

**SUMMIT COUNTY
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

September 1, 2021
Meeting Held by Zoom Conference

OSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Hunt, Laura Rossetter, Turk Montepare, Peter Grosshuesch, John Taylor, Art Hardin, Jeff Leigh, , John Uban, Paul Semmer, Bruce Fitch, Todd Rankin

OSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Craig, Bob Gregory

STAFF PRESENT: Allison Mitchell, Jim Curnutte

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT: Anne Bergtson – USFS, Pete Swenson – Town of Frisco
Danelle Co k– Town of Silverthorne, Anne Lowe – Town of Breckenridge

Call to Order: Turk Montepare called the meeting of the Summit County Open Space Advisory Council to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Approval of Summary Report: The summary report was approved as submitted.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion of Open Space Management Activities:

Forest Service Update

The Forest Service has filled the vacant Land Management staff position. Cindy Ebbert will be the new staff member and will be our OSAC representative. There is no specific start date yet, but the hope is Cindy will start in early October.

Golden Horseshoe

Public scoping will occur in mid-September. Anne Bergstson from the Forest Service mentioned there would be a website, press release, and some targeted mailing letters to announce the project.

Transit to Trails

OSAC members voiced concerns about the “yo yo” effect where visitors will make loops by riding the bus multiple times to access a certain trail. This problem has already occurred in Aspen Alley and some backcountry ski areas. Some thoughts about this pilot program included considering winter recreation, leaving off certain trails, and promoting the Highway 9 corridor.

Master Plan Update

OST staff installed 10 survey kiosks and posted 35 posters with QR codes so visitors can take the visitor use survey. This survey will help staff understand what activities are occurring on certain trails, how people are accessing these trails, and why they are coming to certain locations.

OST staff are also in the process of creating the visioning questionnaire, which will help answer what the community wants from the Department and what they see for the future of open space in the County. OSAC members commented that the community may not know the land jurisdiction boundaries, so it will be important to ask questions specific about the Department as well as collect feedback about what people want for the open space and trail systems throughout the County. The goal of the visioning questionnaire is to collect applicable and tangible information while balancing the number of questions we ask.

OST staff will continue to collect visitor data and engage the public. Staff will then bring the results to the OSAC and the OSAC members will help staff interpret the vision for the community. There was mention of a smaller subcommittee who could meet independently from the monthly OSAC meetings to discuss the Master Plan specifically.

Staff Updates

Brian Lorch resigned from the Open Space and Trails Director position in early August; however, he is under contract for the rest of the year to help with certain projects. His position is currently advertised. In addition, Jim Curnutte is stepping down from his current Community Development Director position. He will move into the Planning Director position later this fall. His position will also be advertised on the County website soon.

Executive Session to Discuss Acquisition of Real Property Interests: A motion was made to enter into Executive Session, and it was seconded. OSAC entered into Executive Session at 6:27pm. A motion was made to exit Executive Session and seconded. OSAC leaves Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Mitchell

Allison Mitchell, Open Space and Trails Resource Specialist