



**Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
AGENDA**

June 24, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Suggested Timetable

6:30 Call to Order

6:30 Approval of the May 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

ACTION REQUESTED: Minutes Approval

6:35 Public Participation - Items Not on the Agenda

Presentations

6:40 Tolland Ranch Trail Construction Update

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTER: Justin Atherton-Wood, Senior Planner and Mary Olson, Landscape Architect /
Interim Co-Manager Recreation & Facilities Division

7:00 Aldridge Acquisition

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to BOCC

PRESENTER: Tina Burghardt, Senior Land Officer

7:15 Holmes Acquisition

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to BOCC

PRESENTER: Mel Stonebraker, Senior Land Officer

7:35 Strategic Plan Updates: GIS & Technology Group

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTER: Kristi VanDenBosch, Data Solutions Manager, and Karl Fiderer, Interim Business
Analyst

8:05 Overview of Mayhoffer Farm Management Plan Process

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTER: Ethan Abner, Cara Potter, and Jena Van Gerwen, Students in CU's Master of the
Environment program

8:35 Fish Passage Installation on St. Vrain Creek: Niwot Diversion & Longmont Supply Diversion

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTER: Mac Kobza, Wildlife Biologist (presenter); Sharla Benjamin, Engineer (co-
presenter); Tim Zych, Project Coordinator (co-presenter)

9:05 Director's Update

9:10 Adjourn

DRAFT

Parks & Open Space

Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee MINUTES

May 27, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Jim Krug.

Members:

Jim Krug
Jenn Archuleta
Paula Fitzgerald
Steven Meyrich
Trace Baker
Ann Obenchain
Tony Lewis
Janet George
Heather Williams -- **Excused**

Staff:

Jeff Moline
Janis Whisman
Sandy Duff
Tina Nielsen
Tim Shafer
David Hirt
Therese Glowacki
Nik Brockman
Renata Frye
Conrad Lattes
Steve Sauer
Susan Spaulding (recorded presentation)

Approval of the April 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes

ACTION REQUESTED: Minutes Approval

ACTION: Archuleta moved approval of item. Baker seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** Archuleta, Fitzgerald, Meyrich, Krug, Baker, Obenchain, Lewis, George; **EXCUSED:** Heather Williams

Attachment: May 27 Draft Minutes (5118 : Approval of the May 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes)

Public Participation - Items Not on the Agenda

Mary Mulry, 12855 N. 66th St., Longmont. She is an OLAF (Organic Land and Food) member. She wants to see more organic farms on county agricultural land. She hopes the new open space director will address concerns regarding agricultural land.

Rich Andrews, 6803 Jay Rd., Boulder. OLAF member (Organic Land and Food). He is an organic farmer. He would like to see better stewardship on county agricultural lands with more organic farms. He would like to see that as a priority in selecting a new director for Parks & Open Space.

Presentations

Newland Acquisition

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommendation to BOCC

PRESENTER: Sandy Duff, Senior Land Officer

Public Comments: None

ACTION: Paula Fitzgerald moved approval of item. Jenn Archuleta seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** Jenn Archuleta, Paula Fitzgerald, Ann Obenchain, Jim Krug, Janet George; **NAYS:** Steven Meyrich, Trace Baker, Tony Lewis; **EXCUSED:** Heather Williams

Strategic Plan Updates: Plant Ecology, Wildlife, Weeds

ACTION REQUESTED: None, Information item only

PRESENTERS: David Hirt, Plant Ecology Supervisor; Susan Spaulding, Wildlife Supervisor; and Steve Sauer, Weeds Supervisor

Public Comments: None

Director's Update (presented by Interim Co-Director, Jeff Moline)

- The Director's position will close at the end of May. We've received 20 applications so far. Semi-finalists will be interviewed on July 8 by two panels, which will include county staff and POSAC members. Finalists will interview on July 23.
- Recreation and Facilities Manager position listing will post soon.
- Heil Valley Ranch/Cal-Wood site visit for POSAC tomorrow. This tour is closed to the public due to safety measures and the current closure of the property.
- Spanish language interpretive panels are being finalized for the barn at the Agricultural Heritage Center.
- Announcing upcoming retirement of Steve Sauer (Weeds Supervisor) and Larry Colbenson (Natural History Program Coordinator).

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:14 p.m.



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 24, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM:	Justin Atherton-Wood, Senior Planner Mary Olson, Co-Interim Manager of Recreation and Facilities Division / Landscape Architect
AGENDA ITEM:	Tolland Ranch Trail Update
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Item

Introduction

The Tolland Ranch Trail construction project is intended to begin this summer and take several seasons to complete. The trail corridor lies within a public trail easement on Tolland Ranch which is located southwest of the Town of Nederland (see attached map). The six-mile trail will provide a backcountry, non-motorized trail connection between two popular areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service: namely, the West Magnolia Trails system and the greater Rollins Pass area via the Jenny Creek Trail. The Tolland Ranch Trail could also serve as part of a longer regional trail envisioned in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan that would connect the Boulder area with the Continental Divide. The county’s public trail easement was acquired as part of a larger conservation-based acquisition strategy intended to preserve in perpetuity the natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational values of lands held by the Toll family for multiple generations that are located in Boulder and Gilpin Counties and adjacent to the James Peak Wilderness.

Tolland Ranch Conservation Easement

The county’s public trail easement on Tolland Ranch was acquired in 2015 as part of the acquisition of a conservation easement over the 3,334-acre property in Boulder and Gilpin Counties. Boulder County contributed \$1.5 million toward the \$7.3 million acquisition. The trail easement traverses the central portion of the property east to west while the family’s cabins and other historic structures are located on the southern side of the property in the vicinity of Tolland Ranch Road and South Boulder Creek. Portions of Eldora Mountain Resort lie within the northern portion of the property, including the system of Nordic ski trails and the terminal of the soon-to-be-constructed Jolly Jug lift. The resort has been a generous partner throughout the trail project.

The Tolland Ranch CE helps protect some significant natural resources, such as ecologically significant portions of the South Boulder Creek parkland, from additional development. Coordinated by The Conservation Fund, the acquisition was accomplished in partnership with the federal Forest Legacy Program, the Colorado State Forest Service and Great Outdoors Colorado. At the time of the acquisition, a 650-foot-wide trail planning corridor was defined that avoids significant natural resources and other important resources identified in the CE.

Attachment: Tolland Update_POSAC June 2021 (51119 : Tolland Ranch Trail Construction Update)

In addition, the trail corridor was located in an area of the property where both motorized and non-motorized trespassing has been occurring that has been difficult for the family to control given the remote location on their property and proximity to roads and trails on public lands. As such, an intention of the trail is to create a desirable, well-managed trail experience in order to greatly reduce unmanaged and unauthorized uses that has resulted in the proliferation of user-created trails that have been degrading natural resource values over time. Our rangers, along with trail users, can provide the eyes and ears that the owners have not been able to.

