



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

Thursday, June 26, 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. Approval of Last Month's Minutes**
- 4. Presentations**
 - 4.1 Cliffside Property Acquisition**
Staff Presenter: Tina Burghardt, Land Officer Supervisor

Action Requested: Information Only
 - 4.2 Asset Management System Implementation Progress Report**
Staff Presenter: Christy Spielman, Asset Management System Coordinator

Action Requested: Information Only
 - 4.3 2026 Capital and Stewardship Projects**
Staff Presenter: Tina Nielsen, Special Projects Coordinator

Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC
- 5. Public Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda**
- 6. POSAC Members Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda**
- 7. Director's Update (Heidi Wagner, acting)**
- 8. Adjournment**



MEETING OF THE PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO

Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Third Floor Hearing Room

County Court House

1325 Pearl Street, Boulder

Members Present: Tony Lewis
Trace Baker
Kristine Johnson
Derek Turner
Carol Byerly
Joan Lutz
John White
Viki Lawrence

Members Excused: Janet George

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

3. **Election of Officers**

Tony Lewis nominated Janet George for Chair. Janet George accepted the nomination via Zoom. Carol Byerly seconded the nomination. Janet George was unanimously approved for Chair.

Carol Byerly nominated Trace Baker as Vice Chair. Trace Baker accepted the nomination. Tony Lewis seconded the nomination. Trace Baker was unanimously approved for Vice Chair

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

The March minutes were unanimously approved after noting two typographical errors.

Moved by Trace Baker

Seconded by Derek Turner

APPROVED

5. **Presentations**

5.1 **Rangeview Property Acquisition**

Staff Presenter: Tina Burghardt, Land Officer Supervisor

Action Requested: Recommendation to BOCC

Q: Will prairie dogs be allowed to continue onto this parcel from nearby parcels?

Response: I can't answer that because the land around this parcel is owned by the city.

Q: Why is the City of Boulder not purchasing this parcel?

Response: I've been in discussions with the city when this parcel came on the market. Currently, the city doesn't have the funds to purchase this property.

Q: Will this parcel remain open to the public?

Response: It will be determined after the purchase, but staff are recommending it remain closed.

Q: I'd like information on the county's real estate budget and how much will remain after this purchase. I would like to see that information as part of all acquisition presentations.

Response: I can have Janis Whisman, Real Estate Division Manager, provide that to you later, but I don't have that information available tonight.

Q: What is the timeline for purchase?

Response: We are looking at the end of July.

Q: Because this parcel is surrounded by city open space, how will this be managed in coordination with the City of Boulder OSMP?

Response: This is a question for our Wildlife staff, but I imagine that they will be coordinate with city OSMP staff.

Public Comment:

Joyce Frailey, Gunbarrel Estates, Boulder County. She is with Preserve Rural Gunbarrel 501(c)(3). She spoke in support of the purchase of this parcel by Boulder County for its benefits to wildlife.

Moved by Trace Baker

Seconded by John White

The purchase was approved 7-2. Tony Lewis and Derek Turner voted against due to the lack of budget information.

APPROVED

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

Q: When is the Boulder County fair?

Response: This year's fair will run Aug. 6-10. The Horse Show starts July 27.

Q: What trends are you seeing for new kids coming to 4-H? Is 4-H as popular as in the past?

Response: The numbers were down about 33% for a time after COVID, but in recent years we have seen increased numbers. Involvement in livestock programs are also increasing. We are always looking for new pathways for kids and families to get involved.

Q: What is a Wildlife Master?

Response: There is a training program, similar to that for Master Gardeners. Wildlife Masters assist Boulder County residents in answering questions about dealing with conflicts with wildlife.

Q: Can you explain Extension's relationship with the county?

Response: Extension is the outreach arm of CSU. Our offices are nested with each county in Colorado. Boulder County has a Memorandum of Understanding with CSU to provide services, office space, and some staff for the Extension program.

Public Comments:

None

5.3 BCPOS Public Outreach Guide

Staff Presenter: Heidi Wagner, Strategic Foundations Deputy

Action Requested: Information Only

Q: Is serving on the Community Engagement Team a full time job with the department?

Response: For some of the Community Engagement Team, it is their job. Other team members have roles in the department in addition to their role on the team.

Q: BCPOS tries hard to anticipate every question or contingency, but that's not always possible. It's the areas of interest you do not anticipate that causes the issue. What might be missing is the response to this? How do you respond and when do you respond when things go awry? Is there a protocol?

Response: That's right. You can follow best practices but still encounter conflict at the end. We will be talking about this as we go forward.

Q: What are some creative ways to have a bigger forum for POSAC with the BOCC for some Tier 1 projects.

Response: We can bring up those opportunities with the commissioners for some projects. Joint Field trips also are a great way to have POSAC and the Commissioners collaborate.

