

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

The mission of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources is to establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

Date: January 28, 2021

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Webinar. Public registration:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V6q-86QuR4mEtQPw1bYtrw

Contact: Please contact Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend

AGENDA

Scheduled times are subject to change.

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS
 - a. Welcome Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Natural Resources events for this month: larimer.org/naturalresources.
 - b. To sign up for Open Lands Advisory Board updates, go to apps.larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm, enter your email, click "Subscribe," and check the "Open Lands Advisory Board" box.
 - c. Ken Brink, Visitor Services Division Manager, retired after 5 years with the county.
 - d. Steputis 884-acre conservation easement finalized and recorded.
 - e. Big Thompson Canyon Loveland parcel exchange completed and recorded.
 - f. New Cache canal crossing agreement for the Poudre River Trail completed and recorded.

6. UPDATES & REPORTS
 - a. 2020 Quarter 4 Board Report
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Presentation of 2021 Small Grants Award Recommendations
8. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Small Grants Awards Approval
9. OTHER BUSINESS
10. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: February 25, 2021 via Zoom Webinar
11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. (24-6-402(4)(a)) for discussion pertaining to the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest.
12. ADJOURN

Included in PDF:

- Agenda
- Sales Tax Revenue Distribution Report
- 2020 Q4 Board Report
- Small Grants Recommendations

Attached Separately:

- Minutes of last meeting

OPEN SPACE SALES TAX ACTIVITY
September 2020 Distribution

REVENUES:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| SALES TAX | \$ 1,456,330.58 |
| MV USE TAX | \$ 121,338.65 |
| BUILDING USE TAX | \$ 69,660.58 |
| INTEREST | \$ 274.46 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>\$ 1,647,604.27</u> |

EXPENDITURES:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| PERSONNEL & OPERATING | <u>\$ 5,083.05</u> | \$ 44,252.14 |
| | | \$ 44,252.14 |

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| NET REVENUE: | <u><u>\$ 1,642,521.22</u></u> |
|--------------|-------------------------------|

% SALES TAX DISTRIBUTED TO INCORP. AREAS (USED AS A BASIS) 50%

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON POPULATION

2019 State of Colorado Statistics

| | 2018 POPULATION | % OF INCORP AREA | REVENUE |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | 167,347 | 59.36 | \$ 487,474.02 |
| LOVELAND | 77,226 | 27.39 | \$ 224,955.74 |
| ESTES PARK | 6,301 | 2.23 | \$ 18,354.52 |
| BERTHOUD | 7,632 | 2.71 | \$ 22,231.66 |
| WELLINGTON | 9,894 | 3.51 | \$ 28,820.76 |
| WINDSOR | 7,329 | 2.60 | \$ 21,349.04 |
| JOHNSTOWN | 2,235 | 0.79 | \$ 6,510.45 |
| TIMNATH | 3,970 | 1.41 | \$ 11,564.43 |
| TOTAL INCORP. | <u>281,934</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$ 821,260.61</u> |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON SALES TAX GENERATION

2019 Larimer County Statistics

| | 2018 GENERATION | % OF INCORP AREA SALES TAX | REVENUE |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 13,743,866 | 53.93 | \$ 442,942.25 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 7,720,582 | 30.29 | \$ 248,775.56 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 1,539,645 | 6.04 | \$ 49,611.04 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 263,974 | 1.04 | \$ 8,505.86 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 232,991 | 0.91 | \$ 7,507.53 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 298,484 | 1.17 | \$ 9,617.88 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 851,021 | 3.34 | \$ 27,421.92 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 836,707 | 3.28 | \$ 26,960.70 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 25,487,271</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$ 821,342.74</u> |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON HIGHEST YIELD TO INCORPORATED AREAS:

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 487,474.02 | 53.41 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 248,775.56 | 27.26 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 49,611.04 | 5.44 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 22,231.66 | 2.44 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 28,820.76 | 3.16 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 21,349.04 | 2.34 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 27,421.92 | 3.00 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 26,960.70 | 2.95 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 912,644.69</u> | <u>100.00</u> |

