

Public Can Participate Live During Virtual Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meetings

In order to protect residents, staff, and elected officials from COVID-19, Longmont residents are urged to provide public comment from the comfort and safety of their homes by watching the meeting via livestream (links below) and by calling in on a phone number to provide public comment when prompted to do so during the meeting.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will hold their regularly scheduled meeting at 6:30p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2020, via remote virtual meeting. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. Information will be displayed and announced during the live meeting directing the public on how to call in to the meeting and when to do so.

As public participation is an integral part of any government and deeply valued by Longmont's elected officials, the City has changed to a new software for remote meetings in order to allow for public comment to be made during the meeting.

City staff continues to work with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to ensure that [agendas are balanced during the COVID-19 crisis](#). Topics that are controversial or those requiring additional community involvement have been tabled to future meeting dates.

The [monthly Board agendas](#) are posted on the City's website. The Parks and Recreation advisory Board meetings are live-streamed and can be [viewed on the City's YouTube channel](#), on LongmontPublicMedia.org.



AGENDA

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Date: August 10, 2020

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting site

1. **Roll Call**
Meetings Are Being Held Remotely Due To The Governor's Safer At Home Order As A Result Of the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic. Watch the meeting livestream at: <https://Bit.ly/longmontyoutubelive> - OR - <https://Longmontpublicmedia.Org/Watch/>
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Approval of Previous Months Minutes**
A. June 8, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Regular Meeting
4. **Public Invited to be Heard**
Anyone wishing to provide Public Comment during Public Invited To Be Heard must watch the livestream of the meeting for instructions.
 - When the call-in information is displayed on the screen, please call the number displayed, enter the Meeting ID, and, when asked for your Participant ID, press #.
 - Callers will hear confirmation they have entered the meeting and be told how many people are already participating in the meeting (staff and council included). Callers are placed on hold and muted until they are called on by the last three digits of their phone number, at which time they will be unmuted and invited to speak.
 - Please remember to mute the livestream when you are called upon to speak.
 - Comments are limited to three minutes per person and each speaker will be asked to state their name and address for the record prior to proceeding with their comments.
5. **Old Business**
A. Final Button Rock Management Plan Survey
6. **New Business**
A. Discuss recommendations from the Climate Action Task Force
B. Lefthand Creek BMX/Riparian Issue
C. Disposition of Open Space – Newby Farm Conservation Easement
7. **Items from Staff**
8. **Items from Board**
9. **Public Invited to be Heard**
10. **Adjournment**

If you need special assistance to participate in a Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting, please contact Aurora Black or Veronica De Santiago at 303-651-8404 in advance of the meeting to make arrangements

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
June 8, 2020

1. Roll Call

Present: Manoj Gangwar, Paige Lewis, Rob Pudim, Katja Stokley, Sue Ahlberg, Jeff Ellenbogen, Dan Ohlsen, Council Liaison Aren Rodriguez

Staff Present: Jeff Friesner, David Bell, Dan Wolford and Nicola Davidson. Steve Ransweiler (6:40pm)

2. Chair Reminder to the Public

Katja Stokley reminded the public watching how they could participate during the Public Invited to be heard sessions.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion by Katja Stokley to approve the June 8, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes

A motion by Katja Stokley to approve the March 9, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes. Dan Ohlsen and Jeff Ellenbogen abstained since they were not present. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Public Invited to be heard

Session opened – no one present – session closed.

6. New Business

A. Modification to the Open Space Disposition Ordinance – Dan Wolford, Land Program Administrator

Staff will take this item to city council July 7th. The purpose of the language modification to the ordinance is to allow the City more flexibility to dispose of elements of Open Space property that would be more beneficial to the Open Space Program. Examples of this are the 3 unused water taps on current properties. Any sale of a property fee would still retain the conservation easement and safeguard the initial intent of the original acquisition.

Dan Ohlsen asked for clarification of the term fee. A fee is all the rights associated with a property, the right to develop/modify that property/land for whatever purpose the owner needs.

Rob Pudim noted his approval of the ordinance despite generally being opposed to the sale of any open space; felt this is a good alternative.

Sue Ahlberg asked about resale of rights by the buyer and their ability to then use the property for other uses such as housing developments or fracking sites etc. Will the city have any say in future use of property? Dan Wolford explained the city would still keep its conservation easement rights.

Paige Lewis asked what opportunity could the Board have to strengthen the original Ordinance and could this be done at the same time as the modification? Dan noted this could be done separately and was certainly a possibility. This will be discussed at a future PRAB meeting, to be determined with Paige.

Katja Stokley asked what argument would there be against the modification. Dan noted none other than past interpretations of the ordinance by city attorneys.

A motion by Paige Lewis for PRAB to recommend city council proceed with the modification to the Open Space Disposition Ordinance as outlined by Dan Wolford. Sue Ahlberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Items from Staff

Jeff Freisner outlined the reopening plans for Recreation that would go to Harold's Leadership Team on Tuesday 9th for approval. All special events will be cancelled through the end of July, except the 4th July fireworks, still to be determined. A notice to the public will go out this week. Recreation centers, Centennial pool and athletic fields will open to the public beginning 6/15 with limitations, a reservation system and adhering to all Covid 19 guidelines including contact tracing. Additional programs will open as possible thereafter. Sunset Pool will open week of 6/22 with limitations and open swim available immediately. Memorial Building will continue to offer childcare and be open for limited public use.

David Bell gave update on Parks, outlining that under COVID 19 parks, outdoor trails and open spaces are being used fully by the public. Union swim beach was closed due to non-compliance of social distancing by the public and will remain so until further notice. Illegally parked cars at Button Rock Reserve due to increased use now necessitate two police officers being stationed there. Parks will be closing the bridge at Dickens Nature Area to ensure public safety at this time. David will make the water flow charts link more accessible for the PRAB board to see. Steve Ransweiler noted they are also working on signage to make tubing at Dickens safer. McKintosh Lake continues to be a challenge given increased usage and no ability to prevent use. David noted this current situation is helping them think about what it will look like in the future and how Parks can manage this going forward. Dan Ohlsen noted the sprinklers at Carr Park needed adjusting and Steve would take care of this.

Paige Lewis thanked Parks and Recreation for all they are doing during this time, and how she has renewed value for her local park, thanked all for hanging in there.

Conversations are ongoing with the Creekside BMX group and Steve Ransweiler would notify the Board when a public hearing was planned.

Dan Wolford noted that surveillance for West Nile virus would begin next week 6/15.

8. Items from Board

Aren Rodriguez thanked everyone for their input and answering his and the public's questions tonight.

Paige Lewis would like to know when the Board would hear about the budget impacts of Covid 19. Parks and Recreation will give an update when they are able to do so.

Sue Ahlberg thanked the departments and requested to receive updates, even when meetings are not possible. She appreciates more interaction and communication. Also, asked if it is still on agenda to have a public discussion of a new pool facility, noting the School District are planning a pool. Jeff committed to send updates.

Katja Stokley thanked all of the hard working staff at Parks and Recreation for all they do.

Dan Ohlsen asked if next month's meeting was planned yet and would it be on Zoom? He will be travelling but will have internet. Jeff noted no plan at this time but there would be a meeting if there were any items that needed action like today's Ordinance item.

9. Public Invited to be heard.

Session opened – no one present – session closed.

10. Adjournment – 8:11pm

A motion by Jeff Ellenbogen to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Meeting Date: August 10, 2020

Item Number:

Subject: Climate Action Recommendations

Type of Item:

From: Lisa Knoblauch, Sustainability Program Manager, (303) 651-8403, lisa.knoblauch@longmontcolorado.gov
Francie Jaffe, Water Conservation & Sustainability Specialist, (303) 774-4468
francie.jaffe@longmontcolorado.gov

Suggested Action: PRAB discuss the Climate Action Task Force recommendations and provide advice to City Council.

Background Information

History of the Climate Action Recommendations Report

On October 8, 2019, [the Longmont City Council passed a resolution declaring a climate emergency](#), establishing Longmont's intent to take immediate and accelerated action to address the climate crisis. City Council voted unanimously to pass this resident-initiated resolution. The resolution called for the convening of a working group, dubbed the “Climate Action Task Force,” to develop a Climate Action Report outlining action City should take to promote a carbon-free, sustainable city.

On December 3, 2019, City Council approved the composition and members of the Climate Action Task Force as recommended by the selection committee. The Task Force convened on December 18, 2019 and met a total of eight times to discuss and research steps the City should take to reduce (mitigate) greenhouse gas emissions, along with ways to adapt to the impacts of climate change .

The Task Force’s six focus areas are:

1. Adaptation and Resilience;
2. Building Energy Use;
3. Education and Outreach;
4. Land Use and Waste Management;
5. Renewable Energy;
6. Transportation

On March 2, 2020, City staff released a climate action questionnaire for both residents and business to receive feedback from the community and assist the Climate Action Task Force in finalizing its recommendations. The final questionnaire report and key findings are included in the report to City Council. Due to COVID-19, in-person outreach for this questionnaire was interrupted.

On June 30, and July 7, 2020 the Climate Action Task Force presented the recommendations report to the Longmont City Council. These report dates were rescheduled from an original report date in April due to COVID-19.

[The Just Transition Plan](#) Committee is working alongside the Climate Action Task Force to ensure recommendations are inclusive and accessible to all members of the community with a specific focus of including the perspectives of communities who are not often heard and most often impacted by the effects of climate change. The Committee's final recommendations are included in the report to Longmont City Council.

For more information, [visit Engage Longmont's Climate Emergency Resolution site.](#)

Climate Action Task Force Recommendations for PRAB to Review

There are 28 total Climate Action Task Force recommendations. Water Board can provide feedback on all recommendations, but the presentation from City staff will focus on the following four recommendations:

- 1) AR.1 - Public Health
- 2) AR.2 - Water Conservation
- 3) LW.1 - Extending Agricultural Zoning
- 4) T.3 - Connected Bikeways

These were the four recommendations that City staff felt were most relevant for PRAB to vote on. PRAB can decide if any of the above recommendations are not within their scope of work or if there are other recommendations within their scope of work to vote on.

[The full report](#) can be viewed in the City Council communication for the June 30th agenda.

Attachments:

1. The full Climate Action Task Force public health, water conservation, extending agricultural zoning and connected bikeways recommendations (these pages have been pulled from the full report).