Trail Planning and Design

Following the acquisition, trail planning and design continued with the assistance of local trails planning consultant, Contour Logic. Over the course of several field seasons, Contour Logic refined the trail alignment with sustainable trail-design principles in mind. In addition, we have been working in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service’s Boulder Ranger District to ensure that the construction and management of the Tolland Ranch Trail would integrate well with Magnolia Non-Motorized Trails Project for the area known as “West Mag” (Magnolia Trails Plan; [USFS map](#)). This is their plan for the existing and planned system of trails and 4x4 roads that lie east of Tolland Ranch. In fact, once it was clear that the Tolland Ranch Trail acquisition would be moving forward, the Forest Service delayed their planning process and integrated the trail planned for Tolland Ranch into their decision-making process.

Several actions in the Magnolia Trails Plan are especially relevant to Tolland Ranch Trail. First, there is a user-created trail known as the School Bus Trail that has been adopted as a system trail. School Bus Trail will connect directly with Tolland Ranch Trail. Second, there is a 4x4 spur road to Tolland Ranch that connects with USFS Road 105.1 east of Tolland Ranch. Road 105.1 is the only motorized route that travels north-south through the entire West Mag area. The spur road to Tolland Ranch has been open to the public. But, under the Magnolia Trails Plan, the spur road is being converted to Administrative Use Only with a gate planned for managing use. Non-motorized trail users will continue to be allowed to use the spur road providing an additional non-motorized trail connection to Tolland. This management change by the Forest Service should help to greatly reduce impacts to the conservation values on Tolland Ranch caused by unauthorized motorized use originating from the spur road.

This spur road intersects Road 105.1 near the Aldridge property and immediately east of Tolland Ranch. The recent opportunity to acquire the Aldridge property in fee by Boulder County is quite surreptitious. Its location along the spur road would provide BCPOS the option of installing and managing the gate on the spur road. In addition, there is a flat, open disturbed area that would help facilitate construction and management of the trail.

Trail Construction

BCPOS anticipates receiving approval from Gilpin County in June to proceed with trail construction. Timberline TrailCraft has been contracted to construct the majority of the trail. They plan to begin mobilizing in late June/early July. Given the short construction season, we expect them to complete a portion of the work in 2021 and another portion in 2022. In-house work will continue in 2023 with an opening planned for 2024. Eldora Mountain Resort will be an important partner in implementation by allowing on-going access to the construction area through their property and by allowing use of their parking area for project staging.

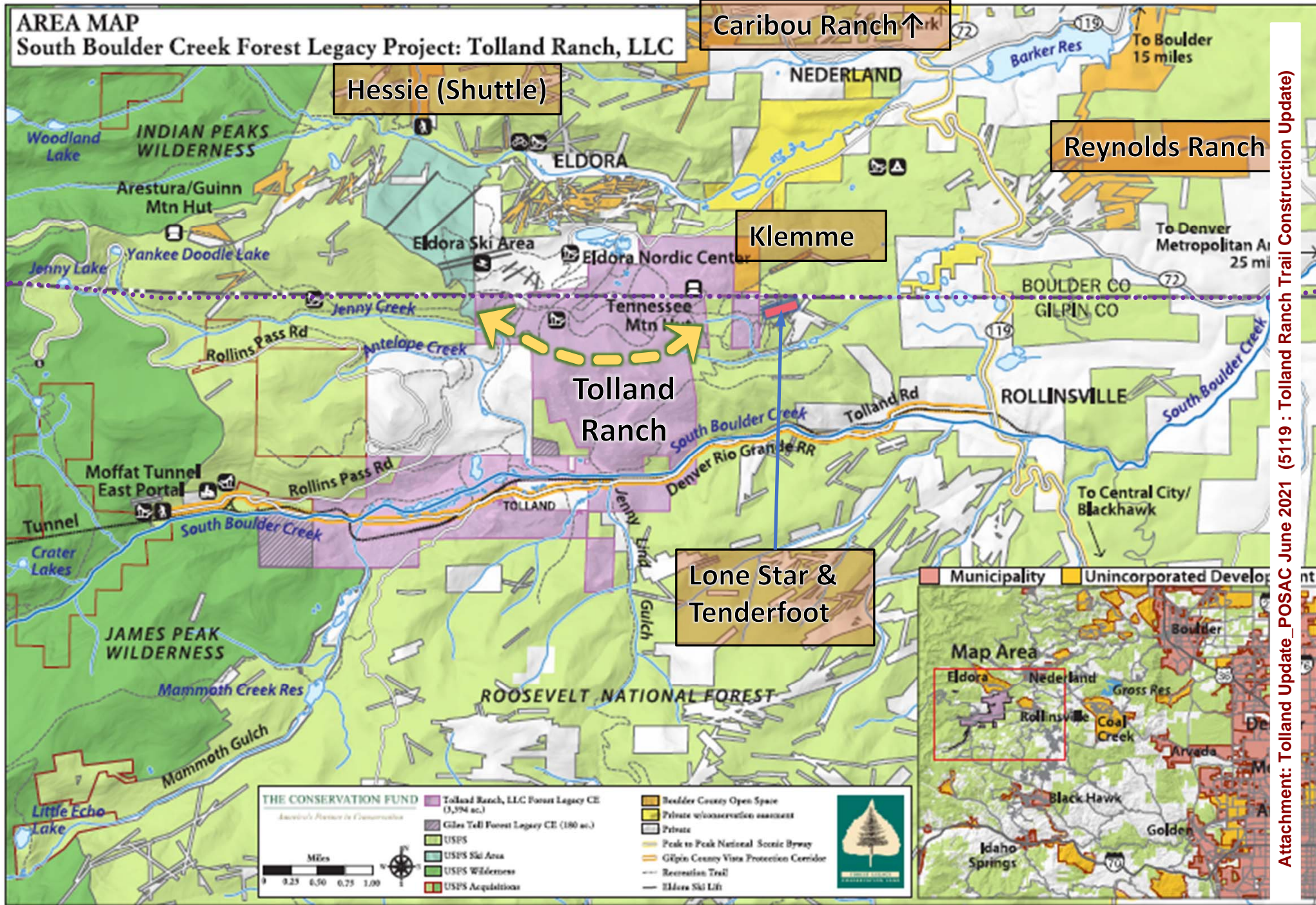
There will be lots of opportunities for the community to participate in the construction of the trail too. Last year, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado hosted a couple of volunteer days. And, this year, Teens Inc., a Nederland-based youth corps, will also be doing some work on the trail. The department will also be hosting volunteer days over the course of the project.

Funding

The majority of the funding for the project is coming from two sources. BCPOS received special grant funding from Governor Hickenlooper's Colorado the Beautiful initiative. The grant is contributing \$311,000 toward construction. The grant is supplemented by a significant donation of \$125,395 from the bequest of Mike O'Brien. Mike had a passion for creating and improving access to public lands in Boulder County and could be seen frequently volunteering for trail projects throughout Colorado. BCPOS also received a \$41,058.00 State Trails Planning Grant that was used to support the design of the trail.