DISTRIBUTION FOR MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT:

| | | |
|----------------|----|--------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ | 438,662.73 |
| LOVELAND | \$ | 223,865.40 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ | 44,643.43 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ | 20,005.58 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ | 25,934.91 |
| WINDSOR | \$ | 19,211.33 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ | 24,676.13 |
| TIMNATH | \$ | 24,261.10 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ | 821,260.61 |
| TOTAL UNINCORP | \$ | 821,260.61 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 1,642,521.22 |

\$ (0.00)

YEAR TO DATE**PAID TO DATE**

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----|----------------|
| \$ | 3,488,045.50 | \$ | 88,447,360.04 |
| \$ | 1,780,075.32 | \$ | 41,346,243.37 |
| \$ | 354,984.17 | \$ | 6,906,088.89 |
| \$ | 159,075.24 | \$ | 3,271,176.39 |
| \$ | 206,222.53 | \$ | 3,158,859.87 |
| \$ | 152,759.75 | \$ | 1,819,900.30 |
| \$ | 196,213.34 | \$ | 1,295,331.88 |
| \$ | 192,913.16 | \$ | 1,513,138.17 |
| \$ | 6,530,289.01 | \$ | 147,758,098.91 |
| \$ | 6,530,289.00 | \$ | 110,201,791.67 |
| \$ | 13,060,578.01 | \$ | 257,959,890.58 |

OPEN SPACE SALES TAX ACTIVITY
October 2020 Distribution

REVENUES:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| SALES TAX | \$ 1,343,735.23 |
| MV USE TAX | \$ 130,477.96 |
| BUILDING USE TAX | \$ 171,072.55 |
| INTEREST | \$ 203.48 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>\$ 1,645,489.22</u> |

EXPENDITURES:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| PERSONNEL & OPERATING | <u>\$ 7,402.24</u> | \$ 51,654.38 |
| | | \$ 51,654.38 |

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| NET REVENUE: | <u><u>\$ 1,638,086.98</u></u> |
|--------------|-------------------------------|

% SALES TAX DISTRIBUTED TO INCORP. AREAS (USED AS A BASIS) 50%

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON POPULATION

2019 State of Colorado Statistics

| | 2018 POPULATION | % OF INCORP AREA | REVENUE |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | 167,347 | 59.36 | \$ 486,158.00 |
| LOVELAND | 77,226 | 27.39 | \$ 224,348.44 |
| ESTES PARK | 6,301 | 2.23 | \$ 18,304.97 |
| BERTHOUD | 7,632 | 2.71 | \$ 22,171.64 |
| WELLINGTON | 9,894 | 3.51 | \$ 28,742.96 |
| WINDSOR | 7,329 | 2.60 | \$ 21,291.40 |
| JOHNSTOWN | 2,235 | 0.79 | \$ 6,492.87 |
| TIMNATH | 3,970 | 1.41 | \$ 11,533.21 |
| TOTAL INCORP. | <u>281,934</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$ 819,043.49</u> |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON SALES TAX GENERATION

2019 Larimer County Statistics

| | 2018 GENERATION | % OF INCORP AREA SALES TAX | REVENUE |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 13,743,866 | 53.93 | \$ 441,746.46 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 7,720,582 | 30.29 | \$ 248,103.95 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 1,539,645 | 6.04 | \$ 49,477.11 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 263,974 | 1.04 | \$ 8,482.90 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 232,991 | 0.91 | \$ 7,487.26 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 298,484 | 1.17 | \$ 9,591.91 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 851,021 | 3.34 | \$ 27,347.89 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 836,707 | 3.28 | \$ 26,887.91 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 25,487,271</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$ 819,125.39</u> |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON HIGHEST YIELD TO INCORPORATED AREAS:

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 486,158.00 | 53.41 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 248,103.95 | 27.26 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 49,477.11 | 5.44 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 22,171.64 | 2.44 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 28,742.96 | 3.16 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 21,291.40 | 2.34 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 27,347.89 | 3.00 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 26,887.91 | 2.95 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 910,180.87</u> | <u>100.00</u> |