Action Item:

1. For Climate Action Task Force recommendations, AR.1, AR.2, LW.1, and T.3. PRAB will vote to approve as written (thumbs up), approve with noted

considerations (thumbs sideways) or do not approve as written (thumbs down). The voting and associated comments will be provided to City Council along with feedback from other advisory boards.

2. Provide high-level comments on all other Climate Action Task Force recommendations and the Just Transition Plan Committee equity recommendations.



Recommendations by Topic Area

Below are the summaries of each climate action recommendation by topic area. For the full text of each proposed recommendation, see Appendix B: Climate Action Task Force Full Recommendations.

Adaptation and Resilience

AR.1) Public Health

Collaborate with the Boulder County Health Department and the CDPHE to develop a coalition to create a climate adaptation and health plan by January 2022, or sooner based on the timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Develop a coalition focused on identifying issues and solutions for a warming climate, with a specific focus on the needs of low-income households and residents experiencing homelessness. Topics may include addressing heatwaves and other severe weather events, air quality issues, detection, surveillance and treatment of diseases.

AR.2) Water Conservation

Expand and create new programs and initiatives to achieve a 35%-40% reduction in overall water consumption below a 2019 baseline by 2025.

Prepare the City for potential sustained drought conditions and changes in temperature and precipitation through policies, demonstration projects, and direct education and resources for residents and businesses to reduce indoor and outdoor water use.

AR.3) Flooding Mitigation and Preparedness Education

Enhance Longmont’s preparedness regarding flooding through a public awareness campaign launched in early 2021.

Launch a public education and outreach campaign that targets residents and commercial realtors to help inform residents of the dangers of flooding and the value of investing in flood mitigation projects. The campaign can be achieved through in-person events, brochures, direct mailings to property owners, and other media platforms. The campaign should include launching a Flood Awareness Week with articles published through local media outlets and information posted at the Longmont Library and other public venues.

Building Energy Use

BE.1) Building Codes

Expand the adoption of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) by adding 1) solar-ready provisions, 2) EnergyStar rated appliances and 3) electric heaters and hot water heaters by the end of 2022.

their neighbors and peers about items such as programs offered through Longmont, the benefits of renewable energy, how to save energy at home and work, and ways to reduce waste. They will also advise people about using composting, obtaining rebates, and connecting to educational resources.

Land Use and Waste Management

LW.1)

Extending Agricultural Zoning

Establish code changes to allow for residential agriculture, and develop ongoing programs that incentivize the public to participate in growing and selling their own food by 2023.

Establish a culture of local food production by change residential zoning to allow for residential agriculture to be grown and sold on the local market; engage the St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD) to incentivize students in middle and high school to participate in local gardening and food production efforts; and helping to establish local co-ops for sale of resident grown produce. By converting idle land into food production, the local economy would benefit by creating additional income opportunities for resident growers, while increasing community resiliency through new and diversified local food sources. Environmental benefits include reducing the need and fossil fuel consumption for long-distance shipping, decreasing outdoor water use for lawns, and increasing habitat for pollinators.

LW.2)

Commercial & Residential Composting

Increase participation in residential and commercial composting to 75% of all homes and businesses by 2025.

Improve the ease and effectiveness of the City's existing composting program through right-sizing composting and yard waste bins, establishing curbside composting as an opt out instead of an opt in service, increase education programs and require certain high-organic waste businesses to participate in composting. Within the next year, establish a system to count participating households and businesses so that the City can track progress toward the goal.

LW.3)

Downtown Pay for Parking

Implement pay to park requirements in Longmont's downtown by 2023 in a way that encourages alternative modes of transportation and improves the experience and enjoyment of people downtown.

Establish a pay-to-park requirement downtown that disincentives car travel in the city center. The program would ultimately target a reduction in the land area needed for car parking and vehicle miles traveled to downtown, while creating select car-free streets and opening up areas currently dedicated to parking for higher use. The program would reduce paved and impervious surfaces, encourage alternative modes, and ultimately reduce greenhouse gas production. A portion of the money generated from the pay-to-park parking spaces to fund

	<p>Incorporate more electric only charging parking spaces in public parking lot locations in high density areas, such as Downtown Longmont. Offer prime parking locations for electric vehicles where people can charge their vehicle while visiting Downtown. More visible charging stations raises awareness and encourages usage by people who own electric vehicles. The parking time limit would still need to be adhered to, therefore, Level Two charging stations are encouraged where charging can be completed within two hours.</p>
<p>T.3) Connected Bikeways</p>	<p>Create a plan for safe and complete Longmont bikeways that interconnect all major nodes, neighborhoods, and community service centers without crossing major roads/highways and construct a majority of the system within the next 10 years, with full completion in 20 years.</p> <p>Highly interconnected, complete and safe (fully lit, above grade, limited-to-no traffic) bikeways encourages increased use of bike transportation supporting public health and vehicle emissions reduction goals. Major nodes in the community includes bus stops, grocery stores, primary community services, and parks. Planning for increased bikeway connectedness should occur in conjunction with land-use planning.</p>
<p>T.4) Alternative Work Schedules</p>	<p>Conduct an education campaign by 2022 for employers and employees about ways to reduce commuting congestion in peak periods by 20% over the next 10 years.</p> <p>Strategies that support alternative work schedules may include compressed workweeks or workdays, telecommuting, video meeting policies, expanded work-from-home policies, common window scheduling, or do-it-yourself paid time off policies. Reduced employee trips will be calculated using employer surveys. Reduced commuting congestion will reduce stress, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution.</p>

Appendix B: Climate Action Task Force Full Recommendations

Adaptation and Resilience

AR.1) Public Health in a Warming Climate

Goal/Objective

Longmont will prepare for the threats to public health from a warmer, changed climate.

Recommendation Summary

Longmont should develop strong collaborative efforts with Boulder County Health and Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) to formulate a set of issues and solutions for a warming climate. This needs to include the needs of low-income residents and residents who are experiencing homelessness who have not only less access to health care, but also to an environment that is protective during periods of extreme heat and/or poor air quality. In addition, the plan should include methods to meet the mental health requirements of people. Another facet of the plan will be assisting residents with mitigation of air pollution from smoke and other pollutants. The plan must also be ready to implement methods of detection, surveillance and treatment of diseases that may flourish in warmer Longmont. Workers who labor in an outdoor setting also need training and protection from heat. Meetings with Boulder County and CDPHE could occur this summer. ***The group should have a plan outlined within 1 and a half years (by January 2022) or sooner based on the timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic.***

Target

Specific:

The City of Longmont, Boulder County Health and CDPHE should develop a plan to address public health from a warmer, changed climate by January 2022 at the latest.

Measurable:

The plan should be carefully developed and ready for implementation. The plan should include indicators and metrics to measure progress. Potential Plan examples are:

- Provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness any time daytime temperatures are over 100° F and nighttime temperatures are over 80° F.
- Air conditioners made available to lower-income residents.
- Cooling centers and water play areas.
- Alerts with expected actions for days with high pollution.

- Plan for health emergencies for novel diseases.

Achievable:

Funding for implementation will need to be part of the planning process and become available for implementation.

Once the plan is developed, residents need to be aware of resources such as wading pools and access to creek wading areas to cool off on high heat days. Health care providers will need to be aware of the plan and how/when to access that plan if they see a new public health threat not previously seen in the community.

Relevant:

The goal is to mitigate effects on public health by carefully planning and being ready to implement solutions.

Time-bound:

Meetings with Boulder County and CDPHE could start this summer or fall of 2020. The group should have a plan outlined within one and a half years (by January 2022) or sooner, depending on the timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Social and Economic Impacts

Failing to implement could have impacts on community health. Those without adequate cooling and/or shelter will be more adversely impacted as will those who have existing health conditions such as asthma, COPD, or heart ailments. The purpose of this goal is to develop a plan that looks at all those potential impacts and provide pathways to lessen those impacts.

AR.2) Water Conservation

Goal/Objective

Prepare the City of Longmont for potential sustained drought conditions from changes in temperature and precipitation.

Recommendation Summary

Water conservation measures and policies should include the promotion of xeriscaping, use of native vegetation in parks and open spaces, city programs that offer support for xeriscaping for residents and businesses (free architectural designs, free pea gravel, mulch, classes and plant giveaways).

Educational awareness programs and promotional events offered by the City's Public Works and Natural Resources Department should inform residents about the benefit of carbon sequestration, forest canopies, using native plants, low water use appliances, and xeriscaping. HOA and city

ordinances will offer incentives to promote xeriscaping and low drought gardening. In addition, a plan for water rationing in the event of a prolonged drought will need to be reviewed and updated.

Target

Specific:

Significantly expand the Longmont water conservation program to reduce citywide water usage by 35 to 40% by 2025.

Measurable:

Water consumption should show a decline in use. The Water Efficiency Master Plan can be updated to adopt a measure that tracks excessive use by residences and businesses and charges higher rates for overconsumption.

Achievable:

Financial Summary: An estimation of staff time and landscape transitions need will need to be evaluated and then added to the city budget.

Marketing, Training, and Incentives: Education, training, and promotion will be key to getting resident ownership and participation in conservation efforts.

Relevant:

Water conservation efforts will assist in addressing climate change issues by conserving our water and preparing for potential droughts.

“This climatic change could have a negative effect on agriculture, wildfires, energy and water availability in the area. Additional costs that may be incurred to mitigate the effects of these droughts include increasing water supply from external sources, compensating agricultural operations for reducing water-intensive crops, incentivizing homeowners to change landscape items to be more drought resistant, and increasing fire mitigation procedures to reduce wildfire hazards. Concurrently, the impact on usage from both underground aquifers and reservoirs will need to be examined to determine if traditional usage levels can be continued, or whether usage levels may have to be monitored to ensure long-term availability of water.”

Source: [Resilient Analytics April 2018 Report on Boulder County Climate](#)

Time-bound:

By 2025, total city water use should decline by 35 to 40% below the 2019 baseline.

Social and Economic Impacts

Water conservation helps to ensure adequate supply for necessary uses in a changing climate with unpredictable impacts to water availability. Golf courses and city parks may change in appearance and functionality to achieve this goal.

