



**MEETING OF THE
PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO
AGENDA**

Thursday, May 22, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Third Floor Hearing Room

County Court House

1325 Pearl Street, Boulder

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- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Election of Officers**
- 4. Approval of Last Month's Minutes**
- 5. Presentations**
 - 5.1 Rangeview Property Acquisition**
Staff Presenter: Tina Burghardt, Land Officer Supervisor

Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC
 - 5.2 CSU Extension Volunteer Programs Update**
Presenters: Eric Hammond, County Director Boulder County Extension; Petrea Mah and Pat Butler, Boulder County Colorado Master Gardeners; Aaron Richmond and Kelly Thomas, Boulder County 4-H Leaders

Action Requested: Information Only
 - 5.3 BCPOS Public Outreach Guide**
Staff Presenter: Heidi Wagner, Strategic Foundations Deputy

Action Requested: Information Only
- 6. Public Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda**
- 7. POSAC Members Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda**
- 8. Director's Update**

9. Adjournment



MEETING OF THE PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Third Floor Hearing Room

County Court House

1325 Pearl Street, Boulder

Members Present: Janet George
Tony Lewis
Trace Baker
Kristine Johnson
Derek Turner
Carol Byerly

Boulder County aims to ensure all digital content and documents are accessible. While efforts have been made to maximize accessibility, some types of content have inherent technical limitations. See the [Accessibility Statement](#) to learn more.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Last Month's Minutes**

Moved by Trace Baker

Seconded by Kristine Johnson

APPROVED

4. **Presentations**

4.1 **Oil and Gas in Boulder County 2024**

Presenters: Michael Sylvester, Oil and Gas Regulatory Specialist (BCPOS); Kate Burke, Senior Assistant County Attorney (CAO); Horace (Rusty) Crane, Oil and Gas Specialist (Public Health)

Action Requested: Information Only

Q: What are the identities of the VOCs and what are those impacts?

Response: There are a long list of VOCs. Our equipment doesn't differentiate between different gasses, with the exception of methane. All VOCs are regulated in the state.

Q: If a farmer has land above the mineral rights, do they not have any control over those minerals or over what activity takes place?

Response: The owner of the mineral rights has control over any mineral that lies beneath. Drilling operators cannot interfere with activity on the surface, or a farmer's ability to farm.

Q: Does anyone actually check for ownership of mineral rights during the permitting process?

Response: Not really. When the operator files its application to the state, they will sign a certification that they own the mineral rights. When we have asked for evidence of that, the operator has refused to provide it and the agency has declined to demand the evidence. We have found that they simply take the operator's word for it.

Public Comment:

None

4.2 Elk Management Plans Reauthorization and Status Update

Staff Presenter: Jon DeCoste, Elk Management Coordinator

Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC

Q: What type of hazing are you doing now?

Response: Currently, we are not using hazing. We might have a team of people go out wearing orange to see if that is enough to get the elk moving, since they now associate the color orange as a threat.

Q: How would the study of using rifles be conducted?

Response: I'd like to solicit public feedback again and get recommendations from CPW.

Q: Do rifles have increased accuracy, as well as increased range? Will there be lessor chance of stray bullets?

Response: Yes, I think so. The typography would also limit any stray bullets from going any farther. The accuracy will also be improved with rifles and better knock-down power.

Q: You mentioned the history of hunter safety at Rabbit Mountain. Do you think that would be a sufficient predictor for safety at Red Hill?

Response: Yes. Because of the way we have set up our program, we end up with safe and ethical hunters who don't take questionable shots.

Q: Before BCPOS owned Red Hill, weren't the land owners allowing rifle hunting?

Response: Yes.

Q: POSAC received a written public comment regarding Chronic Wasting Disease. Can you address this?

Response: All elk harvested in 2021 came back negative for CWD. It is something we look out for, but it's really something that CPW manages.

Public Comment:

Amy Strombotne, Boulder County. She believes overhunting has occurred and no elk currently remain on Rabbit Mountain. She asked POSAC to not reauthorize the elk management plan. She also thinks rifles are not safe for populated areas.

Michael Moss, Kilt Farm, Boulder County. There is a large herd near his farm that has caused a good deal of damage. He suspects that elk are coming from other areas where hunting is allowed. He would like to see management solutions for more urban areas.

Moved by Carol Byerly

Seconded by Kristine Johnson

The plan was reauthorized for short-range weapons. Staff was directed to return with a separate plan for rifle hunting after a public process.