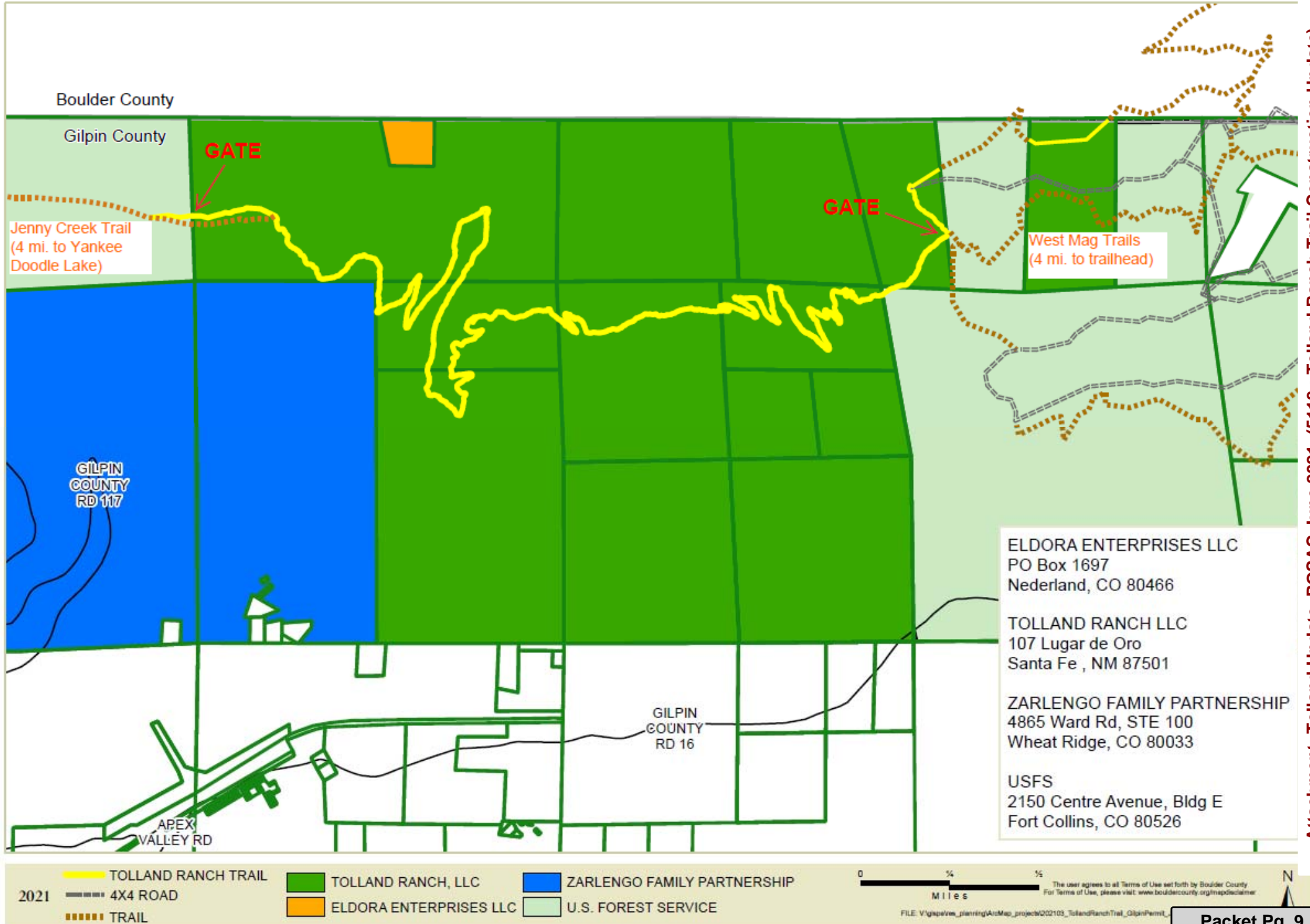
It is exciting to see the years-long effort to plan for trail construction come to fruition. We look forward to making this trail experience on Tolland Ranch available to the public very soon!

AREA MAP South Boulder Creek Forest Legacy Project: Tolland Ranch, LLC



Attachment: Tolland Update_POSAC June 2021 (5119 : Tolland Ranch Trail Construction Update)

Tolland Ranch Trail



Attachment: Tolland Update_POSAC June 2021 (5119 : Tolland Ranch Trail Construction Update)



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 24, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM:	Tina Burghardt, Senior Land Officer
AGENDA ITEM:	Aldridge
ACTION REQUESTED:	Recommendation to the BOCC

Summary

Boulder County proposes to acquire fee title to 10 acres owned by John A. Aldridge, with associated water rights, for \$115,000. The property is located in Gilpin County, just south of the border between Boulder and Gilpin counties. (The Gilpin County Assessor has not assigned an address to the property—please see the maps at the end of this memo that illustrate the property’s location). Staff supports this acquisition.

Background Information

To understand the importance of the Aldridge property, it is best to start with a description of the Tolland Ranch conservation easement (CE), trail easement, and the intended trail’s ability to connect two trail systems together.

Tolland Ranch Conservation Easement Property

In 2015, Boulder County invested \$1,500,000 to acquire the public trail easement and a backup holder position in the CE over the 3,334-acre Tolland Ranch, which lies in both Boulder and Gilpin counties. Tolland Ranch has been owned by the Toll family since the 1800s with the family’s cabin and other historic structures located in the vicinity of Tolland Ranch Road and South Boulder Creek. The CE helps protect some amazing natural resources, such as the South Boulder Creek parkland, from additional development. The acquisition was accomplished in partnership with the Colorado State Forest Service and Great Outdoors Colorado and coordinated by The Conservation Fund.

Tolland Ranch Trail

Boulder County has invested another \$600,000 in grant funding and donations, plus county staff time and money, in planning, design, and construction of the Tolland Ranch Trail. The Tolland Ranch trail project is an endeavor between Boulder County, Gilpin County, the United States Forest Service (USFS), and The Conservation Fund to provide a connection between the Jenny Creek and West Magnolia areas that are popular public recreation areas. This connection is supported by Gilpin County and by members of the public. The trail will connect two USFS-managed trail systems: the “West Mag” trail system and greater Rollins Pass area via the Jenny Creek Trail. The Tolland Ranch Trail could also serve as part of a longer regional trail that would connect the Boulder area with the Continental Divide. For close to ten years, Parks & Open Space has been collaborating with USFS in the planning and implementation of the Magnolia Non-Motorized Trails Project (Magnolia Trails Plan).

Attachment: Aldridge 6.14.21 FINAL (5120 : Aldridge Acquisition)

The West Magnolia trail system is managed by USFS and the Magnolia Trails Plan includes connectivity with the Tolland Ranch Trail.

Aldridge Property

The 10-acre Aldridge property is comprised of two mining claims: the 5.14-acre Lone Star Lode and the 4.86-acre Tenderfoot Lode. These parcels are largely surrounded by public land or conservation-easement encumbered land.