Public Comments:

None

6. Public Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda

None

7. POSAC Members Comment Period for Items Not on Agenda

None

8. Director's Update

- There is a new structure for the Parks & Open Space department, which includes Deputy Directors. Vivienne will send you the high-level new org chart.
- Another POS University session is scheduled for staff and POSAC members are invited. It's on CSU Extension, June 3 at 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Look for an invitation email.
- Jeresneyka Rose has been hired as the new bilingual Community Engagement Specialist. She will start May 27th.
- CSU Extension Office's Emma Dimitri got a \$14K grant to support a climbing program for kids.
- The department's 5-year visitor study starts on Friday.
- Owl and hawk release at Heil tonight, working with the Birds of Prey Foundation.
- Tucker Elk Draw forest management near Nederland, which will involve tree cutting. There will be community engagement before the work starts.
- Two bald eagle nestlings at Rock Creek Farm. This is a new site after lightning took out the nest last year.

- Steam Weeding contract awarded to Edaphic Solutions to work on Rabbit Mountain parking lot.
- Nine contractors showed up to the pre-bid for the Sherwood Creek Conger mine project.
- Local PBS Documentary will be highlighting the native plant landscapes and CSU Extension will be starting a Sustainable Landscapes Certification.
- Vivienne is developing a Newspaper Insert – celebrating the 50th Anniversary. It will be hitting the papers soon – print and on-line.
- The BCPOS Podcast is getting close to launching our “Voices of Open Space”.
- The Four Mile Steps are being converted to rock for sustainability – this trail connects Four Mile to the Benjamin Loop at Betasso Preserve.
- Another stretch of the LOBO trail will be getting resurfaced.
- Prairie Run is at 100% design, moving to contracting process. The goal is to open SW trailhead and trail before the end of this year.

9. **Adjournment**

8:51 p.m.



Parks & Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road • Longmont, CO 80503
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www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org

PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 26, 2024

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM: Tina Burghardt, Land Officer Supervisor
AGENDA ITEM: Cliffside Property Acquisition
ACTION REQUESTED: Information Item Only

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.

Information Item Only

The proposed Cliffside property acquisition will be funded with Conservation Trust Fund (Colorado lottery proceeds) dollars; therefore, staff is not seeking a recommendation from POSAC for this acquisition.

Summary

Boulder County proposes to acquire fee title to 53 acres owned by Cindy and David Johnson, for \$1,160,000. The property has an address of 1810 Stone Canyon Road, Lyons CO, and is located on Stone Canyon Road, approximately 1.75 miles north of Highway 36 in Lyons.

Background Information

The Cliffside property is approximately 53 acres located on Stone Canyon Road and adjacent to the county's Southdown Indian Mountain open space property. The property is bordered on two sides by county owned open space (Neal to the north, Southdown Indian Mountain on the east) and BLM land to the south. The property has an appraised value and proposed purchase price of \$1,160,000. The property had a residence that was burned in the Stone Canyon fire. The property is now vacant and has a working well that would need some surface improvements to repair damages from the fire.

Deal Description

Boulder County would acquire the property for \$1,160,000. Mineral rights are intact and will be acquired by the county.

Acquisition Summary

\$1,160,000	Land Price (includes mineral rights)
<u>\$0</u>	Water Price
\$1,160,000	Total Price (Fund Source: Conservation Trust Fund)
<u>\$0</u>	Donation Value
\$1,160,000	Total Value

Boulder County will acquire these interests:

- 52.68 Acres (Fee) [\$20,121/acre]
- 1 Building Rights [\$1,060,000/right]
- All Mineral Rights [\$100,000]

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: Archaeologically Sensitive Area, Rabbit Mountain Environmental Conservation Area, Rabbit Mountain High Biodiversity Area (B1: Outstanding Biodiversity Significance), Indian Mountain Natural Landmark, and Significant Agricultural Land of Local Importance.

