

From: [Thelen, Lonna](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: FW: The Blodgett Open Space Petition
Date: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:31:16 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

David,

Please include in the public comment packet.

Thanks,

Lonna

Lonna Thelen, AICP, LEED AP BD&C

Parks Design and Development Manager / TOPS Manager

Phone: (719) 385-6540

Email: lonna.thelen2@coloradosprings.gov

From: Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:29 PM
To: Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: FW: The Blodgett Open Space Petition

Hi Lonna,

Can you include this in the packet?

Warmest regards,

Sam Friedman

Constituent and Outreach Program Coordinator

City Council and Legislative Services

City of Colorado Springs

(719) 385-5480 office



From: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:25 PM
To: All Council - DL <allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: The Blodgett Open Space Petition

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Dear Councilmembers,

Regarding the Blodgett Open Space new master plan, I am sending you this email to ensure that all of you are aware of my petition. I have also requested that the Constituent and Outreach Program Coordinator add it to your packet for June 10th.

Make Blodgett Open Space a Nature Preserve!



Started April 6, 2024
Petition to Mayor of Colorado Springs, CO Yemi Mobolade and [1 other](#)

Why this petition matters

Started by [Dorothy Macnak](#)

2,066 Signatures 2,500 Next Goal

107 people signed this week

Make Blodgett Open Space a Nature Preserve!

Share on Facebook

Send an email to friends

Send a message via WhatsApp

Tweet to your followers

Copy link

This petition was only promoted locally. Here is a link to view the entire petition with the current number of signatures: <https://chnng.it/4rNsnBnPNY> Please note the following comments made by former parks board members when they signed the petition:

Judith Rice-Jones: "We preserve open space to protect exceptional place making views and nature in our city. ACTIVE recreation and thrill seekers belong in parks for those purposes. NOT in our open spaces."

Kent Obee: "Colorado Springs is known for its stunning natural beauty and wildlife. Our city is becoming a recreation hub which is devastating to the natural features that Coloradans and visitors revere as well as to wildlife, and to the breathtaking views. I'm asking you to take the long term view and keep our landscapes intact. We've already developed too much."

Sincerely,

Dorothy Macnak
B.A. Geography and Environmental Studies (UCCS)



Make Blodgett Open Space a Nature Preserve!

Started

April 6, 2024

Petition to

Mayor of Colorado Springs, CO Yemi Mobolade and [1 other](#)



2,069

Signatures

2,500

Next Goal

 102 people signed this week

Sign this petition

Why this petition matters



Started by [Dorothy Macnak](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

The original and still relevant Blodgett Open Space master plan was all about preservation. Now the parks department wants to extensively ramp up recreation and parking in BOS to include paragliding (!) which studies show is detrimental to wildlife. BOS is habitat for a variety of wildlife including Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, a State of Colorado designated "species of greatest conservation need."

The city's parks department contracted a new master plan without asking the citizens first. Later, in their "public input process," they asked citizens to weigh in on pre-determined "options" (of which making BOS a nature preserve was not one).


With its unique and fragile ecosystem and presence of a rare, non-migrating herd of bighorn sheep, BOS is ideal for a nature preserve. There are many places in Colorado Springs and surrounding areas for recreation. There are few places for the bighorn. Preserving such a habitat not only protects biodiversity but also ensures the conservation of sensitive species and contributes to scientific research and education.

Please sign this petition and let the mayor, the parks department and city council know that you want Blodgett Open Space to be formally recognized as "Blodgett Open Space Nature Preserve," and the original detailed and scientific preservation-based master plan and forest management plan be kept in place.

Thank you!

(Photo of bighorn on Blodgett Open Space by Jim Klever as published in the Woodmen Edition newspaper)

"Data show that free-flight activities create disturbances and have negative effects on wildlife, resulting in increased energy expenditure, reduction of feeding time, abandonment of feeding areas, reduced breeding output, loss of body condition,

 **102 people** signed this week

Sign this petition

"Efforts to funnel recreational activity away from sheep use areas and to curtail development on private lands in critical areas will benefit the Rampart Range bighorns."

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5181936.pdf

"...a limited number (~5-10) of ewes lamb on the southwestern side of the USAFA. The exact route used by these ewes to travel to the USAFA is unknown." <https://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Hunting/BigGame/DAU/BighornSheep/RBS-14DAUPlanFinal.pdf>

"Bighorns face a variety of threats (**increased recreation pressure**, habitat fragmentation, etc)..."

<https://coloradooutdoorsmag.com/2023/08/31/colorado-bighorn-sheep-management-2023/>



Share this petition in person or use the QR code for your own material.

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Media Resources

Are you a member of the media looking to cover this petition?

[Reach out for available actions.](#)

Supporter Map



 102 people signed this week



60% of supporters come from this area.

Top zip code(s) with the most supporters: 80919, 80918, 80904

Decision Makers



Colorado Springs City Council



Yemi Mobolade

Mayor of Colorado Springs, CO



🗣️ 102 people signed this week

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Media Mentions

✦ Detected by Change.org

 **102 people** signed this week

Updates

Please write city council!

Thank you everyone for signing, sharing and supporting this petition! Please write to city council: allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov . And please mark your calendars: June 10th will be the date city council hears why the new master plan should be rejected in favor of preserving Blodgett Open Space. A group of citizens are preparing a presentation, but people are needed to write in, call in, comment in person or simply be there if you possibly can. ...



Dorothy Macnak

1 month ago


[More updates](#)

Reasons for signing



PATTY DOERR · 2 months ago

We must keep the face of the mountains as natural as possible; reduce intensive use; allow habitat for birds, animals, other creatures of the wild.

 **102 people** signed this week



Matt Venon · 2 months ago

As a mountain biker myself, there are many other biking options in COS. The Blodgett area should remain hiking only and in it's natural ecosystem in support of Big Horn sheep and other species. The public has contested this project and should not be ignored in favor of special interest groups. Denying this project will not negatively impact mountain ... [Read more](#)

♡ 10 · Report

[View all reasons for signing](#)

Petitions promoted by other Change.org users



↑ [Promoted by 94 supporters](#)

Save The Burbank Rancho

This is a petition to stop the sale for the property at 910 Mariposa St. Burbank, CA and to convince Burbank City Council...

[Read more](#)



Save The Burbank Rancho

2,746

102 people signed this week



↑ [Promoted by 22 supporters](#)

100 Years Wrongfully Convicted : Free Cordarius Lawrence : Justice For The Innocent

Cordarius Lawrence was sentenced to 100 years after he was wrongfully convicted of first degree murder. We request justice...

[Read more](#)




Golden Williams

949

[Sign the petition](#)



 **102 people** signed this week

Strengthen the Food Labeling Modernization Act to Protect the Allergic Community

To the sponsors of Food Labeling Modernization Act of 2021 (FLMA): Rep Frank Pallone, Jr Rep Rosa DeLauro Sen Richard...

[Read more](#)



Dave Bloom

 17,949

[Sign the petition](#)



↑ [Promoted by 1 supporter](#)

STOP the Cell Phone Ban in Indiana Schools

This petition is for: Governor of Indiana: Eric J. Holcomb As a high school student in Indiana, I feel that cell phones are a...

[Read more](#)



Greg Campbell

34

[Sign the petition](#)

102 people signed this week



↑ [Promoted by 1 supporter](#)

Have the "Legends of the Hidden Temple" reboot done right

I, Alec Borden, had a petition to get the game show, "Legends of the Hidden Temple", rebooted but it got backlash from fans....

[Read more](#)




Alec Borden

509

[Sign the petition](#)



 **102 people** signed this week

Maintain Funding and Support for The Beacon at Skyline Correctional Center

The Beacon program at Skyline Correctional Center in Colorado has been a beacon of hope for many inmates, offering them th...

[Read more](#)



Payton R

 2,077

[Sign the petition](#)



↑ [Promoted by 413 supporters](#)

Halt the Designation of the Dolores River National Monument

This petition is born out of a deeply personal concern for the residents of Gateway, Paradox, Bedrock, Nucla and Naturita in...

[Read more](#)

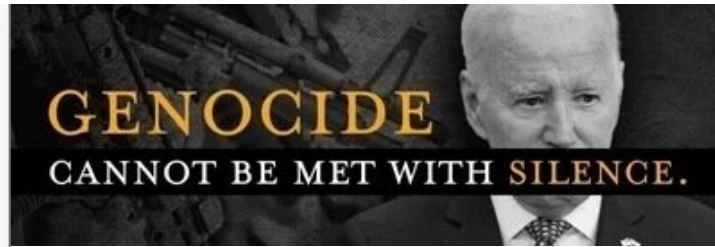


Sean Pond

7,796

Sign the petition

102 people signed this week



↑ Promoted by 307 supporters

URGENT: WAR CRIME TAX REFUSAL - Congress Failed to Respond by Due Date of March 30,...

