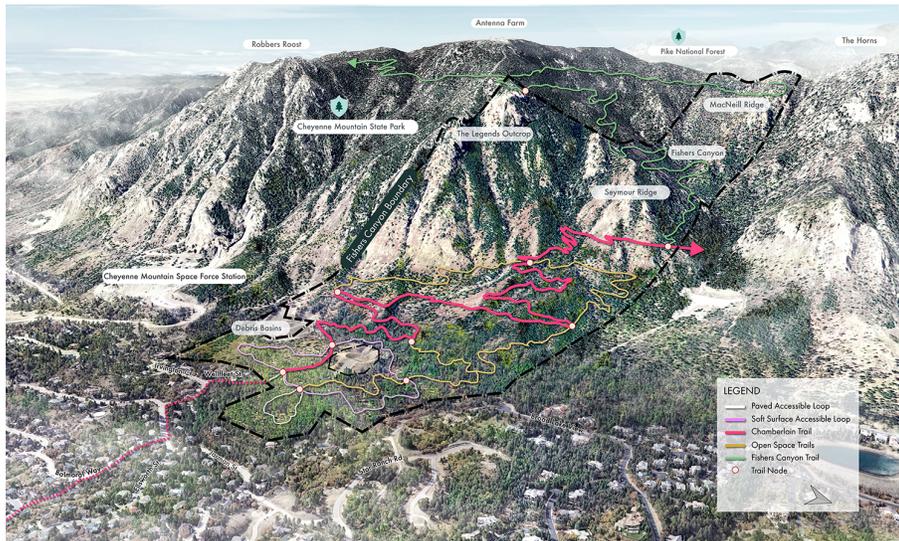


Fishers Canyon Open Space Master Plan Community Online Survey #4

Engagement Summary Final Results 2/19/2025 - Entire Responses



OVERVIEW: This was the fourth survey distributed to the community after the third community meeting that took place on January 22, 2025. The survey included links to the community meeting presentation as well as the same exhibits and questions. The purpose of this online survey was to provide the public who could not attend the public meeting in person a chance to weigh in on the draft Fishers Canyon Open Space Master and Management Plan.

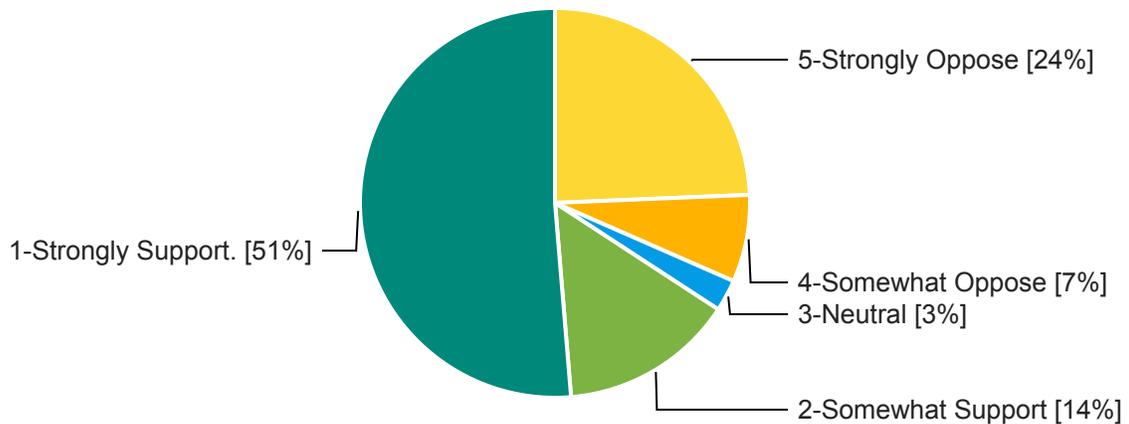
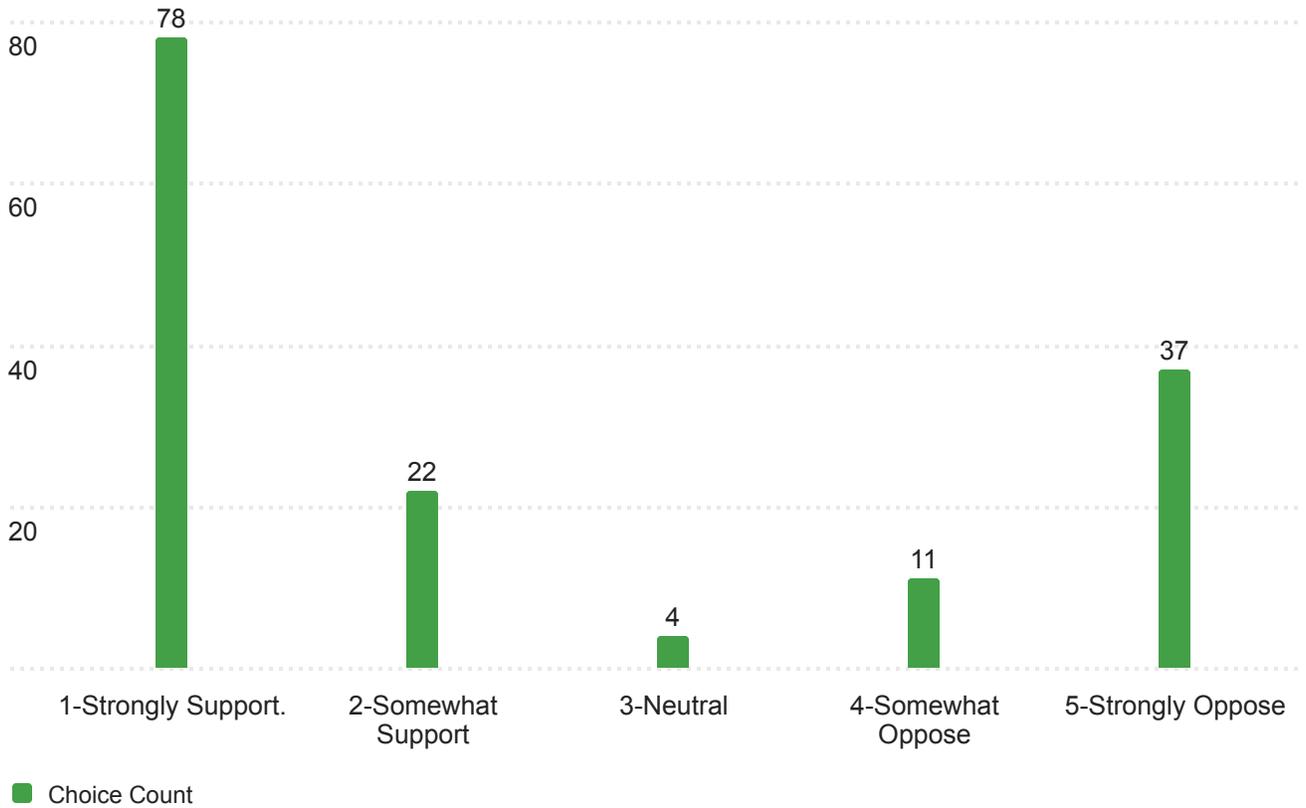
Over **150 responses** have been collected (mostly from the 80906 zip code) took the online survey. The survey was open to the public January 23 through February 16, 2025 (three and a half weeks).