Potential Uses

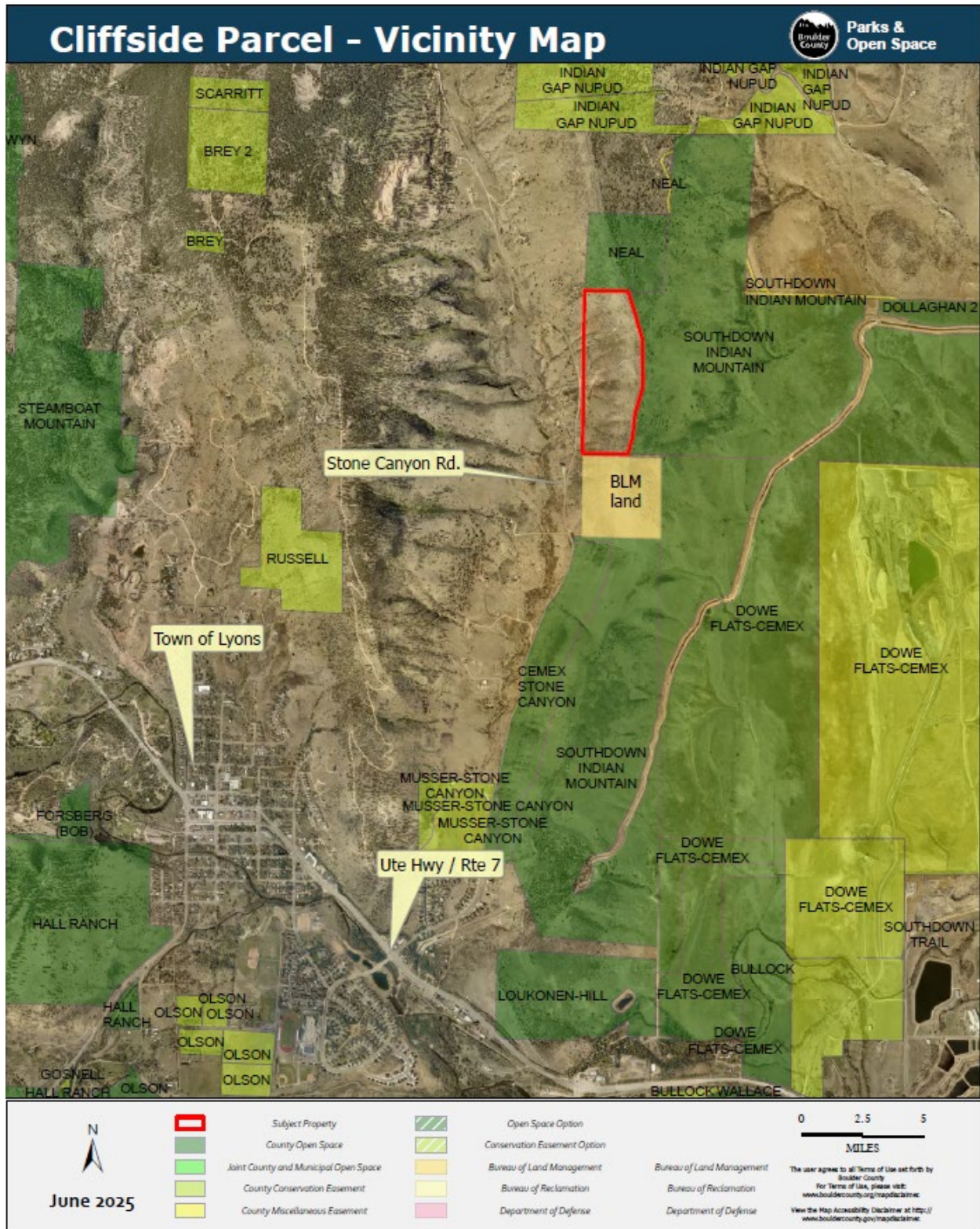
The property is currently used for private passive recreation. Acquisition of this property would complete open space acquisition efforts on the west side of Dowe Flats. The county may decide to manage the property as part of the Rabbit Mountain complex. Since it lies on the west side of Indian Mountain, the property could also be managed as a separate property if the county were to decide to use it to accomplish land restoration goals with a native tribe. This potential use is the reason for using Conservation Trust Fund dollars to fund the acquisition.

Staff Recommendation

On July 8, 2025, at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) public hearing, staff will ask for BOCC approval to acquire the 53-acre Cliffside property.

(see next pages for maps)

Vicinity Map



Close-Up Map





Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 26, 2025

Location: Boulder County Courthouse

1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Christy Spielman, Asset Management System Coordinator
AGENDA ITEM:	Asset Management System Implementation Progress Report
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

In 2023, Boulder County Parks & Open Space and Public Works selected an Asset Management System.

Over time this new system will help Parks & Open Space by:

1. **Improved Asset Information** and provide real-time visibility into the location, condition, and replacement costs of both the physical infrastructure and land we manage.
2. **Implementing Lifecycle Management of Assets** from acquisition to disposal, ensuring proper maintenance is happening proactively and improved planning for future needs.
3. **Addressing the Maintenance Backlog** that has been identified and is a Strategic Priority for the department.
4. **Improved Resilience in Times of Emergency** by improving access to information about our properties and assets.
5. **More efficient system for Communication and Reporting** that will require less time processing data and serve as a long term and stable system of record.
6. **Improved Decision Making** by the accessibility of data-driven insights to support strategic planning and resource allocation.

We are currently about halfway through the implementation phase with the vendor of this new software. We spent the last 12 months identifying requirements, auditing existing data systems and workflows, configuring the system for most of our asset types and work activities and have begun to incorporate the system into the daily routines of some work groups.