Land Use and Waste Management

LW.1) Extending Agricultural Zoning

Recommendation Summary

Change zoning to allow for agricultural enterprises on residential properties. The zoning would allow for a portion of a property to produce food which can be sold locally at farmer's markets, roadside stands, or in any manner consistent with health and safety. Economic benefits include additional income for residents and job creation from implementing the program. Increasing access to local food could displace some current non-local consumption and lower the average carbon-intensity of our food supply through transportation emissions reductions.

Objective

This zoning change could be included with xeriscape transitions. Xeriscape is a landscaping method developed especially for arid and semiarid climates that utilizes water-conserving techniques. Allowing portions of properties to become gardens would reduce water usage by up to 90% if a drip system is required. Residents would be incentivized to move away from a grass yard if they could receive payment for the things they grow. A portion of sales would go to new jobs to verify that the food items are fit to sell to the public. Food tents for local foods could be set up at farmer's markets and other places in the city to sell the food. If widely adopted, this could substantially reduce the amount of fresh produce that is required to be shipped into the city from distant places, reducing emissions. The produce could also be purchased by local restaurants or even groceries. The change would also create a beneficial ecosystem for insects, which are known to be declining. The gardens could also be part of a program to rehabilitate soils. It is likely that neighbors would actually meet each other to trade "tomatoes for lettuce" etc., creating new positive community outcomes.

This goal is for any size property. Code would have to be adopted to determine what percentage of a property can be used for gardening, and where on the property (i.e. away from roads or pathways).

Target

Specific

Transition a significant amount of Longmont's idle land – used primarily for decorative lawns, or "wasted" in easements and right of ways, to productive, sustainably managed micro-agricultural land. This can include private property as well as public. A system for allocating public land will need to be developed. One model that's been suggested is "Adopt-a-plot" which could be administered similar to "Adopt-a-Highway" programs, which must be successful because they are ubiquitous.

Measureable

Success can be measured by adoption numbers and acreage converted, plus yearly yields determined by employees or companies who collect and monitor food quality.

Many people want to grow their own food and sell it for extra money. This model resembles Airbnb for gardening, but with positive outcomes for climate change – local food.

This is partly inspired by Switzerland, where everyone’s yard is just one big garden, and everyone trades food and sells the rest. Whole villages are known to have zero incoming food shipments. The city can do it too! The water requirement is alleviated with high-quality drip systems, required to be in the program.

Example: <https://www.bettergardens.ch/about-bettergardens.html>

Achievable

The City already engages in programs similar to what would be needed to implement this. The code changes needed are within the skill sets of the City planners and the PWN organization. There is already a desire for this among the residents, as evidenced by usage of Garden-in-a-Box, the popularity of Farmer’s Markets, and the prevalence of backyard gardens, etc. In this case we are moving the public in a direction many already choose to go.

Relevant

Benefits relevant to climate change include:

- Reduced water consumption
- Reduced transport that consumes fossil fuels
- Diversification of plant stock providing resilience against catastrophic climate events that may wipe out monoculture crops
- More sustaining environment for pollinators.

Time-bound

Before the end of year two, the necessary regulations should be in place. Regulations need to be expressed in such a way that private landowners inside an HOA may still participate.

By the end of five years, one or more local co-ops should be in operation and providing an example that will inspire more neighborhoods and individuals to participate.

A goal for the end of the third year is to gain St. Vrain Valley School District’s (SVVSD) participation, by rewarding middle and high school students’ service hours for community gardening, and perhaps in other ways such as giving credit for plant eugenics projects, low-moisture gardening techniques, and the like.

Five years or more is required for this initiative to become part of the culture and for a robust local cooperative to develop. But we have something of a foothold in the popularity of the local Farmer’s Market and institutions such as Ollin farms.

Social and Economic Impacts

Benefits – Provides an additional source of income through a low-carbon enterprise. It could increase the consumption of local food. Increase the diversity of plant life in residential areas (residents should be encouraged to grow rare crops) and foster pollinator habitat. Climate events can disrupt food supply, so small-scale gardens can help avoid food disruptions in the future.

Negative – Barriers to participation for multifamily building occupants or smaller lots could have an outsized effect on low-income households. Refer to the Social Justice section below.

Barriers – The cost of water could rise in the future. Drip systems are expensive to install and calibrate. Running a profitable, small-scale farming operation is time-intensive and requires training in agriculture and botany. Making local gardens cost-effective is difficult without training or support. At present, Colorado does not allow a municipality to regulate pesticides, but for this movement to be viable, dangerous pesticides would need to be prohibited where they might impact the community garden or farm.

Social Justice – The City could convert open space around apartment complexes and pocket parks in HOAs into community garden allotments for the property residents. City Sustainability staff or groups such as EforAll can help organize communities into cooperatives.

Financial Summary

Upfront costs include the city staff time needed to draft and implement code updates, engage with local residents to get support, and then launch a city-led initiative to promote the program. There are also large upfront costs for residents to start the program, and making the endeavor cost-effective is not easy.

An educational program and gardening programs should be implemented to teach about opportunities and possibly distribute seeds.

Marketing, training, and incentives

Many residents are already xeriscaping their lawns. As noted above, educational programs to get residents started will need to be funded. Locally viable seed stock will need to be identified and distributed. Conceptually, this is no different than the existing garden-in-a-box program, except that it has wider potential benefits than just reducing water consumption.

A workforce development program may be needed to gradually transform Longmont's lawn-care workers to partners in the community agricultural industry. This could begin with replacing sprinkler systems with lower-consumption drip systems, replacing sod with soil conditioned for agriculture, testing soil for contaminants that would preclude food production, and the like. The best agency for effecting this transformation may be the county extension services.

T.3) Connected Bikeways

Recommendation Summary

Widespread, highly-interconnected, and safe (fully lit, above grade, limited-to-no traffic interaction) bikeways are needed to promote personal transport options within the city and allow all major neighborhoods to enter and exit the bikeway without crossing major roads/highways. The Climate Action Task Force recommends a system connecting all major nodes (bus, train, grocery, services, parks), with a focus on serving major neighborhood areas and connecting to major community service centers.

Objective

Make Longmont one of the most bike-friendly, medium-sized cities in the United States by creating a bikeway that circles the city and branches into and out of major nodes and neighborhoods. No biker should have to cross a major road or highway to access any part of the city. The benefits include decreased carbon emissions from personal vehicles, improved health, and improved safety. The big takeaway learned from speaking with some City of Boulder planners is that underpasses (dark tunnels) dramatically curb adoption of bikeways. Most people do not feel safe going through dark tunnels at any time of day. Thus the Climate Action Task Force recommends designing architecturally unique overpasses for major roads and highways to create an interconnected bikeway. The other deterrent is proximity to traffic. When Folsom St. in Boulder went from two lanes to one to accommodate a bikeway, the proximity to cars, especially at intersections, actually reduced the amount of cyclists using the road during commuter hours. There must be limited-to-no traffic interactions, essentially creating a separate bikeway from normal roads. People should only have to bike short distances on normal roads from their homes to the bikeway. And the entire route must be well lit in the evening hours.

Timeframe

Ten years to complete the majority of the system, 20 years to complete a totally interconnected bikeway.

Target

(not defined)

Social and Economic Impacts

An interconnected bikeway like the one we are proposing increases biker health through exercise and safety. This feeling of safety can encourage people to bike/scooter/walk more. And it provides better links to underserved areas and people who may not be able to afford a car.

Some increases in bike traffic near people's homes, and any potential road closures or reductions, are potential issues that would need to be addressed in the overall bikeway design. A system with raised bikeways will be more expensive than other options, but should see more use over its lifetime than an underpass-based system.

Financial Summary

This will be a long-term, high-cost effort, requiring very strategic planning to determine the most efficient system of projects to meet the goals. The conceptual planning phase will determine costs and budgeting needs. Final designs will determine specific cost needs. Initial estimates are \$10-20 million, or a million per year, to achieve a fully separated system for people riding bicycles, and other active modes of transportation.

Marketing, training, and incentives

There will need to be a significant policy commitment to allocate resources to create this kind of separated bicycle/pedestrian connector network. Much of this effort has been completed in the Enhanced Multi-Use Corridor plan (2018), but will need to continue in a targeted planning/design approach. Additionally, the plan will need to result in a decrease in total Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas (GHG) pollutant reduction.

In May 2020, members of the public expressed concern to City Council members regarding a “homemade” BMX course and a creek “beach” access built within the riparian corridor between Pike Rd and Sunset St. along Left Hand Creek, adjacent to Left Hand Creek Park. After meeting with various staff members, we can propose the option below as was to address these concerns. Once PRAB makes a recommendation on how to proceed, staff will bring these options to City Council for their review and direction.

Option 1: Leave the BMX course and beach access in place as they are.

Pros:

- Provides a sense of accomplishment to the kids who have worked on building/adjusting the course.
- Satisfying the 2,000+ signatures of the change.com petition
- Could be improved to be a better course (see attached photos Riparian pumptrack 1 & 2) – don’t have costs on this, but the American Pump Track company would come down to design it for about \$8500 and these elements don’t look too expensive.
- Provides access to the water during hotter summer months

Cons:

- Disrupts the riparian corridor along LH Creek, leading to an increased potential for bank erosion during larger flow events.
- Access to/from the existing BMX course is from private property – trespassing is involved.
- Adverse impacts to existing trees within the corridor, as soil is placed against the tree trunk bases.
- No safety measures included in the existing BMX design.
- Erosion potential from “beach”, no water testing, lifeguards, etc..

Option 2: Relocate the BMX course to another location in the near vicinity of LH Creek Park and improve the existing “beach” access in its existing location:

Pros:

- Would remove the adverse impacts from the riparian corridor from the bike uses.
- Would provide a new sanctioned bike amenity in south central Longmont. Closest existing bike areas are Dickens or Blue Skies. There are future funds in the CIP for a bike area at Sisters, which is nearby.
- Would continue to provide access to the water during hotter months

Cons:

- Unbudgeted request (+/- \$60,000 for new bike skills area – see attached pumptrack packages handout – was thinking of “Triple Threat Lumberjack” + design, grading, surfacing below track, land acquisition)
- Additional cost for riparian restoration/protection (fencing) and improvements to “beach” access costs (estimated at another \$30,000).
- Ideal location for new BMX location is land currently not owned by the City. City would need to approach existing property owner to request property dedication for bike use. There is a detention pond associated with this property transfer, so the City would need to commit to

maintaining this pond in perpetuity. There would be costs associated with property transfer. (+/- \$4,000 - \$5,000).