DISTRIBUTION FOR MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT:

| | | |
|----------------|----|--------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ | 437,478.49 |
| LOVELAND | \$ | 223,261.04 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ | 44,522.91 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ | 19,951.57 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ | 25,864.89 |
| WINDSOR | \$ | 19,159.47 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ | 24,609.52 |
| TIMNATH | \$ | 24,195.60 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ | 819,043.49 |
| TOTAL UNINCORP | \$ | 819,043.49 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 1,638,086.98 |

\$ -

YEAR TO DATE**PAID TO DATE**

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----|----------------|
| \$ | 3,925,523.99 | \$ | 88,884,838.53 |
| \$ | 2,003,336.36 | \$ | 41,569,504.41 |
| \$ | 399,507.08 | \$ | 6,950,611.80 |
| \$ | 179,026.81 | \$ | 3,291,127.96 |
| \$ | 232,087.42 | \$ | 3,184,724.76 |
| \$ | 171,919.22 | \$ | 1,839,059.77 |
| \$ | 220,822.86 | \$ | 1,319,941.40 |
| \$ | 217,108.76 | \$ | 1,537,333.77 |
| \$ | 7,349,332.50 | \$ | 148,577,142.40 |
| \$ | 7,349,332.49 | \$ | 111,020,835.16 |
| \$ | 14,698,664.99 | \$ | 259,597,977.56 |



2020

Larimer County Natural Resources

QUARTERLY BOARD REPORT

4TH QUARTER (OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER)



Unprecedented wildfire season demands unified support

During the Cameron Peak and East Troublesome fires in western Larimer County in September and October, LCDNR staff responded expediently to protect its public areas and to assist the Sheriff's Office to protect mountain communities and neighboring residents impacted by the fires. Activities included staffing and refueling generators at roadblocks, assisting with traffic, evacuating campgrounds and assisting campers to find alternative places to stay, providing reservoir access for helicopter water fills, and clearing fuels around the towers atop Horsetooth Mountain. Thankfully, areas the Department manages were spared from the fire impacts experienced across the region. Looking into 2021, LCDNR staff are actively supporting fire recovery and forest restoration by participating in regional efforts that are examining weed management, assisting landowners with reseeding efforts, flood mitigation, and public information among others.



Looking west from Devil's Backbone Open Space on October 17, 2020.
Photo Aliy Louie.

Sky View Campground granted \$475K in state funding



Sky View Campground pavilion rendering.

In November, LCDNR received a \$475,334 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) to bolster Department funds to construct the Sky View Campground on the east side of Carter Lake. A first of its kind in Larimer County, this project will provide the community a campground catering to large groups. The grant was part of GOCO's Resilient Communities Program, which helps grantees advance outdoor recreation, stewardship, and land protection work in addition to supporting immediate opportunities that have emerged in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Views from the conservation easement area donated by the Steputis family. Photo Charlie Johnson.

Local family partners to conserve 884-acre ranch

In partnership with local landowners Mark and Candee Steputis, LCDNR finalized a conservation easement in December to protect an 884-acre ranch in northern Larimer County. The conservation easement acquisition is made possible due to a generous donation from the Steputis family as well as being a component of the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) 2020 Laramie Foothills Expansion Grant, which bolsters the efforts of Larimer County and City of Fort Collins to conserve lands in this priority area.

Stopping the spread on Kruger Rock Trail

Due to Rocky Mountain National Park limiting their visitor access in 2020, Hermit Park Open Space experienced significant increases in trail use last fall. According to Trails Program Manager Joel Schwab, "Given this higher use in 2020, Kruger Rock Trail saw significant widening, up to eight feet in some areas and was sloughing downhill. Our team built up the downhill side with a rock wall to help keep the trail where it is and reduce erosion and widening in the future."



BEFORE



AFTER

Desirable shade trees take up residence at River Bluffs Open Space



Hackberry



New shade trees line the parking area at River Bluffs Open Space trailhead. Photo Casey Cisneros.