Our Signs, Trailhead Maintenance, and Agriculture Infrastructure Work Groups have found success in improving our asset inventory and starting to incorporate condition assessments and work planning. The Noxious Weeds team is using the new system for most of the workflows identified in their newly adopted Weed Management Plan.

Over the next year we will be configuring the system for our Trails and more Land Management activities. We will continue to assess the condition of assets, plan and prioritize work, and incorporate more replacement cost estimates. We are excited to learn and grow with this asset management system and are looking forward to using it to help us tell the story about the work we do to achieve the Parks & Open Space Mission and Goals.



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 26, 2025

Location: Boulder County Courthouse

1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Tina Nielsen, Special Projects Coordinator
AGENDA ITEM:	Parks & Open Space 2026 Capital and Stewardship Projects (CAST)
ACTION REQUESTED:	Recommendation to BOCC

Introduction

The Boulder County Parks & Open Space (BCPOS) department 2026 budget request includes 33 capital and stewardship (CAST) projects for approximately \$9.83 million from county open space sales tax revenues. The purpose of this memo is to provide an overview of these projects and request recommendation for approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

Background

The department plans capital and stewardship projects in addition to ongoing operational work funded through each division's operating budget. These projects are prioritized based on management plan commitments, funding, staff capacity, and the department's strategic lenses:

- **Cultural Responsiveness and Inclusion.** Provide welcoming, inclusive, and responsive opportunities for marginalized and underserved populations.
- **Resilience.** Prepare for, respond to, and minimize the impacts of climate, environmental, social, and economic changes.
- **Maintenance Backlog.** Maintain our public amenities, infrastructure, and natural resources.
- **Safety.** Ensure the safety and well-being of our staff, volunteers, and visitors.

The table below summarizes the 2026 Capital and Stewardship Project budget.

2026 Capital & Stewardship Budget			
Division	Boulder County	Grant/ Partner	Total
Agriculture & Water	\$1,026,000	\$50,000	\$1,076,000
Recreation & Facilities	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000
Resource Management	\$2,091,655	\$122,750	\$2,214,405
Resource Planning	\$6,012,189	\$1,053,750	\$7,065,939
Total	\$9,829,844	\$1,226,500	\$11,056,344

Discussion

Detailed project descriptions and budget information are included in the Appendices. Below are some highlights of how these projects promote the department's strategic priorities in 2026:

- Agriculture & Water division is heavily focused on **maintenance backlog**, including irrigation infrastructure upgrades, revegetation to repair prairie dog damage, and perimeter fencing repairs. Most of this work also promotes **resilience** by enabling water conservation and improved soil health.

- Recreation & Facilities division is also heavily focused on **maintenance backlog** and **safety**. Facility improvements include restroom upgrades, trail resurfacing, maintenance on historic structures, as well as upgrades to our only playground, Left Hand Valley Grange, and the Kerr Community Garden. Two ongoing projects contribute to our **cultural relevance and inclusion** goals: ADA improvements (Goodhue House/Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek Farm, and Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain) and year three of a four year work plan to install bilingual signage to implement the *Sign Standards and Messaging Manual*, designed to ensure that all residents feel welcome at our open spaces.
- Resource Management division projects promote **resilience, safety, and maintenance backlog** through fencing projects Caribou Ranch and Mayhoffer Farm, Russian Olive removal along Boulder Creek on the Wheeler property, and pursuit of AI technology to analyze our huge collection of wildlife photos generated by game cameras. New trailhead counters support our **resilience and inclusion** goals.
- Resource Planning division continues to coordinate large, complex, multi-partner/multi-year projects that promote **resilience and safety**, including water conservation, stream and ecosystem health on Boulder Creek, dam improvements for safety, and work to address water quality associated with mine tailings at Cardinal Mill. Several projects support **inclusion** goals: Resilient Roots, will uncover sites tied to Latinx memory, labor, migration, and resilience through oral histories, story mapping, and participatory engagement, inclusive outreach efforts in the St. Vrain Greenway planning process, and construction of an accessible demonstration garden at Walden Ponds.

Thanks to grant and partner contributions, the department is able to leverage the county's \$9.83 million investment by over \$1.2 million, resulting in a total investment of over \$11 million. These grant and partner funding sources include:

- \$50,000 in grants to agricultural tenants from Natural Resource Conservation Service to promote water conservation.
- The Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP) Land Resilience Investment grant of \$122,750 to target the multi-agency ownership area west of Nederland, including the county's Tucker and Elk Draw parcels.
- A FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant of \$753,750 is anticipated through the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the Prince Lake No. 1 Dam Retrofit Project
- \$300,000 support from partner and co-owner City of Boulder Utilities Dept. for the Howell Ditch Diversion Upgrade.

POSAC Action Requested

Recommendation to the Boulder County Commissioners to approve the proposed Parks & Open Space 2026 Capital and Stewardship projects as described in this memo and as further described by staff at the POSAC meeting.