- Would necessitate Ranger activity to enforce the closure.

Option 3: Remove all access points to the creek

Pros:

- Protects riparian corridor and would allow staff to revegetate/protect disturbed areas along the creek banks.

Cons:

- Unbudgeted request to protect/restore disturbed areas (estimated at \$30,000).
- Would necessitate Ranger activity to enforce the closure.
- Original park masterplan included access to look at the creek – taking that away devalues the masterplan process.
- Would eliminate water access during hotter months.
- Would eliminate bike skills area from neighborhood. Closest areas are Dickens and future Sisters areas.

In short: (All budgets below are unfunded)

Option 1 – Do nothing and maybe spend \$15K-\$20 K to improve existing bike area.

Option 2 – Spend about \$100K for new bike skills and improved beach access.

Option 3 – Spend about \$30K and remove everything.

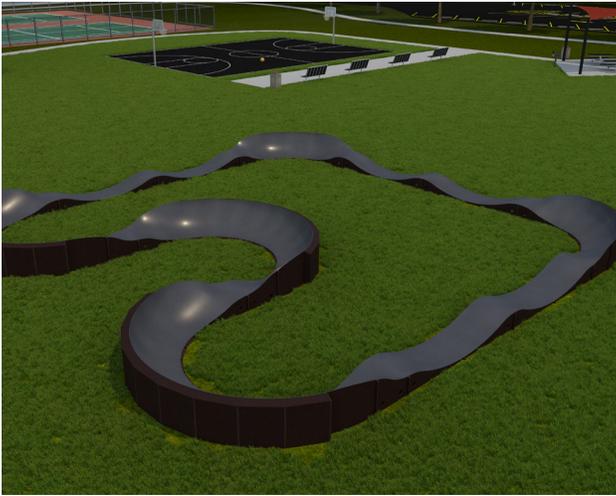
Please let me know if there are any deal breakers in here. I've checked in with Monica and Judah and think all of these options are doable, though some are better than others from a floodplain management vantage point. I'll then take this info into a draft council communication and let Becky Schol's group help finesse it into a larger communication talking about these options, the inability of staff to enforce restorative justice practices, etc. without law enforcement, etc.. I guess we'll see where this goes after that.

Steve Ransweiler, RLA | *Senior Project Manager*

City of Longmont | Public Works & Natural Resources
7 South Sunset Street, Longmont CO 80501

(303) 774-4532 | longmontcolorado.gov

WHAT IS A PUMPTRACK?



A Pumptrack is a progressive kind of structure that uses an up and down 'pumping' motion to propel the bicycle forward instead of pedaling.

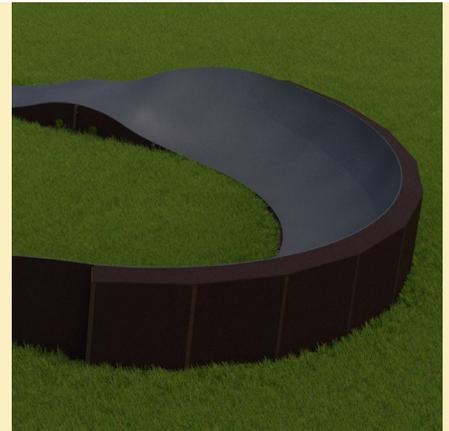
Pumptracks are a perfect structure for practicing balance, learning skills and improving confidence on the bike. They are safe and fun to ride for all ages and skill levels. Pumptracks are suitable for bikes of all sizes, skateboards, rollerblades and scooters.

They create a community environment by bridging the generation gap between parents, small children and adolescents. Our structures are modular, flexible and movable to suit any type of terrain and land usage issues and can be made from various kinds of materials to suit the needs of the client and the surroundings.

CHECK OUT OUR LINEUP!

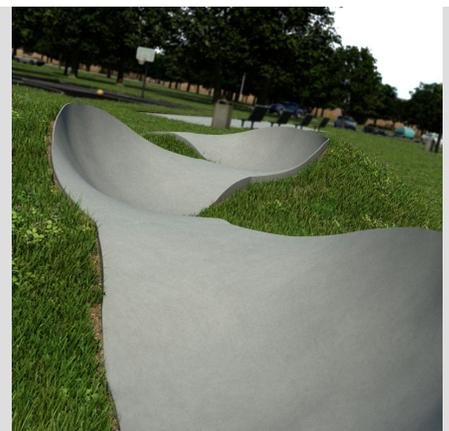
Lumberjack Series

The Lumberjack series has a substructure that is made from a marine grade lumber and is topped with our ultra grip composite surface. This surface has a texture to it that means that you can ride no matter what Mother Nature throws at you. Because of the modular design it can easily be rearranged or added to at anytime. This line is ideal for indoor settings, mobile setups, resorts, and bike shops and is easily stored, setup, and transported.



Mason Series

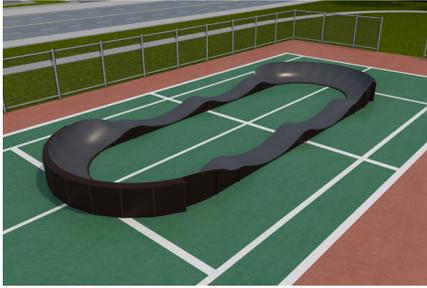
The Mason Series is constructed with high strength precast concrete. We manufacture these structures using precision molds that give you a perfect shape and riding surface. Each piece is the exact same size and shape as the Lumberjack and Blacksmith Series, meaning you get the same amazing ride in a more permanent aesthetically pleasing manner. The Mason Series can be used for repurposing a tennis court, parking lot or any other pad, or it can be placed as a standalone feature with added landscaping. While it is more difficult, the Mason Series can be added to or reconfigured at a later date. The Mason Series is perfect for any municipality or resort that is looking for a worry free progressive biking structure.





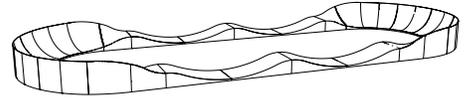
Lumberjack

Mason



Speed Ring

The Speed Ring is the entry level smallest possible track to build with only one possible layout. It is a great "starter" track as it can be added to over the years to become a larger track. This is a perfect track to learn how to ride a pumptrack, or fine-tune your skills. Track Length 125'



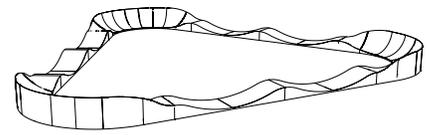
\$31,625

\$45,000



Triple Threat

You will have a blast flying around the Triple Threat with its three 60 degree turns and equilateral triangle design. The speed you get from this configuration is where the real fun is at. Ride the Triple Threat clockwise or counter-clockwise to see which direction you are faster. Track Length 158'



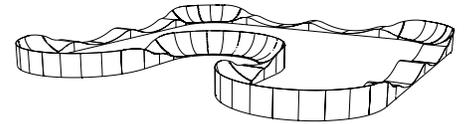
\$37,950

\$54,000



Sidewinder

The Sidewinder delivers turning in both directions and offers multiple layout possibilities with over 200' of track. The Sidewinder is a great track for improving your agility in the corners. Track Length 215'



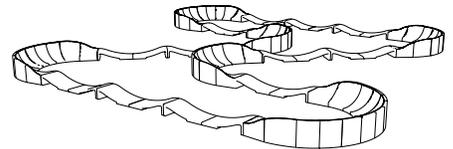
\$60,950

\$86,000



Mach 6

The Mach 6 is a pumped up version of The Sidewinder containing 6 berms, over 100' more of track and multiple configurations. Host a time trial and post the fastest times on our facebook page to see how your riders compare to others around the globe. Track Length 330'



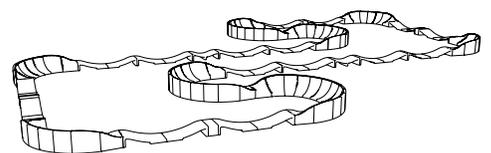
\$85,675

\$121,500



Grand Prix

The name really says it all, as the Grand Prix is the largest package we offer (of course if you want bigger we will be happy to oblige) being longer than a football field yet compact enough to fit in a 115'x88' space. The Grand Prix has numerous layout possibilities and enough parts to create two of our smaller tracks for head-to-head racing. Track Length 440'



\$112,125

\$159,000

Pricing is for product only. Shipping, installation and taxes extra.



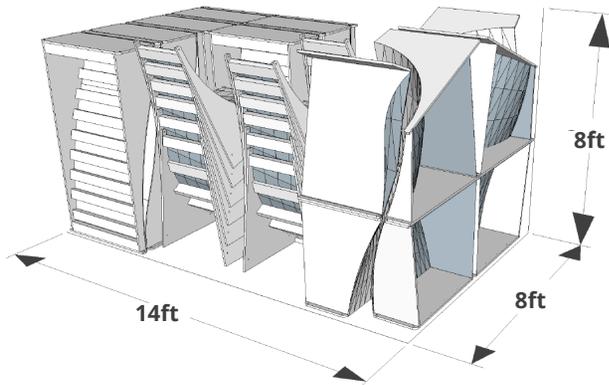
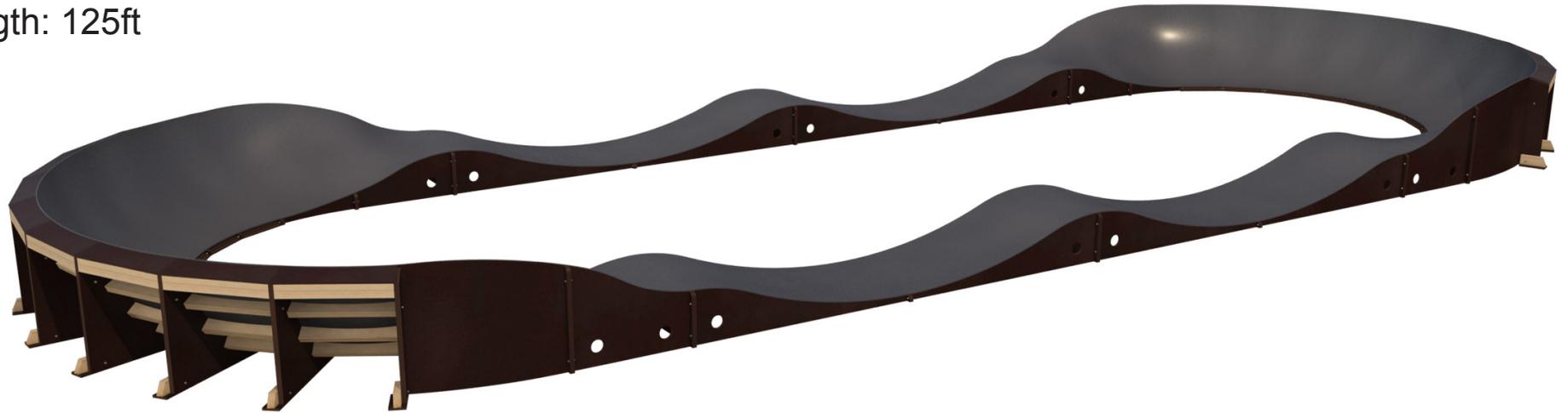
WWW.AMERICANRAMPCOMPANY.COM