PROMOTION: The survey link was promoted through the City's social media platform, social media short videos, distribution to the newsletter list, distribution to the focus group stakeholder contacts and on the City's webpage.

SURVEY DATA QUALITY: The survey platform utilized Qualtrics survey analytics. Qualtrics uses a quality response tracking system to identify potential bots, unanswered questions and repeat survey responses from same IP address (potential "ballot stuffing"). Qualtrics identified eight potential repeat responses or bots. Those have been filtered out of this report.

Q3 - Based on the information provided in the presentation and the draft plan PDF, what is your level of support for the trail and trailhead plan? (Select one answer)

152 Responses



5-Strongly Oppose 4-Somewhat Oppose 3-Neutral 2-Somewhat Support 1-Strongly Support.

Q1 - Based on the information provided in the presentation and the draft plan PDF, what do you particularly like about the Fishers Canyon Open Space trail and trailhead plan?

132 Responses

Based on the information provided in the presentation and the draft plan PDF, what do you particularly like about the Fishers Canyon Open Space trail and trailhead plan?

I like the connectivity with Chamberlain Trail, and the variety of trail difficulties.

Trail connectivity. Access to Fishers Canyon and Cheyenne Mtn State Park

I like the community process and professional guidance provided by the team.

I like that it protects our open spaces and provides horse trails.

Creates an accessible open space consistent with natural treasures of Colorado Springs. The approach used to plan the management and use of the open space is consistent with the intent of the 1997 TOPS tax; this approach should be used for all TOPS properties, in particular the recent Blodgett plan should be cancelled and re-done using the Fischer Canyon approach to preserve while have user access.

Love the plan for Fishers trail including the top of the Legends, the connection to CMSP and MacNeil ridge. Glad to see two potential future parking sites with more spots than Blodgett OS

more hiking options with dogs and bouldering/climbing

Do NOT invite more people to start fires. Stop digging up natural resources, driving wildlife away or killing them, making more noise and driving up taxes.

I am worried this trail will add fire danger to the neighborhood and the front range.

The amount of trails, it's great version 2 was selected!

I don't particularly like anything about it. I feel that homeowners in the neighborhood were listened to only to check a box. Their concerns and suggestions were then completely disregarded.

Responsible multi use recreation access to MOST of the property.

Trails for all users. Connectivity with Chamberlan.

It's beautiful and it connects trail systems and provides a safe way to get to CMSP on bike.

That this property is now publicly owned

It's new open space- we need it! Love the location too!

Nothing

Nothing. This open space area should not be near norad or residential homes. That's what the state park was developed for.

The excellent trail system to provide for sustainable access to the open space, access to the top of Cheyenne mountain and the chamberlain trail, while still preserving the property. It's a solid balance of access and conservation. Trailhead will provide parking internal to mitigate parking on public streets (even though cars CAN park on streets).

The fact the endangered Mexican Spotted Owl may limit the use of the area... many bird-watching neighbors see them all the time - with photos to prove it!

I saw one last night on my security camera at 4:15 am!

Very little. It will bring in too many people and you will start finding trash/waste all over the natural area on the lower slopes of Cheyenne Mountain. Much more limited access - 20-25 parking spots (not 200) would be much better.

Plan to close the area when there is wildfire risk. Also closures for raptor breeding. Dogs on leash not running free.

Can't figure out where it is.

Not really that much.

My name is Bill Tracy and I live at 382 Irvington Court. My phone number is 719-344-8977. I live in the neighborhood and I think administrators of this project failed to take into account that this is a residential neighborhood and visitors to the park will disrupt the families that live here. I'm not totally opposed to the idea, but increased traffic, noise, fire danger, security are all items that have not been addressed to my satisfaction - even though you say they have.

We need to have a community meeting with just the residents of the area to discuss our concerns and see if there are ways to mitigate what we see as problem areas. I have been to every meeting and filled out questionnaires without any response. You need to hear and really listen to what we have to say and not just tell us that this is the way it is. I would like to know what you're going to do (if anything) about the reduced property values of our homes. Real Estate planners have told us that values *will* go down because of this project. Please communicate with us. When I go to meetings, the leaders hear what I have to say - they don't listen.

I like the access up into Fishers Canyon.

I love that this is in my neighborhood and that the trails connect to the greater network.

It has an easy access point to and from Cheyenne Mountain state park. Good hiking potential and picnic grounds.

I don't like anything. It is not well planned out. You can't seriously think all those extra vehicles will be good for the neighborhood. The new traffic analysis says that your evacuation plan is a bottleneck. You are going to have people killed. What other park has one entrance deep into a neighborhood? The answer is none. You have taken zero input from the people who actually live here. It is a farce. You have these meetings to show that you have reached out, but it is a shame as far as actually listening.

Nothing! Terrible idea grounded on terrible development plan to be developed in a residential neighborhood.

None at all

Just that it seems to provide a nice outdoor activity for people to get out and hike.

Nothing

Parking inside the parking.

The way the trails connect

The trailhead plan connects to other major trails like Chamberlain.

Trail is to be well marked and prevent soil erosion.