Attachments

- A. 2026 CAST Project Budget
- B. 2026 CAST Project Descriptions

2026 Capital & Stewardship Project Budget

2026 Capital & Stewardship Project Budget		County	Grant/ Partner	Total
Agricultural Resources				
1	Pace Center Pivot	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$200,000
2	Mayhoffer Well Development	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
3	Steele Bros. No. 1 Dam Rehabilitation	\$26,000	\$0	\$26,000
4	Cushman Revegetation	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
5	Perimeter fence backlog--cont'd from 2025	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
	Subtotal	\$1,026,000	\$50,000	\$1,076,000
Recreation & Facilities				
1	Handheld LiDAR Scanner	\$48,000	\$0	\$48,000
2	ADA Improvements-Goodhue House and Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
3	Kerr Garden Fencing	\$22,000	\$0	\$22,000
4	Left Hand Valley Grange Playground Construction	\$95,000	\$0	\$95,000
5	Niwot Bridge Re-decking and Concrete Approaches	\$98,000	\$0	\$98,000
6	Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Trailhead Reconstruction	\$98,000	\$0	\$98,000
7	McIntosh Barn Reroof	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
8	Restroom Updates and Major Repairs	\$64,000	\$0	\$64,000
9	Sign Standards Update Year 3: 500 Permanent Signs	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
10	Trailhead and Trail Corridor Mowing	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
	Subtotal	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000
Resource Management				
1	Mayhoffer Farm Coal Creek Riparian Fencing	\$25,970	\$0	\$25,970
2	Wildlife Game Camera Photo Identification Project using AI	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
3	Trail and Vehicle Count Program Update	\$34,585	\$0	\$34,585
4	Russian Olive Removal Boulder Creek, cont'd	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
5	Delonde Creek Moose Fencing	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500
6	Wildlife Crossings Hwy 36	\$603,600	\$0	\$603,600
7	Tucker and Elk Draw Fuels Reduction Partnership, cont'd	\$630,000	\$122,750	\$752,750
8	Wallace-Fabel Fuels Reduction Project	\$690,000	\$0	\$690,000
	Subtotal	\$2,091,655	\$122,750	\$2,214,405
Resource Planning				
1	Adaptive Management for Multi-Objective Watershed Projects	\$234,814	\$0	\$234,814
2	South St. Vrain Creek Restoration at Hall 2-cont'd	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000
3	St. Vrain Greenway Planning-cont'd	\$125,000	\$0	\$125,000
4	Walden Demonstration Garden	\$16,775	\$0	\$16,775
5	Resilient Roots: Voices of Boulder County	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
6	Cardinal Mill Water Quality-cont'd from 2025	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000
7	Prince Lake No. 1 Dam Rehab construction-cont'd from 2025	\$251,250	\$753,750	\$1,005,000
8	Prairie Run Infrastructure-Year 3	\$534,350	\$0	\$534,350
9	Howell Ditch Diversion Design-cont'd from 2025	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000
10	Heron Lake Outlet Construction	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000
	Subtotal	\$6,012,189	\$1,053,750	\$7,065,939
CAST TOTAL		\$9,829,844	\$1,226,500	\$11,056,344

2026 CAST Project Descriptions

Agricultural Resources Division: Agriculture & Water

1. Pace Center Pivot (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog): The current irrigation system on the Pace property is flood irrigation and is not serviceable any longer. Our goal is to reduce erosion, increase water conservation, and increase soil health on the property by installing a Center Pivot irrigation system with an irrigation pond. This project will increase the productive acres of the property and use the available water more efficiently.
2. Mayhoffer Well Development (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The Southeast Buffer grasslands (otherwise known as Mayhoffer, et al.) consist of land leased by the agricultural division for livestock grazing (1674 acres total). The grasslands and adjoining non-county lands (i.e., OSMP, Rocky Flats) represent some of the last intact, native grasslands in Boulder County and provide habitat for elk, migratory birds, prairie dogs, amphibians, and other wildlife. Grazing is an important land management tool that can help improve plant diversity, control invasive weeds, and reduce wildfire risk. The location and distribution of adequate livestock watering facilities is critical to maintain the appropriate distribution of cattle throughout this lease. Unfortunately, there is little undeveloped water located within this property and what water exists is either available seasonally in Rock Creek or available from two wells located several miles from one another in different paddocks. To alleviate water inaccessibility and to better distribute grazing, more wells are needed. This project will involve a contract with a well installation company that will help BCPOS identify new well locations and permit/install up to three new wells/stock water facilities on the property.
3. Steele Bros. No. 1 Dam Rehabilitation (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The county has an ownership interest in Steele Bros. No 1 dam, located on private property. According to the State Dam Inspector, the dam should be repaired to allow for safe vehicle access to maintain best practices. The project requires approximately 350 cubic yards of material to rebuild and regrade the dam, material delivery charges, and labor. The rebuild and regrade will enable vehicle access and regular maintenance. Costs include materials and delivery only. County staff will regrade the dam, remove necessary vegetation, conduct permitting, and State notification.
4. Cushman Revegetation (Resilience): The Cushman property, located adjacent to Lagerman Agricultural Preserve, is currently on a hiatus from agricultural lease in order to perform work to return the land to productive agricultural use. Funding will be used to contract prairie dog control on the Cushman property. Following this work the property will be treated with soil amendments and replanting to make it a viable agricultural property again.
5. Perimeter Fence Backlog (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Aging and failing fence infrastructure has been a problem for the Agriculture Program over the last 20 years. Contract work will continue to address this maintenance backlog on 15 properties that began in 2025 on 23 properties. Replacing these fences will enhance property value, improve management for staff and tenants, increase security, and enable grazing, which will contribute to better soil health.