APPROVED

5. Public Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda

Cindy Johnson, East Boulder County. She asked POSAC to make a recommendation to the BOCC to revisit the issue of continuing the open ride sessions at the fairgrounds and take additional public comment on the matter.

POSAC members discussed the issue of the open ride and whether they should make a recommendation to the BOCC to revisit the issue. After discussion, POSAC decided to not make a recommendation.

6. POSAC Members Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda

Trace Baker thanked Tony Lewis for the personal time he has used to elevate the issue of the open ride sessions at the fairgrounds.

7. Director's Update

- Prairie Run is heading towards 90% design on the SW section, including parking and trails. We are still aiming for 2025 completion of this section.
- Prescribed burning is happening on both BCPOS and non-county lands.
- Cardinal Mill Mine – staff is working with two consultants on determining temporary and permanent mitigation for the DRMS Water Quality permit violations. We'll have a more detailed presentation for POSAC in the near future. One thing to be aware of is the GIR Mining Company is requesting to continue

and expand mining operations known as the Cross Gold Mine. Boulder County is providing input on this application and the public can do the same.

- We expect to have a decision on POSAC vacancies by early April.
- Women’s History Month “Moving Forward Together”. This is a good time to look at the history of influential women have played in the creation and management of open space. “Citizen Ruth” about Ruth Wright, aired at the BIFF and is available for purchase on-line. In our BCPOS history, we have this short film about Carolyn Holmberg, and we’d like to share it in honor of Women’s History Month. Carolyn was influential in broadening open space and helping make it what it is today.

8. Adjournment

9:08 p.m.



Parks & Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road • Longmont, CO 80503
303-678-6200 • POSinfo@bouldercounty.org
www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org

PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 22, 2025

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM: Tina Burghardt, Land Officer Supervisor
AGENDA ITEM: Rangeview Property Acquisition
ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to the BOCC

For much longer than Parks & Open Space's history of stewarding open space, the land in this community has been important to American Indian, urban native, Indigenous, and other cultural communities that continue to live here. We are making meaningful changes to how we do our work that include them, incorporate their perspectives, and honor their land stewardship legacy. Parks & Open Space operates within modern legal constructs of land ownership to steward Boulder County open space and accomplish these efforts on behalf of our community.

Summary

Boulder County proposes to acquire fee title to 20 acres owned by Tennis Center of the Rockies, LLC, with any associated water rights, for \$1,800,000. The property has an address of 5701 North 79th Street, Longmont CO and is located near the intersection of Lookout Road and North 79th Street. Staff supports this acquisition.

Background Information

The Rangeview property is an approximately 20-acre parcel just north of Lookout Road on North 79th Street. The property is vacant and mostly grassy with a few trees on the southern boundary. The east and west boundaries of the property are adjacent to land owned by the City of Boulder and managed by its Open Space and Mountain Parks department.

Deal Description

Acquisition Summary

\$1,800,000	Land Price (includes mineral rights)
\$0	Water Price
\$1,800,000	Total Price (Fund Source: Open Space Sales and Use Taxes)
\$0	Donation Value
\$1,800,000	Total Value

Boulder County will acquire these interests:

- 19.73 Acres (Fee)
- 1 Building Right
- All Mineral Rights

The property is not subject to an oil and gas lease.

Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Designations

The Boulder County Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) provides information about the area's agricultural, cultural, environmental, and other open space resources (including passive recreation, community buffers, and scenic viewsheds). Maps in the Comp Plan indicate the following designations of these resources near the property: White Rocks/Gunbarrel Hill Environmental Conservation Area, Critical Wildlife Habitat, Significant Agricultural Land of Local Importance, View Protection Corridor; the property scored a 2.06 on a scale of 0 to 5 with 5 being the highest score possible.

Potential Uses

Like all properties acquired for open space, the property will be managed for open space use. The property is currently used for passive recreation.

The property will be open to public use, unless Parks & Open Space later determines whether other closures or other open space uses are appropriate. The process to determine specific future open space uses (including public access via trails or other passive recreation versus closures that protect a property's open space resources) is an involved planning process that can only be done after acquisition. Parks & Open Space staff need ample time after acquisition to evaluate the property, and no evaluations about other potential future uses have been made at this time.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval. The Rangeview property provides a critical connection between two large open space complexes that are a result of years of acquisitions by our municipal partner. This acquisition will maintain the unobstructed views the Rangeview property offers for travelers along North 79th Street and will further preserve the rural area between Gunbarrel and Niwot.

POSAC Action Requested

Recommendation to the Boulder County Commissioners for approval of the project as described above and as described by staff at the POSAC meeting.

Suggested motion language: I move approval of the project as described above and as further described by staff in their presentation.

