

Council Agenda Summary

February 2, 2021

Key Staff Contact: Andy McRoberts, Culture, Parks and Recreation Director, 970-350-9425

Title:

Consideration of a resolution to adopt the "Get Outdoors Greeley" Natural Areas and Trails Strategic Plan

Summary:

The 2016 City of Greeley's Parks, Trails, and Open Lands Master Plan, commissioned by the City's Culture, Parks, and Recreation Department, and approved by Greeley City Council (Resolution 38-2016), laid a ten-year vision for a high level strategic direction for both the Parks division and what would come to be the Natural Areas & Trails (NAT) division. To provide a more specific strategic framework for the next five years, NAT recently hired Logan Simpson Design to assist with the development of this strategic plan.

After a thorough review of existing policy framework, a draft plan was formulated. A robust steering committee was then established to assist in reviewing and refining the plan for public review. In November, 2020 NAT also kicked off a month of public engagement, which was conducted in a virtual environment due to COVID-19 safety protocols. NAT staff presented the draft plan to over 12 boards and commissions, and hosted both English and Spanish language virtual public meetings regarding the plan. In addition, the full plan and bilingual executive summaries were available on the City of Greeley's NAT webpage to provide residents an opportunity to comment on the plan.

The final plan presented this evening features several components critical to the City of Greeley and the Natural Areas and Trails division's success through a five-year planning horizon, including:

- Identification of Priority Conservation Areas
- Laying out six goal areas with specific objectives to achieve each goal
- A well-rounded suite of metrics to track success
- A list of prioritized action items

As this work ultimately becomes a sub-set under the City's Comprehensive Plan (Imagine Greeley), it should be noted that there are many components that are complimentary to previously established land policies and priorities. Overarching land use strategies previously adopted, and further acknowledged within this plan, identify legislative authority to require certain land dedications as new development comes in to the City of Greeley. This includes public parks, open lands, trail easements, and areas that are deemed crucial for our community identity that include areas of undeveloped or continued and historical agricultural use as community

separator land. Each development is unique and various types of open lands can be owned/maintained by a variety of methods and tools including whether lands are privately held, HOA or Metro District controlled, or publicly owned.

In this final draft of the plan (attached), a number of minor grammatical and stylistic edits were completed to provide clarification and context for readers as well as for preparation for City Council's consideration. In addition, minor edits and corrections to maps within the plan provide additional clarification (i.e. - 10-minute walk to nature). From previous presentations, no specific edits were requested by City Council, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, or the Planning Commission.

In their regular meeting on January 8, 2021, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board unanimously voted to recommend adoption of the plan to Council. The Planning Commission made the same recommendation in their regular meeting of January 12, 2021. In addition, the Poudre River Trail Corridor, Inc. (PRTCI) board voted unanimously in their regular meeting on December 10, 2020 to recommend to Council adoption of the plan. A letter of support from the PRTCI is included in the packet for reference.

Fiscal Impact:

Does this item create a fiscal impact on the City of Greeley?	No
If yes, what is the initial, or, onetime impact?	There is no initial impact other than through future considerations within the established budget process.
What is the annual impact?	n/a
What fund of the City will provide Funding?	n/a
What is the source of revenue within the fund?	n/a
Is there grant funding for this item?	No
If yes, does this grant require a match?	
Is this grant onetime or ongoing?	
Additional Comments:	

Legal Issues:

There is no legal review necessary for adoption of this Strategic Plan.

Other Issues and Considerations:

None

Applicable Council Priority and Goals:

Image: Reinforce Greeley's vision as an attractive and vibrant community in which to live, learn, work and play.

Infrastructure & Growth: Establish the capital and human infrastructure to support and maintain a safe, competitive, appealing and successful community.

Decision Options:

- 1) Adopt the resolution as presented; or
- 2) Amend the resolution and adopt as amended; or
- 3) Deny the resolution; or
- 4) Continue consideration of the resolution to a date certain.

Council's Recommended Action:

A motion to adopt the Resolution.

Attachments:

Resolution

Get Outdoors Greeley – a Natural Areas and Trails Strategic Plan

Letter of Support - Poudre River Trail Corridor, Inc