Recreation & Facilities Projects: Trails, Buildings and Historic Preservation, Grounds, Urban Forestry

1. Handheld LiDAR Scanner (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Funds will be used to purchase a handheld LiDAR scanning unit and associated software/accessories for the purpose of increasing the efficiency and accuracy of spatial data collection on open space. LiDAR, which stands for *Light Detection and Ranging*, is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth. These light pulses—combined with other data recorded by the airborne system—generate precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics. The Buildings and Historic Preservation workgroup will use this tool on historic structures, and the ability to create digital 'as built' quality construction drawings, eliminating the tedious work of creating them by hand or hiring out to an engineering firm. The Forestry workgroup will use this tool for forest inventory surveys by ensuring high quality data with minimal human error or bias. Creating more accurate volume estimates is important for determining contracted tree removal costs and for understanding fire behavior.
2. ADA Compliance Updates at Goodhue House and Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain (Inclusion, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): A county review identified 1,000 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance issues at BCPOS trailheads. 2026 is year two of this effort, and funding will support materials and contractor help to address 25% of the issues. Plans include concreting ADA parking spots and walkways at Goodhue House located at the Carolyn Holmberg Preserve at Rock Creek and Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Trailhead to meet ADA standards.
3. Kerr Garden Fencing (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): This project will install reclaimed steel drill pipe and prefabricated panels by an approved contractor to replace the existing wooden fence. The wooden fence has been a maintenance headache due to the rotting of the posts and dowels caused by the irrigation ditch running parallel to the eastern section of fencing. The moisture leads to rot and subsequent failure in all the wooden posts. This improvement will extend the useful life of the fence and reduce maintenance requirements, as well as maintain a safe environment.
4. Left Hand Valley Grange Playground Construction (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): In 2025, we are assessing the needs of the play area at LHVG playground. Based on the assessment, redesign, and planning of that recreation area, the play equipment and surface area will be completed in 2025. Necessary upgrades and/or reconfiguration of that area will be constructed in 2026.
5. Niwot Bridge Re-decking and Concrete Approaches (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The two bridges off the Niwot Loop trailhead require re-decking due to wear and deterioration over time, which has compromised its structural integrity and safety. The current deck surface has become worn and deteriorated over the past 30 years, increasing the risk of accidents and reducing overall usability. Also, the existing crusher fines that approach the bridges are a continuous erosion issue, requiring frequent maintenance and causing unsafe conditions. We propose replacing the crusher fines with approximately 20 feet of concrete on each side of the bridges, providing a more durable, low-maintenance surface. These

upgrades will enhance safety, reduce ongoing repair costs, and ensure a smoother experience for all users.

6. Ron Stewart Preserve at Rabbit Mountain Trailhead Reconstruction (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Rabbit Mountain Trailhead needs extensive parking structure and drainage improvements to function more sustainably in the future. Rotting wooden timbers cause maintenance issues; drainage issues create soil migration issues. The project will improve accessibility. This will be an in-house project completed by the Grounds staff.
7. McIntosh Barn Reroof (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The historic McIntosh Barn houses educational exhibits at the Agricultural Heritage Center. This project will install a new cedar shingle roof system in 2026. The barn was last re-roofed 20+ years ago and has begun to show signs of failure that worsen after every windstorm.
8. Restroom Updates and Major Repairs (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Our current trailhead restroom flooring system is store-bought epoxy with bottom baseboard of either cove base quarry tile or rubber cove base. The quarry tile often becomes loose during our routine deep cleaning and it's not simple or cost effective to repair. A solution is to convert our current flooring system to an acrylic coat professionally applied to the floor that would wrap up from the bottom 4-6 inches and eliminate the need of having cove base tile or rubber trim. This acrylic coat would also eliminate the need for staff to re-apply an epoxy finish every two-three years, which is what we are currently doing to maintain a properly sealed floor.
9. Sign Standards Update Year 3: 500 Permanent Signs (Inclusion): Year three of a four-year Sign Shop plan to implement the Sign Standards and Messaging Manual, whose mission is to ensure appropriate and impactful ways to reach and communicate onsite messages with the public, regardless of their primary language. The entire POS permanent sign inventory is divided into four years of sign making and installation, updating approximately 500 signs each year. Signs to be updated include all regulatory, wayfinding, warning, and accolades in parking and access points and interior trail system. Not included are interpretive trailside signs. 2026 POS Sign Inventory to be updated: Mud Lake, Caribou Ranch, Betasso Preserve, Niwot- Left Hand Grange, Monarch Park, Niwot Loop, Anne U. White, Kerr Gardens, Dodd Lake, Coalton Trailhead/Meadow Lark, and Mayhoffer-Singletree Trails.
10. Trailhead and Trail Corridor Mowing (Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Trailhead and trail corridor mowing operations have outgrown the Grounds team capacity. The plan is to contract most of the trailheads and trail corridor mowing operations to alleviate staffing and equipment failure issues.

