



CITY COUNCIL MEMO

DEPARTMENT	PRESENTED BY	DATE
Parks and Rec	Diesel Post	Feb 15, 2022

This is a presentation of the 2021 Annual Review from the Department of Parks and Recreation.



PARKS AND RECREATION ANNUAL REPORT

2021





383 MISSION

To offer park and recreation services which are essential to the health and well-being of those who live, work and play in Salida. We do this through the provision and facilitation of parks, recreation, open spaces, and trails while working cooperatively with other service providers in order to maximize our common resources.

OVERVIEW

2021 was a year of growth for the City of Salida's Parks and Recreation Department. 2021 brought new leagues, new management, new aquatic center features, new parks staff, and new facilities. During 2021, the staff grew programs, facilities, and planning all in a positive direction that will better serve the Salida community. The Master Plan still played an important role in the development of the Department and we are excited to present you with our 2021 annual review.

OBJECTIVE

Our year-end review highlights the accomplishments and steps the Department is taking towards our goals. These goals were set out by the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan and are laid out in detail over the next few pages. These goals include **Organizational Resilience, a Healthy Salida, Quality Infrastructure, Access and Equity, Connection through Recreation, and Community/Collaboration.** We believe that these goals will improve the lives of all who live, work and play in Salida and would like to highlight the progress we've made towards all of those achievements this year.

P.R.O.S.T. MASTER PLAN

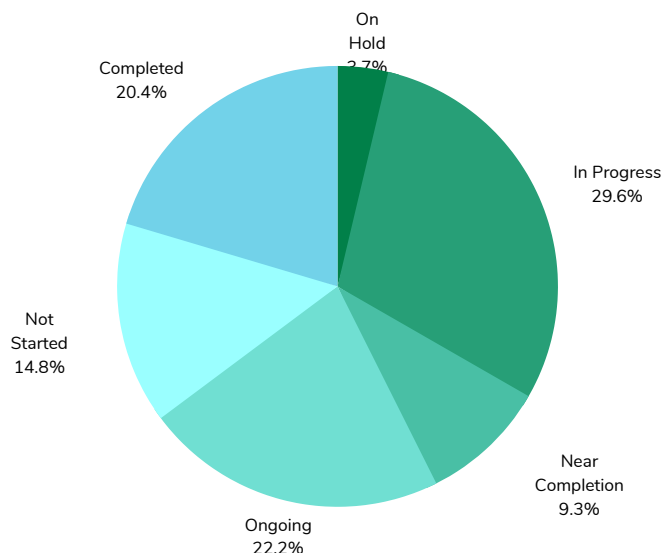
In January of 2020, Salida adopted a new Master Plan for our Parks, Recreation Open Space, and Trails. The City of Salida and the consulting company, 110%, worked together for 8 months to put together this Master Plan that will provide a vision and direction for the future of Salida.

This Master Plan was influenced by four public meetings with over 350 attendees, 12 staff and community focus groups, an online survey with more than 400 responses, and work sessions with Department staff members.

The 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes an analysis of the community's Parks and Recreation system's key issues. It includes the current conditions as well as demographic factors and trends; six recommended operating principles that emerged from the planning process including policy statements; concept plans for the City's two gateway parks, Centennial and Marvin; and a three-year action plan with desired outcomes to create momentum and set the stage for the future.

Essentially, the Master Plan was designed to be a flexible, high-level framework from which the Department can begin to best serve the community's needs and interests and be responsible stewards of resources including physical assets and tax dollars.

Master Plan Progress



Heart of the
Rockies Disc
Golf Course



Open Gym Basketball

ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE

This year, Salida Parks and Recreation continued to work with the financial support model that was introduced in 2020. This model continues to guide the department into a financially stable future by determining pricing for programming continues the department's commitment to responsibly spending sales tax dollars.

The PROST board has continued to drive and direct the Department through monthly meetings and constituent input.

In 2021, the commitment to staff has continued to increase the resiliency of the department. The Parks Division added **2 new full-time employees** to help maintain the ever-increasing assets of the department and the Recreation Division reorganized and added positions to maintain efficiency and effectiveness.

STAFF

Parks and Recreation Director:
Mike "Diesel" Post

Parks Facilities Manager:
Nate Mohrmann

Recreation and Aquatics Manager:
Anissa Caiazza

Recreation Supervisor:
Ryan Wiegman

Aquatics Supervisor:
Jennifer Davisson

Facilities Supervisor:
David Daley

Parks Supervisor:
Zack Ryerson

Aquatic Center Admin Coordinator:
Cat Hileman

Head Lifeguard:
Pam Denison

Recreation Assitant:
Tina Scardina

Parks Mechanic:
Dale Williams

Parks and Municipal Worker:
Lynn Giles

Parks and Municipal Worker:
Danial Saul

Parks and Municipal Worker:
Tyler McNease

Parks and Municipal Worker:
Alex Wiser



Anissa Caiazza



Alex Wiser



Tina Scardina

A HEALTHY SALIDA

With the new organizational structure in place, the Parks and Recreation Department stepped up to provide support for Salidans to recreate with many different healthy offerings.