Parking plan with more parking

the wild areas proximity to the urban scape

More hiking near town, connecting the open spaces. More mountain biking

The plan is oversized and invasive to the existing neighbors, and the new road and high traffic count is devastating to both the Spires and Broadmoor Bluff quality of life. I do not understand why the City needs to replicate existing facilities within a mile at Cheyenne Mountain State Park. I believe the Parks Department does not have the legal power to impact and modify the quality of life and life style of this existing community, when viable more practical alternatives exist. Plus save the City \$2,000,000 by not building the road and parking lots - and instead of focusing on linking existing trails and facilities.

I'm most excited that it will offer hiking, biking and rock climbing while taking into account the impact to the ecosystem.

Easy parking easy access close proximity to neighbourhoods easy for residents to get healthy and stay active.

Preservation of nature

Connecting with the Chamberlain Trail.

Connection to another open space to ride w my horse

The focus on wildlife and conservation.

The plan begins the opportunity for access to this new open space.

The parking looks good. Phasing in based on actual demand and usage is good idea.

Hiking trails close to me. I generally have to drive to Red Rock Canyon Open space to get my nature "fix".

adequate parking to accommodate use, ability to expand nice trail system, trail to the high point

lots of trails

I like the connections to other parks, in particular summit trail that will connect with MacNeill Trail and Cheyenne Mountain (Dixon/Robber's Roost) and Chamberlain Trail. I also am happy to see considerations for Rock Climbing access.

the addition of miles of new trails accessible to a neighborhood

Overall approach, level of detail

Connection to CMSP, chamberlain

Proposed trails

Access to the top of the mountain. Dogs allowed.

I love the option of connecting to the state park.

Lots of opportunities to explore nature and enjoy an active lifestyle

Bikes allowed

ADA accessible access

That it connects a lot of the space for activities like rock climbing and connects to other trail systems.

The hope that it will be kept as natural as possible and leave wildlife habitats alone

Nothing

Trail to the top of the mountain, future connections to other trail systems.

Nothing. Why can't the city purchase land to PRESERVE nature & the wildlife that lives there?? How is the city going to manage this - keep it safe, clean, quiet? I frequently hear in the news other parks suffering vandalism, car break-ins, etc. Why would you build another park when you can't manage what you have?? It's fine you have "wonderful support" but do any of these people live in the neighborhoods? The people who live there have invested a lot in their homes & chose to live there for the piece & quiet you feel is your right to ruin. How would you feel if an additional 100 cars drove in front of your house on a regular basis? You don't seem to think that's a problem?? I have lost all faith in the city of Colorado Springs

Chamberlain connector. extensive hiking trails. parking

More trails in our community

Not much

Location is great. Good use of land that would be difficult for other uses

Excellent draft plan that covers almost all the bases, with the important exclusion of wildfire risk and mitigation. There are vague references to "possible" gate closures during red flag events, but nothing else of substance.

Trails that are based on ability of hiker

NONE of it!!!!

Nothing

Extensive trail system serving different ability levels

Being able to continue north by accessing the Chamberlin existing trail easement.

Nothing. I don't particularly like that there is a trail head going right through my house on Balmoral Way.

Gated entry to limit to day use only

access to the top of the mountain

Nothing! This will increase the danger of wildfires with teenagers parking and smoking if the open space is open until 9:00 pm without any agency patrolling the area.

Nothing. It will be nothing but a traffic mess, noise, trash, animal waste, etc...

Nothing it will increase the risk of fire!

good trail layout; day use only

Nearby access to hiking trails.

LAarge amount of designated natural preservation area

I appreciate the fire mitigation efforts that have already taken place as part of the park planning process, as wildfire prevention is a critical concern for both the neighborhood and the surrounding natural areas. Additionally, I want to express my appreciation for the thoughtful placement of the parking lot, which has been set back in a manner that keeps it out of view from all neighborhood homes. This consideration helps maintain the residential character of the area while still providing necessary access for park visitors.

I like the different variety of trails

The trails and open space design

The 9-10 miles of trails and the connectivity

Omg so many new and different hikes filling the space between Cheyenne cañon and Mtn Park. This will ease the erosion and amount of people that use Cheyenne Cañon and benefit the entire west side.

The plan seems to address all areas that may be impacted very thoroughly. I particularly like that the area will not be overdeveloped and that wildlife breeding times/areas will be protected.

The trail layouts seem thorough and I like the diversity of trail difficulties. I could see it being great for a short family hike or a longer all day outing.

I like the plan to avoid or limit the crossing of drainage areas. I also like limiting or avoiding access or directions to historical sites.

Trail to the top of Cheyenne mountain

Looks like it starts with enough parking, and parking can expand when demand warrants.

Looks like a good trail system.

On-street signs to direct people through the neighborhood to the trailhead is a good idea. Might want to also be sure to include signs directing people back out at any street intersection where which way to is not clear.

Good parking, trail to the high point.

The Chamberlain Trail expansion, connecting to CMSP eventually. As a resident of Broadmoor Bluffs, a trail connecting to the expansive trail system in CMSP and North Cheyenne is strongly desired.

Nothing at all. Fire danger, traffic increase and homes losing value

The public access to the space as well as the preservation of habitat

Looks like a lot of nature area and trails.

Emphasis on trails and trailhead development.

Access to this open space by trails!

I love the ease of accessibility and the location. The area is underserved for a state park and would be lovely to access as a local resident. The mix of uses for biking, climbing, hiking are wonderful. I think the access location and parking is perfect entry and exit.

Equal access for all people

Lots of biking trails and the future connector to Chamberlain.

Additional hiking and mt biking trails within the city

More open space, more trails!!

Lots of easy trails for everyday use

Nothing. This open space will destroy the neighborhood.

Access to the Chamberlain Trail, Trail system in a neighborhood that is lacking trails.

It's nice that there is wildland mitigation going on.

The number of trails accessible to bikes.

The connections to Chamberlain trail and the open trails in the space.

Looks like good plan so keep the word and do it.

Additional open space to buffer development from natural areas and to connect recreational thru trails with other public spaces across the area.

Natural preservation areas

I support a smaller trailhead that can be expanded if the need arises.

Went for the option with more trails. No mountain bike only trails.

Looks like a good plan - with potential hiking for everyone; but am concerned about the parking/traffic on streets leading up to the sole entry gate. Recommend, as the plan states that HOA Spires rules are followed wrt no parking on the streets. Also recommend speed humps (similar to what's in place in the West of Broadmoor hotel area) be placed on Ellsworth, Balmoral, and Wellfleet - Additional street speed limit signs will not work.

