



### **Meeting Summary**

Broomfield staff members presented an inventory of ADA accessibility guidelines for the Broomfield trail system as a project for the Broomfield Leadership Academy. The committee reviewed a draft of the policies for the Other Power-Driven Mobility Device guidelines for Broomfield trails and other public spaces. The committee also reviewed the Public Art review process for Open Space sites and updates on the Highway-287 trail counter, the Rocky Mountain Greenway trail, and a naming policy for public places in Broomfield.

### **Roll Call**

OSTAC

Present:

Annette Cislo

Rob Bodine

George Zack

James Haedrich

Patrick Tennyson

Jay McKeral

Bob Gaiser

Absent:

Mike Shelton

William Olney

Others in attendance:

Kristan Pritz, Open Space and Trails Director

Kevin Standbridge, Deputy City and County Manager

Pete Dunlaevy, Open Space and Trails Coordinator

### **Agenda Minutes**

1. Call to Order, 6:05 p.m. by Rob Bodine

2. Introduction of Interested Citizens

Jaan Raamot

3. Trail Accessibility Presentation, Broomfield Leadership Academy

Pete provided a brief introduction about the Broomfield Leadership Academy and introduced Tami Yellico, Rachel Robbins, and Angela Delier. The Broomfield Leadership Academy is a training program for Broomfield staff and participants complete a group project as part of the program. Tami, Angela, and Rachel chose to complete an inventory of all trail facilities to survey and map sections of the Broomfield trail system that exceed the grades recommended for mobility devices in ADA guidelines.

Tami described the background of the project and the primary objective to identify the sections of Broomfield trails that exceed the grades recommended for mobility devices in ADA guidelines, and

to record and map those sections. Rachel described the motivation for the project and the need for access to all Broomfield facilities; her background in the Recreation Department working with disabled and special needs people. Angela spoke about the process and field work behind the project and the equipment used. Slopes and distances were measured throughout the trail system and all areas with slopes greater than ADA guidelines for accessibility were recorded. Approximately 23 miles of soft surface trails were studied and of this total 1.4% or 1,660 lineal feet or a 1/4 mile of trail exceeded the grades recommended for mobility devices in ADA guidelines.

The ADA guidelines indicate that all open space trails may not be ADA accessible. The ADA guidelines encourage open space trails to always provide access to the greatest extent possible and departures from accessibility guidelines are allowed where: 1) It would cause substantial harm to cultural, historic, religious and significant natural feature or characteristics; 2) Would substantially alter the nature of the setting or purpose; or 3) the ADA grades are not feasible due to terrain. The final map was created showing all of these areas and this map will be available on the Open Space website and will accompany Broomfield's written policy for Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD) once the OPDMD Policy is approved. A major objective of any open space trail project is to make the trail as ADA accessible as feasible.

4. Review of Other Power-Driven Mobility Device Draft Regulations for Broomfield trails and other public facilities

Pete gave a brief introduction on the proposed regulations and some background on changes from the Department of Justice to the ADA accessibility laws, which prompted the policy.

>George-what are the basic criteria for restrictions again? Is there a speed limit?

>Pete-many policies for surrounding cities and counties regulate on the basis of speed limits, noise levels, or things like damage to the trail surface; Broomfield's policy has used some of these criteria; Broomfield's policy targets the design speed of the device instead of the user speed, because that will likely allow devices designed for the access of disabled people and avoid devices that are designed for sport or higher speeds;

>Bob-are ATVs allowed?

>Pete-no, ATVs are not currently allowed and would not be allowed under this policy;

>Rob-what about electric scooters?

>KP-yes, if it was used for a mobility disability; it would not be allowed for all users;

>Jay-am happy that the regulations are inclusive for access, as someone who may be using these in the future;

>Bob-for the US-36 Bikeway – do our rules apply?

>Kevin-yes, the agreement preserves the rules of individual municipalities; the state will construct the trail and make major capital improvements but Broomfield will still provide the maintenance; we will use our signage for local connections and a shared signage for the general spine of the trail;

>Patrick-likes that this policy is very well defined compared to what we discussed when we first looked at it; I do think the different speed limits for playgrounds and cemeteries, etc. is necessary;

>Patrick-will this go forward as a study session?

>Kevin-we will probably have a council study session on this topic but have not finalized that decision yet;

>Patrick-motions for approval to go forward;

>George-seconds motion for sending the policy to Council for discussion and requested that staff advocate for a study session.

5. Discussion of General Public Art Review Process and Concept for Proposed Public Art Project on Ridgeview Open Space

Kevin described the general process for the coordination between OSTAC and the Public Art Committee for art projects proposed for Open Space. He noted that the OSPRT Master Plan has a list of allowed uses on Open Space and public art is allowed in the policy, with a note on the use matrix that states: "may be appropriate in some instances; appropriateness to be determined by staff through a Baseline Management Plan or on a case-by-case basis."

Bob Gaiser described the recent discussion regarding whether there was an objection to art in the open space among the City Council, and there was not an objection to this concept. Kevin noted that the Public Art Committee can, like OSTAC, ask that a matter go forward to the City Council. The objective of the staff is to reach agreement between the committees, whenever possible, prior to City Council review.

Kristan described the secondary location that is being considered for the public art piece at Ridgeview Open Space, closer to the intersection of Miramonte and US-287 on the north side of Miramonte.

>Bob-my opinion is that you would want to be able to walk up to this and touch it, and the other (northern) site is problematic for that reason; so I think the secondary location closer to the intersection is better;

>Patrick-it seems that art in the open space is something that is desired in the community, and the committee is trying to accommodate our concerns with the proposal; I generally like the pieces and like the new (southern) location better;

>Jim-agreed; this location is better;

>Rob-would there be a walkway or path to this site?