The Aldridge property is also bisected by U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Road 105.1 from the north to the south (please see the attached USFS map). A USFS administrative 4 x 4 road spurs to the west from USFS Road 105.1 and the USFS limits use of this 4 x 4 road to administrative and non-motorized uses. The administrative 4 x 4 road is not meant to be open to the public. Currently, however, there is a problem with unauthorized motorized use of this 4 x 4 road since it is easily accessible from Road 105.1. This is causing trespass issues on the Tolland Ranch CE property to the west.

When the Toll family granted the CE and trail easement, one of their main concerns and reasons for granting the trail easement was to keep motorized users off of their property and direct public use along one route, rather than throughout this entire private property. Upon acquisition of the Aldridge property, the county will install a gate at the intersection of USFS Road 105.1 and the USFS administrative 4 x 4 road to control access to the 4 x 4 road. The gate will prevent vehicular traffic going west toward the trail, while still allowing non-motorized and bicycle use of the spur road, thereby dramatically improving the trespass issue to the Tolland Ranch CE. The Aldridge property also has a large area that is flat, open, and accessible which makes it useful for staff parking, staging, and emergency operations.

Deal Terms

Parks & Open Space proposes to acquire the property for a total of \$115,000.

Acquisition Summary

Acres	Water Rights	# Building Rights County Will Acquire	Price per Acre	Water Right Value	Total Purchase Price
10	All appurtenant water rights	Two (2)	\$11,500/acre	N/A	\$115,000

- The landowner will retain 0 building rights.

This transaction will be paid for with Conservation Trust Fund dollars.

Mineral Rights

Boulder County will acquire the mineral rights with this property.

A Phase I environmental assessment will be completed, and if the results show any mining hazards on the property, staff will notify the State of Colorado’s Division of Mining, Reclamation and Safety for formal closure of the hazards. After the Phase I assessment has

Attachment: Aldridge 6.14.21 FINAL (5120 : Aldridge Acquisition)

been done, Parks & Open Space will determine whether portions of the property need to be closed to public use.

Oil & Gas Leases

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). The Aldridge property contains many natural features that are worthy of conservation but that are not specified in Boulder County's Comprehensive Plan, since the property is in Gilpin County.

Potential Uses

Like all properties acquired for open space, the property will be managed for an open space use. Currently, the property is vacant land. The property will be closed to public use due to public safety concerns and will be opened after all safety issues are addressed.

Staff Recommendation

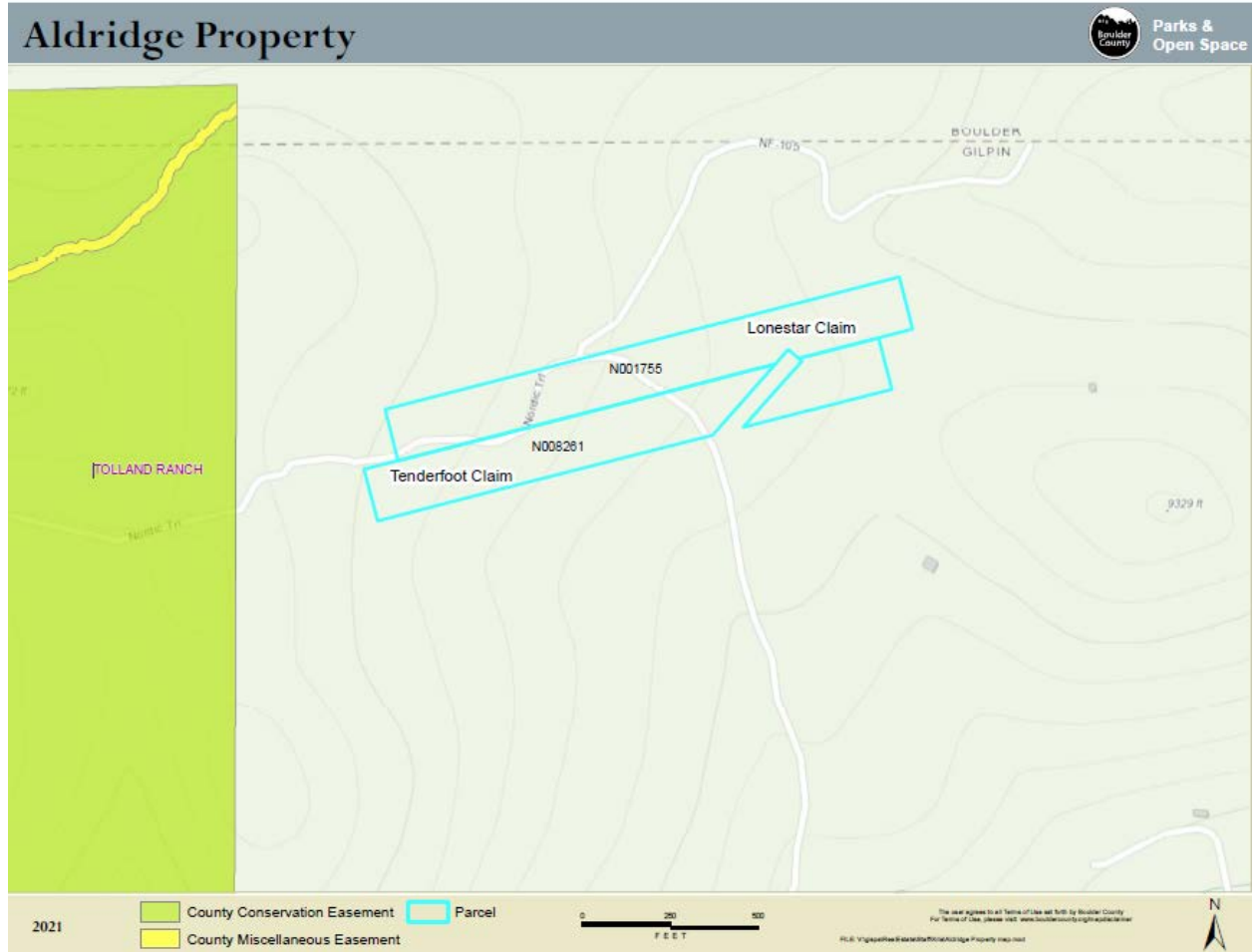
Staff recommends approval. The acquisition of the Aldridge property will allow Parks & Open Space to manage the current trespass situation on the Tolland Ranch CE and county ownership of the property will further facilitate the completion and management of the Tolland Ranch Trail.

POSAC Action Requested

Recommendation to the Boulder County Commissioners to approve the request as described above and by staff at the POSAC meeting.