I like the idea of preserving as much of the natural mountain landscape and wildlife living area as possible while being able to hike and enjoy nature. I like the idea of connecting existing trails on the north and south side of the canyon to allow for longer and more advanced options for hikers.

I like that Fishers Canyon Trail connects to those on top of Cheyenne Mountain that come from Cheyenne Mountain State Park and the future development of and connection with Chamberlain are essential to achieve the intent of connecting all trails on this range.

It is too much only to have one way into the open space.

The wide variety of trail lengths, connectivity and user type

The fact that there will be open space for hiking, and pray that you will keep it as natural as possible and not over-develop it to the point that it is no longer natural.

I love all of the trails and the fact that this won't be another housing project for the rich.

Very well-planned and thought out...I was a bit skeptical but I think the city, for the most part, has done their homework and is trying it's best to come up with a workable for all plan.

It limits the number of parking spaces so that the area will not be overcrowded. It also is a daytime only park.

I like the amount of trail

Wonderful area to explore and get up high and connect to Cheyenne Mtn SP.

I like the wide variety of trail types for many user groups.

The inclusion of mixed uses throughout the open space.

Excluding mountain biking only trails, length of trails, and opportunities for advanced trails.

Q2 - Based on the information provided in the presentation and the draft plan PDF, what suggestions do you have to improve the trail and trailhead plan?

128 Responses

Based on the information provided in the presentation and the draft plan PDF, what suggestions do you have to improve the trail and trailhead plan?

I am concerned about the feasibility of protecting key habitat along the Fisher's Canyon Trail. I don't think users will obey the no-dog policy or seasonal closures. And the process of building the trail in the first place will be disruptive as well. My suggestion would be to prioritize this habitat, and remove the Fisher's Canyon Trail from the plan.

Wayfinding will be important

I think the Fisher Canyon open space plan and implementation should take priority over the Chamberlain Trail connector. I also have concerns as a neighbor how the Chamberlain Trail connector is platted on the easement. It unnecessarily abuts the Broadmoor Resort Community property line.

Create more than 2 horse trailer parking spots

The Fisher Canyon trail should be expanded by considering out and backs to historical remnants or natural formations/overlooks up the canyon.

Rock climbers generally need access to the base of rock formations. In the future it may be necessary to develop trails to popular beginning points for climbing areas or social trails could develop

Stop digging. Use our taxes to REVITALIZE the empty, dilapidated buildings and incentivize the developers to IMPROVE crappy parts of town NOT dig up green space.

This is not a good place for a trail. Fire danger is a huge danger in this neighborhood and this just makes the situation worse.

There is not enough room for people to bring in horse trailers.

This neighborhood was not designed to have high traffic going to this area.

Broadmoor bluffs is already extremely busy and full of speeders. People go double the speed limit on this road already and no one does anything about it.

Stay with more parking at the start. Still think you need 2 horse trailer parking spots.

Work to come up with another access point for this open space.

The trail to the top should allow multi-use including bikes, but not optimized for bike use. Future connections on adjacent public lands are appropriate, although not allowed today. Lower down there should consideration of directional MTB and hiking-only trails, in order to reduce user conflicts. Trail designs should include consideration of use patterns including ebikes.

Page 75 and closure for Red Flag Days. How many days a year do we have a red flag warning in the Springs? Seems unintended consequences will be to force people to park on street and just walk in. Also Neighborhood will likely still walk in. What time of signage will be used on approaches to open space to advise public the area is closed. How will connecting trails be closed?

Concerned with raptors and MSO on page 56. Many unknowns and how will public and plan be updated based on short term incoming data??

Page 42 Youth and Community input from 1,965 citizens. I believe that group had strong recommendations for hiking and/or bike only trails. This also came up for Blodgett. How did we start with those strong recommendations and now it appears those type of trails will not be developed.

Hours of operation needs to be dawn to dusk. Much more consideration needs to be given to neighborhood safety particularly as related to fire risk and evacuation

Speaking for myself AND other mountain bikers, it would be great if the Chamberlain trail did connect with CMSP via Fisher's Canyon. In other words providing a safe (although probably rugged) way to get from Cheyenne Canyon to Fisher's then on to CMSP without driving. That would be great!

Alternative access not in a residential neighborhood

The trails and trailhead should be from the state park

Implement all the trails in one phase, but start small with the trailhead numbers.

FIRE:

ZERO fire hydrants are included in the plan -

Not planning for the added fire danger is irresponsible!

Colorado Springs is rated as the #10 highest risk in the nation – with an estimated \$17 BILLION in damage likely - according to a respected 2024 study: Top 15 US Metros With Exposure to Wildfire Risk | CoreLogic®

Yet, almost no acknowledgement or estimate of the increase in wildfire risk is in the study...

The neighbors all agree that added Risk of Fire is the #1 concern from the plan

□ More fire hydrants needed and the existing hydrants need upgraded to high pressure ones...

The fact that ONLY low pressure fire hydrants (YELLOW) are in the area is horrifying - since the estimated total flow rate is only enough to supply 4 fire hoses (estimated at 160 gpm each) per NFPA standards....

The neighbors ask for at minimum of 5 HIGH pressure hydrants in the area be included in the park – and upgrades to the 12 low pressure hydrants be included!

The state park added high pressure hydrants – why is there not even one fire hydrant in the plan?

Closure of the area on all red flag days must be a part of the plan – with enforcement provisions for firebugs playing with matches!

TRAFFIC, FIRE EVACUATION AND SECONDARY ACCESS:

The fact that the traffic study (dated Jan 2025) was only released days before the survey is terrible - the neighbors need more than a few days to review the detailed technical report!

From an initial review of the just-released traffic study - the traffic study is DEEPLY flawed - there is ZERO data listed in the study to back up the engineers' statement the added 100-200 cars will have no impact on evacuation is misleading!

Further, the engineers assumption that both NORAD Road and Broadmoor Bluffs won't be closed due to a fire at the bottom of the hill (near 115) is irresponsible! The study needs to assume both routes are closed - and all traffic - including the additional vehicles would only use Farthing MUST be assessed!

