



# City of Colorado Springs

Plaza of the Rockies  
South Tower, 5th Floor  
Blue River Board Room  
121 S Tejon St  
Colorado Springs, CO  
80901

## Meeting Minutes Council Work Session

*City Council meetings are broadcast live on Channel 18. In accordance with the ADA, anyone requiring an auxiliary aid to participate in this meeting should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.*

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Monday, July 12, 2021

10:00 AM

Blue River Board Room

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### How to Watch the Meeting

Coloradosprings.gov/springstv | Facebook Live: Colorado Springs City Council  
Facebook Page @coscity Council | SPRINGS TV - Comcast Channel 18 / 880 (HD)  
- CenturyLink Channel 18

### 1. Call to Order

**Present** 8 - Councilmember Yolanda Avila, Councilmember Dave Donelson, Councilmember Randy Helms, Councilmember Nancy Henjum, Councilmember Bill Murray, President Pro Tem Richard Skorman, President Tom Strand, and Councilmember Wayne Williams

**Excused** 1 - Councilmember Mike O'Malley

Councilmember Murray attended the meeting virtually.

President Pro Tem Skorman attended the meeting virtually from 10:00 AM 12:00PM and attended in-person from 1:00 PM to adjournment.

### 2. Changes to Agenda

Dena Lozano, Deputy City Clerk, stated item 5.B.A. Closed Executive Session will be moved to the end of the meeting. Consensus of City Council agreed to this change on the agenda.

### 3. Regular Meeting Comments

There were no Regular Meeting Comments.

### 4. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

4.A. [21-370](#) City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes June 22, 2021

Presenter:  
Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

**Attachments:** [6-21-21 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes Final](#)

The minutes of the June 22, 2021 Work Session meeting were approved by Consensus of City Council.

## **5. Executive Session**

### **5A. Open**

There was no Open Executive Session.

### **5B. Closed**

#### **5B.A. [21-353](#)**

In accord with City Charter art. III, § 3-60(d) and its incorporated Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. §§ 24-6-402(4)(a),(b) and (e), the City Council, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold an electronic Closed Executive Session. The issues to be discussed involve: (1) consultation with the City Attorney to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding a lease matter; and (2) consultation with the City Attorney and City staff for the purpose of the lease, transfer or sale of property and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding a public facilities project.

The President of Council shall poll the City Councilmembers, and, upon consent of two-thirds of the members present, may conduct an electronic Closed Executive Session. Each City Councilmember participating in the electronic Closed Executive Session shall affirmatively state for the record that no other member of the public not authorized to participate in the electronic Closed Executive Session is present or able to hear the matters discussed as part of the electronic Closed Executive Session. If consent to the electronic Closed Executive Session is not given, the item may be discussed in Open Session or withdrawn from consideration.

Presenter:

Wynetta Massey, City Attorney

**Attachments:** [6212021CCClosed](#)

Marc Smith, Corporate Division Chief, Office of the City Attorney, stated that in accord with City Charter art. III, § 3-60(d) and its incorporated Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) and (e), the City Council, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold a Closed Executive Session. The issues to be discussed involve (1) consultation with the City Attorney to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding a lease matter; and (2) consultation with

the City Attorney and City staff for the purpose of the lease, transfer or sale of property and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding a public facilities project.

President Strand polled City Council regarding the desire to proceed with a Closed Executive Session. At least two-thirds of City Council agreed to proceed in Closed Executive Session.

## **6. Staff and Appointee Reports**

### **6.A. [21-369](#) Agenda Planner Review**

Presenter:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

**Attachments:** [Agenda Planner Review 7-12-21](#)

Councilmember Helms stated a public hearing on a petition for the proposed formation of the Colorado Springs Briargate General Improvement District 2021 will be held at the July 27, 2021 City Council meeting.

## **7. Presentations for General Information**

### **7.A. [21-293](#) 2020 Annual Coroner's Report, Youth Suicide Prevention & Behavioral Health**

Presenter:

Dr. Leon Kelley, El Paso County Coroner

Susan Wheelan, El Paso County Public Health Director

**Attachments:** [2020 El Paso County Coroner's Office](#)

Dr. Leon Kelly, El Paso County Coroner, provided the El Paso County Coroner Annual Report. He gave an overview of the emerging mortality trends, prevention efforts, total number of deaths investigated, total autopsies performed, reasons for performing an autopsy, means of identification, types of autopsy, types of deaths investigated, 2020 revenue, and El Paso County citizen cost breakdown. He provided a breakdown of autopsies performed for nearby counties, manners of death, deaths due to natural diseases, accidents, motor vehicle crashes, drug related accidents, homicide, and suicide. Dr. Kelly identified the number of child fatalities, teen suicide, homeless deaths, firearms related deaths, and organ/tissue donations.