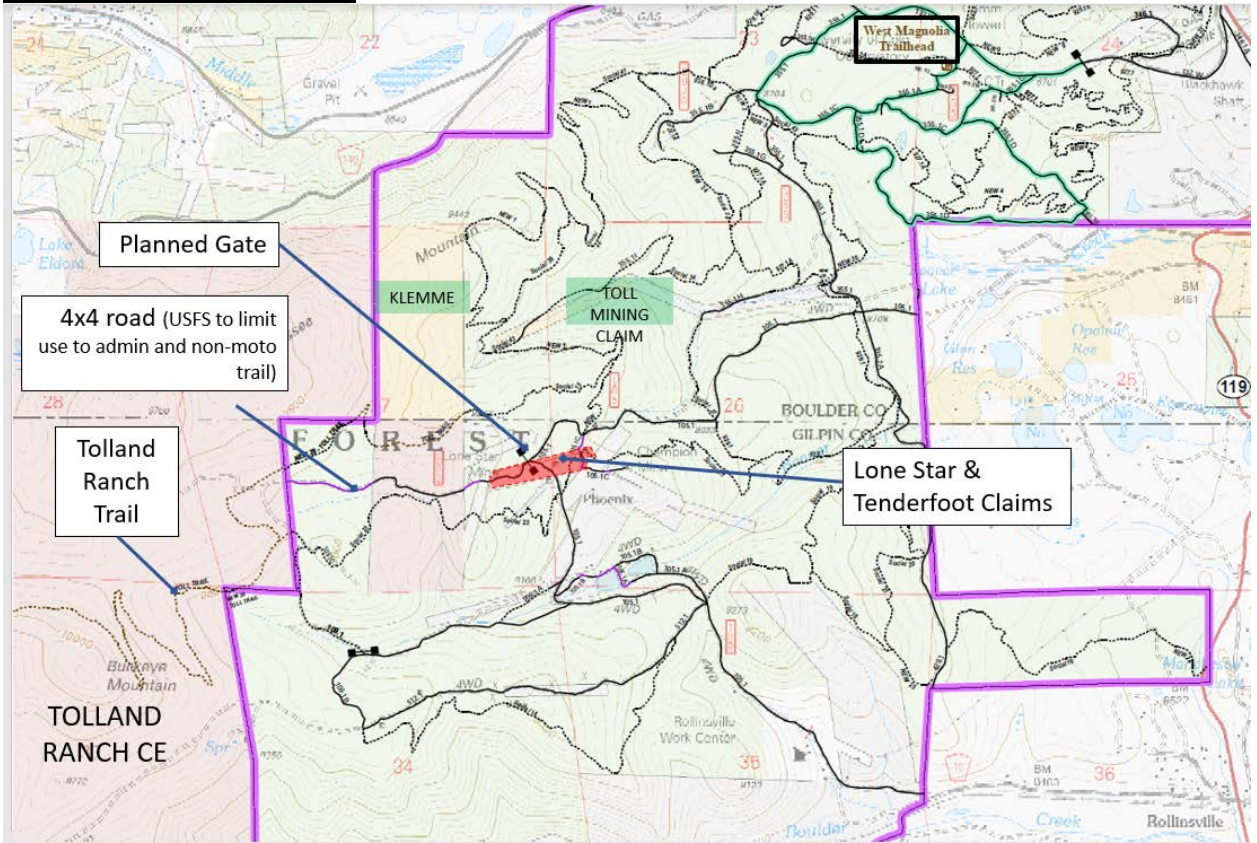
Suggested motion language: I move approval of this acquisition as staff has described.

Close-In Map



Attachment: Aldridge 6.14.21 FINAL (5120 : Aldridge Acquisition)

Tolland Ranch Trail Map



Attachment: Aldridge 6.14.21 FINAL (5120 : Aldridge Acquisition)



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 24, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM:	Mel Stonebraker – Senior Land Officer
AGENDA ITEM:	Holmes Acquisition
ACTION REQUESTED:	Recommendation to the BOCC

Summary

Boulder County proposes to acquire fee title to 137 acres owned by the Holmes family, with associated water rights, for \$5,100,000. The property address is 12096 N. 75th Street and is located on the east side of N. 75th Street about a quarter mile north of the intersection of N. 75th St. and Hygiene Road. Staff supports this acquisition.

Background Information

The Holmes property is a beautiful and surprisingly secluded property which includes a 2,000 square foot residence and 14,000 square feet of agricultural outbuildings. The property has historically been used to grow hay and graze cattle. The property is bordered on two sides by county owned open space—by 66 Investments to the north and by Lohr and Bragg-Spangler on the east.

Deal Terms

It is proposed that the county purchase the Holmes property for \$5,100,000, including the improvements and water rights. The value of the improvements (house and outbuildings) is estimated to be \$600,000. The water rights include 8.33 shares of the Oligarchy Ditch, 5.25 shares of the Longmont Supply Ditch and a Lefthand Water District water tap, and are collectively valued at \$990,000. The two unused development rights and the value of the land represent the remainder of the purchase price.

Acquisition Summary

Acres	Water Rights	# Building Rights County Will Acquire	Land Value	Water Right Value	Improvements Value	Total Purcl Price
137	8.33 shares of the Oligarchy Ditch & 5.25 shares of the Longmont Supply Ditch	3	\$3,510,00 (\$25,600/acre)	\$990,000	\$600,000	\$5,100,000

This transaction will be paid for with open space sales and use taxes, which Boulder County can only use for open space purposes.

Attachment: Holmes_Final (5121 : Holmes Acquisition)

Mineral Rights

Boulder County will acquire the mineral rights with this property.

Oil & Gas Leases

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

Transferable Development Rights

The property qualifies for a total of eight (8) TDRs. The TDR certificates will be issued in the Seller's name, signed by Seller at closing, and turned over to Boulder County as part of the purchase price for the county's purchase of the property. Boulder County will hold these TDRs for future sale, or for future conversion to TDCs for sale.

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: The Holmes property is designated Significant Agricultural Land of National Importance. In addition, the Comp Plan shows wetlands along the northern edge of the property.

Potential Uses

Like all properties acquired for open space, the property will be managed for an open space use. At this time, the property is used for agriculture and is under a farm lease. The property will be closed to public use due to the agricultural lease, unless Parks & Open Space later determines 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 the acquisition of the Holmes property. The acquisition of the Holmes property has been an open space priority for more than 20 years. We have talked with the family many times during that period.