A contraflow plan for evacuation must be developed and included assuming Farthing is the only escape

The property owners at the end of Irvington are willing to sell – the city MUST consider it - and a SECOND access – a new one from Paisely to the property - should be part of the plan – no mention was made of the possibility of a second access!

Other than the field meeting, the neighbors are insisting at least ONE neighborhood meeting be held - NOT - 30 minutes away in the Jr High School - so all neighbors can attend!

VISITOR MANAGEMENT:

Pre-dawn / post-dusk hours, no clear fire restrictions, zero enforcement, etc needs to be further developed in conjunction with the neighbors

The city needs to eliminate the horse trailers parking since if there are more trailers than spaces, they will park in the neighborhood and leave manure festering in the summer

No parking and tow away zone signs MUST be in the plan for the neighborhood!

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

With many reported sightings – and plenty of photographs by the neighbors of the Mexican Spotted Owl (MSO) in the area, an outreach effort to catalogue the verified sights of the MSO needs to be undertaken! We must protect the endangered MSO!

Far less parking. Heavy traffic during warmer months in this residential neighborhood will become INEVITABLE.

Better location info.

Please build areas away from residential homes first and incorporate fire and other safety measures beyond what is currently proposed. If there is fencing, please help us ensure it is just a split rail fence at most and is not visible from any residential properties. Park should open at sunrise and close at sunset. More feedback is offered in a petition we have drafted with a few neighbors but have not decided to share widely yet. Please understand that we appreciate the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Cultural Services, but we are certain that the plan needs more discussion and deliberation before moving forward for TOPS approval based on the valid concerns we are hearing from every direction and the surprise we hear from other neighbors further away from the project. They are now also concerned but have not even been tracking what is happening with the Fisher's Canyon Project. They were not aware of the park hours, the traffic impact, or that there would be limited ways beyond signage to enforce fire-safe behavior on the trails. Some of these facts they could only have obtained if they attended the last meeting and also sought out representatives after the meeting to ask the questions. It was a bit disconcerting to see that an Open Q&A for live attendees did not happen, which really looked like a deliberate effort to stop feedback and comments to be aired openly.

I personally would like to see the community take on a more collaborative approach with your team. Instead of the community hiring lawyers to fight this, I'd love to see the community's conversations shift in more constructive ways to make the project - which is currently not safe - into something safe.

I know so much effort has been put into this project meant for our community and just think more consideration and discussion needs to take place before pushing to TOPS approval.

Respectfully,
Victoria (275 Stonebeck Lane)

No parking access from wellfleet
Fire evacuation has not been fully evaluated.
As there's only one way out of wellfleet
This is a neighborhood parking can be handled down at the state park.

Two big things. First, the scope of this project is too large for the area. You had two plans with one larger than the other. Go with the smaller one and you may find more acceptance. It won't cost as much either.

Second, improved visitor management. Hours from dawn to dusk - not 5AM to 10PM. There are no lights there and no camping so why have it open in the dark? How are hours enforced? How many rangers? My hope is that there will not be open fires allowed or BBQs. Regardless, we need more and better fire protection like more pressure in the hydrants in case of fires caused by visitors. How about hydrants in the park itself? Remember Los Angeles? Security fences need to be installed out of sight of residents as well as electronic surveillance to guard properties that border the park. One trail in particular needs to be moved or removed entirely since it is very close to homes. Evacuation plans need to be reviewed for emergency exit in case of fire. I've seen the fire evacuation study and its findings and I consider them flawed. How is trash removed from the park? Please don't say you will be using porta-potties.

We need a community meeting so you can talk and listen to us.

Too many trails- not enough space. I would remove the trail behind the houses on Wellfleet-Irvington Ct. to preserve their privacy and maintain a semblance of a "wilderness experience" . With all the thinning of the trees you would not get a feeling of walking in a forest, but walking in someones back yard.

Seems well thought out already.

Trailhead should be from Cheyenne mountain state park. Too much traffic for neighborhoods. Current plan for single access and exit from Wellfleet poses numerous potential dangers, ir., fire evacuation, traffic congestion n residential neighborhoods.

Not do your plan. Parking is a joke. Horse trailers. Seriously? You are creating a disaster. Plus the evacuation plan is not feasible, the hours are unreasonable. Just another government project bulldozing the people and their voices. The people who live in the neighborhood should count way more than the people who you have included in this survey.

Scratch current plan. Execute proper traffic study (1/20/25 traffic study is flawed); impact study on wildlife in the area; no parking lots in the residential area - find different ingress; eliminate trails immediately behind houses; add fire hydrants; more prohibitive signage; proper hours of operation (closing at sun-down); park ranger(s) patrol; limit access (i.e. incline); detailed and enforceable park management plan; camera monitoring equipment; no commercial/business activities (i.e. horseback riding) - this is zoned residential!

Think about the safety of the neighborhood and its impact. What about the impact of there is a wildfire on Cheyenne Mountain and evacuating an additional amount of vehicles. This is a major concern. This space is very much disturbing a neighborhood. The entrance can be changes to the State park, which is not in a neighborhood. Please hear our voices. We are concerned.

If there is going to be a parking, need to add outdoor cameras for security and also, reduce the parking lot and trail availability to ONLY daylight hours. After sunset, nobody needs to be on the trail or in the parking lot. Vehicles need to be towed/ticketed if there after hours. This is a huge security concern for us residents.

Alternate access should be constructed that bypasses the neighborhood. The additional traffic on neighborhood roads takes away the serenity and safety of family streets. Our kids ride their bikes and play, and having increased traffic will put them at risk.

More study is needed for fire evacuation what happens if 1 route is blocked by fire? Traffic study does not show this. Need a meeting with the local residents and the planning commission

Fire evacuation and security.

Main trail prohibit bicycles ans dogs

It's great that you can access the trailhead from the Broadmoor bluffs community
And there'll be parking options as well.

Have more bathroom rest stations, lightning protection shelters, and emergency potable water stations. Bathrooms could be solar powered electric composting type. The US Army has those types of commode available.

They developed them at Ft. Belvoir in VA.

Will they connect directly with any trails that can lead directly to cheyenne mountain state park, even if that requires taking part of Norad road and Broadmoor bluffs dr?

It's not clear to me how it connects to other open spaces.

