeta Manoukian, Vice Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Heather McIntyre, Recording Secretary**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



## NATURAL RESOURCES

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**Meeting Date:** May 15, 2019

**Agenda Item:** Project Update from Staff

**Subject:** Button Rock Preserve Management Plan - Update

**Presenter:** Danielle Levine

**Suggested Action:** Information

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### **Summary**

In January and February, 2019, Parks, Open Space, and Trails staff presented the Button Rock Preserve Management Plan project, including the IGA with Colorado Natural Heritage Program to PRAB, Water Board, Board of Environmental Affairs, and City Council. During the February 12 session, Council approved the Resolution to enter into the IGA, provided direction to implement an interim 'dogs on leash, one dog per person' rule, and requested that staff provide periodic updates to Council as the plan develops.

Plan kick off and data collection began in March. On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Engage Longmont forum *Caring for Button Rock* started gathering public feedback and on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Times-Call published an article about the plan. The interim dog rule went into effect on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

On the *Caring for Button Rock* forum, responses vary. On dogs, responses have ranged from liking the dog rule, to not understanding it, to disliking it and feeling that it is unnecessary. On the overall plan, comments have ranged from adding new user groups to restricting current uses, to a parking lot shuttle, to charging for parking. Now that data collection and public outreach are underway and new temporary dog regulations are in effect, staff would like to provide a project update to clarify plan scope and to ensure that all participants have a shared understanding of plan scope.

### **Background**

Button Rock Preserve was purchased and is managed to protect the City's municipal drinking water supply. As such, the primary management goal has always been to protect and enhance the long-term ecological health of the watershed and Preserve. The City designed Preserve elements including its roads, trails, water access points, parking lot, trash collection, and bathroom facilities to support these specific passive uses. Historically, visitor use ranged from between roughly 5,000 to 7,000 people annually. In 2018, annual visitation surpassed 60,000 people.

This significant increase in visitation has meant pressures on existing infrastructure (the parking lot, the bathrooms, the trails), Preserve staff (public safety, user conflicts, human-wildlife conflicts, special events, litter and waste collection, regulations enforcement), and all Preserve elements have become

more pronounced. Thus the need to prioritize resource protection by developing this plan is essential. A preliminary step of the plan is developing a natural resource inventory by gathering baseline and historic resource data and using the data to evaluate the ecological health of the Preserve. The visitor use component will focus on assessing outdated regulations as well as impacts from current recreational uses as they relate to increasing visitor numbers. The City is looking to continue to provide limited and specifically designated types of passive recreation. However, it is outside the scope of this planning process and contrary to plan goals to look at opening up this protected Preserve to more types of recreation and more user groups or to expand the plan extent to a regional planning effort.

#### *Plan Scope<sup>1</sup>*

- 1) Identify the management actions, management policies, and regulation updates that will best protect the City's water supply, sensitive resources and the overall ecological health of this protected Preserve.
- 2) Assess current infrastructure and recreational uses as they relate to increasing visitor use.

#### *Plan Sideboards<sup>2</sup>*

- 1) Geographic Extent: Resource protection and regulation updates identified in the planning process will apply only to City-owned lands within Preserve boundaries.
  - a. As part of the planning process, the City is coordinating its forest health management actions within the Preserve, e.g., aligning timing of treatments, treatment strategies, with adjacent agency landowners including Boulder County, Colorado State Forest Service, and the U.S. Forest Service to maximize effectiveness regardless of boundary lines.
- 2) Visitor Use: The focus of the visitor use plan component is to develop best management practices for infrastructure protection, regulations enforcement, and existing forms of recreation available to the high level of annual visitors without compromising the City's ability to protect water quality, sensitive resources, the watershed, and the Preserve.
  - a. This planning effort will not evaluate adding additional infrastructure to support more users or user groups, e.g., sport shooters, mountain bikers, equestrians, etc.
  - b. The City is not designing new trails, optimizing existing trails to support additional user groups, or developing new infrastructure within the Preserve as part of this planning effort.
  - c. The City is not working with partners to evaluate or develop regional trails or connections as part of this effort.

#### **BEA Action**

Receive an update from staff and provide concurrence clarifying plan scope and sideboards as described above.

<sup>1</sup>Scope defines what is applicable to a given planning process.

<sup>2</sup>Sideboards define what is beyond the scope of a planning process. Sideboards are unique to a given process; they ensure participants have a shared understanding of a plan's scope.