WE THE PEOPLE cannot in good faith continue to allow solicitation of war crimes, especially with a president who mak...

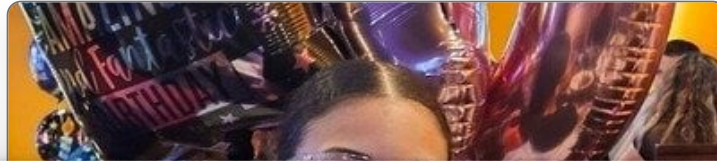
[Read more](#)




MAE GOD-WIN

5,646

Sign the petition



 102 people signed this week

Improve Pedestrian Safety at Shaler Blvd. and Edgewater Ave Intersection, Ridgefield NJ

My daughter, Serenity Law, was the third person to tragically lose her life at the intersection of Shaler Blvd. and Edgewater Ave in...

[Read more](#)



Miriam Peguero

 3,250

[Sign the petition](#)



↑ [Promoted by 54 supporters](#)

Honor Bob Derr's Legacy by Naming the New Turf Field After Him

For over four decades, Bob Derr has been a pillar of the Warwick School District in Lititz, PA. As a teacher, coach, and mentor, he...

[Read more](#)



Ron Rose

1,769

Sign the petition

👤 102 people signed this week



↑ [Promoted by 14 supporters](#)

Install Traffic Light on 192nd Street SE and Bothell Everett Highway

We, the concerned residents of Bothell, Washington, urge the local authorities to take action and install a traffic light on 192n...

[Read more](#)




Ritvik Bansal

447

Sign the petition



 **102 people** signed this week

No dam no danger

Hello my name is Alissa malott. My little brother ANDRE EDWARDS JR was robbed of his life . Aj was playing in silver cre...

[Read more](#)



Alissa Malott

 437

[Sign the petition](#)



 [Promoted by 6 supporters](#)

Increase Facilities Funding for Massachusetts Charter Schools

It is no secret to the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School community that our school is underfunded. This is true for ma...

[Read more](#)



Will Surprenant

58

[Sign the petition](#)

102 people signed this week

Healthcare Safety Matters

↑ [Promoted by 132 supporters](#)

Patient Safety in Maine Matters

"The very first requirement in a hospital is that it should do the sick no harm". Florence Nightingale As Maine healthcare...

[Read more](#)




US Patient Safety

21,147

[Sign the petition](#)



 **102 people** signed this week

Urge SF SPCA to Fully Disclose All Known Medical Info to Adopters

I recently adopted a tiny dog, "Mouse," from the San Francisco SPCA. Prior to finalizing the adoption, they discussed her medic...

[Read more](#)



Diane D

 63

[Sign the petition](#)



 [Promoted by 10 supporters](#)

Rich Men to Hardcore Fund Females Offsetting Hardcore Impacts of Porn x AI x...

We're asking for YOUR signatures on our open letter shown below and at sex.tech/1billion where that version of the letter...

[Read more](#)



MAMAMUSE New York

178

Sign the petition

102 people signed this week



↑ [Promoted by 7 supporters](#)

Reform University Misconduct Investigations for Better Student Protection

I am a student who has experienced firsthand the catastrophic failures of our university misconduct investigation system. On...

[Read more](#)




Julia Lorence

294

Sign the petition



 102 people signed this week

Save Florida's Sand and Beaches from Being Stolen from America's Ability to Walk FL...

Florida/30A Full time residents & visitors/guests alike are having their rights to use Florida 30A Sand & Beaches Free Access...

[Read more](#)



John Dillard - CPA

 4,900

[Sign the petition](#)


Victorious Petitions



not allowing someone to attend their middle school graduation=cruel and unusual...

Dyllan Duran, resident of San Antonio, Texas and student at the esteemed Eleanor Kolitz Hebrew Language Academy, lives a tranquil and well lead life. That is until she is unjustly sentence...

[Read more](#)

 **102 people** signed this week

Victory!



SAVE LAKE LOGAN IN HOCKING HILLS

Since its creation in 1955, Lake Logan has been a sanctuary for our community, providing a source of joy, relaxation, and economic prosperity to the Hocking Hills, the most visited state...

[Read more](#)



Lake Logan Association


 5,003

Victory!



End North UT Valley Animal Shelter Murdering Animals In Gas Chambers


I was dismayed to learn from Utah Animal Rights Coalition (UARC) that Utah County Cities contract with North Utah Valley

 **102 people** signed this week

Newly created petitions

In support of Environmental Stability in RURAL Reisterstown



Stop this... → From turning to this!




Petition to Julian Jones/Balt. County Council to OPPOSE Re-Zoning in RURAL Reisterstown

We, residents of Reisterstown and Baltimore County, Maryland are deeply concerned about the proposed Baltimore County zoning change Issue 4-017, at Berrymans Lane and Deer Park...

[Read more](#)

 **Charlene Simonds**  5



 **102 people** signed this week

Remove Tom Dixon from the Irvona Water Authority

I do not believe this man has the best interest in mind for our community. Tom Dixon's decisions have repeatedly shown a lack of concern for the well-being of Irvona residents. There have...

[Read more](#)



Katlyn Morrison


 15



Urge US Senators to Bring HR 5863 to the Floor and Pass It ASAP

California survivors of presidentially declared wildfire disasters desperately need relief from federal income tax on funds received for their recovery. State tax relief was quickly put into...

[Read more](#)

 **102 people** signed this week

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English (United States) 

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 **102 people** signed this week

From: [Julia O](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: Re: USAF - Proposed 2024 Blodgett Open Space Master Plan
Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 3:08:37 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Thank you!
Julia

On Wed, May 22, 2024 at 3:07 PM Deitemeyer, David
<David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the email. I see a CORA request was submitted to the City today. All files have been provided to that request.

Thank you,

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

1401 Recreation Way

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Julia O <julia777@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:21 PM

To: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: USAF - Proposed 2024 Blodgett Open Space Master Plan

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Hello Mr. Deitemeyer,

This is Julia Owens, a resident of Mountain Shadows in Colorado Springs. I understand that the USAF submitted a comment letter to you during the drafting of the proposed new Blodgett Open Space Master Plan.

I respectfully request a copy of the USAF's comment letter, along with any other subsequent correspondence from them, regarding this newly proposed Blodgett Open Space Master Plan project.

Amy Kelley, of the USAF, directed me to your office for my request to obtain a copy of their USAF letter which was sent during the drafting process of the Blodgett Open Space proposed new master plan

If there is a charge to obtain this information, please let me know. If there is another city department, or official, who I need to contact for the information, please let me know that, as well. Thank you very much.

Best Regards,

Julia Owens

From: [Palmer, Tracy L.](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Cc: [Haley, Britt I](#); [McKimmey, Amy](#)
Subject: FW: General CORA Request #15445383 has been submitted
Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 2:32:52 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Hi David – Please see the CORA request below. For the portion regarding ‘any correspondence to the USAF, and from, the USAF, subsequent to the letter, regarding this same newly proposed plan’: I am unsure if this is potentially a large or broadly stated request or if there may be other custodians. I am wondering if we might need to ask for clarification or possibly send an estimate to the requestor before we proceed. As of now, records are due on Friday the 24th, but I would appreciate it if you could let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Tracy Palmer
Program Administrator II
Office of the City Attorney
O: 719-385-5909
Tracy.Palmer@coloradosprings.gov
[she/her/hers] ([Why Pronouns?](#))



From: Colorado Springs <noreply@publicstuff.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 1:56 PM
To: Palmer, Tracy L. <Tracy.Palmer@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: General CORA Request #15445383 has been submitted

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Notification

General CORA Request

Hi CORA Team1,

General CORA Request Request #15445383, which you followed, has been submitted to Accela.

This request was submitted by JCHO7 at May 22, 2024, 1:55 PM MDT through Iframe.

Request Details

Description

Re: Proposed new Blodgett Open Space Master Plan project. This is a request for the copy of the USAF comment letter which the USAF states they sent during the drafting process of the Blodgett Open Space proposed new master plan to Mr. Deitemeyer, and for any correspondence to the USAF, and from, the USAF, subsequent to the letter, regarding this same newly proposed plan.

Priority

HIGH

Status

SUBMITTED

Address**Due Date**

May 27, 2024,12:00 AM MDT

View this request here: <https://gov.publicstuff.com/request/view/15445383>

Thanks!