Optimize the existing facilities, utilize and link to Cheyenne Mountain Park, focus on building and connecting major trails and for once focus on the greater good, which is to recognize the major disruption and invasion of an existing community. For once focus on the neighborhood, which is the majority interest and would be an absolute winner to Parks. The Spires represents at least 340 homes with market value in excess of \$400,000,000 and a substantial contributor in taxes and support of TOPS.

None

Traffic study at Elsworth and Irvington as well at Wellfleet and Irvington. Reservation system to maintain limit of visitors. Place priority of nearby neighbor concerns. Restrict hours to daylight only. Start project after achieving full funding. Move trails away from housing.

No e-bikes

Ample horse trailer parking. Occasional portable potties where u might least expect

smaller trailhead with less trails

The trail density is too high. The balance between preservation and desired use seems off. Consider removing the black rated trail on the southwest side. This would enhance the wildlife area in that section of the open space.

I strongly suggest a few single-use trails. There is under utilized reservoir of volunteers to help with maintenance. I am both hiker (70%) and mt biker (30%) -- and I greatly appreciate the single use trails in other O.S. properties.

No recommendations.

allow bikes on the upper trails. Bikes can stop and turn around at CMSP just as well as they can stop and turn around lower down.

nice bathrooms at the trailhead

I would like to see additional trails that address a greater variety of uses. For example, mountain bike specific trails. Hang gliding access points. Etc.

I do not think this is an open space that requires permanent bathrooms at the trailhead - that's not what this kind of space should be. Red Rocks Open Space doesn't have that, nor does Ridgeway trailhead of Stratton. This is a NEIGHBORHOOD and should still be treated as such. Bathrooms and picnic tables are NOT RECOMMENDED for this open space - there is Cheyenne Mountain State Park and Cheyenne Canon for that. This is a neighborhood and please be respectful of that.

Make sure sufficient parking is available at the trailhead. We all contribute through taxes and should all be able to enjoy it

more trails!

no suggestions

No restroom please. I fear it will not be maintained and will attract homeless campers. Enforce speed on access roads. Open only from sunup to sundown not 5-10. Have cameras to detect fires and misbehavior.

Limit the parking lots initially so that impact can be determined

Allow e-bikes

Provide a portion or all ADA accessibility.

If rock climbers and boulderers have input on the trail development to those resources that will alleviate social trails and conflict.

I do not like the density of the trails near residential areas. I do not think it is very well planned. The trails come very close to residential private property which is not appreciated. We have added comments multiple times but the plan remains essentially the same. It seems you are not listening to public input. Single use trails would be appreciated. Moving most of the trails south toward government property away from residences would be appreciated.

Remove trails right behind houses and change park hours to sun up to sun down. It is stupid to say park hours have to be 5am to 9 or 10pm just because other parks do that. Put up signs enforcing quiet and respect for nature.

Do not pave parking lots as this will bring heavy cement truck presence and disrupt traffic on Broadmoor Bluffs and Ellsworth and be very disruptive to neighborhood. Lock gates prior to 9pm (winter months) to stop partiers from enjoying the city lights. No reason to have gates open after dark as hiking will not be taking place then. Only parking and undesirable activities.

Eliminate allowing dogs and horses to use the trails as this will proliferate animal waste in the area and could displace wildlife currently living in the area. Dog waste receptacles are never maintained by Parks and Rec like they should be. No port-a-potties should be allowed either.

I think that the lower portion of the space is oversaturated with planned trails, and that it will take away from the peace and openness that a space like this is intended to provide.

Ensure with confidence that there will be staff on site to protect the integrity of the land & the safety & security of the people visiting & who live in the area.

none

Dedicated downhill mountain bike trails

Leave it alone

Mountain biking trails.

Your traffic numbers indicate an INCREASE of 69% in traffic usage on the weekend on Ellsworth street. How are you going to control speeders going down steep grades.

Lets have a complete review of wildfire risk and management before proceeding. Has the COS Fire Department reviewed the risks? If so what risks can be mitigated? I don't see any representation from CSFD on the advisory group, so I'm curious as to their involvement.

Make it a protected geeen space and leave it alone!!!! No parking lot, no trails, no nothing!!!!

Scale back drastically

None

For horses to use the trails, require that they can only be fed certified weed free hay as not to spread Noxious and Invasive Weeds that can be easily spread through the forest area and spread to neighborhoods

Leave out the actual neighborhood, where we live.

Dog waste stations and adequate bear-proof trash bins scattered along the trail at key points

Cancel the project!

Cancel the project.

Reduce the parking spaces. Provide gates for closure at night. Patrolling the parking lot to ward off car breaking that happen at the other parks

less parking

You absolutely need wildfire escape routes in the upper reaches of the canyon!!!

More fire mitigation and maintenance plans. Owning a home in Star Ranch has me concerned when introducing humans into a wooded area, especially one that has significantly visible beetle kill.

Pay attention to erosion issues. Highlight diverse landscape.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed park development. While the addition of open space and recreational areas can be a valuable community asset, I have several concerns regarding the potential impacts on both the neighborhood and the local environment.

One significant concern is the increased fire risk associated with additional park visitors, particularly during dry seasons. Given the potential for human-caused fires, it is crucial that fire mitigation strategies be a top priority in planning and maintenance.

Additionally, increased traffic to the area may negatively impact local wildlife and disrupt the residential character of the neighborhood. I strongly recommend that measures be put in place to limit traffic congestion and mitigate the effects on the surrounding environment.

Regarding the proposed trails behind Wellfleet St. and Irvington St., residents were previously assured that there would not be trails behind these homes. The introduction of new trails in this area is concerning, as it would significantly impact privacy and could increase foot traffic in ways that were not originally anticipated by homeowners. I urge the planning team to reconsider this aspect of the proposal.

Park hours are another important consideration. To minimize disruptions to wildlife and the neighborhood, I suggest that park hours be restricted to daylight hours, ideally from sunrise to sunset. Limiting access during nighttime hours would help reduce noise disturbances and other concerns related to after-hours activity.

There is also concern regarding the potential for homeless encampments within the park. This issue has been observed in other open spaces, and without a clear plan for prevention and enforcement, it could become a safety concern for both visitors and nearby residents.

