

Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 23, 2024

Location: Boulder County Courthouse 1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

TO: Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee

FROM/PRESENTER: Jarret Roberts, Recreation and Facilities Division Manager, and

Chris Trujillo, Trails Superintendent

AGENDA ITEM: Trails Program Overview

ACTION REQUESTED: Information Only

Boulder County Parks and Open Space's trail program maintains over 120 miles of trail open to the community. The trails group manages various programs, from volunteer engagement to muddy trail closures, all focusing on providing a breadth of opportunities for the community to enjoy passive recreation in appropriate areas across BCPOS lands. As a measure of growth, the first BCPOS trails opened at Bald Mountain in 1973, and this number quickly grew to over 100 miles of trail by 2007, an average rate of nearly an additional 3 miles a year.

Currently, the trails program strives to deliver a variety of experiences for all community members while incorporating sustainable trail design to minimize future maintenance needs. The staff balances resources to reduce the current backlog of work while creating new visitor experiences through guidance from current management plans.

In this presentation, trails program staff will provide an overview of the trails program, including:

- Background: A brief history of the program
- Programs: The types of work the trail program performs
- How BCPOS Trails are Created: The trail planning process
- Building for the Long-Term: Current sustainable trail design
- Inclusivity: Providing trail options for a wide variety of user groups
- Accessibility: Working a variety of experiences for visitors of all abilities

Attachments and Further Information:

- Attachment A: BCPOS Trails Program Chronological History
- Link to the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Trail Map: https://assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/bccp-map-county-trails.pdf
- Link to the Boulder County Transportation Master Plan Regional Trails Program Map: https://assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/regional-trails-interactive-map.pdf