>Kristan-this site will be close to the Miramonte sidewalk and the short section of sidewalk along 287 there; details on the site plan and any sidewalk connection have not been determined yet;

>Rob-artwork could be an incremental change to the use of open space;

>Kristan-I think there will continue to be proposals for art at other locations, so the committee would be asked to review these proposals on a case-by-case basis;

>Kevin- there is a deliberate effort to locate artwork throughout the community in an equitable manner; that is part of the objective for the Public Art Committee;

>Jay-this is the location that I wanted to look at (the southern location), so I am more interested in having the art at that location; still somewhat conflicted though;

>Rob-the positive of this proposal is that it joins more of the community to open space and open space experiences;

>Jay-then perhaps, if that is a walk-up location you could have a message on the piece about the open space and the history of the site; when I first moved here and saw open space sites I was curious about the sites; I would like to have this information available;

>Annette-the artwork has the potential to change the experience of the open space; would prefer that the artist provide an interpretation of this particular site or perhaps be more reflective of the site; the sculpture piece at The Field seems more natural and fitting to the site; the piece is made of concrete and steel--the materials are not as natural as they could be; would not want to see too much signage at the site to avoid clutter;

>Kevin- the Public Art Committee may be able to discuss this more effectively, in terms of the artwork, but could we decide on the site and perhaps discuss the actual art piece again at a later meeting?

>Jay-another item that was mentioned earlier was a fossil theme; that would be neat to see and children would enjoy that;

- >Annette-it is important the artwork fit with the context of the site; otherwise it can detract from the open space;
- >Patrick-am not able to evaluate the art easily, as I enjoy the yucca plants out there just as much, but I appreciate the efforts they have made to accommodate us and perhaps they can look at this again and we can work something out; I appreciate their efforts to work with us very much;
- >George-the piece does not seem to reflect the location, I also think these art pieces are a pretty strong presence and don't necessarily belong at a landmark local open space site; this is one of our crown jewels of open space; feel I am pressured to accept this location because it is better than the other one, but still struggle with whether these types of prominent art pieces belong there either way; Ridgeview is a scenic, landmark open space site;
- >Annette-the current art pieces may work better at a different site;
- >Rob-would suggest that if we put the public art anywhere, we should put it at the trailhead instead of the interior of the site;
- >Kevin-there is an objective with the art committee to have art pieces at entry points to the community;
- >Patrick-there was a mention of having a consistent theme at different entry ways;
- >George-how about having this along the US-36 bikeway/trail?
- >Kevin-want to remind the committee that the City Council feels that public art is acceptable on open space;
- >George-in some very un-scientific surveys, I agree that people support art in open space, but they may not be so supportive of art in the major swathes of open space or our landmark properties;
- >Jay-seem to be coming back to the feeling that open space is open space and parks are something different; it should not be so difficult to support this if the art really fit in well with the site;
- >George-a real mix of opinions here; people here are appreciative of art but perhaps not settled on this concept yet; before this goes forward to council I think it would behoove both committees to meet again and hash things out;
- >Kevin-staff could research what other communities are doing with public art and open space; Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville, Erie, etc.
- >Patrick-I continue to lean towards there being a place for art in open space, we just need to seek the right piece in the right location;
- >Kevin-suggests a broader discussion next time with the committee on these concepts;
- >Annette-art in this location could be bringing out the intrinsic value of what is within the site;
- >Kevin-this is why the committees need to discuss this and share the different concepts and perspectives on this;
- >George-am generally opposed to having art pieces in the grander open space properties, but am not against the concept of art in open space;
- >Kristan-would it be helpful if OSTAC discussed the research among yourselves at one more OSTAC meeting before a joint meeting with the Public Art Committee?
- >OSTAC decided to discuss this topic with its members at its next meeting in January.
- >Kevin-let's revisit this at the next meeting and staff will prepare information on this process for other cities and counties.

## 6. Presentation of Trail-user Counts at US-287 Underpass

Pete presented data from a pedestrian trail counter that was installed by CDOT at the Highway-287 underpass, near Miramonte Blvd. The counter collected data throughout the past year and indicated that the average number of daily users for the underpass was 163 throughout the year. The highest usage month of the year was August, with an average of 279 users per day during the month, and the lowest usage month of the year was December with an average of 77 users per day. Pete stated that data will continue to be recorded and staff will follow up with future usage updates.

7. Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail – Conceptual Trail Alignment

Kristan described the proposed Rocky Mountain Greenway Trail (previously called the Refuge to Refuge Trail) which would link the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Wildlife Preserve with the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge. The proposed trail would pass through a small section of Broomfield near the Great Western Reservoir before crossing Indiana Ave. into Rocky Flats. Kristan showed the committee a map of the proposed conceptual alignment and stated that staff will report back to the committee as any specific plans take form. There are many future steps to making this trail a reality.

8. Request for OSTAC Representatives to Work on a Naming Policy for Public Places

Kevin described the upcoming review of a naming policy. George offered to serve on the group.

9. Review and Approve Minutes of the September 19, 2012 OSTAC Meeting

George and Jay attendance record listed in September minutes incorrectly (now corrected).

George motions for approval; Jay seconds. Minutes approved with attendance correction.

10. Updates and Reminders

- Ruth Roberts Connector
- Broomfield Trail at Spruce Meadows
- Lake Link Trail at Legacy High School
- Tom Frost Nature Education and Picnic Pavilion
- Metzger Farm Open Space Opening Celebration

Rob noted that off-leash dogs are an issue at Metzger and should be addressed as there is a leash law. He also suggested that a calendar of events could be put together for the site.

Kristan noted that the Kids Fishing Derby (May 4) and Broomfield Trail Adventure (June 1) will be at Metzger.

11. Other as Desired by OSTAC

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.