

# MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



## Land Conservation & Stewardship Board Regular Meeting

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*approved 8-0.*

### **FC Moves Active Modes Plan**

**Rachel Ruhlen, Transportation Planner**, FC Moves presented an overview of the draft Active Modes plan which combines and updates the City's 2011 Pedestrian Plan and 2014 Bicycle Plan as well as incorporating micromobility devices such as electric scooters and skateboards. The full draft plan and a summary are available for public review on the project website at [fcgov.com/WalkBikePlan](http://fcgov.com/WalkBikePlan) through August 24, 2022.

**Discussion:** Rachel stressed throughout her presentation that the Active Modes plan is focused on how to safely move people around the city including natural areas; that it is not a trails plan. The focus is increasing safety throughout the bicycle and pedestrian networks as people move around the city on foot or bike to access basic needs like school, work, shopping. Member Cunniff asked about non-capital policy or operational changes needed to successfully implement the plan. Rachel stated that 15-minute access to basic needs is heavily influenced by land use policy and is addressed in the plan. Member Kramer expressed concern about a lack of robust land use planning to address connectivity. Member Piesman voiced the ongoing need for safety. Rachel reminded everyone the focus of the Active Modes Plan is safe and connected networks by creating safe intersections with increased predictability and visibility. Rachel prompted everyone to consider posting comments/feedback about the plan on the interactive website.

**Member Cunniff made a motion that the LCSB make a recommendation to City Council to adopt the Active Modes Plan. Member Elson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 7-0 with member McLane abstaining.**

### **RESTORE Grant Intergovernmental Agreement**

**Bernadette Kuhn, Senior Environmental Planner** presented an overview of the RESTORE Big Game Critical Winter Habitat Range Project. The project will focus on treating cheatgrass (*Bromus* spp.) and feral rye (*Secale cereale*), two annual invasive grasses that outcompete native vegetation food sources for elk and mule deer and create fine fuel loads that increase wildfire risk. These grasses have invaded the native shrublands, grasslands, and ponderosa pine forests at Coyote Ridge and Bobcat Ridge natural areas that serve as important wildlife migration corridors and critical winter range habitat for elk and mule deer.

A \$328,900 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation RESTORE Colorado Program grant was recently awarded to the Larimer County Department of Natural Resources (LCDNR) in partnership with Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW), City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department (FCNAD), Boulder County Parks & Open Space, and Jefferson County Open Space, to control and eradicate invasive annual grasses across 4,385 acres of foothills open spaces. As a partnering agency, FCNAD will receive \$58,500 to treat 780 acres across Coyote Ridge and Bobcat Ridge Natural Areas. FCNAD is contributing \$22,875 in cash match and \$9,562 in-kind match (staff time). To share the funding, Larimer County has requested that the City of Fort Collins enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).

**Discussion:** The Board and staff engaged in extensive discussion about the project with