



Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 28, 2022

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM:	Melissa Arnold, Conservation Easement Program Manager
AGENDA ITEM:	Conservation Easement Program Overview
DATE OF MEMO:	April 18, 2022
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

For much longer than Parks & Open Space's history of stewarding open space, the land in this community has been important to the diverse Indigenous communities that continue to thrive here today. We are partnering with Indigenous people to make meaningful changes to how we do our work that include Indigenous people, incorporate their perspectives, and honor their land stewardship legacy.

Approximately 40 percent of Boulder County's open space consists of privately owned land that has been protected with a conservation easement or similar document restricting how the land can be used and/or developed. In my presentation, I will explain how the county is working with 850 private landowners to ensure their properties continue contributing to the rural character of Boulder County for current and future residents and visitors to enjoy.

These 850 properties, which are not open to the public because they are privately owned, are managed by the landowners for their private use and to protect the open space values the properties afford the public. Each landowner manages their property on a day-to-day basis, and it's the role of both the landowner and the Conservation Easement Program in the Real Estate Division of Parks & Open Space to ensure that the terms of the conservation agreements are being upheld over time. In this presentation, I will explain how the Conservation Easement Program accomplishes this task through stewardship, and how regular monitoring visits and landowner relationships are the keys to success.