Resource Management Division: Forestry, Plant Ecology, Public Education, Wildlife, and Weeds

1. Mayhoffer Farm Coal Creek Riparian Fencing (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Building on Russian Olive tree removal work to be completed in the fall of 2025, this funding will install ~1,890 feet of 4-strand, wildlife friendly, barbed wire fencing along Coal Creek on Mayhoffer Farm in fall 2026. The project will manage livestock access and includes planting cottonwoods, willows, and native shrubs to enhance the riparian habitat in fall of 2026.

2. Wildlife Game Camera Photo Identification Project Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) (Maintenance Backlog): Wildlife staff has accumulated a large inventory of game camera photos generated from management plan baseline surveys, elk population and habitat surveys, and other projects. In recent years, photo-identification and processing using AI and coding has replaced the need for staff to spend countless hours identifying photos frame by frame. This work can now most effectively be accomplished by experts outside of BCPOS. In addition, outsourcing our photo-identification and summarization needs could provide a repeatable model for running prospective datasets in the future.
3. Trail and Vehicle Count Program Update (Inclusion, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Most of our trail and vehicle counters have been in service for over a decade and need to be replaced to maintain and improve the accuracy and reliability of our usage data. This project would be a comprehensive replacement and upgrade of these counters. Replacing all our trail and vehicle counters ensures that our data collection efforts are consistent, precise, and capable of supporting informed decision-making. Additionally, we will work together with staff that utilize the data to assess optimal counter placement to enhance coverage and minimize data gaps.
4. Russian Olive Removal Boulder Creek, continued (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog): Continue work begun in 2024 to remove Russian Olive trees along the Boulder Creek riparian corridor with final cleanup of the Wheeler Ranch property and continue removals upstream to the west on Boulder Creek. Russian Olive trees are a State Noxious List B Weed (List B = Management for control of spreading). The goal is to encourage re-establishment of native riparian trees, shrubs, and vegetation within the riparian corridor.
5. DeLonde Creek Moose Fencing (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog): In the past several years, moose numbers have increased and staff have documented a significant decline in willow structure and health along DeLonde Creek at Caribou Ranch. Staff have been coordinating with the Boulder Watershed Collective (BWC) on a beaver enhancement project at DeLonde Creek within the Caribou Ranch homestead meadows. The project is being funded by BWC apart from exclusionary fencing to protect the area from moose.
6. Wildlife Crossing Hwy 36 (Resilience): The objectives are to further assess the strategies and designs of Wildlife Crossings along the US36 corridor between Boulder and Lyons. The goal is preliminary design level of completion (~30%). The preliminary design process would include review of the US36 Wildlife Crossings Assessment and Prioritization and Cost Estimation Study as a baseline, plus provide expertise on strategies beyond. Included in the objectives are to continue to build strong relationships with agency partners and the public. The possibility exists to combine efforts with the US36 Bikeway Preliminary/Final Design, which is currently funded and moving forward.
7. Tucker and Elk Draw Fuels Reduction Partnership, continued (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The Tucker and Elk Draw properties are located directly west of Nederland. These parcels are considered a critical component of wildfire risk reduction for the Town of Nederland given stand density/fuel loading, prevailing westerly winds, and proximity to the Town of Nederland. Overall treatment area between the two properties will total approximately 105 acres. In addition, there is a high probability that BCPOS will enter a 'Good Neighbor Agreement' with the US Forest Service (USFS) via the Colorado State Forest Service to treat a USFS-owned, 40-acre inholding within the project area. This project includes Colorado

Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP) Land Resilience Investment grant funding.

8. Wallace-Fabel Fuels Reduction Project (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The Wallace and Fabel properties are located near the junction of the Peak to Peak Highway and South St. Vrain Drive, adjacent to Bunce School Road, a popular recreation area. These parcels are a critical component of wildfire risk reduction for these travel corridors considering the heavy use these roads would see by recreators, residents, and responders in the event of a wildfire. Treatment area across both properties will total 100-115 acres depending on access. Inventory and prescription were completed for Wallace in 2024 and will be completed for Fabel over 2025 and 2026.