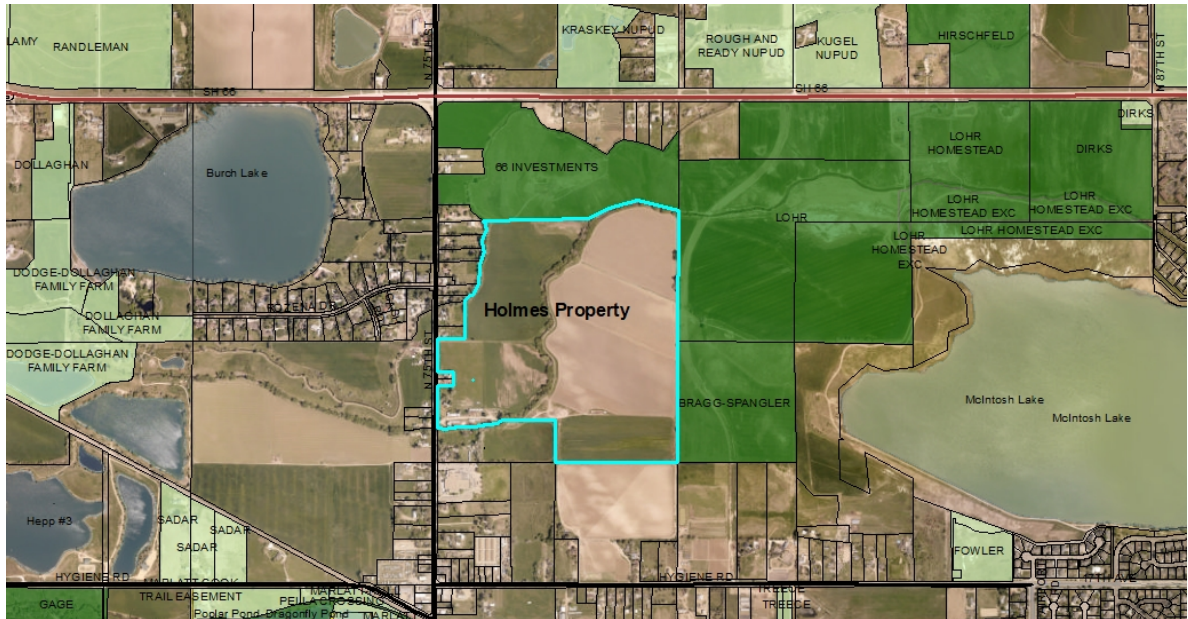
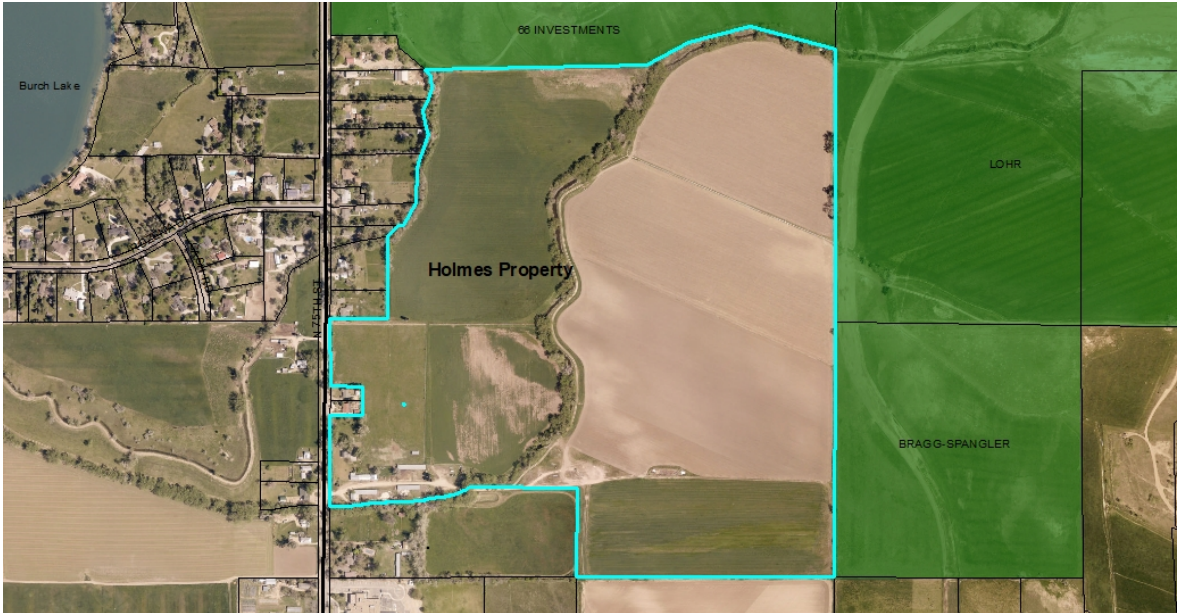
The Holmes property is a productive well irrigated farm. As mentioned above, it is bordered by open space on two sides. However, the full story is that the Holmes property actually borders 325 acres of contiguous open space which was acquired in seven transactions beginning with the first Lohr acquisition in 1985 and ending with the purchase of the Dirks property in 2004.

The irrigation water on the Holmes property is the same irrigation water that is used on much of the adjacent 325 acres of open space, and the Holmes property could easily be included under the same agricultural lease as the adjacent open space properties.

The acquisition of the Holmes property will complete a process that began in 1985 and will create an area of contiguous and interconnected open space totaling 462 acres.

POSAC Action Requested

Recommendation to the Boulder County Commissioners to approve the acquisition of the Holmes property as described above and by staff at the POSAC meeting.



Attachment: Holmes_Final (5121 : Holmes Acquisition)



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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
DATE:	Thursday, June 24, 2021
AGENDA ITEM:	Strategic Plan Overview: GIS & Technology Workgroup
PRESENTERS:	Kristi VanDenBosch, Data Solutions Manager, and Karl Fiderer, Interim Business Analyst
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

Background

In 2019, staff embarked on an internal planning process to ensure that our work reflects strategic priorities and moves us toward our desired future conditions and goals. The result of this work is a strategic plan for every workgroup in the Parks & Open Space Department that sets work priorities and informs each employee’s workplan. Over the course of 2021, work groups will provide an overview of their strategic objectives to POSAC. This month’s presentations will be from the GIS & Technology workgroup, part of the Resource Planning Division.

GIS & Technology Workgroup DFC

A coordinated and enterprise-wide system of data, analysis, technological solutions, and IT services that leads to the achievement of the department's goal of evidence-based decision making.

GIS & Technology Workgroup Goals

1. GIS: Maintain accurate, consistent and up to date data.
2. GIS: Analyze and visualize data resources.
3. GIS: Provide access, usability, and ensure utilization of information.
4. GIS & Tech: Lead and govern an appropriate, innovative, adaptive and sustainable strategy for technological resources.
5. GIS & Tech: Lead the department in use, adoption, and governance of data and technology.
6. GIS: Collaborate with external organizations in support of regional, landscape-level resource stewardship.

GIS & Technology Workgroup Objectives

- Objective 1-1:** GIS: Develop a framework to: understand work group data needs and priorities, create data management plan and process, and to monitor the progress and results once implemented by September 2021.
- Objective 1-2:** GIS: Complete link between Land and Water Database and GIS by December 2021.
- Objective 1-3:** GIS: The Water Resources Data Management Plan will be the pilot project to develop the OLA process, completed by the first quarter of 2021.
- Objective 2-1:** GIS: Assess the capacity and scope of reporting tools within the ESRI GIS software platform by the end of the second quarter 2021.
- Objective 2-2:** GIS: Conduct discovery process and provide recommendation for trails data collection tool or process by September 2021.
- Objective 2-3:** GIS: Provide GIS and technology guidance and expertise in a department wide effort to develop a framework for a landscape level, resilience-based planning

Attachment: GIS-Tech June 2021 FINAL (5122 : Strategic Plan Updates: GIS & Technology Group)

process across Boulder County to map the existing agricultural, recreational, natural, and community resources, including the most critical and at-risk resources, on county open space and adjacent lands in order to better focus our land management activities.