The Recreation Division focused on creating opportunities for locals to enjoy Salida. In 2021, **youth softball** and **adult coed softball** were added to the Divisions offerings along with more **Camp Friday Programming**. Recreation also helped to create **river safety programs** and other **summer programs to increase the well-being of all Salidans**.

Our Parks crew has spent 2021 improving current assets and maintaining the city's current parks for people to enjoy. Under the guidance of the new Parks Manager, and more staffing, the parks saw a greater level of attention making sure that they were clean and well kept for everyone to use. **Mowing, trash collection, field upgrades** at Marvin Park ball fields, and other maintenance were performed to a high standard that we are excited to continue into the future.



Banana Belt Mountain Bike Race

QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE



Infrastructure improvements have continued to be made in the parks and Parks and Recreation Department Facilities throughout 2021. Most notably, the **Centennial Park Skate Park** was completed in September and a grand opening was held.

The Aquatic Center also continued to see improvements, including **new signage, a redesigned front entryway, and an effluent water construction project.**

Other notable projects that were completed or started during 2021 include:

- **The completion of the Sonia Walter Memorial Community Garden**
- **2 Sand Volleyball Courts in Centennial Park**
- **18 Hole Disc Golf Course**
- **Marvin Park Baseball and Softball Field Improvements; scoreboards and infield work**
- **Bearsaver trash cans installed around downtown.**
- **River Trail Repairs**
- **Centennial Park utility upgrades**

ACCESS AND SOCIAL EQUITY

Tree canopy is an indicator of social equity according to our 2020 Recreation Plan. In an effort to increase our coverage, we **planted 32 trees** this spring that the parks crew spread out across town. In addition to the trees, the Parks division helped create more community gardening space at the Toubert building in **Sonia's Memorial Garden**. The Recreation Department also started partnering with other **local community gardens** to improve access to fresh vegetables.

Social Equity and Access are very important aspects of Parks and Recreation and the City of Salida Parks and Recreation Department will continue to work on and **improve access to parks and programming into the future.**



Salida Hot Springs Aquatics Center

CONNECTION THROUGH RECREATION

As 2021 progressed, the community was able to start reconnecting. Summer saw the return of **events in Riverside Park**, with an expanded **FIBArk** compared to last year's event, as well as other program offerings that allowed individuals to enjoy each other's company through recreation. This year's **kickball league** almost doubled in growth of last year's participants and the Recreation team was able to provide improved experiences through the improved fields, **trained and paid referees**, and additional equipment.

While the enhanced leagues and programs helped people connect, Salida parks and recreation also was able to host more events for the public to enjoy. This year's **New Year's Day 5k, FIBArk landraces, Underwater Easter Egg Hunt, Touch-a-Truck, and Salida Bike Fest** all saw **increases in participation**. All of these events allowed people to start reconnecting after the most intense part of the COVID-19 crisis and the public took full advantage of that.

The city also continued to improve outreach through increased social media information, more local advertising, and a summer and winter community resource guide.



COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

This year the department spent time with a number of different community organizations to improve the offerings of different leagues in town. The City helped support **Youth Wrestling, Youth Baseball, Youth Basketball, Youth Football, Adult Volleyball, and FIBArk**, to name a few.

The city also worked on projects in collaboration with local community organizations like **Salida-area Parks Open-Space and Trails, Salida Mountain Trails, GARNA, Guidestone, the Salida School District, Colorado Mountain College, Chaffee County Fair Grounds, The Mountain Mail**, and a variety of other key community partners.

All of the various partners that worked with Salida Parks and Recreation have been featured in our community resource guide for the public to learn about all of the wonderful things that are going on in the Salida community.



River Safety Programming



Introduction to Kayaking

WHO'S INVOLVED?

Partners

- Monarch Mountain
- GARNA
- Guidestone
- SPOT
- SMT
- Salida Boys and Girls Club
- Absolute Bikes
- Subculture Cyclery
- Chaffee County Fairgrounds
- Salida School District
- Peak to Peak Pickleball Club
- Salida Tennis Club
- Highside Bar and Grill
- Oveja Negra
- Colorado Mountain Riders
- FIBArk
- Waste Management
- Salida Bike Co.
- Anytime Fitness
- Chaffee County Search and Rescue South
- Colorado Mountain College
- Friends of Salida Skate Parks
- Chaffee County Amateur Hockey Association
- Salida Youth Basketball Association
- Salida Youth Football Association
- Babe Ruth Baseball Association
- Friends of Salida Skate Parks

Volunteers

Over 50 volunteers helped to make all of Salida Parks and Recreations Events, Programs and Parks Maintenance possible. Thank you all for contributing to improve the City of Salida for all those who live here and visit!

PROST Advisory Board

Daryl Huschka
Kristy Falcon
Jessica Downing
Amy Reed
Lisa DeYoung
Connor Maher
Adam Martinez
Rob White

BY THE NUMBERS

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to grow and expand to provide services for the community. The numbers below reflect the work that we have been putting into making Salida a better place for everyone!

\$36,616

Revenue from recreation programs and events

150%

More leagues than 2020

800

Recreation Department event participants

806

Hours mowing

1,415

Instagram followers

3,821

Facebook followers

200%

Increase in facilities managed

\$1,701,500

In capitol projects managed

1

New park built

360

Acres of open space

17

Parks manged and maintained

32

Trees planted