Colorado Springs



From: [Janet Wagner](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Cc: [All Council - DL](#); [Donelson, Dave](#); [O'Malley, Michael \(Comm Center\)](#); [Henjum, Nancy](#); [Helms, Randy](#); [Talarico, Michelle](#); [Avila, Yolanda](#); [Risley, Brian](#); [Crow-Iverson, Lynette](#); [Leinweber, David](#)
Subject: Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan [BOSM&MP] - City Council Appeal 6/10/24
Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 7:23:20 AM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2024-05-22 at 6.36.37AM.png](#)

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Good morning Mr. Deitemeyer,

I'm an active & outdoorsy Rockrimmon resident & proud COS citizen; married w/ 2 young children; we are participants & volunteer coaches for our Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services [PR&CS] youths sport program. I joined the BOSM&MP conversation roughly May/June of 2023, and signed up to receive [but never have received] project updates from PR&CS. During the summer months I emailed & called your office [using the Gmail acct & phone number provided by Tapis Associates] to learn of planning session locations/times, but those messages were left unanswered. I was however able to attend the Oct 2023 meeting @ Flying W, afterwards I emailed the Gmail acct again & completed all post meeting surveys, but didn't receive a response. I attended Jan 2024 Neighborhood meeting @ Trace Church, then spoke during public comments @ 2/13/24 City Council meeting, attended Councilmember Dave Donaldson's 2/29 meeting @ Woodmen-Roberts Elementary, attended Parks Advisory Board master plan approval meeting on 4/11 in person & by phone. Unfortunately the only opportunity I've had to speak publicly in front of or with you [& other Parks leadership] was @ the Woodmen-Roberts and PAB 4/11 approval meeting, but the PAB meeting experienced technical difficulties and my phoned-in public comment was not heard.

These efforts to communicate with Parks leadership & Tapis Associates have remained ineffectual. I also tried joining the Stakeholder group, and was assured there would be more time and opportunities to discuss the new master plan with Parks leadership. Likewise I still have remaining questions and serious concerns for BOS, and am respectfully sending this email ahead of the 6/10 City Council appeal in case I'm unable to make a formal public comment during the hearing:

1. Can you describe PR&CS process to a) select the stakeholder group participants and b) which local HOAs were contacted for inclusion in the BOSM&MP's Stakeholder group?
 - According to BOSM&MP Appendix A-1 [\[click here to view\]](#) the Stakeholder group met March & April 2023; 26 area organizations/HOAs were invited; 15 reps from 11 organizations chose to participate.
 - I currently volunteer for our 595 home HOA here in Rockrimmon; our HOA board did not receive an invitation from either COS city, COS PR&CS or Tapis Associates to join this Stakeholder group.
2. Can you describe PR&CS's master plan implementation process for our open spaces & parks? More than a few times COS citizens were told BOS's original master plan required redesign based off BOS's 2018 land acquisition; can you describe this requirement in detail— specifically define when a new master plan is needed, and when PR&CS will relay that information to the public for inclusion in the master plan process. For reference:
 - [64 Acres Added to Blodgett Open Space](#), Oct 17, 2018: The TPL, in partnership with the city of Colorado Springs, today announced the protection of 64 acres adjacent to the Blodgett Open Space. The TFPL bought the land for \$768,500 from T. Slattery LLC, 3 parcels total.
 - Each of the three parcels already has a conservation easement held by El Paso County.
3. Can you please make public-- the three new BOS parking lot designs, specifically the 2018 purchased parcels as those hold 3 separate conservation easements.
 - Appendix B-3 [\[click here to view\]](#) states "Easement documents and other agreements mentioned above can be found in Appendix D.//", however, Appendix D "Existing Legal Documents" is blank or not available for me to view online.
4. Please describe PR&CS current vision regarding the use of e-bikes and other motorized equipment usage w/in BOS. I understand there is currently a PR&CS action committee formed to define these rules, and that e-bikes are legally allowed on all COS urban trails.
 - Will BOS be considered an urban trail system, allow e-bike usage and/or will e-bike speeds be limited @ BOS?
5. What are PR&CS plans to follow Federal NEPA requirements for adjacent USFS land access? Roughly what do you expect additional taxpayer costs will be in order for us to hire

another consultant to fulfill these NEPA requirements? Does the below BOSM&MP quote indicate PR&CS does not have to follow the formal NEPA public input process? For reference:

- Master Plan pg 61 [\[click here to view\]](#), Phase 2 Implementation "The city will participate in the NEPA public process and is not required by this management plan to host a separate public process."
 - [\[Click here to view\]](#) EPA's National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA] webpage.
 - [\[Click here to view\]](#) this 2/23/24 Gazette article quotes you, Mr Deitemeyer, COS Parks & Rec Dept, "Should the plan be approved, Deitemeyer said work this year could start on a new parking lot and trailhead in an area planned for multi-use and mountain bike-only trails. He also said the city could move forward in seeking a consultant to satisfy the U.S. Forest Service's requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA] — seen as the first step toward land managers partnering on a formal trail to Blodgett Peak's summit.
 - NEPA requirements would require the inclusion of [at minimum] an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and/or an Environmental Assessment (EA). As I understand this, the before-mentioned assessments are not [currently] required for our city's projects.
6. Cultural Resource Protection. I was elated to read we have archaeological sites w/in BOS. Please clarify where these sites were found, the sites' relation to mtbn and/or hiking trails, and what methods of preservation are being used for this area. For reference:
- Master Plan pg 53 [\[click here to view\]](#) Blodgett Open Space contains historical and archaeological resources related to the prehistoric period and historical agriculture and development activities.
 - All known significant archaeological sites have already been impacted by modern recreation in the area. Therefore, the best management practice is to preserve sites that are threatened and avoid significant sites during any future ground-disturbing construction activities.
 - W/o following NEPA standards/assessment guidelines, how do we know for sure we are not ruining known & unknown archeological sites?
 - It should be noted that without a state or federal nexus [e.g., funding or permitting], future projects will not legally require compliance with the Colorado State Register Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act [as amended 1966, NHPA].
 - Until the involvement of a state or federal nexus, all cultural resource management is considered due diligence and best practices, and the City is not obligated to complete cultural resource investigations or consultation on project effects with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer.
7. Conservation Easement, Easements and Right of Way Information. I'd appreciate help in clarifying what portion of the 2.3 million [I estimated these costs] of the Quarry Trailhead Improvements & Amenities work is being used to repair 2 drainage ponds located on the Quarry's property? Could the southern pond, Quarry Pond 517, be considered a 'dam'? For reference:
- Appendix B-3 [\[click here to view\]](#) The City supports reclamation of the Pikeview Quarry. City property includes previous disturbance from required stormwater management facilities from the Pikeview Quarry operations included within the DRMS permit area. Portions of the property are subject to approved, agreed-upon and permitted reclamation requirements by Riverbend Industries. This impact is immediately adjacent to the quarry site and accounts for approximately 31-acres of the open space.
 - Appendix F-4 [\[click here to view\]](#) Drainage Observations: "Initial Recommendations for the southern pond, Quarry Pond 517, include the following if it is to remain in service:
 - "Repair or modify any deficiencies found in the inspections and analysis.
 - Investigate the configuration of the spillway armoring.
 - Collaborate with the State Dam Safety office to determine if the pond needs to meet the rules for jurisdictional dams.
 - Consider reconfiguring the pond to meet the criteria for non-jurisdictional dam status."
 - From what I can see this drainage work could cost COS taxpayers upwards 2.3 million [estimated], is this correct or please help me breakdown the costs more accurately. For reference:
 - Master Plan pg 84 [\[click here to view\]](#), Quarry Trailhead Improvements & Amenities Estimated Quantities & Implementation Costs = 300k; plus Quarry Meadow Drainage Improvements 25 acres [dam inspection, regrading and revegetation] = 2 million.

This also increases the project's overall Design Costs = 782k [assume 15% of the project implementation total of \$ 5,214,100].

- Also see Master Plan pg 61 [\[click here to view\]](#), Phase 3 Implementation "If the city accepts the Pikeview Quarry, a separate planning process will be undertaken. At that time, the southern area of Blodgett Open Space may be reconsidered as part of that planning process."
 - Does this mean Parks Leadership is able to re-design Blodgett's southern portion [perhaps 25-30 acres] w/o a formal public engagement process? If yes, I have serious concerns about not being included in that process as well.

I appreciate your time and consideration. Like you, I also care deeply about our public wildlands and parks. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Janet Wagner

The following area employees have responded to me in a professional and courteous manner, throughout the last 12 months, thank you: Ms Anna Bingman, PR&CS; Ms Kerri Childress, Traffic & Engineering; Councilmembers Michelle Talarico & Dave Donaldson; Ms Kristi Ridlen, Clerks & Recorder; Mr Greg Thornton, PR&CS Advisory Board; Mr Carl Bauer, USFS.

Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradoprings.gov>
to me <>
Hi Ms. Wagner,
Great question - I touched base with our project manager, David DeSimone (David.DeSimone@coloradoprings.gov) on your question. He let me know that the stakeholder action [@Blodgett](#) has essentially served their purpose and aren't meeting anymore. However! The planning process has been extended and the project team is planning to conduct meetings with the direct neighborhood to gather more feedback and [@Blodgett](#) towards solutions that serve the best interest of the community and the Department! I don't believe those meeting dates have been set yet, but information will be available about them ASAP. You can also email the project team at blodgettmasterplan@gmail.com, and I think they have a list of emails they are sending project updates to and you can be added!
Hopefully that helped! Again, David is the point of contact for the project so you can certainly reach out to him with any other questions about the process moving forward.
Thank you,
Anna Bingman
Assisted to the Director
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way, CO, CO 80505
Anna.Bingman@coloradoprings.gov
719.385.4517 - Office

From: [Julia O](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: USAF - Proposed 2024 Blodgett Open Space Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:21:15 PM

CAUTION! - External Email. Malware is most commonly spread through unknown email attachments and links. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email!

Hello Mr. Deitemeyer,

This is Julia Owens, a resident of Mountain Shadows in Colorado Springs. I understand that the USAF submitted a comment letter to you during the drafting of the proposed new Blodgett Open Space Master Plan.

I respectfully request a copy of the USAF's comment letter, along with any other subsequent correspondence from them, regarding this newly proposed Blodgett Open Space Master Plan project.

Amy Kelley, of the USAF, directed me to your office for my request to obtain a copy of their USAF letter which was sent during the drafting process of the Blodgett Open Space proposed new master plan

If there is a charge to obtain this information, please let me know. If there is another city department, or official, who I need to contact for the information, please let me know that, as well. Thank you very much.

Best Regards,

Julia Owens

From: [McKimmey, Amy](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Hurst, Cynthia](#)
Cc: [Wysocki, Peter](#); [Palmer, Tracy L.](#)
Subject: FW: General CORA Request #15322252 has been submitted
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024 9:03:24 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Hello,

Please see the CORA request below. We tried to search online and could not find this. Is it available online or do you have it available to send? It is due by Monday, May 13.

Sincerely,

Amy McKimmey
Senior Paralegal
Office of the City Attorney
O: (719) 385-5909
Amy.McKimmey@coloradosprings.gov



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Thank you.

From: Colorado Springs <noreply@publicstuff.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:48 PM
To: McKimmey, Amy <Amy.McKimmey@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: General CORA Request #15322252 has been submitted

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Notification

General CORA Request

Hi CORA Team4,

General CORA Request Request #15322252, which you followed, has been submitted to Accela.

This request was submitted by ktinocc at May 8, 2024, 3:47 PM MDT through Iframe.

Request Details
Description I am looking for the appeal document recently submitted to city council concerning the Blodgett Master Plan process.
Priority HIGH
Status SUBMITTED
Address
Due Date May 13, 2024,12:00 AM MDT

View this request here:

<https://gov.publicstuff.com/request/view/15322252>

Thanks!

Colorado Springs



[About](#) | [Support](#)

From: [Brad Frieden](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: Re: Blodgett Open Space Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 2:23:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

CAUTION! - External Email. Malware is most commonly spread through unknown email attachments and links. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email!

Hi David,

Thanks for your reply. No problem on the delay. I'm sure you've been busy. I'm just seeing your message now. I've been in meetings here at work. The meeting I'm in now should end around 2:30pm so that would work for me.

I can give you a call when my work call ends.

Thanks!
Brad

On Tue, May 21, 2024 at 9:32 AM Deitemeyer, David
<David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov> wrote:

Hi Brad,

Thanks for your email and patience on my delayed response. I have some time mid afternoon today (around 2:30) or tomorrow late afternoon (after 3:45) for a call. Would you have a preference?

Thanks,

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

[1401 Recreation Way](#)

[Colorado Springs, CO 80905](#)

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Brad Frieden <blkbkaf@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 9:10 AM
To: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Brad Frieden <blkbkaf@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Blodgett Open Space Master Plan

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Hi David.

I hope your week is going well. I just wanted to make sure you saw my earlier email to you below so I thought I would reach out to you again. The person at the Parks and Rec front desk gave me your phone number and I would be interested in talking briefly with you about the status of things but I didn't want to call until you had time for that. I heard that someone appealed the Parks Board approval of the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan to City Council so I'm sure that adds another layer of complexity and work.

I have a customer demo at noon today that I will be preparing for this morning and it will run until 1pm but then after that I would be more free to chat for a few minutes if that would work into your schedule. I'm also around tomorrow and next week.

Regards,

Brad Frieden

On Tue, Apr 23, 2024 at 1:08 PM Brad Frieden <blkbkaf@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi David,

I saw your name listed on the Park and Rec web site and wanted to reach out to you regarding the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan. First, I want to say thanks for all the work I'm sure you've been involved in leading up to this point. I think the master plan looks great!

I have a particular interest in the open space because years ago I submitted the original TOPS application to attempt to acquire the land and stop the planned Peregrine housing development in the area that is now the Blodgett Open Space. I worked with a neighbor, Tim Mason, to advertise and call a public meeting one evening at a local grade school to rally public support for an acquisition and get a tall stack of handwritten letters to the city council members to express the importance of saving that land from development.

I just went out on the city council web site to see if the proposed master plan had already been voted on and I didn't see it on the agenda two weeks ago or today. If my work schedule would allow it, I'd be interested in speaking briefly in support of the master plan given my background with this open space. Has it already been approved by council or is it still coming before them at a future council meeting?

I'll watch for your reply. Back to work here (at Keysight Technologies).

Regards,

Brad Frieden

719-203-8309 (cell)

blkbkaf@gmail.com

From: [Bauer, Carl - FS, CO](#)
To: [Janet Wagner](#)
Subject: RE: [External Email]Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 8:34:33 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Good Morning Ms. Wagner, I'd like to respond to your questions below. I am not aware of any Regional FS Office comment regarding bighorn sheep. We are working with David Deitemeyer, of the city, to consider trail planning/NEPA studies on NFS lands. It would be premature of me to offer any opinion on this matter before I receive a proposal from the city and before any NEPA studies have been conducted.

I agree, the Wet Mountains are a special place, I worked there about 15 years.

Thank you -CRB



Carl R. Bauer
District Ranger
Pikes Peak Ranger District
Pike-San Isabel National Forests
Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands
o: 719-477-4202
c: 719-557-9668
carl.bauer@usda.gov
601 South Weber Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903
www.fs.fed.us
Caring for the land and serving people

From: Janet Wagner <jkotwas@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 10:56 AM
To: Bauer, Carl - FS, CO <carl.bauer@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan

You don't often get email from jkotwas@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;
Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.
Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Hello Mr. Bauer,

My name is Janet Wagner, I'm a happily involved Rockrimmon resident. I'm reaching out to you because your name is listed w/in the recently approved BOSM&MP. I'm sending the

same email to your colleague, Ms Samantha Gouch.

- Can you reply with either your opinion or an official comment specifically relating to a previous statement made by this regional USFS office during the 2424 GoGs dispute- - the only reason the bighorn have done well in this area is due to limited encroachment? Do you still agree? Please expand if you now disagree.
- Opinion/official comment regarding the trail to Blodgett's Peak. This 2/23/24 Gazette article quotes Mr David Deitemeyer, COS Parks & Rec Dept, "Should the plan be approved, Deitemeyer said work this year could start on a new parking lot and trailhead in an area planned for multi-use and mountain bike-only trails. He also said the city could *move forward in seeking a consultant to satisfy the U.S. Forest Service's requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)* — seen as the first step toward land managers partnering on a formal trail to Blodgett Peak's summit. https://gazette.com/premium/colorado-springs-parks-leaders-zero-in-on-projects-for-2024/article_45909748-d034-11ee-bdc0-cb9dc56165e1.html
 - How do you feel about our now approved BOSM&MP missing Federal NEPA requirements, specifically an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and/or an Environmental Assessment (EA)? I understand these assessments are not [currently] required for our city projects.

I certainly appreciate your time and efforts. My young family enjoys being wild and free; we have always appreciated our USFS employees. Our land is SW down in the Wet Mtns, often encountering USFS during controlled burns-- employees are always kind and professional. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Janet Wagner

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: [Donelson, Dave](#)
To: [Haley, Britt I](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Dorothy Macnak](#)
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP
Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024 5:07:45 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Yep, thanks for the clarification.

Dave Donelson
Councilman District 1

City of Colorado Springs
107 N Nevada Ave, #300
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Office: (719) 385-5487
Cell: (719) 368-0729
Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov



From: Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:11 AM
To: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Thank you for following up on that David.
Britt

Britt I. Haley
Director- Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Office: 719-385-6530
Email: britt.haley@coloradosprings.gov



From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 8:17 PM

To: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com;
ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com;
john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson
<ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Yemi Mobolade
<Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>; Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Haley,
Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Hello, Dorothy,

I was able to confirm through city contracts the equipment near the north trailhead in Blodgett Open Space belongs to the Public Works Operations and Maintenance group. They are conducting maintenance work on the drainage pond north of the trailhead.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Deitemeyer, David

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:05 PM

To: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com;
ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com;

john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson
<ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Yemi Mobolade

<Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>; Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Haley,
Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Good afternoon, Dorothy,

The Parks Department is NOT starting work on the trailhead or any improvements to Blodgett Open

Space outlined in the Parks Board approved Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan. With the impending appeal to City Council, the implementation of the master plan is on hold. This is something we understand and a process we respect. I'd also should reiterate there are no funds in 2024 to improve the North Trailhead and Orchard Valley, so work would not happen there anyway.