- Objective 3-1:** GIS: Develop a set of standards for color-blind accessible mapping by second quarter 2021.
- Objective 3-2:** GIS: By the end of 2021, staff will develop and begin implementing standards for universal design principles for all digital User Interfaces (UI), including online mapping applications and database UIs.
- Objective 3-3:** GIS: Conduct Alpha Anywhere mobile functionality evaluation and recommendation for departmental use by December 2021.
- Objective 4-1:** Tech: Annually inventory technical equipment and replace proactively.
- A new computer inventory system was established. Using that tool, this year approximately 35 old desktop computers and 25 laptop computers will be replaced. The computers being replaced were all over 5 years old with some 8 years old.
- Objective 4-2:** Tech: Ongoing, provide timely staff support when problems arise. Technical support will be delivered with the highest level of customer service.
- This objective is being accomplished with the hiring of a computer support specialist in May 2021. With two tech support positions now, we can offer extended support hours and coverage for time-off. We have also increased our training and tools to provide centralized remote support, PC management, user management, and software distribution.
- Objective 4-3:** Tech: Sustainable practices will be adopted wherever possible:
- Most desktop computers have been replaced with laptop computers. The laptops are much more energy efficient and have allowed most staff to work from home, which reduces commuting pollution significantly.
- Objective 4-4:** Tech: Ongoing, provide timely support for staff working remotely, with appropriate technology, equipment, and additional training resources.
- Continuing efforts started in 2020 for COVID19 remote work, laptops have replaced desktops and home offices have been equipped. Remote access tools and videoconferencing training have been implemented, and remote IT support tools have been adopted.
 - As the office building reopens, a “hoteling” model of reservable, equipped office spaces are being piloted for staff working part time in the office and part time at home.
 - New conference room equipment to allow hybrid “in-person” group/remote staff meetings.
 - A new IT training system was developed for seasonal staff since they do not receive the FTE IT Orientation. A document library with solutions to the most common IT problems has been developed for staff.
- Objective 4-5:** GIS: Create and implement a GIS Application Strategy to address specialized and appropriate GIS application requirements by the end of 2021.
- Objective 4-6:** GIS: Pending review of the UAS Pilot Project and approval by the BCPOS Management Team, the GIS staff will move forward implementing a permanent UAS program at BCPOS during 2021.
- Objective 4-7:** Tech: New technologies that support the POS Strategic Priorities will be researched, implemented, and supported. New technologies being deployed by Boulder County IT Services will be tested/piloted whenever possible before deployment.

- A discovery project for an Asset Management System to inventory and track condition and maintenance of our assets has been started. This is to address the strategic priority of the maintenance backlog for our Public Amenities and Infrastructure.
- Purchase and deployment of Ranger MDC tablet computers for in-vehicle computing and live digital dispatch system (CAD).

- Objective 5-1:** Tech: A “Data Storage, Sharing, and Protection” policy will be implemented by the end of 2021.
- Guidance for file storage on OneDrive, Teams, network storage (G: drive), FileNet, and SharePoint was created, shared with Management Team, and distributed to staff. Training resources have been created for file sharing and collaboration.
- Objective 5-2:** Tech: Increase IT security in response to increased threats.
- Support the implementation of Multi-Factor Authentication (DUO)
 - Remove unsecured remote access and replacement with BOCO approved technologies.
 - New training resources.
 - Software Request Approval form/policy to protect against malware/ransomware download/installation.
- Objective 5-3:** GIS & Tech: Develop a road map for GIS and Technology governance by the end of 2021.
- Objective 6-1:** GIS: The GIS staff will work with the BCPOS Water Resources staff, City of Boulder OSMP (OSMP), and City of Boulder Utilities (Utilities) to integrate Utilities into the hydrology data use and update process and to update the hydrology data schema as necessary by the end of 2021.
- Objective 6-2:** GIS: The GIS staff will work with City of Boulder OSMP to implement changes to the US National Vegetation Classification (USNVC) hierarchy structure into our respective agency’s existing vegetation mapping data. This change will also be incorporated into mapping efforts moving forward in 2021 or when BCPOS mapping efforts resume.

POSAC Action Requested
Information Only



PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 22, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Ethan Abner, Cara Potter, Jena Van Gerwen, CU Master of the Environment Students
AGENDA ITEM:	Mayhoffer Farm Management Plan Overview
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

Background:

Ethan Abner, Cara Potter, and Jena Van Gerwen are graduate students in CU's Masters of the Environment program (MENV). This is a professional program that requires students to partner with an organization to support their work on a capstone project over the course of about a year. The three were selected by Boulder County Parks & Open Space, as well as the cities of Lafayette and Louisville to work on the Mayhoffer Farm Management Plan.

The agency partners had hoped for many years that Mayhoffer Farm could be preserved as open space. The property's value as a community buffer along with its historic, agricultural and other open space attributes makes it a high priority land acquisition project for the cities of Lafayette and Louisville, as well as Boulder County. The project also serves as an important management plan to community members due to its potential for multiple uses and to allow for more connectivity between areas, such as between Mayhoffer Farm and the adjacent Harney-Lastoka Property. All three agencies have identified this property as an opportunity to improve access for traditionally marginalized and underrepresented communities. This aspect of the plan could serve as a model for incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion into planning and management of other open space properties.

Scope, Goals and Timeline:

The primary objective of this project is to establish a vision and land management plan that balances the property's constraints with the needs of the local community. In addition to extensive stakeholder engagement, the project will require document review, spatial data analysis, survey development, implementation, and synthesis, as well as the drafting, presentation, and completion of final deliverables.

Deliverables

- A fully developed **Land Management Plan** that addresses community needs modeled after and building off of the Harney Lastoka Management Plan.
- An **ArcGIS Story Map** to serve as a public facing representation of the property and plan.

Attachment: Mayhoffer Farm Packet.docx (5123 : Overview of Mayhoffer Farm Management Plan Process)

- A **Community Profile** to inform the survey and interview questions, as well as provide key insights for partners and relevant decision-makers.
- **Professional Presentations** to the appropriate governing bodies to receive approval (Lafayette Open Space Advisory Committee, Louisville Open Space Advisory Board, Boulder County Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee, Lafayette City Council, Louisville City Council, and Boulder County Commissioners).

Timeline

The following serves as a summary of what will be completed over the next seven months.