Resource Planning Division: Planning, Project Management and Design, Cultural Resources, Data Solutions, GIS

1. Adaptive Management for Multi-Objective Stream Projects (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Continue adaptive management for two St. Vrain fish passage/stream restoration projects completed in 2021. When BCPOS invests in stream restoration projects with many stakeholders, multi-year attention is crucial to achieve goals, learn lessons, and to maintain relationships. Long-term monitoring and support ensure project successes.
2. South St. Vrain Creek Restoration at Hall Ranch 2 (Resilience, Safety): The funding request is to continue stakeholder engagement and project permitting and consultation with our consultant, Stillwater Science. This work will be a continuation of Phase 2, which began in 2025. Stillwater completed 80% of the design and associated design documents (Phase 1) at the end of 2024. The current plan is to implement the project, which is estimated to be over \$5 million, in fall 2027. Between now and then, staff will be working to secure implementation funding.
3. St. Vrain Greenway Planning (Inclusion): Lead a planning process for St. Vrain Greenway in 2026 that helps expand engagement with historically underserved and marginalized communities; co-creates opportunities for engagement, learning, and access at Braly Open Space; and finalizes the regional trail route between Longmont to Lyons in a way that protects and enhances all the significant open space values.
4. Walden Demonstration Garden (Inclusion, Resilience): Design and construct a small demonstration garden at Walden adjacent to the trails just east of the Volunteer Naturalist building. The raised beds and small plots will showcase native, xeric, and fire wise plants appropriate for residential gardens. The project will include an accessible trail with interpretive signage.
5. Resilient Roots: Voices of Boulder County (Inclusion, Resilience): Resilient Roots is a community-led cultural resource project focused on identifying places of significance to Latinx and other intersecting communities (Indigenous, Afro-Latinx, etc.) in Boulder County. Through oral histories, story mapping, and participatory engagement, the project will uncover sites tied to Latinx memory, labor, migration, and resilience—many of which have been excluded from official narratives and land-use decisions. It centers lived experience as a key factor in defining cultural significance, moving beyond traditional preservation criteria. The project will result in a historic context report and

recommendations to guide land acquisition, stewardship, and interpretation.

6. Cardinal Mill Water Quality (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): A multi-disciplinary County team was assembled in early 2024 to better understand permit non-compliance issues and determine what needed to be done to come into compliance including the design and installation of a water quality treatment facility that meets local, state and federal codes, and minimizes impact to people and the land. Many options are still under investigation with the assistance of a consultant. The County Special Use Permit process will provide public notification, gather input through the Planning Commission public process, and be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Board as well as the Board of County Commissioners.
7. Prince Lake No. 1 Dam Rehabilitation Construction (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): Retrofit the existing facility with improvements to the dam embankment, emergency spillway, outlet, and reconstruct the Prince Lake No. 1 reservoir's dam at the Eddy Open Space Property. This project will modernize the facility to improve the County's ability to operate the reservoir and to ensure agricultural water can continue to be stored in the reservoir by bringing the reservoir into compliance with newly applicable Colorado Dam Safety Regulations. This project will be supported by an anticipated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant.
8. Prairie Run infrastructure, Year 3 (Inclusion, Resilience, Safety): Staff is continuing the work on Prairie Run infrastructure and restoration as prescribed in the 2024 approved East Boulder Creek management plan. Funding will be allocated to Phase 2 design, construction drawings, and long-lead permitting finishing Phase I trail construction, agricultural/water infrastructure design and construction, wildlife monitoring, and native plantings and restoration.
9. Howell Ditch Diversion Design, continued (Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): BCPOS is working in partnership with the Mile High Flood District and City of Boulder to design and construct a ditch diversion reconstruction and a stream restoration project on a reach of Boulder Creek near County Line Road just northwest of Erie on the Doniphan Open Space. The project will advance water conservation and water efficiency goals, improve stream and ecosystem health, and potentially support a robust in-stream flow program. This project is in partnership with our co-owner, City of Boulder Utilities Department.
10. Heron Lake Outlet Construction (Inclusion, Resilience, Maintenance Backlog, Safety): The Heron Lake outlet at Pella Crossing becomes plugged and obstructed with debris on a regular basis, leading to flooding of the trail. Staff from several work groups go out and clear debris from the outlet on a weekly basis, which occurs for over half the year. Trails staff has created a temporary bypass utilizing stones, but we have received concerns from users who utilize Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD) as they are unable to travel through the water and are not able to utilize the stones. Currently, a contract is out for bid with engineers to look at possible solutions. A solution may not cost as much as the requested funding, but we don't know what the options are yet.