Park and open space maintenance of current infrastructure is permitted, as well as maintenance to the utility access road, utility infrastructure and maintenance of access road to the cell tower. Please feel free to share what you are seeing on site as I would appreciate a more detail description and location.

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:34 PM

To: Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: Please intervene ASAP

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Dave,

The citizen appeal of the new master plan for Blodgett Open Space is scheduled for June 10. Parks & Rec. appears to be proceeding with parking lot expansion NOW -- the equipment was noticed by neighbors today. Can you, as our district councilmember, or someone else intervene and get this stopped!?! It's the water tank all over again -- formal citizen opposition on the horizon, so project goes into over

drive.

Dorothy

From: [Melvin, Cassie](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: FW: I Apologize - re Blodgett Master Plan
Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:27:18 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Cassie Melvin

Public Communications Specialist
719-385-5253 (Office)
719-726-4175 (Cell)



From: Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 7:52 AM
Subject: FW: I Apologize - re Blodgett Master Plan

Passing along!

From: Sandra K Sutter <sandysutter@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 8:39 PM
To: Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - TOPS Working Committee - SMB <PRCS-TOPSWorkingCommittee-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; All Council - DL <allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Corrado, Brian P. <Brian.Corrado@coloradosprings.gov>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>; Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>; Kristen Petersen <petersen@peregrinehoa.com>; Jan Rodgers <janrodgers@gmail.com>; Sandy Sutter <sandysutter@comcast.net>; Paul (& Anita) Weida <pwwaida@gmail.com>
Subject: I Apologize - re Blodgett Master Plan

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Greetings,

I have emailed you all several times since late Aug/Sep 2023, after I first learned about the

Blodgett Master Plan.

I took great pains and time in my first several emails, Aug 2023-Dec 2023, to address the two main perspectives from which I was viewing that plan: as an adjacent resident and home owner who experiences all that would/(will) be so greatly negatively affected as a result of this plan, and as a general hiker and dog walker who enjoys meeting different people on the trails (hikers, runners, dog walkers, and bikers) as well as the raw nature, peace, serenity, and physical and mental health benefits that the trails through the open space provide. This pristine land and area cannot be treated like a “city park” or outdoor amusement park.

As I proceeded to do what little bit I could to get the word out to some of my neighbors, and share with others I met along the way on walks, etc., I was met with responses like “Don’t waste your time... the city will do whatever it wants and won’t pay any attention to us.” I remained hopeful, and actually trusted in our CS Parks Dept, Parks Advisory Board, TOPS Committee, and City Council. I couldn’t believe that we wouldn’t be heard... so I pressed on.

It grew clearer to me that the Parks Department was not paying attention to those who live amongst the wildlife (deer, etc) that live in our neighborhoods on both sides of the Centennial Blvd and Woodmen Road corridor, and cross back and forth daily and nightly. Nor was the Parks Dept recognizing the physical danger in which they are putting all those who use the trail system on foot (non-bikers).

I grew weary and I grew very stressed, all which began affecting not only my physical health but my emotional health. I later found that those same experiences were happening to other residents and home owners who live adjacent up and down the Blodgett Open Space and Quarry corridor.

By the end of Jan 2024, after the “final plan” was released and another “community presentation” was held, I was at a loss. I realized the reality of the adjacent residents and non-biking open space trail users, as well as all the wildlife (deer, etc) that live along and cross back and forth of the Centennial Blvd and Woodmen Road corridor, had not been taken into consideration... it was all for show.

So, my emotions got the best of me... took over, actually... and I sent a very emotional, condemning, and rude email. And then after the TOPS Committee and Parks Advisory Board each voted in favor of implementing the new Blodgett Master Plan I sent another email in which I attempted to contain my emotions better, though it was still emotional,

condemning, and rude.

I have been wondering why I have been so depressed, and had acted out this way in my emails to you, and to others. Today I was convicted (by the Holy Spirit) about who I have become throughout these past eight to nine months. That is not who I am.

I am ashamed of my actions and words, and I am sorry. It was wrong to lash out to you in that way. I knew better, but I didn't do better. I hope you will forgive me. Even if you don't, I am still sorry.

I appreciate your time, and I pray for the safety, security, and peace to all in this great city. Thank you.

God bless.

Enjoy a great day!

Sandy Sutter, NSCA-CPT
Certified Personal Trainer
719-213-8440
SandySutter@comcast.net

'We can't direct the wind... but we can adjust our sails!'

From: [Haley, Britt I](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Dorothy Macnak](#); [Donelson, Dave](#)
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP
Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:11:21 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Thank you for following up on that David.
Britt

Britt I. Haley
Director- Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Office: 719-385-6530
Email: britt.haley@coloradosprings.gov



From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 8:17 PM
To: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>; Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Hello, Dorothy,

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Deitemeyer, David

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:05 PM

To: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com;
ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com;

john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson

<ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Yemi Mobolade

<Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>; Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Haley,

Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Good afternoon, Dorothy,

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David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Adnistrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:34 PM

To: Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: Please intervene ASAP

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Dave,

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Dorothy

From: [Holmes, Lance](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Abbott, Scott](#); [Peddy, Madison S](#)
Subject: RE: Blodgett Open Space
Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 6:32:48 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Good morning

There is some major erosion on the S.W. corner of pond. I would like to resolve before the rains come in this season. Also, just routine maintenance. I plan on being in there 3-5 days. As far as concerned citizens the trail is open, and our material is coned off.

Thanks

Lance Holmes
N. Drainage District Supervisor
City of Colorado Springs
Public Works O&M
Office: 719-385-6805
Lance.Holmes@coloradosprings.gov



From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 8:16 PM
To: Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Peddy, Madison S <Madison.Peddy@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Holmes, Lance <Lance.Holmes@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Blodgett Open Space

Thanks for letting me know, Scott.

Lance – Do you have any details on scope of work and timeline? We have some concerned citizens that reached out to us today. Thank you.

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515
David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:13 PM
To: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Peddy, Madison S <Madison.Peddy@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Blodgett Open Space

FYI. Got this late today.

Scott

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:12:08 PM
To: Holmes, Lance <Lance.Holmes@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Re: Blodgett Open Space

Okay, thanks for the heads up!

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From: Holmes, Lance <Lance.Holmes@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:16:36 PM
To: Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Blodgett Open Space

Hey Scott,

Just wanted to let you know we will be doing some work on our pond just North of the parking lot Blodgett Open Space. I was going to email/call Elaine Freeth, got a wrong number...could not find her info, didn't know if she was still with City. Anyway, just giving you a heads up.

Thanks

Lance Holmes

N. Drainage District Supervisor

City of Colorado Springs

Public Works O&M

Office: 719-385-6805

Lance.Holmes@coloradosprings.gov



From: [Dorothy Macnak](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:32:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Can you please ask your parks operations person what the equipment is there for?
(N. Blodgett area)

On 04/23/2024 4:04 PM MDT Deitemeyer, David
<david.deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon, Dorothy,

The Parks Department is NOT starting work on the trailhead or any improvements to Blodgett Open Space outlined in the Parks Board approved Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan. With the impending appeal to City Council, the implementation of the master plan is on hold. This is something we understand and a process we respect. I'd also should reiterate there are no funds in 2024 to improve the North Trailhead and Orchard Valley, so work would not happen there anyway.

Park and open space maintenance of current infrastructure is permitted, as well as maintenance to the utility access road, utility infrastructure and maintenance of access road to the cell tower. Please feel free to share what you are seeing on site as I would appreciate a more detail description and location.

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Adnistrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

1401 Recreation Way

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:34 PM
To: Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Please intervene ASAP

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Dave,

The citizen appeal of the new master plan for Blodgett Open Space is scheduled for June 10. Parks & Rec. appears to be proceeding with parking lot expansion NOW -- the equipment was noticed by neighbors today. Can you, as our district councilmember, or someone else intervene and get this stopped!?! It's the water tank all over again -- formal citizen opposition on the horizon, so project goes into over drive.

Dorothy

From: [Friedman, Samuel](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Cc: [Haley, Britt I](#)
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:08:31 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Awesome, thank you!