EN - 1176

Speed Ring

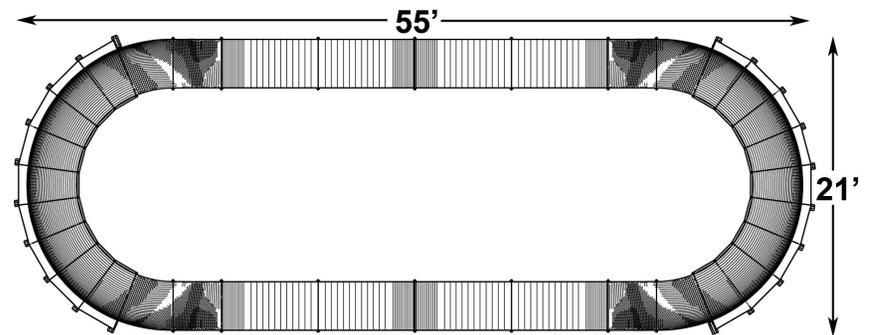
Length: 125ft



Shipping weight:
3530lbs +/- 400lbs

Shipping/Storage
volume: 710ft³

Fits on: 8 pallets
size: 3.3x4ft





WWW.AMERICANRAMPCOMPANY.COM



EN - 1176

Triple Threat

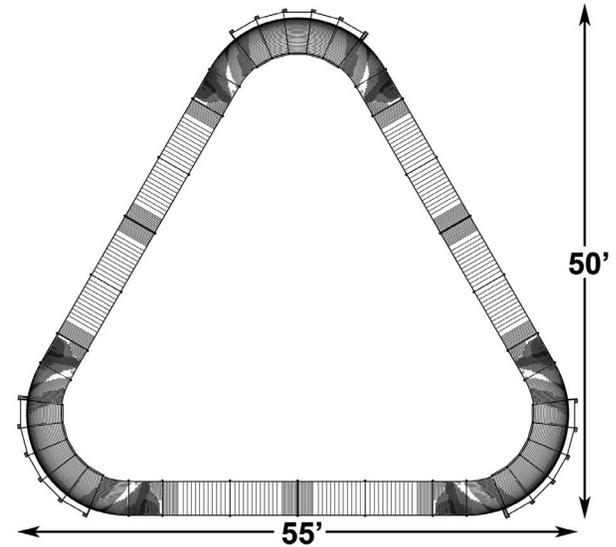
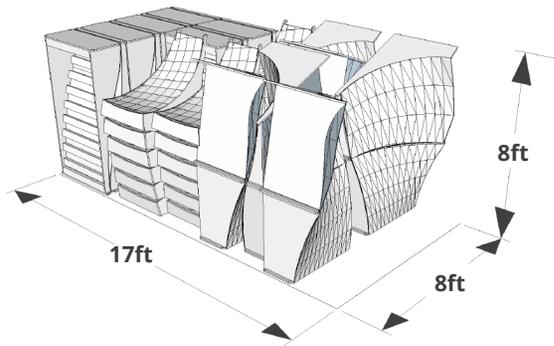
Length: 158ft



Shipping weight:
4400lbs +/- 400lbs

Shipping/Storage
volume: 1060ft³

Fits on: 9 pallets
size: 3.3x4ft





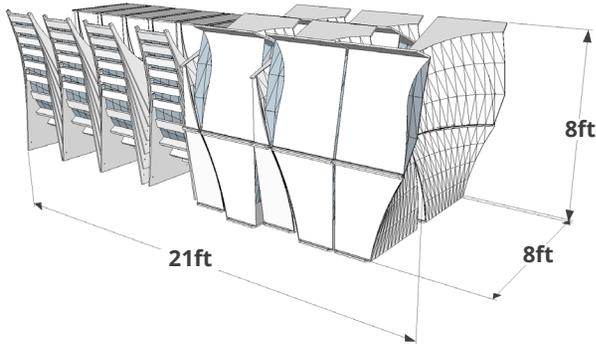
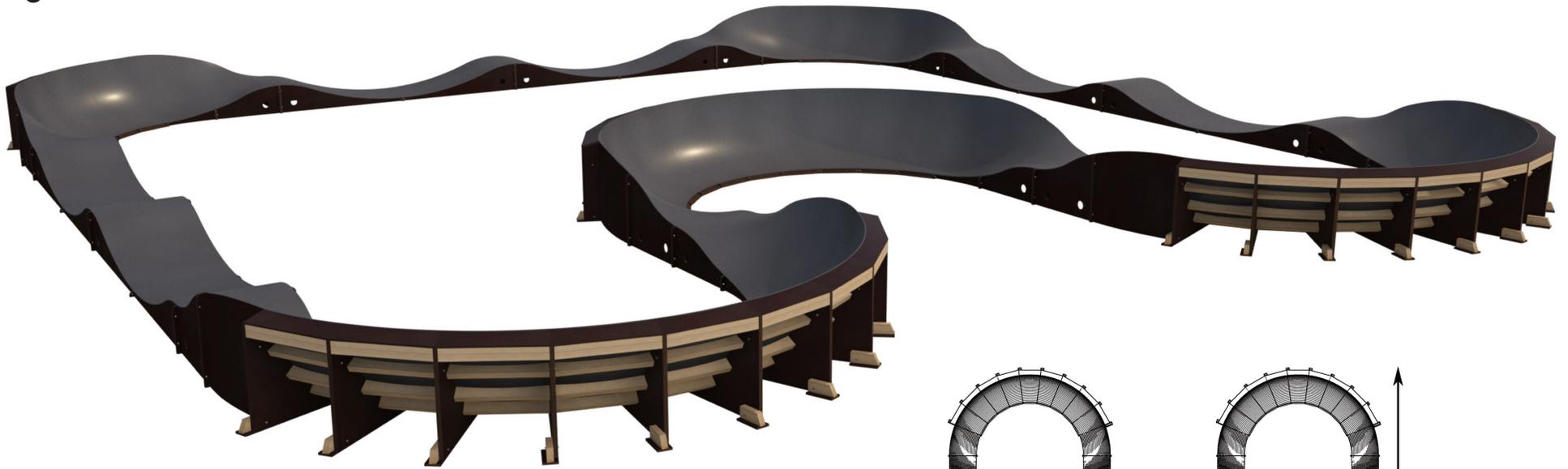
WWW.AMERICANRAMPCOMPANY.COM