Buckeye

LCDNR has taken another big step towards eliminating Siberian elm at River Bluffs Open Space. As an invasive exotic species, Siberian elm have historically crowded out native plants and wildlife within the Poudre River corridor at River Bluffs Open Space. Several years ago, these large weedy trees were removed along the riverbanks prior to a larger restoration project, and recently, were removed from the trailhead and replaced with a diversity of desirable shade trees including juniper, buckeye, coffee tree and hackberry. Volunteers are pitching in by watering the new trees on a weekly basis during the growing season.

Herrington/Soderberg homestead building restoration complete

In 2019 and 2020, local and visiting volunteers joined HistoriCorps' preservation experts to restore three Herrington/Soderberg homestead buildings within Horsetooth Mountain Open Space. In October 2020, restoration activities included removing and repointing failing mortar and repairing wood elements, including decorative gables and siding on the stone bunkhouse. This critical restoration work will allow the historic structure to remain intact and stabilized as an iconic element of the site for generations to come.



Financial Summary

Larimer County Natural Resources Department has five primary revenue sources including Colorado lottery proceeds, the open spaces sales tax, user fees on open space properties, user fees on reservoir park properties, and the

weed district property tax. Below are the Oct 1 through December 31 revenue summaries, annual and daily permit sales, and camping reservation nights compared to the same period the previous year.

Year to Date Revenue (through December 31st 2020)

| | 2019 | 2020 | % Change |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Colorado Lottery | \$819,553 | \$700,941 | -14% |
| Open Spaces Sales Tax | \$9,006,285 | \$7,442,807 | -17% |
| Open Spaces Generated User Fees* | \$1,087,738 | \$1,388,683 | 28% |
| Reservoir Parks Generated User Fees* | \$4,216,322 | \$4,982,526 | 18% |
| Weed District Property Tax | \$631,795 | \$744,328 | 18% |

*User fees include those for entrance, camping, special events, group use areas, and penalty assessments

Year to Date Operating Expenses (through December 31st 2020)

| | 2019 | 2020 | % Change |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Personnel | 6,097,907 | 6,708,376 | 10% |
| Operating | 4,976,393 | 4,663,716 | -6% |

Year to Date Number of Permit Sales (through December 31st 2020)

| | 2019 | 2020 | % Change |
|------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Open Spaces | | | |
| Annual Permits | 1,667 | 2,151 | 29% |
| Daily Permits | 57,814 | 72,337 | 25% |
| Reservoir Parks | | | |
| Annual Permits | 9,615 | 12,131 | 26% |
| Daily Permits | 144,765 | 191,956 | 33% |

Year to Date Camping Reservation Nights (through December 31st 2020)

| | 2019 | 2020 | % Change |
|-----------------|--------|--------|----------|
| Open Spaces | 8,049 | 10,320 | 28% |
| Reservoir Parks | 44,046 | 43,778 | -1% |

These reported figures are preliminary and not audited at press time. Audit will be completed in mid-2021.



Larimer County
Department of Natural Resources
Quarterly Board Report
Published: January 2021

Connect With Us:
Larimer County Department of Natural Resources
1800 S. County Road 31
Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 619-4570
larimer.org/naturalresources



SMALL GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERING



2021 PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

JANUARY 28, 2021



2021 GRANT PROGRAM



2021 Project Applications

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Applications Received | 8 |
| Total Amount Requested | \$21,695 |
| Recommended Projects | 7 |
| Funding Recommended | \$18,695 |

*1 applicant withdrew; 2 new applicants in 2020



2021 GRANT PROGRAM

2021 Project Recommendations

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Heart J. Center | \$2,932 |
| Sproutin' Up | \$3,000 |
| Loveland Youth Gardeners | \$3,000 |
| Loveland Historic Society | \$2,060 |
| Denver Museum of Nature & Science | \$2,977 |
| Georgetown Townhomes HOA | \$3,000 |
| Terry Shores HOA | \$1,726 |
| Total | \$18,695 |



2021 GRANT PROGRAM



Thank you
2021 Subcommittee Members!

Jason Brothers
Dave Marvin
Tom Shoemaker