Sam Friedman

Constituent and Outreach Program Coordinator
City Council and Legislative Services
City of Colorado Springs
(719) 385-5480 office



From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:08 PM
To: Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: FW: Please intervene ASAP

Hi Sam,

Following up on the forwarded VM, please see the response to the concerned citizen. Thanks

David

From: Deitemeyer, David
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 4:05 PM
To: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>; Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <ginny_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>; Abbott, Scott <Scott.Abbott@coloradosprings.gov>; Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Thelen, Lonna <Lonna.Thelen2@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Please intervene ASAP

Good afternoon, Dorothy,

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David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Dorothy Macnak <dottt1@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:34 PM

To: Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kantany <skantany@gmail.com>; jkotwas@gmail.com; julia777@gmail.com; ecklundvk@icloud.com; kerriolivier@gmail.com; umedicalgroup.chairmanceo@gmail.com; john.mandico@gmail.com; bonnie@mychristensen.net; Ginny Gustavson <gabby_gustavson@msn.com>; AMYLJUNE@yahoo.com; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>; Yemi Mobolade <Yemi.Mobolade@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: Please intervene ASAP

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Dave,

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councilmember, or someone else intervene and get this stopped?! It's the water tank all over again -- formal citizen opposition on the horizon, so project goes into over drive.

Dorothy

From: [Friedman, Samuel](#)
To: [Haley, Britt I](#)
Cc: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: FW: Message from CALLER VKE (917193323195)
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:35:52 PM
Attachments: [VoiceMessage.wav](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hi Britt,

This is one of the appellants for Blodgett. Assuming this is not happening as presented so if there is anything you can tell me I'll pass it along!

Warmest regards,

Sam Friedman

Constituent and Outreach Program Coordinator
City Council and Legislative Services
City of Colorado Springs
(719) 385-5480 office



From: Cisco Unity Connection Messaging System <unityconnection@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 3:24 PM
To: Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Message from CALLER VKE (917193323195)

From: [Brad Frieden](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Cc: [Brad Frieden](#)
Subject: Blodgett Open Space Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 1:08:44 PM

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Hi David,

I saw your name listed on the Park and Rec web site and wanted to reach out to you regarding the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan. First, I want to say thanks for all the work I'm sure you've been involved in leading up to this point. I think the master plan looks great!

I have a particular interest in the open space because years ago I submitted the original TOPS application to attempt to acquire the land and stop the planned Peregrine housing development in the area that is now the Blodgett Open Space. I worked with a neighbor, Tim Mason, to advertise and call a public meeting one evening at a local grade school to rally public support for an acquisition and get a tall stack of handwritten letters to the city council members to express the importance of saving that land from development.

I just went out on the city council web site to see if the proposed master plan had already been voted on and I didn't see it on the agenda two weeks ago or today. If my work schedule would allow it, I'd be interested in speaking briefly in support of the master plan given my background with this open space. Has it already been approved by council or is it still coming before them at a future council meeting?

I'll watch for your reply. Back to work here (at Keysight Technologies).

Regards,
Brad Frieden
719-203-8309 (cell)
blkbkaf@gmail.com

From: [Henjum, Nancy](#)
To: [STEVE SWAN](#)
Cc: [Donelson, Dave](#); [Haley, Britt I](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: RE: Blodgett Open Space
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 9:39:47 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Dear Steve,

What a thoughtful, intelligent, considerate, respectful and thorough email to Council regarding your experience of working with CM Donelson, the City Parks Department, and your engagement with your community. I wanted to write and thank you. These kinds of emails are not as plentiful as some other categories of email we receive. I am taking your comments and thoughts to heart and may even bring them up during discussion when we vote on the appeal.

My very best to you and to your family. Thank you for being an informed and engaged citizen!

Nancy

Nancy Henjum

Councilmember District 5

City Council, City of Colorado Springs



(719) 385-5483 office

(719) 651-1258 cell

Nancy.Henjum@coloradosprings.gov



From: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 7:02 AM
To: Donelson, Dave <Dave.Donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Helms, Randy <Randy.Helms@coloradosprings.gov>; Talarico, Michelle <Michelle.Talarico@coloradosprings.gov>; Crow-Iverson, Lynette <Lynette.Crow-Iverson@coloradosprings.gov>; Leinweber, David <David.Leinweber@coloradosprings.gov>; Avila, Yolanda <Yolanda.Avila@coloradosprings.gov>; OMalley, Mike (Council Member) <Mike.OMalley@coloradosprings.gov>; Henjum, Nancy <Nancy.Henjum@coloradosprings.gov>; Risley, Brian <Brian.Risley@coloradosprings.gov>; Friedman, Samuel <Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>; All Council - DL <allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Blodgett Open Space
Importance: High

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Greetings Councilman Donelson,

I hope this Monday morning e-mail finds you well. First, I want to again express my appreciation for your engagement with your constituents, including me, regarding the Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan. Your responses to my e-mails, and your outreach to me by phone, demonstrate that individual citizens like me matter and are important to you.

You may recall that my initial contact with you last Fall was to express the concern of my family and my neighbors with the proposed Orchard Valley Trailhead, which is directly above and to the north of our home and our cul-de-sac in Oak Valley Ranch. The draft plan presented at the October 2023 community workshop included a relocated and expanded Orchard Valley Trailhead parking area with 60 slots, a new access road on the Oak Valley Ranch skyline above our home, and addition of amenities such as signage and a toilet on our neighborhood skyline. Needless to say, my family, my neighbors, and our HOA were all mortified by this prospect, and we began contacting you and the Parks staff about it. Not only were you responsive to our concerns, so was the Parks staff.

The updated plan has been dramatically revised to mitigate the concerns of citizens like us. The planned Orchard Valley Trailhead parking lot has been scaled back to resemble its current footprint, with the access road remaining where it currently is and the amenities located at the interior of the trailhead away from the Oak Valley Ranch skyline. Additionally, the removal of the eyesore barn and shed near the intersection is a top priority in the new plan, and that will be a much welcome aesthetic improvement to the local landscape.

Throughout this process, I've received multiple courteous and cordial e-mail replies from Ms. Haley and Mr. Deitemeyer in Parks & Rec. In addition to the October meeting at Flying W Ranch, I attended the community meeting at Trace Church and your town hall meeting at Woodmen-Roberts Elementary. I've also been present or called in for the Parks Advisory Board and TOPS Working Committee meetings where Blodgett Open Space was discussed. The opportunities for citizen input into the planning process from October 2023 onward have been plentiful as far as I'm concerned.

While I've been primarily focused on the Orchard Valley Tailhead since its southern boundary is 40 yards above our backyard, I'm also very much interested in the planning for the larger expanse of the entire Blodgett Open Space. Our son and his family live a half mile west of us directly in front of the Pikeview Quarry, so they have the new southern addition of the open space directly behind their home as well. We think there's much goodness in the plan as it now exists after citizen input and revisions.

The new Quarry Trailhead will be a fantastic access point for the open space. The trails will be fun and exciting to hike, and there's no doubt in my mind that people who would otherwise park at the North Trailhead will instead gravitate to the Quarry Trailhead. In particular, the mountain bikers will head there because it gives them better access to the new bike trails and it's at the bottom of the open space elevation-wise. This means less encounters between mountain bikers and hikers in the north and middle sections of the open space.

I sincerely believe that the wildlife will fare much better under the structure of the new plan than it currently does now without that structure. The consideration of wildlife corridors in the new plan, along with the overall reduction in trail mileage due to the closure of unsanctioned trails, will provide better opportunities for the wildlife to avoid human interaction. Also, the adaptive management approach incorporated into the plan will provide for the ability to modulate activity in targeted portions of the open space should CPW biologists determine the presence of an adverse impact to the wildlife.

Speaking of wildlife, in the 25 years we've lived here we've never seen a single bighorn sheep in the area that comprises the Blodgett Open Space. And I get up before dawn to hike for miles in the open space on a weekly basis. I see bighorn sheep often in Garden of the Gods, in Mountain Shadows residential areas, and there was even a herd of rams at the Flying W Ranch parking lot when we exited the October community meeting. They never seem disturbed by human activity in vehicles or on foot. The notion that the Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan puts the local bighorn sheep herd in imminent peril is unscientific at best--CPW has provided no such warning. More likely, predictions of the impending destruction of the bighorn sheep herd are exaggerations designed to inflame public passions.

There's been an intense campaign on social media spearheaded by vocal opponents of the plan that has proliferated "Save The Bighorns" and "Save Blodgett" catchphrases. No doubt those people have been communicating with you and your colleagues on Council. The bighorns don't need saving from the plan, and neither does Blodgett. Rather, the plan needs saving from the apocalyptic vision propagated by its opponents. Their change.org petition to turn Blodgett Open Space into a nature preserve has garnered a lot of signatures based upon emotional and hyperbolic language in the Nextdoor.com and Facebook posts being used to disseminate it.