President Strand asked why deaths associated with fentanyl use has increased. Dr. Kelly stated the combination or contamination of drugs being used with the opioid, fentanyl, has increased and explained the toxicity of fentanyl.

Councilmember Henjum asked if police officers have a higher rate of suicide. Dr. Kelly confirmed that nationally, they do have a higher rate of suicide.

President Strand asked if males are less likely to reach out for assistance with medical or health issues. Dr. Kelly confirmed that aspect.

Councilmember Avila asked if there are staff members which investigate teen suicide among the LGBTQ+ community. Dr. Kelly confirmed they have two staff members which investigate them and they utilize a survey which is given to family members, friends and the child's school as a tool they use to track these deaths.

Councilmember Williams asked what the percentage of marijuana use is related to accidental drug deaths. Dr. Kelly stated it is much higher than the twenty-four percent of marijuana use found in the total number of deaths and he will provide that information.

Councilmember Avila requested additional information regarding the life span of citizens in the Southeast. Dr. Kelly stated he will provide that information.

President Strand asked for more information on the COVID Delta variant. Dr. Robin Johnson, Medical Director, El Paso County Public Health, stated the most valuable public health preventative measure is the COVID-19 vaccine.

President Pro Tem Skorman asked if vaccinated people can transmit the Delta variant to vulnerable individuals. Dr. Johnson stated vaccination does not guarantee one-hundred percent immunity so some individuals may need to take additional measures such as wearing a mask for prevention.

President Pro Tem Skorman requested additional information on vaccination rates in the County. Dr. Johnson stated the fully vaccinated rate is over fifty percent.

President Strand asked if there are any plans for volunteers to go door-to-door to check on vaccination status. Dr. Johnson stated she is not aware of a plan to do that, but they are open to ideas to meet with people.

Councilmember Helms stated the mobile vaccination unit has also been beneficial and more than ninety percent of the United States Air Force Academy cadets have been vaccinated.

Meghan Haynes, Public Health Planner, El Paso County Public Health, gave an overview of the results of the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey and Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup.

Councilmember Donelson asked if the schools which participate in the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey are different each year. Ms. Haynes confirmed there are some partners that remain the same and some change with the change in survey administration.

Councilmember Donelson asked if there is an explanation for the doubling of youth suicide in the past six years. Ms. Haynes the data does not always capture the complex nature of suicide, but they have made efforts through the child fatality review process to reduce those numbers over the past few years.

Councilmember Henjum asked why there are more attempted suicides by females, but the number of deaths by suicide is male. Dr. Johnson stated it is due to men using more lethal means when attempting suicide.

Kelsey Leva, Youth Health and Development Planner, El Paso County Public Health, identified their youth suicide prevention efforts for 2021, how everyone can support youth suicide prevention, and resources.

Dr. Johnson went over the El Paso County Behavioral Health Collective Impact Initiative, reasons for the collective impact approach, strategies for moving forward, and steering committee governance which includes six separate work groups.

Councilmember Avila asked if there are consequences from suicidal people reaching out for help. Ms. Leva stated they are working towards addressing stigma, system processes, and hospitalization cost in the community. Dr. Johnson stated there is also a sharing initiative in place to address the system restraints associated with the mental health crisis.

Councilmember Murray stated he has concerns regarding contract tracing, the range of testing, and public service announcements regarding the COVID Delta variant and asked for mechanisms and resources to help adults cope with the issues. Dr. Johnson stated there are ongoing efforts and spoke about the funding they will be receiving to help address prevention and resilience measures for a continuum of care.