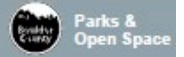
(see next pages for maps)

Rangeview Parcel - Vicinity Map



Close-Up Map

Rangeview Parcel - Focus Map



2025

0 0.03 0.06
MILES



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Boulder County Parks & Open Space | 2025



Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 22, 2025

Location: Boulder County Courthouse

1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Eric Hammond, Colorado State
AGENDA ITEM:	CSU Extension Volunteer Programs Update
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

Volunteer programs are critical to Extension's work in Boulder County. Major volunteer programs run by the Extension Service include Colorado Master Gardener, 4-H, Wildlife Master and Native Plant Master. In 2024, these programs had over 250 volunteers which gave 12,415 hours of their time. Volunteer managers and volunteers from the programs will present on the activities and outcomes of their programs.

Going forward, we are working to increase our impact in Boulder County communities, increase awareness of the programs that we run and make sure our programs are open, accessible and relevant to all county residents. Volunteers will also describe how participating has benefited them before taking questions and input from the committee.

Background Information

Colorado Master Gardener:

[Colorado Master Gardener Program – Boulder County Extension](#)

[Colorado Master Gardener – Providing trusted, practical education to help you solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.](#)

Native Plant Master:

[Colorado Native Plant Master](#)

Wildlife Master Program:

[Wildlife Master "Job Description"](#)

4-H:

[4-H Volunteer Information – Boulder County Extension](#)

[Volunteers – Colorado 4-H Youth Development is part of CSU Extension](#)



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 22, 2025

Location: Boulder County Courthouse

1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Heidi Wagner, Deputy Director: Strategic Foundations
AGENDA ITEM:	Public Outreach Guide
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

Background

Boulder County Parks & Open Space (BCPOS) has long valued meaningful community involvement as part of our stewardship mission. As our projects and plans grow in scale and complexity, so too does the need for clear, inclusive, and consistent public engagement. In response, BCPOS has developed a *Public Outreach Guide* that captures our current outreach practices and provides staff with a clear, consistent framework to plan effective communication and engagement efforts that align with departmental goals and reflect community values.

The guide builds on BCPOS's commitment to weaving the community's voice into our work, offering a framework that is flexible enough to serve a wide range of projects, from large-scale management plans to smaller operational updates.

Overview

The *Public Outreach Guide* outlines a tiered approach to public outreach based on a project's scale, public interest, and potential impact. Projects are analyzed using a series of guiding questions, and then assigned to one of four tiers:

- **Tier 1:** Large-scale plans or policies requiring broad public and stakeholder engagement (e.g., site management plans, policy updates).
- **Tier 2:** Subject-specific plans or actions with moderate public interest (e.g., trail reroutes, rule changes).
- **Tier 3:** Minor policy or operational updates with minimal public impact.
- **Tier 4:** Real estate transactions, following established public notice processes.

Each tier includes recommended tools and methods for engagement, ensuring consistency while allowing staff to tailor their outreach to specific audiences and contexts. The guide also provides practical planning tools, such as a template to help staff define core messages, identify audiences, select appropriate outreach methods, and track engagement outcomes.

Key principles emphasized in the guide include:

- Offering multiple ways for the public to engage (in-person, digital, active, and passive)
- Using clear, accessible language and visuals

- Closing the feedback loop by sharing how public input informed decisions

In the future, BCPOS anticipates that this framework will also be aligned with the broader Community Engagement framework being developed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Conclusion

Public outreach and engagement are vital to how BCPOS fulfills its mission of stewardship, service, and community partnership. By adopting this guide, staff will be better equipped to design outreach that is thoughtful, inclusive, and effective — strengthening public trust and ensuring our work reflects the diverse needs and values of Boulder County residents.

Looking ahead, we recognize that community needs and expectations continue to evolve. Our intention is to treat this framework as a living tool, one that will grow and improve as we learn from experience. We hope to make our engagement practices even more responsive, better anticipate areas of public interest, and continue building meaningful, two-way relationships with the communities we serve.

ATTACHED: Public Outreach Guide

BCPOS Public Outreach Guide

BCPOS values community input and involvement. Use this guide to plan outreach that is meaningful, effective, and inclusive. Our responsibility is to weave the voice of our community into our work, and provide a safe, welcoming space for all.

Getting Started

Each project needs thoughtful planning based on its size, public interest, and potential impact. Use the Project Tier Assessment questions with the Project Scale Guidance chart to analyze your project and select the required level of engagement and examples of tools you can use to engage your audience.