June

- Project web page
- Extensive stakeholder engagement
- Survey Dissemination
- Finalize Community Profile

July

- Public engagement/surveys
- Draft ArcGIS Story Map
- Draft plan development

August

- Finalize ArcGIS Story Map
- Finalize draft plan and solicit public comment

September

- Present to Open Space Advisory Board/Committees
- Public comment

October

- Integrate input from Advisory Board/Committees
- Prepare for presentations to City Councils and County Commissioners

November

- Presentations to City Council and County Commissioners

December

- Collaboration with partners to determine final steps while students graduate from the MENV program

Action Requested: Information Only

THE MAYHOFFER FARM MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT SUMMARY

6.a

Our project aims to create a compelling vision and comprehensive land management plan for the Mayhoffer Farm property, a high-value land acquisition for Boulder County Parks and Open Space (BCPOS), the City of Lafayette, and the City of Louisville. This open space property has the potential to serve a variety of community needs as an extension of the adjacent Harney-Lastoka property including: preserving a greenspace buffer between the growing cities of Louisville and Lafayette, conserving historic farmland and native wildlife habitat, and providing educational and recreational opportunities for the community, including ADA accessible trails.



In addition to these land-use goals, all three municipalities have identified this property as an opportunity to improve access for traditionally marginalized and underrepresented communities. Engaging with these communities, local leaders, resource specialists, and other key interest groups, and incorporating their input will be a crucial part of our plan development. This aspect of our project could also serve as a model for incorporating diversity, equity and inclusion into planning and management of other open space properties. In addition to extensive stakeholder and community engagement, our project will require extensive document review, spatial data analysis, survey development, implementation, and synthesis, as well as the drafting, presentation, and completion of our final deliverables.

The final deliverables for our project include:

- A Community Profile to inform our survey and interview questions and provide key insights for our partners and relevant decision-makers.
- A fully developed Land Management Plan (modelled after and building off of the Harney-Lastoka plan)
- An ArcGIS Storymap that provides a place-based, public-facing representation of the property and our plan.
- Professional Presentations to the appropriate bodies of approval in Boulder, Louisville, and Lafayette

The primary outcome of this project will be a comprehensive land management plan that balances our partners' goals with the needs of the local community. We aim to create final deliverables that form a strong foundation for future decision-making and action to develop this property into a valuable community resource.

Attachment: Mayhoffer Farm Packet.docx (5123 : Overview of Mayhoffer Farm Management Plan Process)

TEAM BIOS

6.a

Graduate Consultants from the Masters of the Environment (MENV) Program at the University of Colorado Boulder

Ethan Abner



is specializing in Environmental and Natural Resources Policy. Before joining the MENV program, he served as a special assistant in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, supporting the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs and Undersecretary of Defense for Policy. He was responsible for managing the office's policy team, which consisted of six special assistants that provided legislative support and guidance to senior Department of Defense (DoD) officials on congressional matters. Prior to working at DoD, he served as the Military Legislative Assistant to Congressman Tom Rooney (FL-17) where he supported the Congressman's

work on the Appropriations Committee and advised him on matters related to defense, conservation, and environmental policy. Ethan received his bachelor's degree in International Relations from the College of William and Mary in 2016, after serving five years in the United States Marine Corps with the Presidential Helicopter Squadron's security detachment.

Cara Potter



is specializing in Sustainable Food Systems, focusing on sustainable agriculture. Growing up in a rural town in Virginia, she has been close to agriculture and the outdoors her whole life.

Before joining the MENV program, she received her bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Oberlin College in 2018 with a focus on Systems Ecology. Through her academic experience, she became proficient in applying biology, chemistry, geology, and physics to understanding, not only native flora and fauna, but ecological structure and function as well.

After graduating, she held a few positions at the nexus of agriculture and conservation including an internship at the Virginia State Arboretum, a farm apprenticeship in Ohio, and a seasonal Wrangler position at the Medano-Zapata Ranch in Colorado. Through these experiences, she has cultivated a deep connection to agricultural communities in Virginia, Ohio, and now here in Colorado. In the MENV program, she has oriented her career goals towards regenerative ranching and agricultural land management. Her strengths lie in her passion for agriculture, her intimate knowledge of ecological systems, her adaptability, and strong sense of personal responsibility.

In her free time, Cara is likely rooting around in her garden, on a hike somewhere with her dog, Wilson, or riding horses with her trainer in Longmont.

Jena Van Gerwen



is specializing in Sustainable Planning and Management, focusing on equitable outdoor spaces. Her primary objective is to ensure that she contributes to the environment in a meaningful and positive way that fosters a sustainable future, socially and economically.

She is well versed in both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and has the ability to integrate scientific surveys and environmental policies into clear recommendations that benefit both the people and the environment. Jena has applied her GIS skills to record observations in a database

for further analysis on numerous projects, as well as for the City of San Luis Obispo in California. She is also passionate about native flora and took many courses during her undergraduate career at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, such as plant taxonomy, dendrology, and field botany, that make her highly skilled in plant identification.

Jena's skill set is best utilized for projects that incorporate both environmental and social aspects. She has a strong-rooted passion for ensuring equity in all outdoor spaces and hopes to transform these spaces into inclusive environments that encourage diversity. Jena resides in Boulder, CO, and can be found spending her free time hiking in the rockies.

CONTACT INFO

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Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 24, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Mac Kobza, Wildlife Biologist
AGENDA ITEM:	Fish Passage installation on St. Vrain Creek: Niwot Diversion at Golden-Fredstrom Open Space and Longmont Supply Diversion at Western Mobile Open Space
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only

BCPOS staff and our partners have recently constructed two multiple-objective fish passages on the St. Vrain Creek. These projects support the conservation and recovery of several native fish species identified as Species of Special Concern in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan. Colorado Parks & Wildlife identified these locations as high priority for conservation of state listed native fish species that are endangered, threatened or special status. The construction of rock ramps instead of diversion dams now allows native, non-jumping fish the ability to naturally migrate within these newly connected creek areas for the first time in well over a century. Staff anticipate that native fish of concern will migrate upstream to colonize newly connected areas of the creek where they have been absent. Staff also expect that the stream and upland habitat restoration associated with these projects will improve carbon sequestration, increase riparian health and wildlife corridor connectivity and create more habitat resilience for climate change adaptation. These projects complement and improve upon prior 2013 flood restoration projects.

These projects also benefit water users by protecting critical water supply infrastructure and ensuring more reliable and resilient diversion of water for agriculture and other uses. Staff worked closely with water users to design and construct these projects, including water managers and ditch companies, farmers, private landowners and municipal staff. Together with the stakeholders, we designed these projects to improve the longevity and function of in-stream diversion structures, reduce maintenance concerns caused by sediment and erosion, and protect municipal water supply headgates from damage caused by excessive flows and scouring.

Staff are also leveraging these projects as an educational tool by engaging students within the St. Vrain Valley School District and CU Boulder Masters of the Environment. These students are working closely with Parks staff, CPW, USFWS, and Ocean First Institute to tag and track fish using these fish passages and to monitor the environmental conditions.

These projects were supported by generous contributions from Colorado Parks & Wildlife / Colorado Water Conservation Board, US Fish & Wildlife Service National Fish Passage Program, Colorado Trout Unlimited and CDBG-DR/HUD.

Attachment: Fish Passage (5124 : Fish Passage Installation on St. Vrain Creek: Niwot Diversion and Longmont Supply Diversion)