## **8. Items for Introduction**

- 8.A. [21-342](#) A resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Freestyle Metropolitan District Nos. 1-4 located in the north-central area of Banning Lewis Ranch

(Legislative)

Presenter:

Carl Schueler, Planning Manager- Comprehensive Planning, Planning & Development Department

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [Resolution](#)

[Exhibit - Final Service Plan - Freestyle MD Nos. 1-4](#)

[Powerpoint](#)

[SB 21-256](#)

[1- Transmittal Letter - Freestyle MD Nos. 1-4](#)

[2- Final Redline Service Plan - Freestyle](#)

[3- Freestyle - cost estimates](#)

[4- FREESTYLE PARCELS EXHIBIT-06-21-21](#)

[Signed Resolution 98-21](#)

Carl Schueler, Comprehensive Planning Manager, Planning and Community Development Department, presented the Resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Freestyle Metropolitan District Nos. 1-4. He provided a brief summary, context map of the Banning Lewis Ranch (BLR) districts, district boundaries, improvement costs, and the operations and maintenance functions. Mr. Schueler identified the development approval status, questions/comments from the Budget Committee, VI.B of model service plan, overview of the Colorado Revised Statutes findings, and next steps.

President Strand stated Councilmember O'Malley requested during the Budget Committee meeting that the not-to-exceed amount of the bond debt interest rate maximum be changed to ten percent versus the proposed eighteen percent. Russ Dykstra, Spencer Fane, LLC, representing the applicant stated if City Council would like to make that policy change to the model plan, they are open to it.

Jeff Greene, Chief of Staff, stated there were changes to district law that gives districts the authority to prohibit concealed carry and the City will not approve that prohibition.

- 8.B. [21-343](#) A resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Meadowworks Metropolitan District Nos. 1-5 located in the southern part of Banning Lewis Ranch.

(Legislative)

Presenter:

Carl Schueler, Planning Manager- Comprehensive Planning, Planning & Development Department

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [Resolution](#)

[Exhibit - Final Service Plan - Meadowworks MD Nos. 1-5](#)

[Powerpoint](#)

[1- Transmittal Letter - Meadowworks MD Nos. 1-5](#)

[2- Final Redline Service Plan - Meadowworks MD Nos. 1-5](#)

[3- Meadowworks - District Budget 6.3.21](#)

[4- MEADOWWORKS PARCELS EXHIBIT-06-21-21](#)

[5- CCMD e-mail](#)

[Signed Resolution 99-21](#)

Carl Schueler, Comprehensive Planning Manager, Planning and Community Development Department, presented the Resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Meadowworks Metropolitan District Nos. 1-5. He provided a brief summary, district context, district context map, improvements costs, and the operations and maintenance functions. Mr. Schueler identified the development plan status, Colorado Centre Metro District, Colorado Revised Statutes findings, questions/comments from the Budget Committee, and next steps.

President Strand asked if there could be an overlapping mill levy. Mr. Schueler stated there could be, but it is typically frowned upon in policy because the state statutes have been changed.

President Strand asked how many acres will be zoned commercial. Tim Siebert, Nor'Wood Development Group, representing the district, stated it is approximately fifty acres.

Councilmember Murray asked if there will be an increase in development costs to pay for police and fire requirements. Jeff Greene, Chief of Staff, stated City staff is working on a proposal for a public safety impact fee based on changes in density regardless if the area is located in a particular

district. Councilmember Murray asked if these BLR districts will be grandfathered. Mr. Greene stated they will not be grandfathered, but the City will be respectful of contractual agreements in reference to police and fire fees.

- 8.C. [21-346](#) A resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Gold Hill North Metropolitan District Nos. 1 & 2.

(Legislative)

Presenter:

Carl Schueler, Planning Manager- Comprehensive Planning, Planning & Development Department

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [Resolution](#)

[Exhibit - Final Service Plan - Gold Hill MD Nos. 1 and 2](#)

[Powerpoint](#)

[2- Final Redline Service Plan](#)

[1- Transmittal Letter - Gold Hill North Districts](#)

[3- Gold Hill North Districts - Cost Estimates](#)

[Signed Resolution 100-21](#)

Carl Schueler, Comprehensive Planning Manager, Planning and Community Development Department, presented the Resolution approving a service plan allowing for the creation of the Gold Hill North Metropolitan District Nos. 1 & 2 and the Ordinance organizing the Gold Hill North Business Improvement District and appointing an initial Board of Directors. He provided an overview of the processes, a brief summary, reason for added/new districts, proposed boundaries, mill levy caps, and public improvement fee (PIF). Mr. Schueler identified the improvements costs, authorized debt caps, operations, maintenance functions, and development approval status. He gave an overview of the Colorado Revised Statutes findings, questions/comments from the Budget Committee, and next steps.