Project Tier Assessment Questions

1. What is the scope and geographic area of the project?
2. What level of public interest or impact is anticipated?
3. Are there changes to public access, land use, or management policy?
4. What level of stakeholder outreach and engagement is required?
5. What assets do these stakeholders bring to this process?
6. Based on the above, which tier does this project fall into (1, 2, or 3)? Note, Tier 4 is specifically for Real Estate transactions and included here for reference only. Contact Real Estate with questions.

Project Scale Guidance

Review the chart below and answer the questions in the assessment template to determine the appropriate tier for the project.

SCALE OF PROJECT	CRITERIA	EXAMPLES	ENGAGEMENT LEVEL	EXAMPLES OF TOOLS & METHODS	AUDIENCE FOCUS	STAFF INVOLVED
TIER 1: LARGE-SCALE PLANS OR POLICIES	Large geographic area or system-wide, high visibility, long-term implications	Site mgmt. plans, ex. East Boulder Creek, sensitive policies ex. Weeds Plan	High – Broad Public + Stakeholders	Surveys, community conversations, virtual fair, coffee talks, outreach and input from historically disinvested communities, public comment period	Historically disinvested communities, stakeholders, visitors, POSAC, BOCC, neighbors	Planning, PIE, Real Estate, E&O, Resource Mgmt, AG, CRISP Committee, and Community Engagement team (when applicable)
TIER 2: SUBJECT MATTER PLANS, POLICIES, OR MANAGEMENT	Mid/Minor level impact, moderate public interest,	Trail reroutes, changes in public use rules, site specific resource	Moderate – Targeted Stakeholders + General Public	Intentional emails reaching specific communities, project web page, press	Adjacent residents, visitors, municipal partners, volunteers	Managing Division, PIE

ACTION	affects user experience or land mgmt.	mgmt, Forest Rx		release, neighborhood or stakeholder meetings		
TIER 3: MINOR POLICY OR OPERATIONAL UPDATES	Small geographic scope, low public impact, minimal change to policy or operations	Language updates to grazing policy, signage changes, infrastructure maintenance updates	Low – Internal or Direct Stakeholder Engagement	Targeted email outreach, web updates, POSAC briefing	Internal staff, BOCC, specific partners	Managing Division, PIE
TIER 4: REAL ESTATE	Acquisition or Disposition of property	Haystack Mountain Acquisition; Takings by Condemning Authorities	Inform	POSAC agenda notice, BOCC public hearing process*	Community	Real Estate

*Notices for property acquisitions and dispositions vary depending on funding source and situation.

After Assigning Your Project Tier

Once you've matched your project with the appropriate engagement tier, use the Public Information & Planning Guide (attached) to create your public outreach plan. The plan you create will look different depending on the project and the division in which you work, but ensure it details the following key elements:

Core Messages to Include

- Purpose of the project or update
- What's changing, why, and when
- Who it impacts: including human stakeholders and ecosystem interests
- How the public can engage or provide input
- Timeline of milestones and decisions
- Where to find more information

Good Practices to Consider

- Use visuals, accessible design, and plain language
- Offer multiple ways to engage (in-person, digital, passive/active)
- Track engagement (how many, how often, who?) and adapt strategies based on feedback
- Verify who is the approver of the plan or policy – BOCC, POSAC, Internal
- Be sure to close the feedback loop. Share the results and explain how public input influenced decisions.
- Integrate Community Engagement framework once released by BOCC

Conclusion

Public outreach and input are vital component of how Boulder County Parks & Open Space fulfills its mission of stewardship, service, and community partnership. This framework is intended to guide staff in designing communication and outreach efforts that are thoughtful, inclusive, and aligned with departmental goals. All staff are expected to approach public engagement with intention, responsiveness, and a commitment to continuous improvement. By consistently applying this framework, we strengthen public trust, support strategic priorities, and ensure our work reflects the diverse needs and values of the communities we serve.

Public Information & Engagement

Planning GUIDE

Project Name:

Project Description (one or two sentences):

Communications Objective (what do we want the audience to know/understand/do):

Audience (select all that apply):

- ☐ POSAC
- ☐ BOCC
- ☐ All public (highlight or mark below if specific user groups need attention)
 - ☐ Hikers
 - ☐ Wildlife watchers
 - ☐ Dog walkers
 - ☐ Bicyclists
 - ☐ Equestrians
 - ☐ Runners
 - ☐ Artists
 - ☐ Picnickers
 - ☐ Anglers
 - ☐ Cross-country skiers & snowshoers
 - ☐ ESL residents. Indicate language: _____
 - ☐ POS volunteers and partners
 - Individuals: _____
 - Community organizations and groups: _____
 - Other: _____
- ☐ Ag tenants
 - ☐ Individuals: _____
- ☐ Neighbors
 - ☐ Individuals: _____
 - ☐ Adjacent property owners: APO 1500 ft. mailing from _____ property
- ☐ Project partners (i.e., county departments, municipalities, counties, organizations)
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____

○

Tools for Public Outreach (select all that apply):

See Page 4 for list of contacts for help with these items.