From what I can tell, the most strident opposition of the plan largely stems from a few Westsiders, some of whom reside near the open space like my family and my son's family. However, I don't believe they have the best interests of the larger Colorado Springs community and surrounding areas at heart. I know them not only from their social media posts, but also from meeting them in person. Some of them are, in my opinion, ardent but misguided animal welfare activists. One of them told me face-to-face last October that there's not a single thing in the plan that she supports--She said she's against it in its entirety.

Some opponents of the plan have suggested that the increased availability of parking at the North and Quarry Trailheads will result in a tremendous influx of people using

the open space, complicating evacuation efforts in the case of a wildfire. I personally don't think that will be the case, and more parking spots doesn't necessarily correlate to a greater possibility of evacuation traffic jams (especially since many of the parking spots will remain empty). I think the carefully considered parking lots proposed in the revised plan, along with the security recommendations being evaluated, will improve public safety along Woodmen Road and in the parking lots themselves. Just as CPW didn't identify impending danger to the bighorn sheep herd, CSFD hasn't noted increased hazard from the possibility of wildfires. I listened to Fire Chief Royal at your town hall gathering, and as someone who was caught up in the Waldo Canyon Fire evacuation, I came away with the impression that our processes for fighting wildfires and conducting evacuations are vastly improved since 2012.

I believe the citizens of Colorado Springs will be best served if our elected leaders rely upon the expertise of the professionals instead of the entreaties of the emotionals. To that end, I wholeheartedly recommend that Council approve the Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan when making a decision on the appeal of the unanimous Tops Working Committee approval and the 7-1 Parks Advisory Board approval.

Given the locations of our homes right next to the open space, I don't know of any families who are more impacted by the plan than my family and our son's family. We aren't mountain bikers or paragliding enthusiasts--Just adjacent neighbors of the open space who enjoy hiking in it and observing its wildlife. Unlike some Westsiders, we don't consider the open space to be our own personal playground and nature preserve. And we believe the approved Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan provides the best opportunity for all of Colorado Springs' citizens to also enjoy this wonderful property.

5 years from now, the nearby bighorn sheep and other wildlife will be thriving as it is today in our busy Garden of the Gods park, and all of our great city's citizens will be benefiting from a very much improved Blodgett Open Space. Your approval of this plan will help make it one of our city's crown jewels.

Thank-you for taking the time to read this, and thanks in advance for your consideration!

Best Regards,

Steve Swan, 303-917-3948

From: [STEVE SWAN](#)
To: [Haley, Britt I](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Cc: [Bingman, Anna](#); [Melvin, Cassie](#)
Subject: Fwd: Blodgett Open Space
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 7:08:53 AM

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Forwarding an e-mail I just sent to Dave Donelson and rest of City Council this morning.

Steve, 303-917-3948

----- Original Message -----

From: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>
To: "dave.donelson@coloradosprings.gov"
<dave.donelson@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: "Randy.Helms@coloradosprings.gov"
<Randy.Helms@coloradosprings.gov>,
"Michelle.Talarico@coloradosprings.gov"
<Michelle.Talarico@coloradosprings.gov>, "lynette.crow-
iverson@coloradosprings.gov" <lynette.crow-iverson@coloradosprings.gov>,
"david.leinweber@coloradosprings.gov"
<david.leinweber@coloradosprings.gov>, "Yolanda.Avila@coloradosprings.gov"
<Yolanda.Avila@coloradosprings.gov>, "Mike.OMalley@coloradosprings.gov"
<Mike.OMalley@coloradosprings.gov>, "Nancy.Henjum@coloradosprings.gov"
<Nancy.Henjum@coloradosprings.gov>, "brian.risley@coloradosprings.gov"
<brian.risley@coloradosprings.gov>, "Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov"
<Samuel.Friedman@coloradosprings.gov>, "allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov"
<allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov>
Date: 04/22/2024 7:02 AM MDT
Subject: Blodgett Open Space

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Best Regards,
Steve Swan, 303-917-3948

From: [Bettina Kennedy](#)
To: [Priscilla Marbaker](#); [Haley, Britt I](#); [PRCS - TOPS Working Committee - SMB](#); [PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: No Clarification
Date: Sunday, April 21, 2024 7:46:19 AM

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Ms. Marbaker/Ms. Haley,

It's been over six weeks (March 6) since you presented to TOPS Committee that a flyer with misinformation re Blodgett was distributed in the neighborhoods. You never qualified your assertions.

I am still waiting for your clarification.

Will it be forthcoming or am I waiting in vain?

Of course, by now, I expect you to take the easiest way out and do what you have been doing all along - ignoring and stonewalling.

You pushed it on the 'city' saying you do not represent them. If that's the case, then why did YOU share the flyer at one of your closed SAC meetings in the fall (as I was told by an attendee)? This came from YOU.

What was the purpose of this? To tell them that citizen input is being swayed in opposition to your master plan based on a neighborhood flyer?

Was it to drum up more support for the master plan from your SAC members?

You must, then, have a copy of the flyer and could very easily have taken a picture of it and sent it to me, so that I could verify if, indeed, it was the flyer my neighbor and I wrote. You could have also pointed out any potential 'misinformation' and, perhaps, we could have discussed it - if, indeed, it was mine.

But - you didn't. You stonewalled and you passed the buck to 'city.'

Your lack of communication and, consequently, your lack of transparency is shocking. It puts all of your public outreach into a whole different category - I wouldn't call it 'outreach' at all. I would call it a hypocritical farce - cherry picking public input that suits your agenda.

Ms.Haley - your 'advice' to 'attend meetings' and 'speak up' also did zero to answer any questions re the flyer - or anything else for that matter. You provided no answers. How do you account for this lack of transparency on Ms. Marbaker's part? Probably not that important, right? After all, this project on which everyone worked so diligently has been in the making for 15 months, and nothing will derail those efforts - of course.

Ms. Marbaker can make assertions, and she doesn't have to qualify them to the committees nor to the public - at all. No proof of anything- nothing. Just throw it in the mix. Really stunning - and beyond disappointing. A great example of lack of sincere follow-through and lack of transparency has been noted.

Bettina Kennedy

From: [Nelson C Daly](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: Re: Blodgett Open space
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 1:35:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Thank you. I will view the Parks website for the Rangers. Great to know that interpretive studies is on going.

Thanks for the prompt response. That track of land is truly beautiful and rugged. I can definitely see the erosion challenges and user impact, but it holds a lot of the foothill stories...and undeniably is a part of the City watershed.

Best wishes

Nelson Daly

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From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2024 9:37:54 AM
To: Nelson C Daly <dalynels@outlook.com>
Subject: RE: Blodgett Open space

Good morning, Nelson,

Thank you for your email and comments. Education and interpretation are important components to the Blodgett Open Space and have been included in the management plan. It also extends well beyond Blodgett Open Space and is an important value of the Parks Department. We have a talented and dedicated Park Ranger program that leads the effort with education of our resources, sustainable use, conservation, and interpretation. They also provide a strong focus on youth education programming in the local schools. I can get you connected with our lead rangers, should you like additional information.

Thank you again,

David Deitemeyer

TOPS Senior Program Administrator, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: Nelson C Daly <dalynels@outlook.com>

Sent: Friday, April 19, 2024 8:21 AM

To: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>

Subject: Blodgett Open space

CAUTION! - External Email. Malware is most commonly spread through unknown email attachments and links. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email!

Hi David,

This is the first I have heard about the Blodgett Open Space. What a great opportunity for Colorado Springs citizens and nature lovers.

Of course, I am not naive, I know my 'take only photographs, leave only footprints' mentality isn't for everyone.... especially when you can leave some gnarly tire tracks! ce la vie! (Besides, I like bicycles)

I'm actually writing in regards to the development plan. I saw many statements on how to use the Open space. And how to create safe, stable trail systems. I read a little bit about overall Park design and maintenance plans. But there is still one element that seems to be missing from propagating Open Space serenity....the element of teaching and educating.

I realize it may be to late to take this into consideration. Or perhaps it's not needed. It just seems to me, to inform, educate, and use Open space is the way to preserve community land and aesthetic beauty. I know our County system tries to use nature centers to explore the local flora and fauna....perhaps the City system could be more along the lines of growth management of land and development realities...you can put concrete anywhere it doesn't have to be on the pristine areas; or perhaps setting up informative explanation on migratory corridors for animals and, well, us.

I can be wordy, so I will instead be brief. Longevity in land planning probably involves financial and use components. I just hope it also includes hard lessons learned about land we could still have....or lessons about what other communities have gained/lost.