Councilmember Williams requested additional information regarding the process for urban area interface areas located within these types of districts as it relates to the annexation agreement with El Paso County. Mr. Greene stated they will provide that information.

- 8.D. [21-347](#) An ordinance organizing the Gold Hill North Business Improvement District and Appointing an Initial Board of Directors

(Legislative)

Presenter:

Carl Schueler, Planning Manager- Comprehensive Planning, Planning & Development Department

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [ORD\\_Gold Hilld North BID](#)

[Exhibit A- Petition for Organization - Gold Hill North BID](#)

[Exhibit B- Gold Hill North BID Certificate of Mailing of Corrected Notice of Publication](#)

[Exhibit C- 2021-2022 Gold Hill North BID Operating Plan and Budget](#)

[Exhibit D- SpecialDistrictPolicyJan06](#)

[1- Transmittal Letter - Gold Hill North Districts](#)

[2 - Final Redline Operating Plan - Gold Hill North BID](#)

Please see comments in agenda item 8.C.

**8.E.** [CPC CA 21-00059](#)

An ordinance amending Section 201 (Definitions Enumerated) of Part 2 (Definitions) of Article 2 (Basic Provisions, Definitions and Land Use Types and Classifications). Section 105 (Additional Standards for Specific Uses Allowed in Residential Zones) of Part 1 (Residential Districts) of Article 3 (Land Use Zoning Districts) of Chapter 7 (Planning, Development, and Building) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, As Amended, pertaining to front yard carports.

(Legislative)

Presenter:

Mitch Hammes, Neighborhood Services Manager

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [ORD\\_Carport\\_7-20 \(Revised\)](#)

[Front Yard Carport Code for Council Review](#)

[Email & App Stakeholder Communications](#)

[Late comments re carports](#)

[Results \(anything else to consider\)](#)

[Results \(how likely to construct\)](#)

[Results \(setbacks & safety\)](#)

[Results \(size & design\)](#)

[Results \(zip codes\)](#)

[CarportCh7-2021-6-17v2 \(FINAL VERSION\)](#)

Mitch Hammes, Neighborhood Services Manager, presented the Ordinance amending Chapter 7 of City Code pertaining to front yard carports. He provided a brief background, and gave an overview of the

community outreach, definition of carport, permitted zones, provisions, and Planning Commission comments.

Councilmember Williams stated not all utilities are located within five feet of the setback from the sidewalk and asked if there is a requirement for utilities to be located prior to building a carport. Mr. Hammes stated there is not, but they will consider that condition.

Councilmember Henjum stated there needs to be consideration of structural integrity in the event of high winds and asked if a carport could be built if there is already a garage on the property. Mr. Hammes stated it could.

Councilmember Donelson asked why the metal on the carport needs to be painted. Mr. Hammes stated it was for aesthetic purposes and it is what the City of Arvada also put in their City Code pertaining to carports.

Councilmember Donelson asked if a carport could be enclosed if it was far enough away from the sidewalk that it did not cause a safety risk. Mr. Hammes stated the more allowances included would cause more difficulty in enforcement.

Councilmember Donelson requested a provision to allow the far end of the carport which is not against the street to be enclosed. Mr. Hammes stated they will look into that.

Councilmember Donelson asked if the existing carports which are located in the five-foot setback could be grandfathered in if they accept liability for access to utilities. Mr. Hammes stated the setback is already required so it is already a violation to build within that five-foot setback.

Councilmember Williams asked if it would be permitted if a carport is built fully enclosed within the twenty-five-foot setback and then the rest of it is not. Mr. Hammes stated he will have to review that on a case-by-case basis.

Councilmember Williams asked if there was any participation from the Homeowner's Associations (HOA) or the Council of Neighbors and Organizations (CONO). Mr. Hammes stated they received some emails back both in support and opposition from some HOAs, but no response from CONO due to their current staffing situation.