To address parking concerns, I strongly recommend that all street parking in the vicinity be designated for residents and their guests only, possibly through a permit system. This would help prevent overflow parking issues and maintain access for those who live in the area.

Finally, to help manage visitor impact on the open space, wildlife, and neighborhood residents, I suggest that the park implement a reservation system similar to that of the Manitou Incline. Requiring reservations could help limit overcrowding and ensure that the park remains a sustainable and enjoyable resource for all.

Keep free parking

The traffic report is very concerning. Many of us on Broadmoor Bluffs and Ellsworth have young children. Broadmoor Bluffs is already a very busy street especially during school drop off/pick up times as CME/D12 doesn't provide bus transportation. I think a smaller parking lot or perhaps a shuttle or trailhead that starts down by Safeway would mitigate the the excess traffic. I agree we should make open space available for all nature lovers to enjoy and we should make this accessible to those with limited mobility however I am concerned about such a large parking space. I would be much more comfortable with a parkingspace around 30-40 cars (esp for wheelchair access/ADA). A dedicated bike lane along Broadmoor Bluffs can encourage visitors and reduce traffic. Hopefully it would encourage people to drive the speed limit as well. It's a lovely bike ride too. I'm sure all residents would be happy to see more cyclists and visitors would enjoy this as well.

None

Nothing currently

Consider restricting parking on nearby streets to residents only as in Ruxton (sp?) Ave in Manitou Springs.

Perhaps adding a short and easy connector trail towards the zoo could allow for additional parking elsewhere and alleviate traffic concerns.

The plan appears well thought out and complete. I am interested in the timely implementation of the plan.

Push the trails a little further from the houses on Wellfleet/Irvington/Stonebeck

Don't close the open space during red flag warnings. North Cheyenne Canyon has many people, even a road through the park, and it does not close for red flag warnings. How many open spaces have had wildfires started by hikers and bikers? Closing an open space during red flag warnings will not stop homeless fires. Fishers Canyon seems unlikely to attract homeless campers anyway. The traffic study showed no meaningful impact to evacuation because of the 110 (max!) cars at Fishers Canyon. Closing it to everyone but neighbors on red flag days is not justifiable from facts. Closing for wildfires should only be for a real wildfire, not extreme weather, certainly not every red flag warning.

Good that lighting will consider wildlife, but it should also be dark-sky compatible.

Durable materials are good, but why not composite wood? It can be lots of colors to blend in, should be durable, and can be made of recycled plastic.

Fencing along the boundary -- will the HOA or neighbors pay for it? Unless there's a demonstrated problem, Parks should not pay for it.

Other fencing -- it should only be used at actual problem areas, and if it is used, should tie in to natural barriers or be long enough to discourage just going around it.

Interpretive signs at overlooks can be problematic, as they can be very visible.

I'm satisfied, please implement ASAP.

Do not put a trail. Use your money to get rid of the homeless problem on Nevada

Possibly more parking

A second entry and parking area.

Nothing--it looks great!

I wish there was biking trail access planned from Cheyenne Mtn State Park, and in fact, more mountain biking trails in the new open space.

I think ample walking within and outside the park should be offered to local residents to make sure that those biking or walking to the park can easily access it without needed to drive and park.

Enlarge it.

I'm an avid biker but I absolutely agree that downhill-only MTB trails should not be built here.

Bathrooms are important to me. Trail markers

The plan seems great to me.

None. Looks great!

Don't do a trailhead at this location. Access trails only thru trail system from the North (supposed trail system)

Like all popular trails in the area, I believe the traffic will exceed the estimate. Also, personally, I do not like multi use trails that allow horses. Horse owners should be required to pick up after their animal (Feces), just like dog owners.

Several times residents were told that no trails would go behind their homes. The latest pictures show trails behind the homes. That needs to change. Also, no parking should be permitted on the streets. These are quite neighborhoods that will be drastically changed by the additional traffic and should be limited.

I think the plan seems quite thorough. It's indicated in the plan, but would emphasize creating buffer zones to adjacent homes.

Looks like a lot of dead trees and mitigation needs to be done to get the under growth under control

No suggestions.

Re-attack gaining additional entry/exit avenues (off Star Ranch at a minimum). Re-investigate the amount of erosion that has seeped into the Debris Basins since they were built - it's been a lot.

FYI - the 'planned' 70 house development in Fisher's Canyon was decreased to 35 after an engineering study mandated that additional erosion mitigation steps be taken due to the instability of the property. Owners at the time, in addition to the 2007/8 meltdown, determined it was not financially feasible for them to build.

I do not agree with having horses and dogs on these trails, there is not enough space to have horses and horse trailers, and people tend to not clean up after dogs already and who cleans up the horse mess? Several people are also already allowing their dogs to run around in that area without leashes and have for years. I am curious as to how many people taking your surveys actually live in the neighborhood affected by this extensive trail suggestion including horses and dogs? The trail map is a bit ambitious given the space and terrain that would be conducive to hiking without seeing other trails and hikers on adjacent trails, making the hiking experience less enjoyable and relaxing. There are also trails that will make hikers visible or near visible from residents back yards, affecting their privacy and peace of mind. There are also seasonal concerns as roads coming off of Broadmoor Bluffs are not plowed, after heavy snow, which can happen at odd times here, has there been consideration about the expected additional 100 people trying to drive up here on these small residential roads? I imagine it would be hard enough for a horse trailer to drive up there in excellent weather conditions. I really recommend considering getting together with the people who live on Ellsworth, Irvington Court, and Wellfleet and doing a separate meeting with them - not everyone has been able to attend your open houses, some of us work and have kids in activities that prevent us from having that kind of free time.

Conduct engineer survey of the lower areas to ensure enough space separates trails and parking areas. I hike this area all the time and the plan has a lot of trails on the lower portion in close proximity to each other. These are far closer together than any other park in the city and appear to disrupt the natural area and violate the hillside ordinance for development.

Only have one parking lot. How many open spaces does Colorado Springs have where it goes through a residential neighborhood and only has one road in and out? It's going to suck for the people who live there.

I would like to see PRCS work with both the Broadmoor and USFS in expediting the adoption of the MacNeil trail into the USFS system. One of the big attractions of Fishers Canyon is it's potential to connect to CMSP and also to provide a way up and over Cheyenne Mountain.