Thank you for your time

Best wishes on design

Nelson C Daly

dalynels@outlook.com

From: [Nelson C Daly](#)
To: [Deitemeyer, David](#)
Subject: Blodgett Open space
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 8:20:55 AM

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Of course, I am not naive, I know my 'take only photographs, leave only footprints' mentality isn't for everyone.... especially when you can leave some gnarly tire tracks! ce la vie!
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Thank you for your time

Best wishes on design

Nelson C Daly
dalynels@outlook.com

From: [STEVE SWAN](#)
To: [Bingman, Anna](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Haley, Britt I](#)
Cc: [Melvin, Cassie](#)
Subject: RE: Heads Up - Misrepresentation on Social Media
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 6:40:31 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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I forgot to mention—One of the most strident opponents, Dorothy Macnak, posted that people not being able to provide their citizen comments on the phone due to technical issues during the meeting is a possible violation of the Open Records Act. She commented that she's looking into the possibility of legal action as a result.

Kind Regards,
Steve

On 04/14/2024 9:31 PM MDT STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net> wrote:
Just a heads up—I saw a comment on Nextdoor.com indicating that the ladies who are so adamantly opposed to the entirety of the Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan may be intending to appeal the Parks Advisory Board and TOPS Working Committee decisions at the City Council Meeting on 23 April.
They're employing a pretty emotional and intense "Save The Bighorns" social media campaign, and I'd expect them to show up in force in front of City Council and decry imminent danger to the wildlife, along with the placing of the populace in harm's way from wildfire.
I believe Parks Staff has done a remarkable job with the plan, in particular with incorporation of feedback from citizens like me. I wish you the best of luck in bringing this project to fruition. I'm certain it will be a huge benefit to the entire community after the public opinion gauntlet is successfully navigated.
Steve, 303-917-3948

On 04/08/2024 12:47 PM MDT Bingman, Anna <anna.bingman@coloradosprings.gov> wrote:

Hi Mr. Swan,

Thanks so much for bringing this to our attention. This email has been received and forwarded to the TOPS Working Committee, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board, and appropriate staff.

An extra big thanks to you for always being so easy to work with through this process

Thanks!

Anna Bingman

Assistant to the Director
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way, C/S, CO 80905

Anna.Bingman@Coloradosprings.gov
719-385-6517 – Office
719-517-9120 – Mobile

From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 8:25 AM
To: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>; Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Melvin, Cassie <Cassie.Melvin2@coloradosprings.gov>; Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - TOPS Working Committee - SMB <PRCS-TOPSWorkingCommittee-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: RE: Heads Up - Misrepresentation on Social Media

Good morning, Steve,

Thank you for the email and for bringing this to our attention. You are correct in your assessment of the proposal, that the TOPS Working Committee recommended to the Parks Advisory Board the North Trailhead be increased from 41 total space to 51 spaces within the master plan. This total of 51 spaces (or 41 should the Parks Board not modify) would be the maximum parking count at the North Trailhead, implemented in a phased approach per the Adaptive Management Plan. If at any time the parking lot at this trailhead would need to exceed the 51 spaces (or 41 respectfully), a new public process would be required, as stated in the Blodgett Master and Management Plan.

I think it's important to note this was number of 51 spaces was presented to the public in January during the public review of the master and management plan. Based on public input at that time, the planning team reduced the recommended parking count at the North Trailhead by 10. The Blodgett Master and Management Plan is very clear about the thresholds at which point a public process would be required on several topics, including parking at the three trailheads. The plan **DOES NOT** allow the Parks Department to "TO INCREASE PARKING AT ANY TME ANYWHERE IN BLODGETT WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OR APPROVAL!"

Thank you for your time!

David Deitemeyer

Senior Landscape Architect, PLA, ASLA, NRPA
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 385-6515

David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>

Sent: Sunday, April 7, 2024 8:09 AM

To: Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Melvin, Cassie <Cassie.Melvin2@coloradosprings.gov>; Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - TOPS Working Committee -

SMB <PRCS-TOPSWorkingCommittee-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>;

[PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>](mailto:PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov)

Subject: Heads Up - Misrepresentation on Social Media

CAUTION! - External Email. Malware is most commonly spread through unknown email attachments and links. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email!

I was dialed into the TOPS Working Committee meeting on 3 Apr 24, and I want to make you aware of a misrepresentation of that meeting that has been widely disseminated on social media. This is what's being misrepresented:

"...they are allowing the parks department TO INCREASE PARKING IN BLODGETT WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OR APPROVAL!"

The above was edited from what was this originally: "...they are allowing the parks department TO INCREASE PARKING AT ANY TIME ANYWHERE IN BLODGETT WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OR APPROVAL!"

Here's a link to a post on Nextdoor:

https://nextdoor.com/p/yZ67nF8XFq2C/c/1128043398?init_source=notification_center

What I thought I heard was a proposal to be able to increase parking only at the North Trailhead from 41 spots to 51 spots if deemed necessary, not anytime, anywhere, in any amount as originally alleged.

Also, there's a petition being circulated by some vocal and strident ladies, which is referenced in this post:

https://nextdoor.com/p/hqnBPgG-7Jbp/c/1128135515?init_source=notification_center

Here's a link to the petition:

https://www.change.org/p/make-blodgett-open-space-a-nature-preserve?recruiter=20406111&recruited_by_id=d0d8f540-be6a-012f-b317-404067ca6a7a&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_37965078_en-US%3A7

The ladies I mentioned above intend to show up in full force for the 11 Apr 24 Parks Advisory Board Board meeting.

I encourage you to review the posts on Nextdoor, which have also been copied and pasted into individual Facebook posts for even wider dissemination. I plan to be at the meeting on Thursday and may sign up to speak during Citizen Comments.

Steve Swan, 303-917-3948

From: STEVE SWAN
To: [Bingman, Anna](#); [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Haley, Britt I](#)
Cc: [Melvin, Cassie](#)
Subject: RE: Heads Up - Misrepresentation on Social Media
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2024 9:31:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Just a heads up--I saw a comment on Nextdoor.com indicating that the ladies who are so adamantly opposed to the entirety of the Blodgett Open Space Master & Management Plan may be intending to appeal the Parks Advisory Board and TOPS Working Committee decisions at the City Council Meeting on 23 April.

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Anna.Bingman@Coloradosprings.gov
719-385-6517 – Office
719-517-9120 – Mobile

From: Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 8:25 AM
To: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>; Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>
Cc: Melvin, Cassie <Cassie.Melvin2@coloradosprings.gov>; Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - TOPS Working Committee - SMB <PRCS-TOPSWorkingCommittee-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>
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David Deitemeyer

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David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov



From: STEVE SWAN <sselkhunter@comcast.net>

Sent: Sunday, April 7, 2024 8:09 AM

To: Haley, Britt I <Britt.Haley@coloradosprings.gov>; Deitemeyer, David <David.Deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov>

Cc: Melvin, Cassie <Cassie.Melvin2@coloradosprings.gov>; Bingman, Anna <Anna.Bingman@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - TOPS Working Committee - SMB <PRCS-TOPSWorkingCommittee-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>; PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>

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[b317-404067ca6a7a&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_37965078_en-US%3A7](https://www.facebook.com/nextdoor.com/share/petition?utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_37965078_en-US%3A7)

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Steve Swan, 303-917-3948

From: [Bingman, Anna](#)
Cc: [Deitemeyer, David](#); [Thelen, Lonna](#); [Haley, Britt I](#)
Subject: FW: Blodgett Master Plan - meeting of April 11th, 2024
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 7:49:53 AM

Passing along!

From: Julia O <julia777@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 12:13 AM
To: PRCS - Parks Advisory Board - SMB <PRCS-ParksAdvisoryBoard-SMB@coloradosprings.gov>
Subject: Blodgett Master Plan - meeting of April 11th, 2024

CAUTION! - External Email. Malware is most commonly spread through unknown email attachments and links. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email!

To: Colorado Springs Parks Advisory Board Members,

Please consider reevaluating what is prioritized and planned. Recently, there is a severe disconnect with the logical application of both. Consider that a lack of funds is blamed for denying the construction of a community park in the northeast. That reasoning was being used as the excuse to sell park land to LaPlata. However, how is there 7 million dollars available to turn Blodgett into a recreational adventure land?

It was also reported that the Parks Department would be relying on citizens to keep an eye on Blodgett. Really? How do you think that will work out? And, of course, bighorn and biking/paragliding do not mix. The non-migrating herd of bighorn are present, and they require this remaining small natural habitat.

Please do not even consider a planned destruction of this unique area with its rare, precious, non-migrating herd of Big Horn Sheep.

It is understood that a Mr. Brian Erickson had previously submitted this slide deck to you:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IB-iQa7HA53mY3ZEPyqoYcjNQVa1uK03/view>

Please review it carefully, and with due diligence. I fully agree with the information that he provided

This is not anti-recreation, or anti-mountain bikers, whatsoever. There are other land areas much more appropriate for that. This is leaving a legacy of preservation in one lone, small, area of Colorado Springs. Developers, and some city officials, are planning to essentially cannibalize our precious Big Horn Sheep for profit and greed. We need to stop this! Please re-evaluate what this means.

Respectfully,

Julia Owens
Mountain Shadows