- 8.F. [21-389](#) Resolution Regarding the Town of Calhan Becoming a New Member Government of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA)

Presenter:

Wayne Williams, Councilmember At-large/PPRTA Member  
Randy Helms, Councilmember District 2/PPRTA Chair

**Attachments:** [Calhan PPRTA Resolution\(2021\)](#)  
[2021-04-14 Resolution re Calhan Inclusion Request \(SIGNED\)](#)  
[Signed Resolution 97-21](#)

Councilmember Williams presented the Resolution regarding the Town of Calhan becoming a new member government of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA). He gave a brief history of the PPRTA and stated the Town of Calhan has requested to be added as a new member provided there is a condition of adequate representation for the City and County.

President Pro Tem Skorman asked if the City could be guaranteed to have priority on City PPRTA projects due to seventy percent of the funding is generated from the City. Councilmember Williams stated under the current structure, there is not a way to guarantee a majority of the vote, but the PPRTA has a very effective accountability process in place. President Pro Tem Skorman stated he does not believe the County and other members should be allowed to veto the City projects.

## **9. Items Under Study**

- 9.A. [AR APR 21-00222](#) An informational report on an administrative approval of a Certificate of Amendment to Plat Restriction that removes an access limitation from Aeroplaza Drive for Lot 1 Block 1 of Gateway Subdivision Filing No. 7, located northwest of the South Powers Boulevard and Aeroplaza Drive Intersection.

(Staff and Appointee Reports)

Presenter:

Peter Wysocki, Director Planning and Community Development  
Gabe Sevigny, Planning Supervisor, Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [Approval Letter Gateway Sub Fil No 7 Plat Note Modification](#)  
[221113781-recorded amendment to plat restriction](#)  
[3-D Aerial](#)  
[Aerial](#)  
[7.7.503.D.1 ResolutionsForAmendingPlatRestrictions](#)

Gabe Sevigny, Planning Supervisor, Planning and Community Development, presented the informational report on a plat modification that removes an access limitation from Aeroplaza Drive for a future convenience store with gas canopy. He stated this update to City Council is required by City Code.

President Strand asked if any objections had been received. Mr. Sevigny stated there had not been.

**9.B. [21-355](#)** Neighborhood Planning Program Update & Plan Area Prioritization

Presenter:

Hannah Van Nimwegen-McGuire, Senior Planner, Comprehensive Planning

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Community Development

**Attachments:** [Community Plan Boundaries Map](#)  
[Community Plan Priority Matrix](#)  
[Neighborhood Planning Program & Plan Priorities](#)

Hannah Van Nimwegen-McGuire, Senior Planner, Comprehensive Planning, provided an update of the Neighborhood Planning Program, priority areas according to criteria, Plan 3A, and Plan 4A "Southeast Strong".

Councilmember Henjum requested a discussion regarding District 5 area 5A being prioritized over 5B. Ms. Van Nimwegen-McGuire agreed to that discussion.

Councilmember Henjum asked if staff would be working with the Council of Neighbors and Organizations (CONO) regarding these plans. Ms. Van Nimwegen-McGuire confirmed they have worked with CONO with the Southeast Plan and will continue that collaboration.

**9.C. [21-363](#)** Overview of CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act funding made available to the City of Colorado Springs for addressing homelessness and affordable housing, and an overview of the proposed uses of the American Rescue Plan Act direct allocation to the City of Colorado

## Springs

## Presenter:

Steve Posey, Community Development Division Manager

Charae McDaniel, Chief Financial Officer

Peter Wysocki, Director, Planning & Community Development

**Attachments:** [ARPA and Affordable Housing Presentation 07-12-21](#)

[COVID-19 Affordable Housing Funding Presentation 07-12-21](#)

Charae McDaniel, Chief Financial Officer, introduced the overview of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding made available to the City for addressing homelessness and affordable housing, and proposed uses of the ARPA direct allocation to the City.

Steve Posey, Community Development Division Manager, gave an overview of the community priorities, eligible uses of grant funds, distribution by year and program, all funds by year and source, 2020 consolidated annual performance report, affordable housing development, Private Activity Bonds (PAB), Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) information, and transformational projects.

Councilmember Avila asked how many Colorado Springs Fire Department homeless outreach program teams there are and what the funding is for them. Mr. Posey stated there are two teams of two personnel each. Andy Phelps, Homeless Response Coordinator, stated the cost is approximately \$375,000 per year and there is an assortment of funding sources.

Councilmember Avila asked how much money would be required to find a solution for affordable housing within community. Ms. McDaniel explained the amount of ARPA funding which can go toward affordable housing is in addition to the other funding sources received.