Sidewinder

Length: 215ft



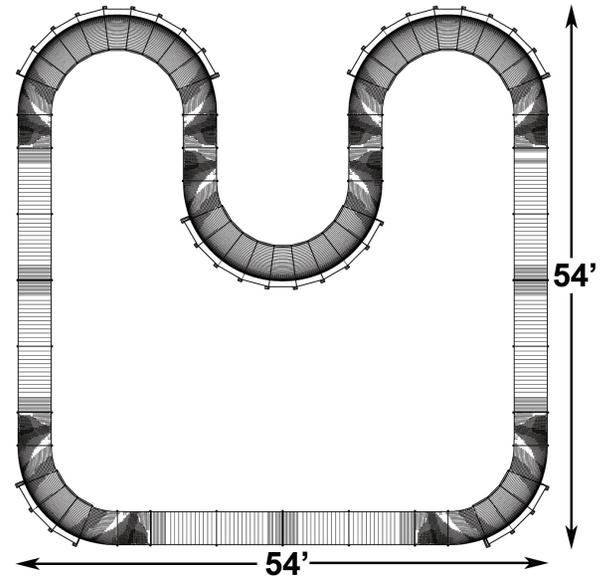
EN - 1176



Shipping weight:
5500lbs +/- 400lbs

Shipping/Storage
volume: 1420ft³

Fits on: 14 pallets
size: 3.3x4ft





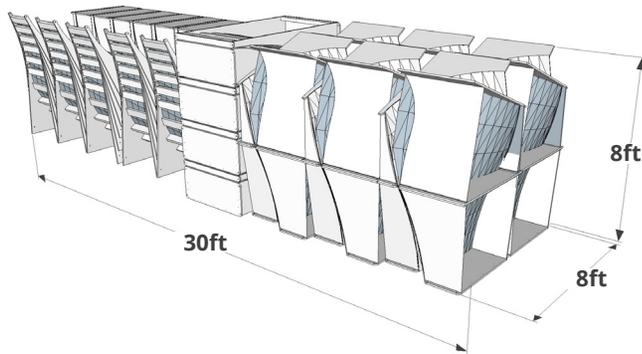
WWW.AMERICANRAMPCOMPANY.COM

Mach 6

Length: 330ft



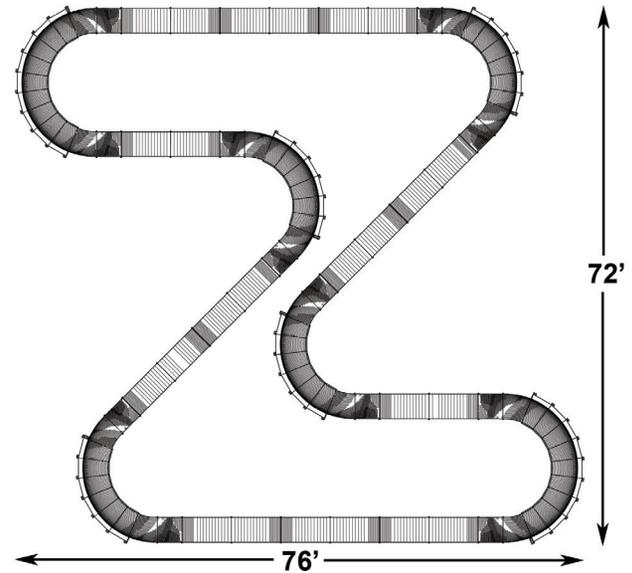
EN - 1176



Shipping weight:
8100lbs +/- 400lbs

Shipping/Storage
volume: 1945ft³

Fits on: 21 pallets
size: 3.3x4ft





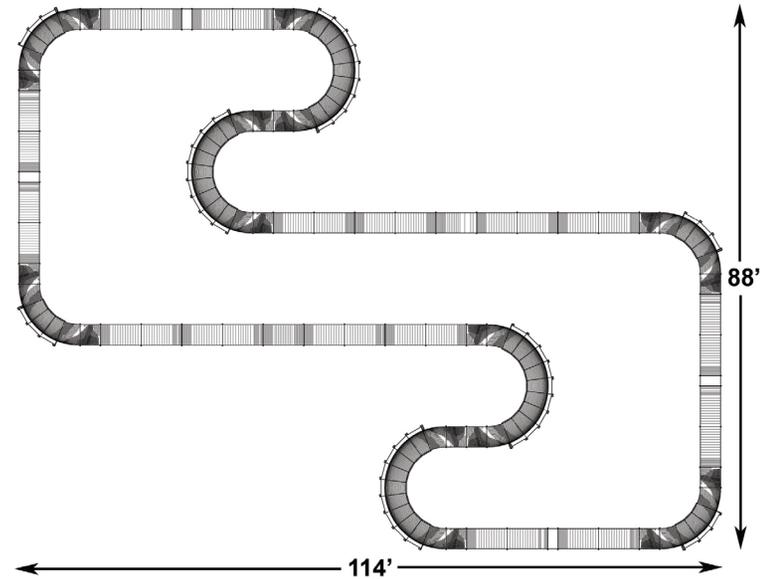
WWW.AMERICANRAMPCOMPANY.COM



EN - 1176

Grand Prix

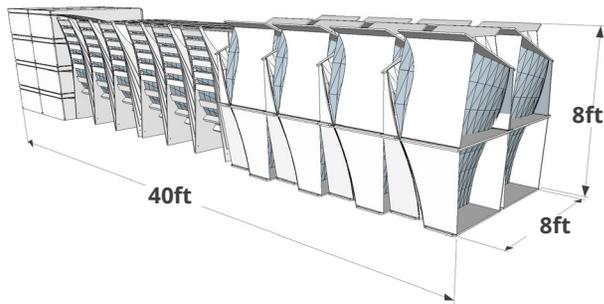
Length: 440ft



Shipping weight:
10950lbs +/- 400lbs

Shipping/Storage
volume: 2650ft³

Fits on: 26 pallets
size: 3.3x4ft









MEETING DATE: August 10, 2020

TYPE OF ITEM: Discussion and Requested Recommendation

PRESENTED BY:

David Bell, PWN Natural Resources, David.Bell@longmontcolorado.gov

Daniel Wolford, PWN Natural Resources, Dan.Wolford@longmontcolorado.gov

SUBJECT/AGENDA TITLE:

Disposition of Open Space: Approving the Granting of Deed of Conservation Easement (CE) in Gross from the City to the Longmont Conservation District on the Newby Farms Open Space to the Longmont Conservation District.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In the Spring of 2015, Council directed staff to pursue additional protection of City Open Spaces by granting conservation easements on Open Space properties as they are acquired. City Staff is prepared to grant a Conservation Easement (CE) on the Newby Open Space to the Longmont Conservation District. The Newby Open Space was purchased in the fall of 2018.

The City has previously granted a Conservation Easement to the Longmont Conservation District on the City's Hernor, French, and Hartman Open Space properties, immediately to the west of the Newby Open Space. All four of these properties have a strong agricultural presence and purpose, making the Longmont Conservation District an ideal organization to hold these Conservation Easements. (See Attachment 5 - Vicinity Map.)

The language in this easement has been reviewed and approved by the Longmont Conservation District's Board of Directors.

Staff is requesting a recommendation from PRAB to City Council to proceed with issuing the Conservation Easement to the Longmont Conservation District.

Should Council approve the granting of the easement to the Longmont Conservation District, it is anticipated that at a future date staff will return to Council to amend the existing Farmland Lease Agreement on Newby Farms, which will reflect the issuance of the Conservation Easement in the Farmland Lease.

COUNCIL OPTIONS:

1. Recommend the approval of the Disposition of Open Space and the issuance of a CE on the Newby Farms OS to the Longmont Conservation District
2. Do not approve the Ordinance.



RECOMMENDED OPTIONS:

Option 1.

FISCAL IMPACT & FUND SOURCE FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Conveyance of the Conservation Easement to Longmont Conservation District will require a one-time fee of \$5,000.00 for ongoing monitoring and easement enforcement in perpetuity by the District. This funding will be provided by the existing Open Space Sale Tax Fund.

BACKGROUND AND ISSUE ANALYSIS:

PURPOSE:

The Newby Open Space property possesses conservation value of great importance to the City and to the people of Longmont, Weld County, and the State of Colorado. It provides agricultural lands of state and national significance, possessing open space values that provide unique visual corridors and urban-shaping buffers within the community between municipal service areas. Additionally, this property could provide a unique trail opportunity, providing a connection between Union Reservoir and St. Vrain State Park. These features constitute the property's primary conservation values.

PROHIBITED USES:

Any uses or activities that would change, disturb, alter, diminish, or impair the conservation values including subdivision, mining, commercial, or residential development, etc., are prohibited uses within the Conservation Easement Agreement.

RESERVED RIGHTS:

This reserves the right of the City to engage in uses that are not expressly prohibited in the easement. The City shall endeavor to minimize the environmental impacts and to the greatest extent shall not distract from the conservation values of the property. Those reserved rights at These Open Space properties include:

- Right to Farm clause whereas the City shall not forbid any lease of the property from using the lands for agricultural purposes.
- Grants control of predatory and problem animals to the agricultural tenants for the purpose to prevent damage to crops, livestock or other property.
- Construction of public trails in close proximity of the perimeter of the property.
- Expansion of roadways, only along the existing periphery, immediately adjacent to existing corridors
- Utility infrastructure, if installed, will be undergrounded and placed in close proximity to the perimeter of the property.

Staff is looking for a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to City Council in regards to Issuance of a Conservation Easement on the Newby Farms Open Space.

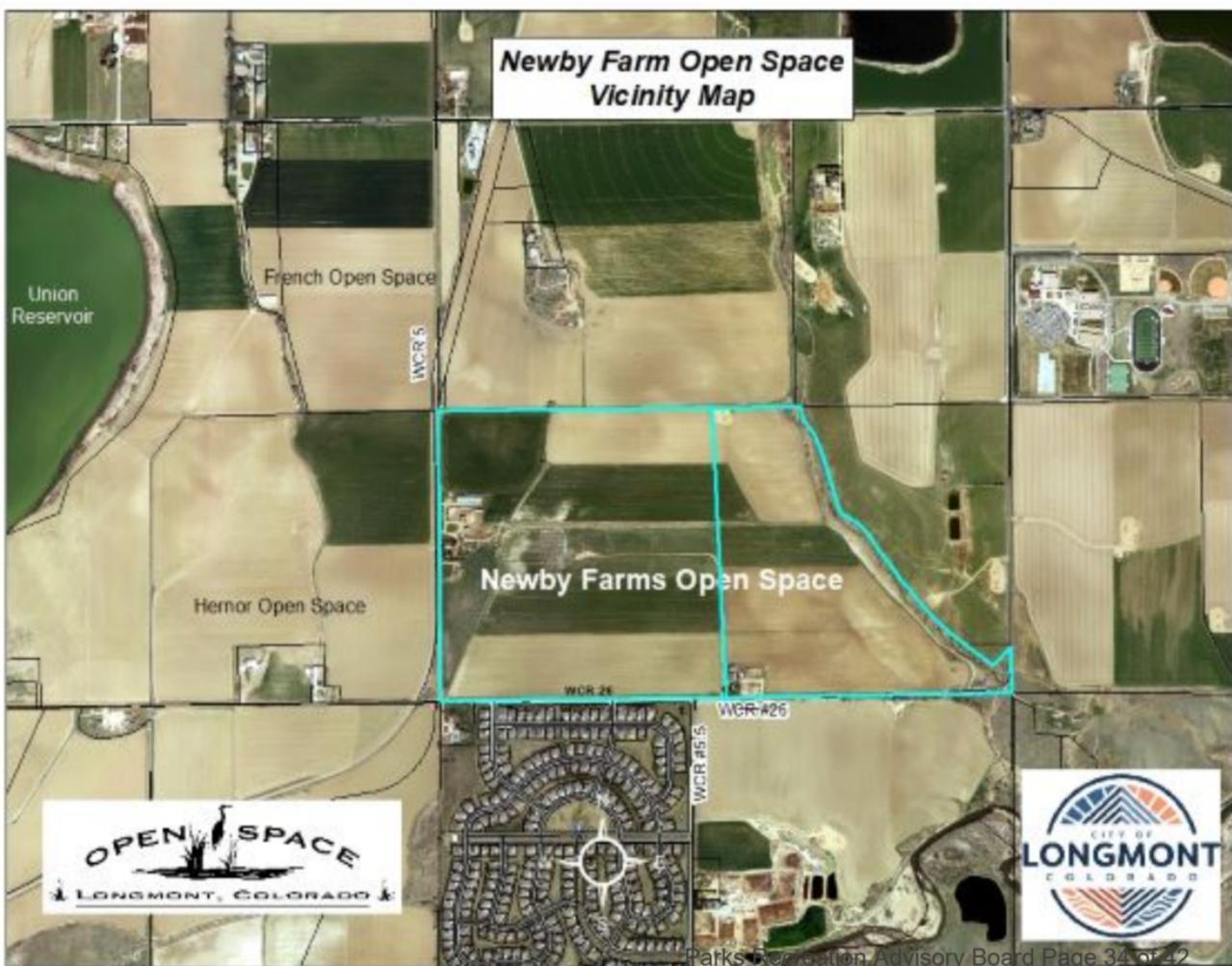
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board



Should Council approve the granting of the easement to the Longmont Conservation District, it is anticipated that at a future date staff will return to Council to amend the existing Farmland Lease Agreement on Newby Farms, which will reflect the issuance of the Conservation Easement in the Farmland Lease.