Remove all trails and infrastructure right behind houses. E.g. eliminate trails between parking lots and houses, and leave trails higher up. Since this is in a quiet neighborhood and right next to houses, open the site at sunup and close it at sundown. 5AM is too early and 10PM is too late -- there is no logical reason that open/close times needs to match other properties. Any reasonable person can foresee that 18-36" wide trails concurrently used by horses, bikers, dog-walkers, and hikers is a plan for injuries. Single use trails are necessary unless the city wants law suits because you deliberately ignored safety measures. Enforce quiet & respect for nature, no radios, no yelling, no fires or camping. What will you do if there are cars parked, and it is time to close the gates? For the neighboring houses, please don't use flat wire fencing -- please use natural split rail fencing so that deer and other animals won't injure themselves on the wires.

yes, i live in 80906, there are very few places to live sw. In the soft surface accessible loop portion of your trail legend, that is right by star ranch road, that would be an excellent location for some affordable Veterans and senior housing. "WE have thousands of acres right there at cheyenne mtn state park. I need an affordable apartment. I am from here in Colorado Springs. I am a disabled Vet. The lower part of the land, that is close to star ranch , would be perfect for a small community of duplexes, or similar, cottages, small residences 800 ft and below, for senior disabled veterans housing, that particular part of the loop is very accessible to the nearby safeway and also king soopers in cheyenne meadow. Give us a break, there is no place for us to live here in our own town, 80906, where we have been forever. No I am a senior citizen and disabled vet, I would like to have some affordable housing in the plan. I don't care what you do with the property, higher up, rock climbing walls or whatever, but the part down low in elev, near star ranceh would be wonderful for some affordable senior and disabled vet housing. SEems like the Bears and cougars have more to say about this project than us folks that need a place to live sw. I have been in this area since 1966. Also, we have 2 thousand and some acres of open space at cheynne mtn state park, right adjacent. We need some land, for Veterans, and seniors, to live in this area. Please give us some consideration.

Let's focus on connecting trails to other open spaces!

I think I'm good with the trail plan although I am still concerned with Wellfleet being the only 'real' entry/egress point. IT is unfortunate the Star Ranch Rd access point did not convey with the purchase of the land.

Need to keep visitors from parking on Wellfleet St.

Need to improve road surface on Irvington Ct and Wellfleet St

Consideration needs to be given to fire truck access in the area. For example, can the accessible trails have large vegetation cleared to the width of a brush truck?

I think it would be nice to have all trails be shared (allow MTB). As to the downhill MTB specific trail comments in the presentation, I understand that the city doesnt feel like it can handle the trail maintenance, but there are at least two strong mountain biking groups in town that would be happy to manage and repair the trail at no cost to the city! COSMBA and Medicine wheel have funding and volunteers ready. Having no sanctioned advanced MTB trails leads to rogue trail building. See recent user conflicts from vancouver, BC

(<https://www.nsnews.com/opinion/editorial-the-blame-is-shared-in-north-shore-mountain-bike-trail-conflicts-10104703>)

I am concerned about the access for horses. The soils were noted as particularly challenging and the use of horses on the trail will lead to more environmental damage and more maintenance issues and costs. In addition, the narrow winding roads in this neighborhood are not conducive to trucks with horse trailers. It is important to educate the public about the importance of preserving our resources. All parks have some restrictions concerning use, and for good reasons.

Further development of some bike-only trails to help separate user groups more.

Nothing. Looks great.

Creating at least one more hiking only trail.

Q4 - Background Questions

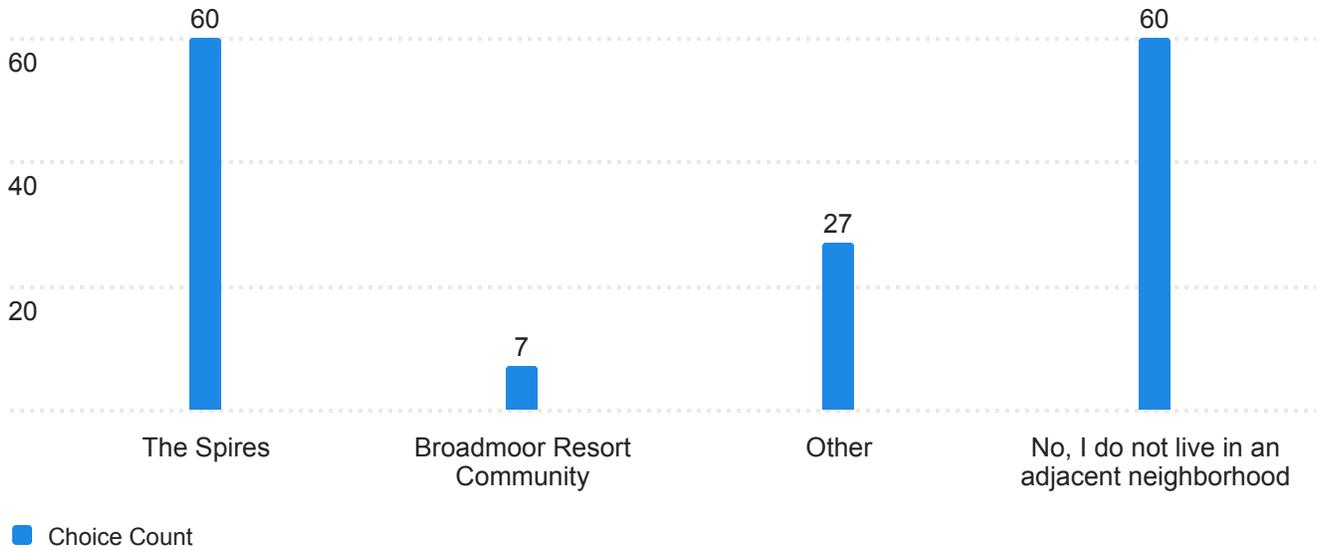
The final questions will help the planning team understand who has participated in this survey. Did you attend the community meeting on January 22, 2025 at Cheyenne Mountain Jr. High?

154 Responses



Q5 - Do you live in one of the neighborhoods adjacent to Fishers Canyon Open Space? (select one) - Selected Choice

154 Responses



US Zip Code - What is your US Zip Code?

152 Responses

80906

Age Range - How old are you?

153 Responses