- ☐ Content creation for all media:
 - graphic design
 - message
 - Spanish translation
 - Review: content quality, editing, proofreading
- ☐ Website
 - Create a project webpage
 - Project description/decisions-to-be-made/background
 - Map
 - Photos
 - Video/virtual tour
 - Feedback forms (public posts visible to all; generate reports)
 - Event registration
 - Upcoming public meetings and onsite tours
 - Supporting documents
 - County calendar (add events)
 - Notice on property webpage (if applicable)
- ☐ News Release/Email blast
 - POS News email list (includes public and media)
 - Boulder County News email list (includes public and media)
 - Trail/Park closures text alerts
 - Public Programs & Events email list
 - Volunteer Work Projects email list
 - Prescribed Burns email list
 - New email list for larger, longer projects. Can include texting option.
- ☐ Social Media
 - Facebook: posts-text, photo, and link; events; ads (POS and BoCo)
 - Twitter: short text, link, and photo (POS and BoCo)
 - Instagram: short text and photo (POS and BoCo)
 - YouTube: video (POS and BoCo)
 - NextDoor: localized neighborhood post (BoCo)
- ☐ Print
 - Postcard (Adjacent Property Owner (APO) and other interested parties mailing). Postcards should be in the mail two weeks before the noticed meeting or hearing.
 - Flyer (placement: park kiosks, county buildings, appropriate retail stores, mailing to individuals and/or organizations)
 - BOCC Sunday ad (free if available), independent ad (paid)
 - Swag (stickers, shirts, etc.)
 - Brochures (property and/or project/theme)
 - Images magazine (print & online)
- ☐ Public Meetings Date:

- Open house _____
 - Public tour _____
 - POSAC (meeting and onsite tours) _____
 - BOCC (meeting or hearing and onsite tours) _____
 - Specific stakeholder meetings _____
(i.e., neighbors, ag tenants)
 - Ribbon-cutting, grand re/opening _____
 - Materials:
 - staff presentation (PP, video)
 - talking points for staff
 - posters
 - computer stations for feedback forms
- Other public-facing options:
- Trailhead display (staffed by paid and volunteer staff)
 - Booth/table at local event
 - Onsite public program/event
 - Volunteer work project
 - Temporary informational signs
 - Picnic shelter reservations
 - Request ranger presence

FIRST POINT OF CONTACT

(to get you started)

Website: Nik Brockman

Social media: Vivienne Jannatpour

Press release/Email blast: Vivienne Jannatpour

POSAC (schedule presentations and onsite tours): Renata Frye

BOCC (schedule commissioners for events, onsite tours): Gustavo Castanza Cortez

BOCC (present to board): Admin Staff (Melissa Sauer, Renee Bookless, D'Ann Lambert, Rosa Brohm) can help get you organized and enter the information to be added to the BOCC agenda. Please provide:

- The document you want the BOCC to see -must attach this to the request
- Any back up or additional documents -as an attachment
- List of who needs to sign the document, if applicable for routing in DocuSign
- Approval from the Manager or DH
- An expected meeting date - how soon the document needs to be on a meeting
- If it is a consent or discussion item
- What needs to happen to the document or information after BOCC approves

Property ribbon-cutting, grand re/opening (schedule): Renata Frye

Other public-facing venues: Eva Lark; Bevin Carithers (ranger request only)

Print

Content creation for all media	Vivienne Jannatpour
Review: content, editing, proofreading	Vivienne Jannatpour
Postcard mailing	See steps below
Flyer	Summer Alameel
BOCC Sunday ad, independent ad	Vivienne Jannatpour
Swag	Eva Lark
Brochures	Summer Alameel
Images magazine article	Summer Alameel
Poster	Content: Ask a Planner Printing: Plotter Instructions

Steps for Postcard Mailing:

- GIS can create a list of Adjacent Property Owners (APO list). Request on BCNet under [Services>GIS](#).

- Postcards must be proofed by in-house editing group. Email #POSedits.
- Raquel Robles can send the postcard file and address list to a printer. The printer will print the addresses on the cards and mail out.