ATTACHMENTS:
Att 3 – Vicinity Map

**Newby Farm Open Space
Vicinity Map**





Meeting Date: August 10, 2020

Agenda Item: On-going Items

Subject: Parks and Natural Resources Ongoing Items

Presenter: David Bell

Suggested Action: Information

The following summarizes Parks, Open Space & Trails' happenings for the past month:

Park Development (includes only active projects led by Park Development Project Managers)

1. **Button Rock Preserve Management Plan** (Danielle Levine, Updated 8/5/20) – Public survey #3 ran May through Aug. 2nd online and results will be presented to PRAB, Sustainability, and Water Boards in August. A third and final public meeting will happen in probably early October and will be held online. As always, keep an eye on the [Button Rock Engage](#) page for the latest project news, news articles, public surveys and results, and past public meeting information.
2. Miles is continuing to gather trail and parking lot counter data on a monthly basis. This count data, along with the Sleepy Lion meadow wildlife camera data from Sept.-Nov. 2019 and some days in late spring 2020, will be reported in the final management plan.
3. **Button Rock Preserve Forestry Work** (Danielle Levine, Updated 8/5/20) - Forestry work in the Log Jam Unit (40 acres) will move forward later in 2020. This work is funded with a 40k SFA forestry grant and a 40k match from the Water fund.
 - a. **Forestry Grants:** Natural Resources applied but was not awarded a 2021 forestry grant through CSFS to do a joint forestry mitigation project with Boulder County Parks, Open Space and Trails in the forest and meadow complex areas on the east end of the Preserve and the west portion of Hall Ranch. We plan to apply to one or two other grants in fall and winter of 2020 if funding ends up being available.
 - b. **St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership (SVFHP):** This joint forestry mitigation project would be considered the demonstration project for the SVFHP consisting of agency and private stakeholders and led by Lefthand Watershed Center if we can find grant funding and if Boulder County, who is shovel ready, can wait for us to locate funding.
 - c. **USFS MOU:** Staff presented this resolution to council on July 28th and it passed on consent agenda and is now executed. As such, Longmont has entered into a MOU along with Front Range agency partners. The MOU states that agencies will collaborate when doing forestry mitigation projects for the benefit of forestry health and for better protection from catastrophic wildfire in wildland urban interface (WUI) communities and throughout the St. Vrain Watershed including Button Rock Preserve. The agreement calls out prescribed fire as an essential forestry mitigation tool. The USFS signing ceremony is on Aug. 13th in Nederland.
4. **McIntosh Lake Interpretive Signs** (Danielle Levine, Updated 8/5/20) - This project is complete. Pads will need to be installed later with staff and volunteers when time and budget permits.

5. **Spangler Park Pedestrian Bridge Replacement** (Kathy Kron, Updated 8/3/20) No new updates. This project is ready to bid. Bidding and construction is being held off pending budget cuts related to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.
6. **Loomiller Park Renewal** (Kathy Kron, Updated 8/3/20) Staff is currently reviewing a 90% complete bid drawing package. Construction for this project may need to be held off pending potential budget cuts related to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.
7. **Affolter Park Upgrades** (Kathy Kron, Updated 8/3/20) A construction start date has not yet been determined, but the contractor intends to mobilized as soon as a building permit is received.
8. **Carr Park Playground Replacement** (Kathy Kron, Updated 8/3/20) The project is complete and the playground is open. Unfortunately, soon after opening, a part on the zipline was vandalized. Park Maintenance has ordered the replacement part and will re-install the zipline seat as soon as possible.
9. **Dickens Farm Nature Area** (Steve Ransweiler, Updated 8/5/20) – The project is complete and the Contractor is working on a small punchlist. The project is open to the public and is being heavily used. Efforts are being made to implement changes to the pedestrian bridge to prevent jumping and to add fencing to control social trails. Additional signage is being developed, as well.
10. **Wertman Neighborhood Park** (Steve Ransweiler, Updated 8/5/20) –Design is at approximately 60% and construction documents are anticipated to be completed in 2020 for a bid for construction.
11. **South Clover Basin Neighborhood Park** (Steve Ransweiler Updated 8/5/20) –Design is at approximately 50% and construction documents are anticipated to be completed in 2020. The project may be bid for construction in the fall of 2020 after land acquisition and adjacent development has been completed, but it may be delayed due to coronavirus funding and priority changes.
12. **St. Vrain Greenway Phase 12 (Golden Ponds to Airport Road)** (Steve Ransweiler, Updated 8/5/20) – The City is finalizing land acquisition. A design scope is being compiled to design to the eastern side of Airport Rd. Design will start in 2020 and construction in 2021.
13. **St. Vrain Greenway Phase 13 (Sandstone Ranch to St Vrain State Park)** (Steve Ransweiler, Updated 8/5/20) – The City is finalizing land acquisition. A design scope is being compiled to design the project. \$1.5M in CDOT funds have been secured to help fund the project. Design will start in 2020 and construction in late 2021.
14. **Resilient St. Vrain Project** (Steve Ransweiler/Danielle Levine, Updated 8/5/20) –CR2a (Main Street to west of S Pratt Parkway) is essentially complete. CR2b (around the BNSF RR crossing) is under construction, with completion expected by the end of 2020. The design of Izaak Walton Phase 1 (between the BNSF crossing and Boston Avenue) is completed, with bidding to occur in Q4 2020. A utility relocation project, which will close the greenway trail upstream from Boston Avenue will start in Q3 2020 and last through Q1 2021. An agreement with Army Corps of Engineers for design/construction of Izaak Walton Phase 2 (Boston Ave to Sunset St.) is being finalized, with design in 2021 and construction sometime in 2021 - 2022.
15. **Oligarchy Ditch Trail** (Steve Ransweiler, Updated 8/5/2020) - Design of the trail segment from Main Street to 17th Avenue has been placed on hold until the coronavirus impact on staffing and the economy becomes more clear.

Volunteer Program (Danielle Levine – 8/5/20)

1. For one-time events, we are keeping volunteers safe by doing health and temperature checks. Our procedures are available here: <https://www.longmontcolorado.gov/home/showdocument?id=32059>
2. One-time events are in full swing again but are being conducted in small groups with social distancing, masks, etc. as outlined in the link above.
3. The Educational Summer Class series featuring monthly classes, taught by BOCO Extension staff, started May 26th and has one class per month through Sept. The May 26th, June 18th, and July 18th classes are being held online.
4. Ongoing volunteer groups – Clean Up Green Up Kick Off has been postponed to September. The Rose Garden Season started on May 11th. Resto Crew helped with the demo garden in June and will be eradicating weeds at Button Rock Preserve in July. Raptor volunteers have continued normally.

5. We had 15 applicants for the Temporary Volunteer Coordinator position, but did not move forward with hiring. This will be a savings of \$37k of discretionary funding that can go toward COVID-19 response instead. We will look to hire this position in 2021. For 2020, two recreational staff are helping with the volunteer program and it is going well having the extra help.

Open Space (Dan Wolford) – 8/3/2020

1. **Land Acquisition:** City Council should approve the final language modification for the **Disposition of Open Space** on August 11, 2020. Staff continues to work with outside attorneys to prepare documents and Land Use processes with Firestone to purchase the **Adam's Dairy** (149 acres, \$5.5 million) as Open Space in partnership with BOCO. Staff is working with Finance to sell bonds up to \$4 million to make this purchase possible along with a contribution from BCPOS. Staff will be presenting to City Council in August the partnership with BOCO to acquire the **McLachlan** Property (78 acres, \$750,000) to the west of Clover Basin Reservoir. Staff presented to PRAB in March and will provide PRAB's recommendation to Council. It has been decided rather than negotiate the selling of the fee to the **Double 6 Ranch** to an adjacent landowner while retaining a Conservation Easement, to complete a competitive public bid process. On August 11, 2020 it is anticipated that City Council will approve the granting of a Conservation Easement on the **Newby Farms** Open Space to the Longmont Conservation District. The City will be paying the Conservation District a fee of \$5,000 to hold that easement.
2. We continue to play a role in the Management Plan for **Button Rock Preserve** that kicked off in Feb. 2019 and will continue through Dec. 2020. WE will be involve in hiring the Sr Watershed Ranger as well as Watershed Ranger for the Preserve
3. Staff continues to be involved in planning and developing volunteer activities with a COVID-19 twist. Volunteer activities should start up after July.
4. Land Management / Open Space is now down one **Natural Resources Technician** and two **Natural Resources Temporary Technician** and replacement is not likely due to COVID-19 financial impacts, making workplan achievement very difficult.
5. Staff is involved in a variety of **Capital Projects**, including Spring Gulch #2 Trail Development and creek restoration, Lefthand Creek Restoration and RSVP Reach 2B and Izaak Reach.
6. We have successfully completed the combining the two parcels of the **Newby Farm** property to one and are awaiting the carving off two individual parcel around two of the residences, with the recent modification of the **Disposition of Open Space** it is our hope to **sell these lots** and to generate revenue for additional acquisitions .
7. Staff is currently in the process of wrapping up **List "A" noxious weed removal**, Citywide, this has been an extensive effort for the removal of Hairy Willow Herb and Purple Loosestrife, especially in the Dry Creek Community Park area. A reminder that notices for weed spraying activities can be viewed on the City's webpage under weed and pest management.
8. **West Nile Virus** is knocking at our door! The first WNV+ mosquito was found in Ft Collins on August 27th, therefore kicking the City Mosquito Control Program into it next operation phase, adulticide spraying. the Week of August 27th the City sprayed 5 neighborhoods that exceeded the City's threshold.
9. Over the next few week staff will be focusing on **Prairie Dog Management** in an attempt to play catchup as a result of our labor shortage, this includes dog management at Dray Creek Community Park, Sandstone Ranch, Housing Authority Property, Boston Avenue and others.
10. Assisting Planning and Development with **site plan review** for wildlife purposes and location such as Left Hand Brewery.
11. Recently completed the installation of **"Beaver Deceiver"** at **Lefthand Creek** just to the South of SH119. The Deceiver maintains water level without backing up water and allows us to keep and maintain a beaver dam within the stream system.