Councilmember Avila, President Pro Tem Skorman, and Councilmember Henjum requested a report on the number of individuals who have been assisted and what the City needs to do going forward regarding addressing the housing crisis. Ms. McDaniel stated they will provide that data. Mr. Posey stated today's presentation was intended to provide a baseline summary to show exactly how much money the City has received and what the specific uses are.

Councilmember Williams asked what the housing capacity of 2,000 multi-family affordable housing units would be. Mr. Posey stated he will provide that information, but he estimates approximately 5,000 people.

Councilmember Williams asked to what extent CFHA takes authority to add capacity of affordable housing units. Mr. Posey identified the projects being redeveloped by CFHA.

President Strand asked if there was a specific type of project that the City could fund \$1M for in order to best serve the City's affordable housing crisis. Mr. Posey stated he will research that information.

Councilmember Henjum asked if the Home Investment Partnership allocation of \$6M for affordable housing was already obligated. Mr. Posey stated it was not. Councilmember Henjum asked how much funding was still unobligated from all funds. Mr. Posey stated almost all of it has already been obligated.

Ms. McDaniel provided a summary of the State's recently passed legislation regarding affordable housing, ARP, ARP funding breakdown, COVID-19 recovery funding, and Coronavirus local fiscal recovery funds proposed plan.

Councilmember Henjum requested an example of providing funding of \$9.5M for business recovery economic incentives and job creation. Ms. McDaniel stated any businesses which could document COVID-related losses could use the funding for operating costs to remain open and provide employment.

Councilmember Murray requested additional details regarding where and the reasons why the funding is being obligated.

President Strand asked if non-compliance of the use of Federal funds would result in the return of the funds or criminal prosecution. Ms. Daniel stated the City ensures compliance of sub-recipients by requiring a risk assessment, an agreement, monitoring, and ongoing performance and financial reporting. Mr. Posey stated it is critical the correct funding goes to the correct purpose.

Councilmember Murray stated he confirmed with the National League of Cities that funding can be used for the startup of the Crisis Response Teams (CRT) being recommended by the Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability Commission (LETAC) and the advanced E911 system.

Councilmember Williams asked if the cap for replacing income during COVID had been reached. Ms. McDaniel stated it has not because they did not reach the maximum for the revenue loss category. Councilmember Williams asked if approximately \$9M could be used for essential government services in order to administer the funds and avoid the Federal restrictions and associated costs. Ms. McDaniel stated she will look into that.

Councilmember Williams asked if all the funding going into a geographically specific areas will be distributed South of Fillmore Street. Ms. McDaniel confirmed it will be due to assisting disproportionately impacted populations.

Councilmember Donelson asked if the \$2.5M dedicated for the City Auditorium will be allocated even if The Conservatory takes possession of it. Ms. McDaniel stated the City Auditorium has long-standing renovation issues, but it may be reassessed if that particular project does not go through.

President Pro Tem Skorman requested additional details be available for constituents regarding why the funding is being spent for projects such as the Senior Center and the North Nevada corridor.

President Strand requested \$250,000 of the ARPA funding could go toward the Humane Society Clinic expansion program, \$200,000 for the Housing and Building Association's (HBA) Career in Construction program, and \$200,000 for repairs to the Memorial Park World War I and II Veterans Memorial Monument.

Councilmember Avila requested some funding to go toward surveillance cameras in Panorama Park, continued work on affordable housing, and replacing the Valley Hi Golf Course Clubhouse.

Councilmember Henjum requested ARPA funding be allocated toward addressing the housing crisis and if the City decides to approve the

proposal from the Community Cultural Collective, it should consider more funding towards it than what is currently proposed. She asked if the parcels of land proposed for the Peak Vista centers near Dorchester Park were park land. Mr. Posey stated they were not.

Councilmember Helms requested additional funding go toward affordable housing, renovating the Memorial Park World War I and II Veterans Memorial Monument, and the Housing and Building Association's (HBA) Career in Construction program.

Councilmember Murray asked if the agreement for the United States Olympic and Paralympic Museum had been executed. Ms. McDaniel confirmed it had been for \$3.5M.