Union Reservoir (John Brim) 08-04-2020

1. The current elevation is 27.15 feet with 23.8 CFS currently being released from the Reservoir.
2. Sales of season passes are currently available to Longmont residents only. The dog beach opened with a limited capacity of 25 dog on 8-3-2020, the fishing pier remains closed. Union is reaching capacity by 10:00 am on weekends and several times during the week in the afternoon.
3. Revenue is down \$55,000.00 for the month of July.
4. Staff is working on an App that will allow us to update when the swim beach reaches capacity and provide an estimated wait time to enter the park.

Button Rock Preserve (John Brim) – 08-04-2020

1. Miles is still the only seasonal currently at Button Rock and is now living on site. Interviews for the Sr. Watershed Ranger are scheduled on 8-18-2020 and the Watershed Ranger interviews are scheduled the week of the 24th
2. The preserve is still seeing extremely high numbers of visitors. In July of 2020 there were 10,035 hikers which is a 62% increase from July of 2019 which had 6,191 hikers. Total vehicles in July was up 53% with 6,927 vehicles in 2020 and 3,694 vehicles in 2019.

Parks and Forestry Operations (Timber Toste) - 8/04/2020

Overview- The primary focus for the month of July was the continued operational adjustments to support the transition to the Safer at Home in the Great Outdoors order. Although we continue to respond to our regular scheduled work, the impact to the City Parks and Trail System from COVID-19 is unprecedented. With the anticipated budget cut and increase service levels as a result of COVID-19, we have started to apply for a number of federal and state grants to limit the impact to current and future operational goals; will provide an update on these grants in the September communications. Parks and Forestry Operations leadership is entering our yearly planning cycle and will start to look at snow removal operations for the 2020-2021 season. Additionally, leadership will start looking at operational changes and goals for the 2021 operating year.

Facilities and Irrigation Maintenance (Chris Davis) - 8/4/2020

1. Parks operations has all irrigation systems operational and running at full capacity. We are monitoring system functionality and making all repairs as failures are identified.
2. Cascade Industries installed a new pump at the raw water pump system at Quail Campus. We are now working on the electrical faults and component operations.
3. We are working with Cascade Industries to install a new pump at the raw water pump system at Dry Creek Community park. The repair parts have shipped.
4. We are experiencing increased vandalism this year and are tracking our expenses through the property damage report with our Risk Department.

Horticulture Maintenance (Ben Gratton) – 8/04/2020

1. “Dog Tuff” grass was successfully planted in small locations at Roosevelt Park and Sunset Campus. Some weed growth issues will need to be worked out with this type of grass if planted in May.
2. Irrigated turf conversion to water-wise wheatgrass process complete. The two sites have been treated to eliminate existing grass and planted with a new wheatgrass blend. Germination should take a few weeks.
3. Contracted mowing and landscape maintenance continue to go well.
4. Robotic mowing will continue in August with the assistance of Left Hand Robotics.

Forestry (Brett Stadvold) – 08/03/2020

1. Treatment of ash trees for protection from emerald ash borer is complete for 2020.
2. Contract watering with Urban Woods will continue into the fall as the budget allows
3. Urban Woods will be contracting with Forestry to plant the remaining trees that we could not plant in the spring. Planting will resume in October and should be complete in 1-2 weeks.
4. Field staff will be participating in a joint training with Taddiken Tree for aerial rescue training at Thompson Park, on Friday, August 7.
5. Forestry has all the City managed trees available to view on the Forestry webpage.
<https://www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-e-m/forestry/city-maintained-trees-and-services/inventory-of-city-maintained-trees>
6. Staff is collecting data and compiling a list of tree removals for a fall contract.
7. Field staff is actively working on pruning projects in Old Town, along Main Street. Rotational pruning in parks and at City facilities will follow.

Other [other City projects and efforts that are related to parks, trails, open space, etc., but not being led by our division. Instead of attempting to provide these updates, lead staff, division & links are provided]

1. **Spring Gulch #2 Greenway** (Engineering Services)
- <http://longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-n-z/parks-open-space-and-trails/park-trail-development/spring-gulch-2>
2. **Left Hand Creek Greenway** (Engineering Services)
- <http://longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-n-z/water/stormwater-drainage/left-hand-creek-sediment-project>
3. **Resilient St. Vrain** (Josh Sherman, Engineering Services)
- <http://longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-n-z/water/stormwater-drainage/resilient-st-vrain>



Date: August 10, 2020

Subject: Recreation Update

From: Jeff Friesner

Suggested Action: Information

The following summarizes Recreation programs for the past month:

COVID-19 reservation-only in effect at

Roosevelt Programming Area

1. Over 80% of available slots here filled for the over 55 workout times at the Memorial Building. Toward the end of July, additional days and extended times were offered to meet demand. Individuals who reserve and no-show have been contacted by staff to encourage proactive cancellations to allow all slots to be utilized due to high demand.
2. Some limited programming offerings with social distancing in place including Fondant Cupcakes for youth and SCOPE bocce, softball, and golf. Fall programming is limited, yet a new instructor for drumming and possible ukulele has been identified.
3. The Fall Recreation Brochure was cancelled, as was original plans to offer a direct mailed variation in August. The decision is waiting to see how COVID response unfolds and if there is need or demand for marketing materials to go out in September.
4. Day Camp continued throughout July with steady enrollment numbers around 40 youth per day. As the ability to transport small groups of youth was approved, add-on programming for fishing for crawdad's was offered on Mondays and Tuesday with good responses. LOCO was able to swim at Longmont Recreation Center. SCOPE camp ended its 8-week season on July 24.
5. All Memorial Building Staff began to take the Ryan Dowd Homelessness awareness training offered through the Library Online Learning Academy.
6. Sandstone Ranch completed the filming and editing of 2nd Grade field trips in collaboration with Thorne Nature Center and the SVVSD. These online resources will be used by teachers during limited transportation of large groups of children and, as this resources is shifted to online, it will also be available for viewing by the general public. Drop-in participation of the open hours at SSR have approximately 20 people staggering in over a 4 hour period.

7. The Longmont Triathlon Weekend, slated for late August, was officially cancelled for 2020. A series of virtual courses are posted over the weeks leading up to the original date with analytics in place to gauge engagement and interest in the public in taking part in virtual races. There is no charge to participate in the virtual races.
8. Due to the recommendations from Boulder County, Callahan House remained closed to the public in July. The wedding reservations for 2020 have all been cancelled or rescheduled to 2021. Preparation is in place to get all the materials (hand sanitizers and stands) to be prepared when modified opening is approved, anticipated in August.

Centennial Programming Area (Aquatics & ICE)

1. Centennial Pool- overall usage remains consistent with lap swimming at 83% usage of capacity. There were 106 more patrons using the diving well for self-lead aquatic fitness (June-39, July-145).
2. Longmont Recreation Center- overall pool usage capacity was at 68%. Lap Swim at 91%, open swim (both pools) at 89%, open swim- leisure pool only at 49%; and adult swim at 12%. Multiple modifications were made to increase capacities during open swim throughout July due to the demand, and the ability of patrons being able to safely social distance themselves while swimming. Some of the adult swims were changed to open swims for all ages, once again, due to the demand for more open swim sessions.
3. Sunset Pool started 2 new sessions of swim lessons: Mon-Thurs swim lessons, July 13 session had 91 swimmers, at 92% capacity, and July 27 session had 101 swimmers at 96% capacity. Started 2nd session of Tues & Thurs pm lessons on July 21 with 74 swimmers at 95% capacity. Majority of the swim lessons require parents in the water due to social distancing expected of the teachers and all participants. After hour rentals- 24, after hour rentals on 22 available days (some days had 2 rentals a day) with 1200 people (limited at 50 people per rental). Swim instructor attended two COVID program trainings this month.
4. Changed the Friday and Saturday 8am & 9am adult swim sessions to all open swim sessions, with no slides, due to the low numbers of attendance in adult swims, and the extremely high demand for more Open Swim opportunities at Sunset Pool.
5. Successfully added online registration rule to prevent anyone from registering into Sunset Pool Open Swim sessions before the approved enrollment date/time: the demand for open swim space resulted in at least one day where all 44 open spots were claimed within the first 120 seconds of becoming available.

Quail Programming Area

1. Parks and Recreation Staff have added lock boxes at community parks to allow staff to access facilities without the need of additional keys. The system in place will also allow for flexibility for rental groups to gain access if needed. Adjustments will be made if security issues arise.

2. Adult softball Field staff has been working proactively to limit potential spread by eliminating spectators at adult sports games and closing bleacher seating. Social distancing is enforced and Parks has added hand sanitizer to restrooms.
3. Babysitting and climbing wall staff continue support efforts at the golf courses in sanitizing carts and enforcing social distancing guidelines on the course.
4. Youth Athletics hosted seven Skyhawks Outdoor Sports Camps at various parks (volleyball, cheerleading, flag football, Mini-Hawk, beginner tennis, basketball, soccer and STEM basketball) with a total of 103 kids participating and a StakeStart Skateboard Lesson at Sandstone Ranch Skate Park with 7 participants. July Gonzo tennis lessons had six youth lessons with 25 total participants, two adult lessons with eight total participants and four weeklong clinics with a total of 28 youth. Fast-pitch softball began and ended games in July – Longmont had five teams, with 12 players each, who played a total of 27 home games. Pickleball lessons began anew in July – the youth lessons had a record high seven students and the adult lessons had ten players. No positive COVID cases in youth sports.
5. Dick's Sporting Goods donated two boxes of size 5 soccer balls for the middle school soccer program.
6. Fitness programs saw 993 patrons in person for classes held in the Studio and Gymnasium at LRC. Fitness in the Parks saw 184 participants and Sunset pool had 997 participants for water fitness classes.
7. Virtual fitness had 109 people sign up for the weekly schedules of over 20 classes offered Via Zoom.
8. Sunday morning yoga had 7 people sign up for the whole month of July and Tai chi 37 posture class had 23 participants over the month.
9. Capacity for land fitness at the Rec Center was 19%. The land areas include the upstairs weight and cardio equipment areas and the gymnasium. Capacity for the entire building was 38%.