**9.D.**     [21-426](#)

A Resolution Submitting to the Registered Qualified Electors of the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado, at the Coordinated Election Conducted by Mail Ballot to be Held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, the Question of Increasing to 0.2% (Two Tenths Of A Cent) and Extending the Sales and Use Tax for the Trails, Open Space and Parks Program ("TOPS") for 20 Years and Modifying the Program for the Purpose of Reallocating the Expenditure Categories, and Allowing Revenue to be Used on all City Parks, Trails and Open Spaces, Providing for the Form of the Ballot Title and Text, Providing for Certain Matters with Respect to the Election, and Providing the Effective Date of this Resolution

Presenter:

Richard Skorman, President Pro-Tem City Council District 3  
Karen Palus, Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
Department  
Britt Haley, Design, Development and TOPS Program Manager, Parks,  
Recreation and Cultural Service Department

**Attachments:**   [TOPS Extension Ballot Question RES 7.23.2021](#)

[TOPS Program Ballot Question City Council 07262021](#)

Karen Palus, Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, provided a briefing on the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) program and ballot initiative. She gave a brief overview of the history and accomplishments of TOPS, expenses and revenue for TOPS maintenance, stewardship, development, and acquisition, ballot proposal, potential projects, alternative funding strategies, and timeline for referral to the November, 2, 2021 ballot.

President Strand requested the current balance for the TOPS Open Space

Account. Britt Haley, Parks Development Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, stated approximately \$3.1M.

President Strand asked which category the expense of Park Rangers fall under and how many of those positions are funded by TOPS. Ms. Palus stated operations and maintenance and there are seven positions funded by TOPS.

President Pro Tem Skorman stated the proposed ballot initiative has received support from the advocates, Presidents' Parks Sustainability Commission, Parks Advisory Board, Mayor, and Administration and asked if City Council was also supportive of it. He stated the City will also need to look at other funding sources such as increasing Lodgers and Automobile Rental Tax (LART), Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA), and Gallagher adjusted property tax. President Skorman stated there should also be a statement from the City regarding maintenance of effort (MOE).

Mayor Suthers stated he believes this proposal is a very appropriate compromise, there is not enough money going toward maintenance and the development of new parks, this will be a great benefit for the entire City, and is supportive of a portion of LART funding being allocated to the tourism-burdened parks such as Garden of the Gods, Palmer Park, and North Cheyenne Canyon. He stated he will not support a MOE regarding the General Fund and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services due to the potential risk of a recession.

President Strand asked if the ballot title will include how the funding would be used. President Pro Tem Skorman stated the title will require additional discussion.

Councilmember Williams stated he supports this initiative, will work with the Colorado Springs Chamber and EDC in a personal capacity for campaigning, and believes there needs to be enough description of where the money will be going in the ballot title so the voters know what they are voting on.

Councilmember Donelson stated TOPS is one of the top four priorities for him and believes the residents of District 1 will also support the initiative.

President Strand stated he supports this proposal and asked if funding is set aside for maintenance once parks have had improvements made to them. Ms. Palus confirmed they do calculate in the operational and upkeep costs.

Councilmember Avila, Councilmember Henjum, Councilmember Helms, and Councilmember Murray expressed their support as well.

Councilmember Helms requested additional information regarding future parks for the North and Northeast. Ms. Palus agreed to meet with him to provide that information.

Mayor Suthers gave an overview of a potential Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) retention and recent legislation in which Urban Wildland Interface districts can be formed.

Councilmember Murray suggested the 15 mills could be dedicated to the finalization of Jimmy Camp Creek and Corral Bluffs for use by the community.

#### **10. Councilmember Reports and Open Discussion**

Wynetta Massey, City Attorney, stated Tracy Lessig, Employment Division Chief, City Attorney's Office and Marc Smith, Corporate Division Chief, City Attorney's Office, were promoted to fill the two positions of Deputy City Attorney.

Councilmember Williams stated he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for America the Beautiful Park and the groundbreaking ceremony at the intersection of Research Parkway and Powers Boulevard.

Councilmember Donelson reminded everyone that the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo will be occurring July 14-17, 2021.

Councilmember Henjum stated she had a community conversation regarding Mitchell High School in which school board members, the superintendent, representatives, and parents were in attendance.

Jeff Greene, Chief of Staff, stated they are working with the Colorado Springs Airport to remedy the fuel shortages affecting several of the airlines.

**11. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council adjourned.

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk