



Eva J. Henry - District #1
Charles "Chaz" Tedesco - District #2
Emma Pinter - District #3
Steve O'Dorisio - District #4
Lynn Baca - District #5

**STUDY SESSION AGENDA
TUESDAY
August 3, 2021**

**ADAMS COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM BRANTNER GULCH B**

ALL TIMES LISTED ON THIS AGENDA ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

11:15 A.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Nancy Duncan / Allison Slife, CliftonLarsonAllen
	ITEM:	Presentation of the 2020 Annual Financial Report to the Adams County Board of County Commissioners
11:45 A.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Eddie Valdez / Sue Bozinovski / Dennette Burns
	ITEM:	Public Health Emergency (PHE) Staffing Plan
12:15 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Jenni Grafton / Ryan Nalty / Byron Fanning / Mike Holub / Marc Pedrucci / Jen Rutter / Nick Eagleson / Aaron Clark
	ITEM:	Parks and Open Space Zone Districts Code Amendment
12:45 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Jenni Grafton / Ryan Nalty / Jen Rutter / Nick Eagleson / Christy Fitch
	ITEM:	Proposed Sign Code Changes
1:15 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Alisha Reis / Mike Holub
	ITEM:	Sustainability 2030 Plan Update
2:15 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Raymond Gonzales
	ITEM:	Administrative Item Review / Commissioners Communication
2:45 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Heidi Miller
	ITEM:	Executive Session Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) for the Purpose of Receiving Legal Advice Regarding WQCC Rulings

(AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS OF PUBLIC BUSINESS WHICH MAY ARISE)

AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY

DATE OF STUDY SESSION: August 3, 2021
SUBJECT: Presentation of the 2020 Annual Financial Report to the Adams County Board of County Commissioners
OFFICE/DEPARTMENT: Budget & Finance Department
CONTACT: Nancy Duncan, Budget & Finance Director
FINACIAL IMPACT: No Financial Impact
SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST: Informational Only
DIRECTION NEEDED: Informational Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION: No Action Required

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Local Governments including Adams County are required by C.R.S. 29-1-603 to have an annual audit performed on the financial statements. The County's financings also require annual audits as continuing disclosure.

The County's annual audit includes two primary components in the Annual Financial Report (AFR). The Financial Section includes the County's Financial Statements. The Compliance Section includes the Single Audit which was conducted in conformity with the provision of the Single Audit Act of 1987, the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, and Title 2 U.S. Code of Regulation Part 200. The County's audit firm gives opinions related to these items.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLC has been selected as the County's External Auditor.

The Annual Financial Report is available at:
<http://www.adcogov.org/general-accounting>



Adams County, Colorado

Annual Financial Report & Single Audit

Fiscal Year 2020

Presentation of Results to the Board of County Commissioners

August 3, 2021

WEALTH ADVISORY | OUTSOURCING | AUDIT, TAX, AND CONSULTING

Investment advisory services are offered through CliftonLarsonAllen Wealth Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor

Fiscal Year 2020 Audit Results Presentation

Agenda

- Responsibilities under US Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)
- Scope of Audit
- Presentation of the Financial Statements, Financial Reports, Compliance Reports
- Required Communications
- Questions



Responsibilities under US Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)

- Auditors are responsible for:
 - Expressing opinions on whether financial statements are in conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (US GAAP) in all material respects
 - Expressing opinions only over information identified in our report. Other information reviewed, but not subjected to testing
 - Performing audit in accordance with required auditing standards
 - Communication of significant matters related to audit



Responsibilities Under GAAS (continued)

- An Audit in accordance with GAAS:
 - Does not relieve management of responsibilities.
 - Includes consideration of internal control as a basis for audit procedures, but not to opine on effectiveness of internal controls.



Scope of the Audit

- Financial Statement Audit – Annual Financial Report
- Single Audit
 - Major programs tested – 5 programs:
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (10.551, 10.561)
 - Child Support Enforcement (93.563)
 - Child Care and Development Fund Cluster (93.575, 93.596)
 - Medicaid Cluster (93.778)
 - Coronavirus Relief Fund (21.019)
- County qualified as a low-risk auditee
- Findings and Recommendations



Financial Statements, Financial and Compliance Reports

Independent Auditors' Report (opinion)– unmodified

Statement of Net Position

Statement of Activities

Fund Financial Statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

Required Supplementary Information

Supplementary Statements and Schedules

Financial Statements, Financial and Compliance Reports (continued)

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA)

Notes to the SEFA

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs



Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs – included in Annual Report

- No 2020 Financial Statement Findings
- One 2020 Major Federal Programs Finding related to the Single Audit (a significant deficiency)
 - 2020 – 001 Child Care and Development Fund Program case file review relating to the County's internal control over eligibility

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings – included in Annual Financial Report

- No 2019 Financial Statement Findings
- One 2019 Major Federal Program Finding related to the Single Audit for Temporary Assistance to Need Families (2019 – 001). The finding pertained to internal control over eligibility and was resolved for the year ending December 31, 2020.



Management Letter – separate letter

- 2020 deficiencies in internal control other than significant deficiencies and material weaknesses and best practice recommendations:
 - Reconciliations between Treasury Uploads and County's General Ledger
 - Activity was not being posted to the Treasurer's Office general ledger in a timely manner. In addition, activity was frequently voided and re-entered or duplicated in the Treasurer's general ledger.
 - Consideration of New Lease Standard GASB 87, *Leases*
 - This new leasing standard will fundamentally change lease recognition, measurement, and related disclosures for both government lessees and lessors. Your entity will be required to adopt the standard for the year ending December 31, 2022.



Required Communications to BOCC and management – separate letter

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

- Accounting Policies – Adoption of GASB 88 (Debt Disclosures) and GASB 97 (Component Unit Criteria) in 2020
- Accounting Estimates
- Financial Statement Disclosures

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit – None

Uncorrected Misstatements – None

Corrected Misstatements – 4 adjustments recorded



Required Communications to BOCC and management (continued)

Disagreements with Management – None

Management Representations

Management Consultations with other Independent Accountants
- None

Significant Issues Discussed with Management Prior to
Engagement - None

Other Audit Findings or Issues – Previously discussed



New Accounting Standard for FY20 – GASB 88 (Debt Disclosures) & GASB 97 (Component Unit Criteria)

- As of 12/31/2020
 - GASB 88 – Note 8 of the Annual Financial Report updated to include section on direct borrowings and direct placements
 - GASB 97 – This statement was evaluated and deemed to have no impact on the County.

Questions?



Contact Information

Allison Slife, CPA
Principal, State & Local Government
303-439-6018
Allison.Slife@CLAconnect.com

Ryan Fiore, CPA
Senior, State & Local Government
303-265-7840
Ryan.Fiore@CLAconnect.com



CLAconnect.com



WEALTH ADVISORY | OUTSOURCING | AUDIT, TAX, AND CONSULTING

Investment advisory services are offered through CliftonLarsonAllen Wealth Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor



Create Opportunities

CLA exists to
create opportunities —
for our clients, our people,
and our communities.

WEALTH ADVISORY | OUTSOURCING
AUDIT, TAX, AND CONSULTING

Investment advisory services are offered through CliftonLarsonAllen
Wealth Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor



STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY

DATE OF STUDY SESSION: August 3, 2021
SUBJECT: Public Health Emergency (PHE) Staffing Plan
OFFICE/DEPARTMENT: Human Services Department, Economic Security & Aging Services, Community Support Services
CONTACT: Sue Bozinovski, Dennette Burns, Jeremy Sawyer & Robert M. Clayton
FINANCIAL IMPACT: Funding Availability: \$1,543,673.40
SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST: Approval for 15 project-designated FTE
DIRECTION NEEDED: None at this time
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to hire 15 project-designated FTE using 100% COVID-relief funding (no county match is required), so that we may proceed with recruitment of these positions before the 9/30/2021 deadline.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- At the beginning of the pandemic, continuous eligibility for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) was implemented with an understanding that members would not be disenrolled due to changes in circumstances until the federal government terminated the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), which is tentatively scheduled to end December 31, 2021.
- In April 2021, Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) awarded nearly \$12 million in county administration funding to address resource needs resulting from the December 2021 end of the PHE.
- Adams County received \$1,543,673.40 funds to manage the workload related to COVID-19 and the PHE.
- Our staffing plan (attached) is to hire up to 9 Community Support Specialist I (CSSI) positions (7 processing and 2 Long Term Care), 1 CSS Supervisor position, 1 Administrative Assistant position, and 4 Community Support Associate (CSA) positions (2 for Eligibility Call Center and 2 for the Start Here Desk at HSC) for a total of 15 positions).
- The funds must be used between 7/1/2021-6/30/2022.
- The hiring process needs to be completed, or have other necessary staffing supports in place, no later than September 30, 2021.

County Administration Funding 2021-2022

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)

Adams County Staffing Plan

Key Initiative: At the beginning of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Continuous Coverage (Continuous Eligibility) Performance Incentive was implemented with an understanding that members would not be disenrolled due to changes in circumstances until the federal government terminated the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), which was tentatively scheduled for December 31, 2021.

Adams County's Mission: To responsibly serve the Adams County community with integrity and innovation and focus on those enrolled in vulnerable eligibility groups.

Adams County's Goals:

- Manage funding for Medical Assistance (MA) workload related to the COVID-19 PHE only.
- Ensure PHE MA RRR workload is complete by June 20, 2022.

Description: As of May 5, 2021 Adams County has a projected workload of over 50,476 members listed on the COVID Locked-In Report. Members will be locked-in to coverage because of the PHE through December 31, 2021. Adams County has \$1,543,673.40 available to be used 7/1/2021-6/30/2022.

Staffing Plan:

Is your county hiring new staff, if yes specify -

- # of new processing staff to be hired: Hire 5-7 new processing team members
- # of new LTSS processing staff to be hired: Hire 1-2 LTSS processing team members
- # of new appeals staff to be hired: Zero (0). Appeals will be handled by team members on a rotation basis.
- # of new administrative support staff to be hired: Hire one (1) team member
- # of other staff to be hired
 - Include role/purpose:
 - Hire one temporary supervisor to oversee this project, manage work through data, pull report daily, assign & monitor work, track progress, provide support & answer questions.
 - 4 Community Support Associates (CSAs)
 - 2 CSAs for the Start Here Desk (SHD)
 - The SHD is the front desk of the Human Services lobby. The SHD team members are our front-facing, on-site, customer service associates. They work directly with the public answering basic eligibility questions or sending requests to eligibility technicians to review cases based on customer inquiries/feedback. With the likely significant increase in customer volume at the Human Service building following the conclusion of the PHE and MA locked-in status, these 2 CSAs will

assist in answering customer questions pertaining to MA inquiries at the Human Services building. These positions will not determine eligibility but will assist in customer service initiatives on-site. Depending on the increase of customer volume after the PHE, we may request additional team members for the SHD at a future date.

- 2 CSAs for the Eligibility Call Center (CC)
 - The CC is the main point of contact via phone for Human Services public assistance customers. The CC will likely experience a significant increase in customer call volume at the end of the PHE and MA locked-in status. These 2 CSAs will assist the CC in answering the phones, answering customer questions, and sending requests to eligibility technicians to review specific cases (if needed) based on customer inquiries/feedback. These positions will not determine eligibility but will assist in customer service initiatives on the phone with the CC. Depending on the increase of customer volume after the PHE, we may request additional team members for the CC at a future date.
- What is your timeline for hiring? Recruiting will start in June with a hiring date in July.
- What considerations have been put in place for Staff Development Center (SDC) and county-specific training? SDC will be an option if in-house training is not available. Adams County will utilize our two trainers. Training will be done over 14 days and consist of: CBMS webinars, Building Foundations, Web based training, data entry, Expanding Foundations (MAGI), working on practice cases, internal business processes, and training LIVE CBMS.
 - Example: if hiring multiple staff, will hiring and training be phased in? Or will you have on cohort? Hiring and training will not be phased in, but as a team member cohort.
- If the county is hiring generalists that work multiple programs, how will the county pay for the non-MA portion of the staff?
 - Cost allocation requirements have not been rescinded by the federal government; therefore, only Medical Assistance specific costs can be reimbursed. Team members that work multiple programs will be asked to keep a log to track hours worked for Medical Assistance and other programs.

If no?

- What staffing plans are you putting in place to manage the PHE workload? Are you:
 - Using the Inter-County Workforce Initiative? Yes, Adams County currently has hired one team member and working on hiring others.
 - Contracting with other county workers? No, Adams County will not be contracting with other county workers.
 - Mandating Overtime? No, we do not anticipate mandating overtime. Overtime will be offered to team members if they'd like to work on the project.
 - Re-allocating existing positions to PHE-only work
 - Are you hiring new staff to cover these types of reallocations? We have not determined if existing team members will be re-allocated to work

PHE-only work. This is an option and yes, new staff would be hired to cover the work.

- Other innovative staffing solutions?
 - Specify Adams County will utilize existing resources and team members as needed to work the PHE report. Lead workers may be pulled from existing work and assigned to work the report 1-2 days per month, work may be assigned, hire team members to cover the call center and lobby to manage increased volume in walk-ins and calls once the PHE has ended, assign the report to existing team members on a rotation basis to ensure the report is worked daily.
- If relying solely on overtime, how will you ensure that staff attrition is not impacted? What supports will be put in place for staff working high-levels of overtime? Adams County will not rely solely on overtime to work the report. Overtime will not be mandated, but offered as an option, preventing burn-out. Currently, we limit overtime to up to 20 hours per week to ensure work-life balance.
- The following data points are required for each Staffing Plan:
 - Describe what data was used, in addition to the latest COVID locked-in percentage data by county provided by HCPF, for the county to base the Staffing Plan on? The most current data for Adams County from COVID locked-in report was pulled and increased by 20%, anticipating the report will continue to grow, or 50,476 current members x 20% = 60,471.
 - Describe how the county's latest call center metrics were used to determine the customer service needs for the Staffing Plan data
 - The data must include the following specific call center metrics:
 - Average Speed to Answer (ASA)
 - Average Abandonment Rate
 - One Call Resolution
 - Daily Call Demand
 - Daily Calls Handled
 - Below is a table of the 2021 YTD call center (CC) metrics. The call center does not track a "one call resolution" and therefore data for this field is omitted. Our CC uses a multi-tiered platform, which includes a Tier 1 (basic questions), Tier 2 (escalations or requires in-depth case review), Spanish (basic, escalations, and in-depth case review in Spanish), and LTC (dedicated line for Long-term Care customers).

Year to date (as of 5/11/21)	Tier 1	Tier 2	Spanish	LTC
Average Speed to Answer (ASA)	1:13	15:08	17:51	24:54:00
Average Abandonment Rate	3.33%	19.27%	25.26%	38.71%
One Call Resolution	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Call Demand	38955	27053	5209	1240
Total Call Handled	37385	21652	3889	759
Daily Call Demand	432.83	300.59	57.88	13.78
Daily Calls Handled	415.39	240.58	43.21	8.43

- At this time, we track the general reason for each call. The customer may have multiple questions during their call, but only the primary question is tracked. 2021 YTD, approximately 12.1% of calls handled had a primary question related to MA. Using 12.1% of our calls handled, we can determine that approximately 2 CC team members are required daily to handle calls with the primary question relating to MA. Therefore, we are requesting 2 CSA team members be hired for the Call Center based on current data. It is very likely that after the PHE ends, the percentage of calls regarding MA will substantially increase. If this is the case and the data supports the increase, we may request additional team members be hired on the CC to help support the increased call volume at that time.

Things to consider:

- Equipment, space to work, job description (hearing person)
- Who will supervise Call Center & SHD
- Reassign individuals into roles, reassign a trainer & QA
- Prior experience with MA
- How do we backfill positions?
- When will funding end?



STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY

DATE OF STUDY SESSION: August 3, 2021
SUBJECT: Parks and Open Space Zone Districts Code Amendment
OFFICE/DEPARTMENT: Community and Economic Development
CONTACT: Nick Eagleson, Senior Strategic Planner
FINACIAL IMPACT: None
SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST: None
DIRECTION NEEDED: Provide input on the implementation and draft portion of the Parks and Open Space Code Amendments
RECOMMENDED ACTION: n/a

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Project Purpose
- Work completed to date
- Overview of proposed code changes
- Final steps

ADAMS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CODES

Board of County Commissioners Study Session

August 3, 2021

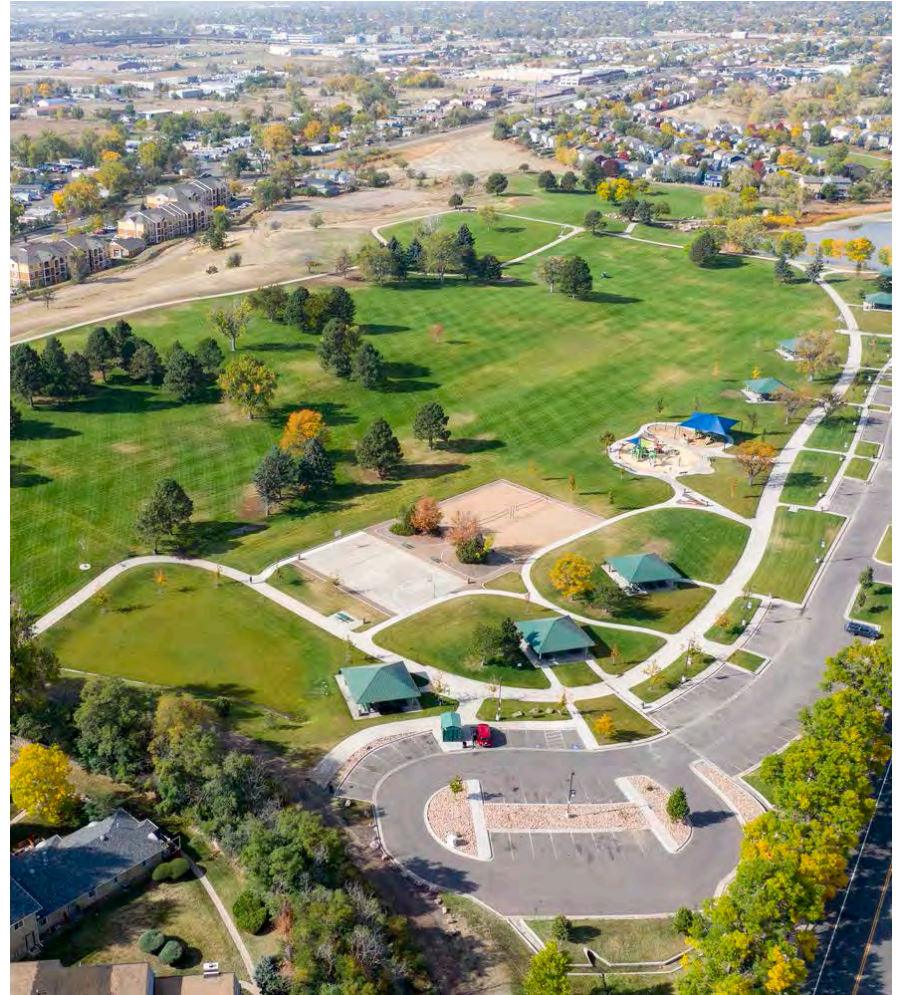


PREPARED BY

DESIGNWORKSHOP

Project Purpose

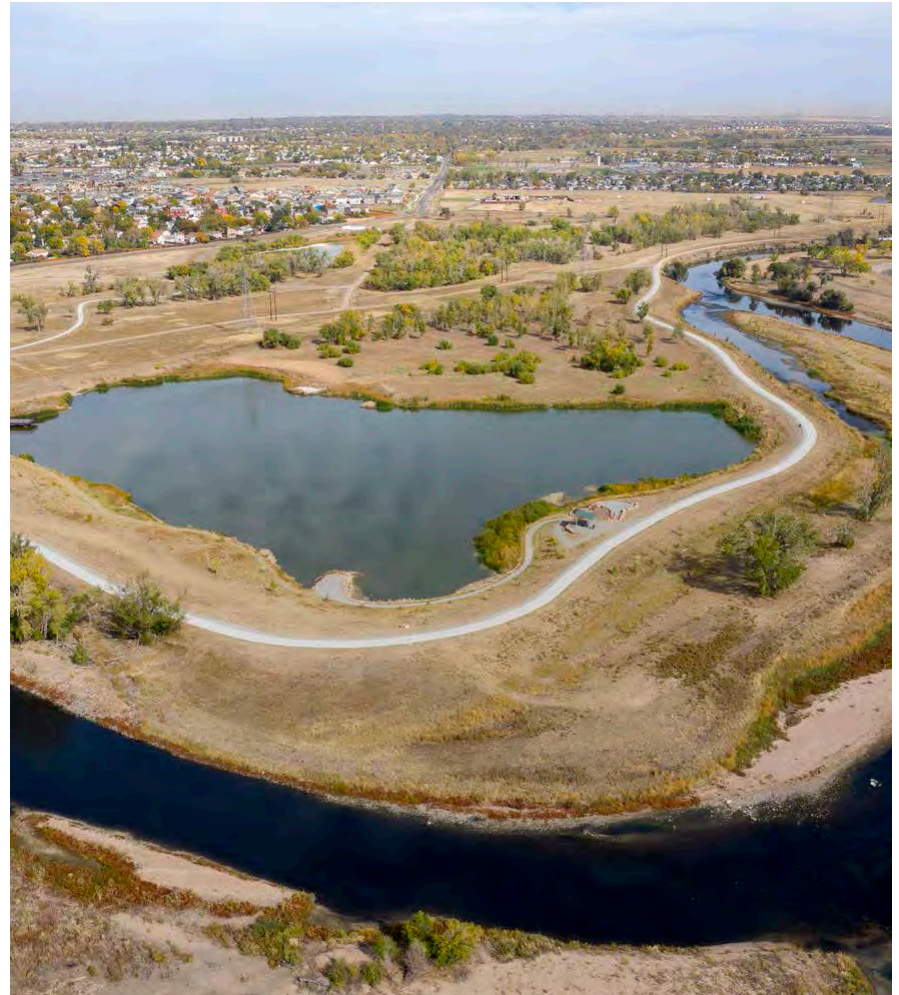
- Review the current and future uses in parks and open spaces in Adams County
- Develop new zone district regulations to better address those land uses



Rotella Park

Work Completed to Date

- Reviewed Best Practices:
 - Boulder
 - Arapahoe
 - Denver
- Drafts:
 - New zoning Categories
 - New Dimension table/ use tables
- Conducted interviews with key stakeholders
 - Adams County Special Events Staff
 - Parks & Rec Districts
 - Splendid Valley District Plan Commission
 - Adams County Education Consortium (ACEC)

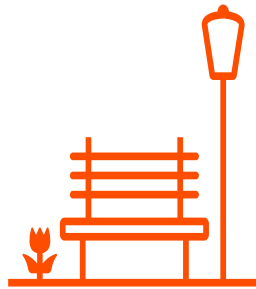


Pelican Ponds

Summary of Interview Topics



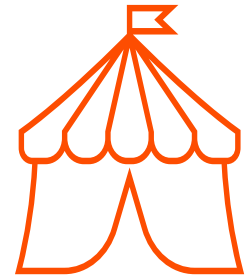
Create Parks and
Open Space Zone
Districts



Update Parks
Performance
Criteria



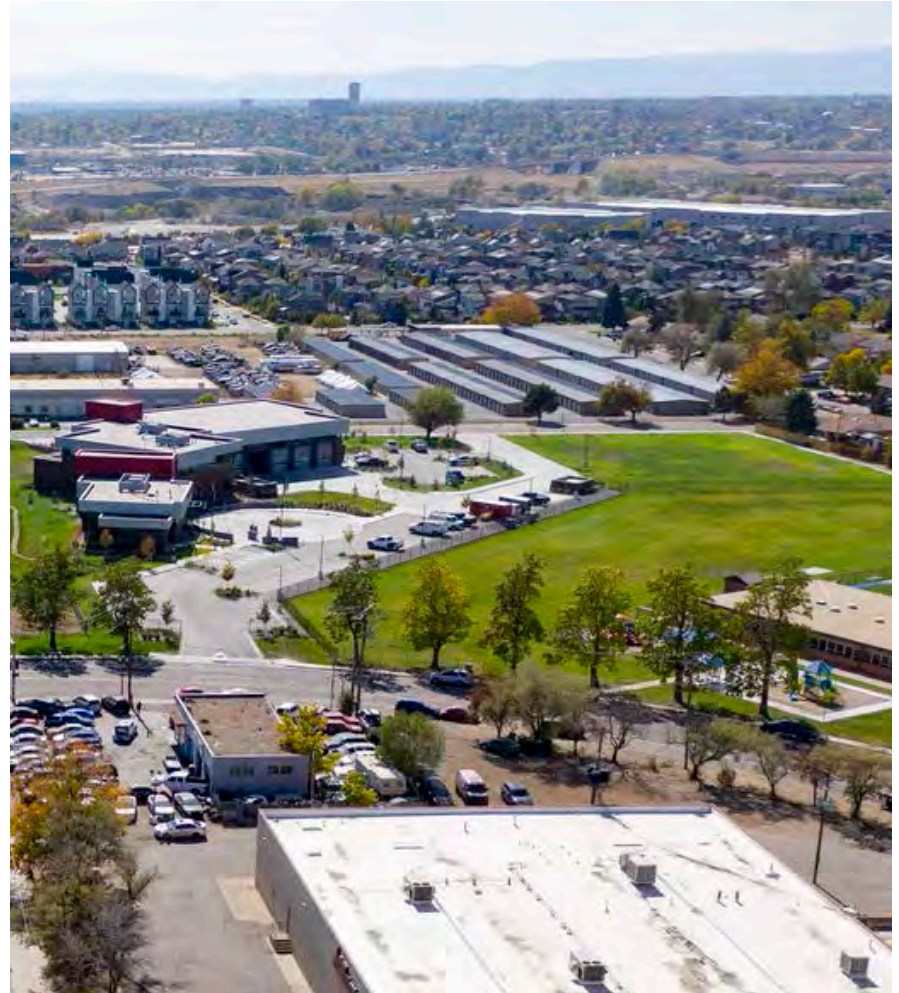
Update Agriculture
Performance
Criteria



Address Temporary
and Special Uses
through the Parks
Zone Districts

Summary of Stakeholder Interviews

- Address different types of spaces (rural versus urban)
- Ensure existing uses are allowed
- Retain simple process



Proposed Code Changes

- Proposed 3 open space categories:
 - Neighborhood Park
 - Regional Park
 - Natural Area
- Existing and new uses:
 - Permitted
 - Conditional
 - Prohibited
- Opportunities to enhance economic vitality
- Dimensional requirements
- New definitions



Rotella Park

Neighborhood Park

- Focused on open space, park, and recreational uses that are compatible in a residential or mixed-use setting.
- Active and passive recreational use are permitted.
- Neighborhood parks are owned and operated by a public or quasi-public park, open space, or recreation district.



Pelican Ponds

Regional Park

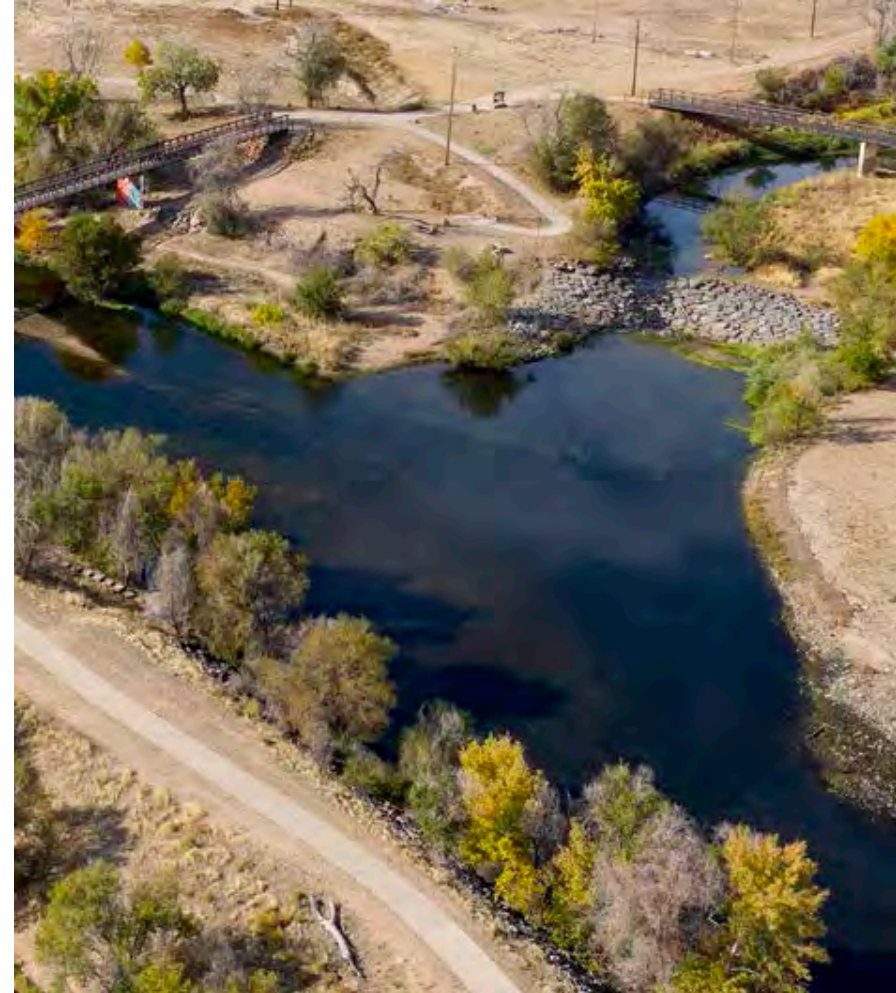
- Provide facilities and recreational amenities for a broader area, drawing users from around the region.
- Unique uses are appropriate in this zone district, including:
 - Fairgrounds
 - Agricultural demonstration areas
 - Agritourism uses
 - Cultural and educational uses.
- May protect large areas with natural resource value and of regional importance



Fairgrounds

Natural Area

- Provide for the preservation of open space and critical natural areas
- Lot sizes will vary in this zone district for:
 - Effective water conservation
 - Land preservation
 - Protection of the environment and wildlife
- Development and active uses are limited in this zone district



South Platte

New Uses: Recreational

- Created Recreational Uses Category
- Consolidated recreational uses
- Defined new uses:
 - Zoo
 - Aquarium
 - Agri-Tainment
 - Educational tours



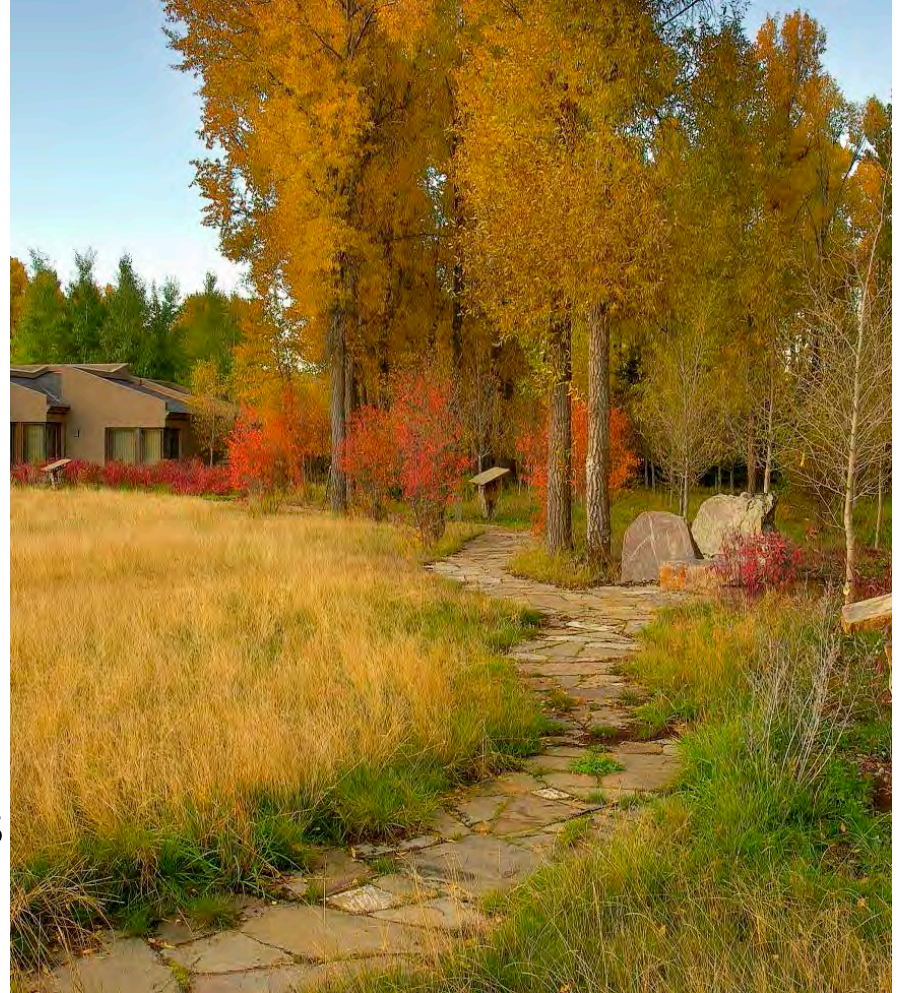
Definition: Recreational Uses

- Active and passive recreational services and parcels open to the public.
- Recreational Indoor:
 - An enclosed facility which offers active recreational opportunities.
- Recreational Outdoor:
 - An area of facility where any portion of the recreation activity takes places outside.



Definition: Agri-Tainment

- Supports and enhances agriculture as an attraction for education and entertainment related purposes.
- Includes:
 - Farm tours
 - Educational offerings
 - Corn mazes
 - Interactive animal displays



Definition: Educational Tours

- Provides hand-on learning opportunities to a place away from normal studies
- To provide an experience outside of classrooms or labs.

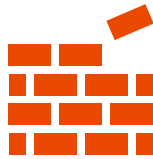


Incidental Sales (definition)

- Sales of food on premises where food sales are not the primary reason to frequent the establishment.
- Gives opportunities to increase revenue



Recreational Performance Standards



Height

Variable height in each categories ranging between sixty (60)-ninety-six (96) inches



Aesthetics

Development near parks shall maintain the landscape character of the existing park

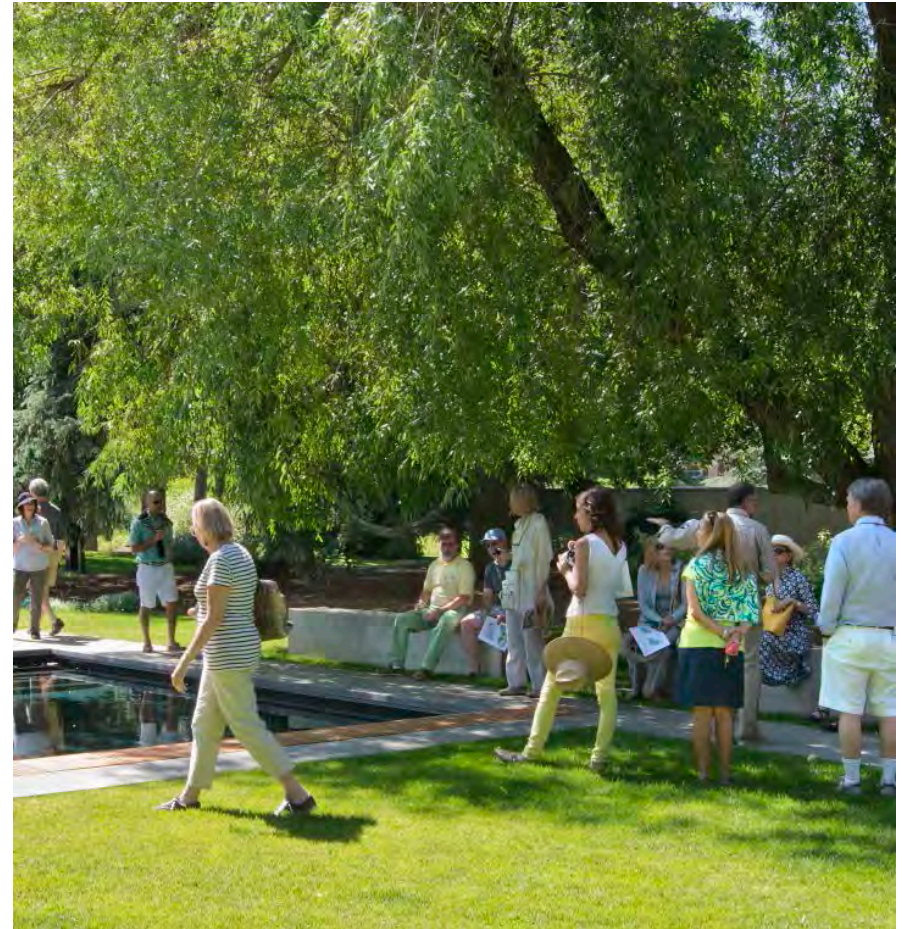


Tourism

Added standards to include Educational Tours, Agri-tourism

Performance Standards: Educational Tours

- Incidental Use: Shall be clearly incidental and secondary to parcel
- Activities: Tours may be conducted by foot, bike, tractor, animal, and/or other means.
- Employees: Completed by staff working on the parcel, or outside groups.
- No Outdoor Storage
- No Offensive Impacts



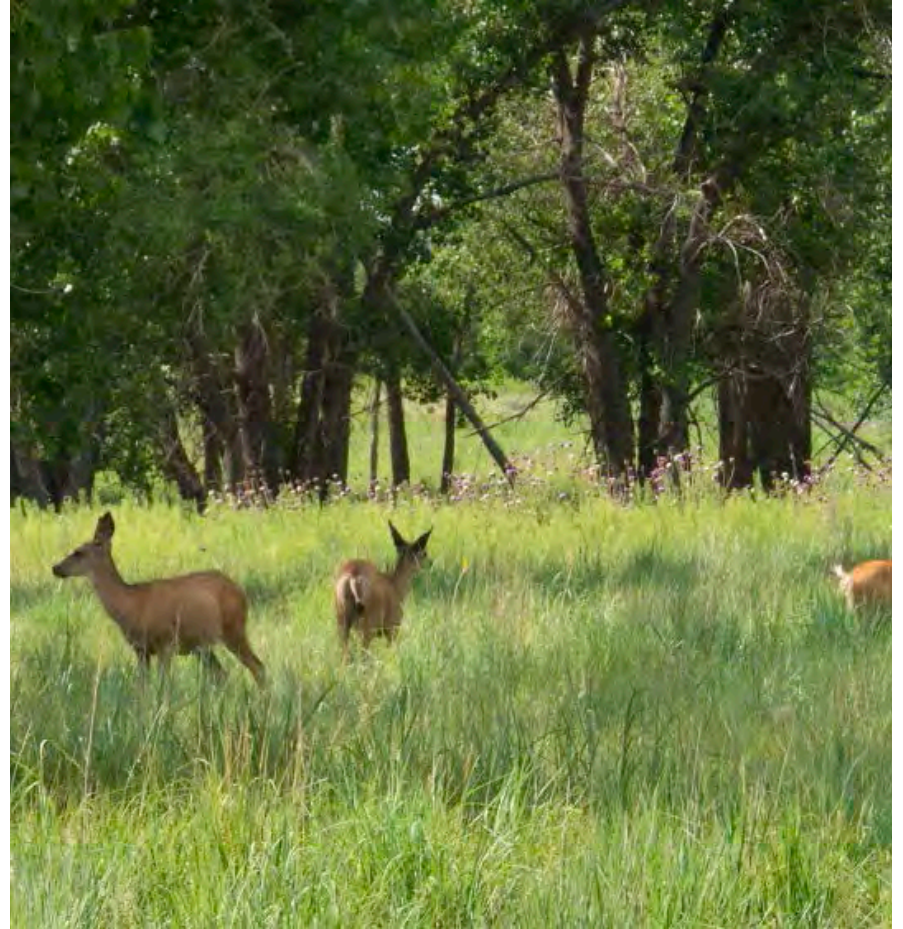
Performance standards: Agri-Tourism

- Incidental Use: Shall not change the character of the parcel.
- Activities: Tours may be conducted by foot, bike, tractor, animal, and the like.
- Employees: May be conducted by staff or outside groups with owner permission.
- No Outdoor Storage
- No Offensive Impacts



Performance standards: Animal-Related Uses

- Property owners who develop near existing park shall maintain landscape character of existing park use.
- Aquarium and Botanical: 5 acres
- Wildlife Preserve: 35 acres
- Zoo: 10 acres
- No Outdoor Storage
- No Offensive Impacts



Looking Forward

1

Public comment period
ending

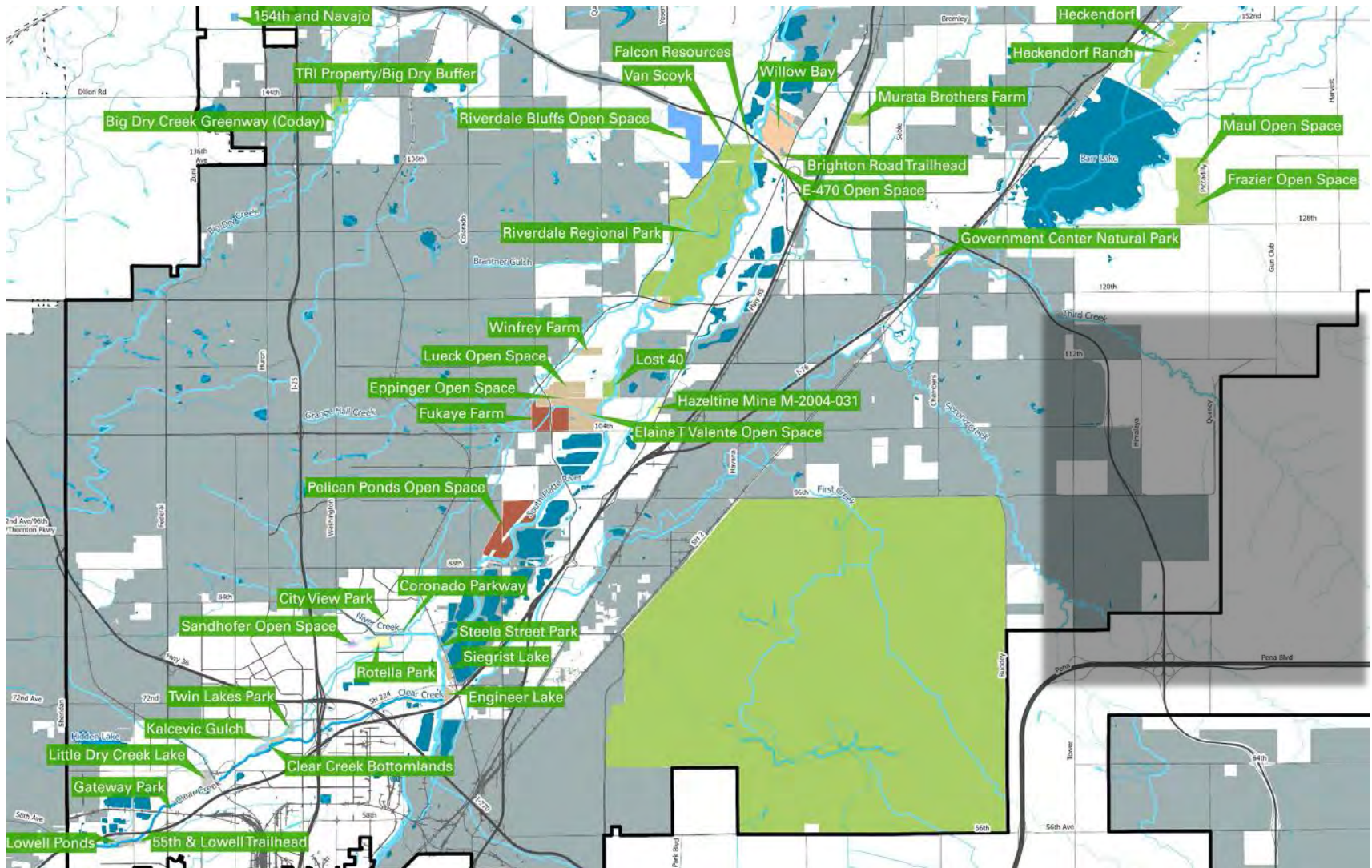
2

Finalization of Code
Language

3

Public Hearing and
Adoption

Existing Parks & Open Space Zoning



Dimension Table

ZONE DISTRICTS		Neighborhood Park (NP)	Regional Park (RP)	Natural Area (NA)
MINIMUM LOT SIZE		N/A	35 acres	N/A
MINIMUM SETBACKS FOR A STRUCTURE	Front	20 feet	30 feet	50 feet
	Side Corner	20 feet	30 feet	50 feet
	Side	5 feet	20 feet	20 feet
	Rear	15 feet	30 feet	50 feet
	R.O.W.	State Highway or Arterial: 50 feet	State Highway or Arterial: 50 feet	State Highway or Arterial: 50 feet
		Local or Collector: 20 feet	Local or Collector: 50 feet	Local or Collector: 50 feet
SETBACK FROM SECTION LINES (Variations may be permitted if the Department of Public Works determines no additional right-of-way is required.)		120 feet	120 feet	120 feet
MAXIMUM HEIGHT	Dwelling and Non-Agriculture Buildings	25 feet	N/A	25 feet
	Agriculture Buildings	N/A	N/A	N/A
Structure Coverage		35%	N/A	10%
Maximum Floor Area		N/A	N/A	1,200 sq ft

New Use Categories

New Use Categories



STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY


DATE OF STUDY SESSION: August 3, 2021
SUBJECT: Sign Code Text Amendments
OFFICE/DEPARTMENT: Community and Economic Development
CONTACT: Nick Eagleson, Senior Strategic Planner
FINACIAL IMPACT: None
SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST: None
DIRECTION NEEDED: Provide input on the proposed sign code text amendments
RECOMMENDED ACTION: n/a

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Summary of proposed text amendments
 - On-Premise/Off-Premise Distinction
 - Updated Review Timeline
 - Large Sign/Billboard Conditional Use
- Discuss next steps
- Proposed timeline
- Upcoming text amendments
- Discussion

2021 Regulation Amendments Sign Code Phase

Board of County Commissioners Study Session
Community and Economic Development Department
August 3, 2021



Summary of Sign Code Text Amendments

- Removal of Off-Premise/On-Premise Commercial Message Distinction
- Updated Review Timeframe
- Creation of Large Sign (Billboard) Conditional Use Process

On-Premise/Off-Premise Distinction

- Update on Current Legal Framework for Regulating Signage
 - *Metromedia, Inc. v. City of San Diego* (1981): validated on-premise/off-premise distinctions as regulations of commercial speech subject to intermediate scrutiny
 - *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* (2015): a local sign regulation is content based if the regulation “applies to a particular speech because of the topic discussed or the idea or message expressed.” *Reed* did not discuss or over-rule *Metromedia*.
 - *City of Austin v. Reagan National Advertising of Texas, Inc.*: 5th Circuit held Austin’s sign code, which had differing standards for on-premise/off-premise electronic signs violated the First Amendment. The Supreme Court granted certiorari on June 28, 2021 to resolve the circuit split on the legality of on-premise/off-premise distinctions.

Updated Review Timeframe

- Building/Sign Permits
 - Reduce review for completeness of application from ten to five business days
 - Reduce the review for resubmittals from ten business days to five business days to coincide with current practice
 - If application does not require a resubmittal, the regulations establish a set time frame of ten business days for a determination of approval or denial of the permit
- Similar Review Timeframe for Large Sign Conditional Use, but takes into account public notice and referral requirements

Large Sign/Billboard Conditional Use

- Applies to all signage over one-hundred and sixty (160) square feet, maximum size of three-hundred (300) square feet
- Only permitted in C-5 and Industrial Zone Districts
- Options for Setback for reduction of clutter:
 - 2,000ft on one side of the road
 - 2,000ft for both sides of the road

Other Proposed Changes

- Electronic Standards:
 - Setting a required duration between messages at 4 seconds in line with CDOT standards
- Addition of Sign Maintenance Standards
- Addition of Specific Non-Conforming Sign Standards

Next Steps

- Public Outreach
 - Meetings
 - Website
- Stakeholder Outreach
 - Meetings
 - Mailing
 - Website

Proposed Timeline

- Stakeholder/Public Meetings
 - August 25 – September 8
- Draft Language
 - August 25 – September 21
- Referral Period – Public Comment
 - September 22 – October 14
- Study Session Midpoint Check-in
 - October 20
- Planning Commission
 - November 12
- Board of County Commissioners
 - December 8

Upcoming Changes

- Parks and Open Space Zone District
- Overlay Zones
- Mixed-Use Zone District
- Tiny Homes
- Safe Parking

Discussion

- Recommendation:
 - Proceed with public and stakeholder outreach for proposed text amendments



STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY

DATE OF STUDY SESSION: Aug. 3, 2021
SUBJECT: Sustainability 2030 Plan Update
OFFICE/DEPARTMENT: County Manager's Office, Facilities & Fleet Department
CONTACT: Alisha Reis
FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time
SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST: N/AP
DIRECTION NEEDED: Input on goals and next steps
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Provide feedback on updated plan goals and next steps.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Consultants Brendle Group and County staff will provide an update on the 2030 Sustainability Plan Update effort, including refined plan goals, targets and next steps.
- New to the plan is a goal related to air quality and refined transportation goals.
- A community survey is ongoing at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/983BHGV> (English) and <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/7JJWQK> (Spanish).

Sustainable Adams County 2030 Plan Update

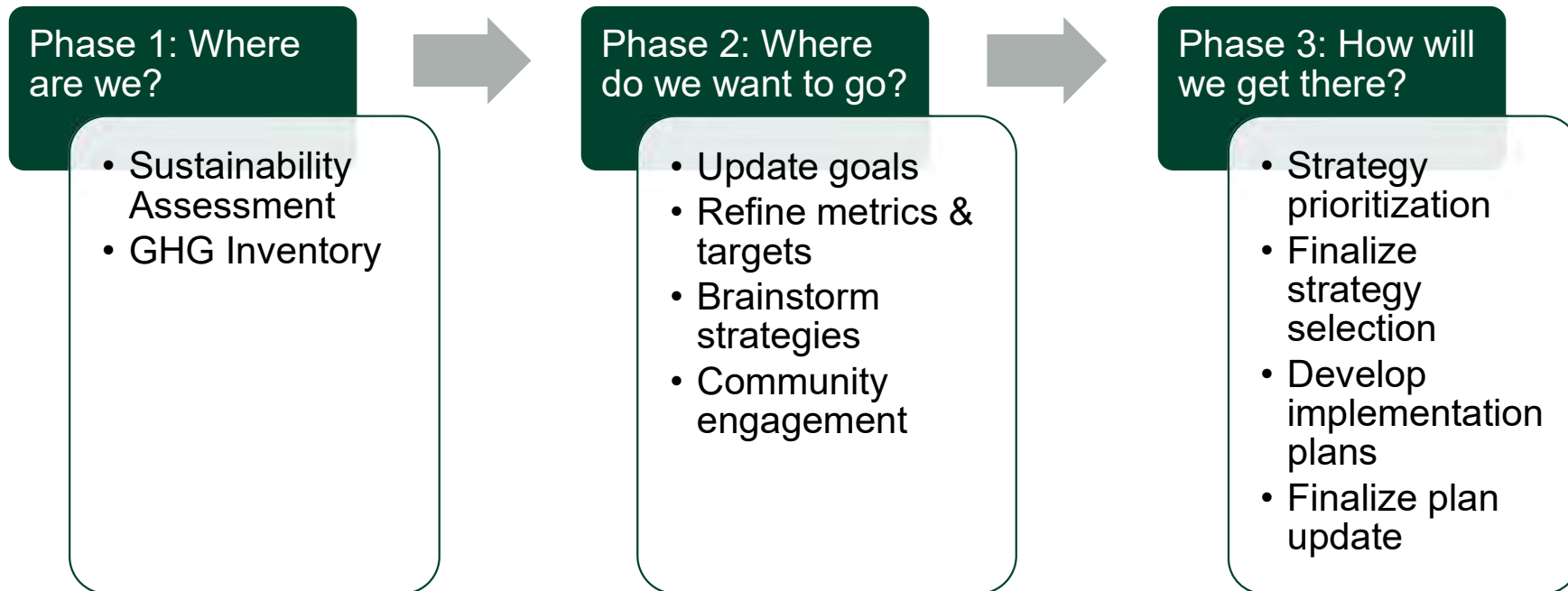
August 3, 2021



Today's Objectives

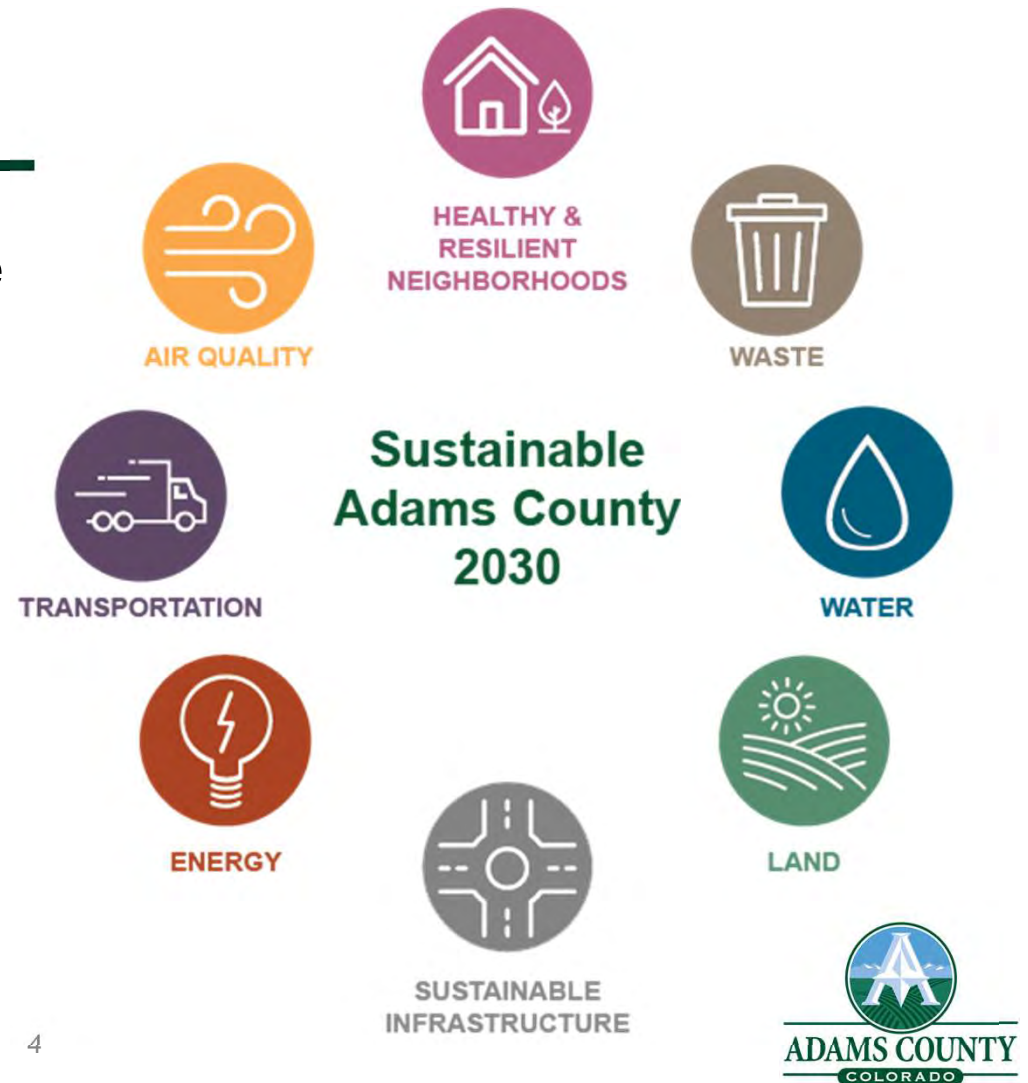
- Review Sustainability Committee's recommended goals
- Solicit feedback on goals before moving into strategy prioritization
- Preview Phase 3 (Strategy Prioritization & Implementation Planning) approach

Plan Update Process



Sustainability Topics

- Refined with Sustainability Committee
- Based on:
 - Current Sustainable 2030 Plan
 - Existing efforts and successes related to sustainability
 - County priorities



Advancing Adams Interface

- Long-range master plans and sustainability plan are mutually reinforcing through:
 - Consideration of climate impacts
 - Highlighting the importance of sustainability
 - Alignment of goals, strategies, metrics, and performance measures (where appropriate)
- Community engagement for Advancing Adams is being leveraged for sustainability insights
 - Retroactive review of previous engagement
 - Partnership for additional engagement (e.g., Adams County Fair event)

Sustainability Assessment

Progress to Date – County

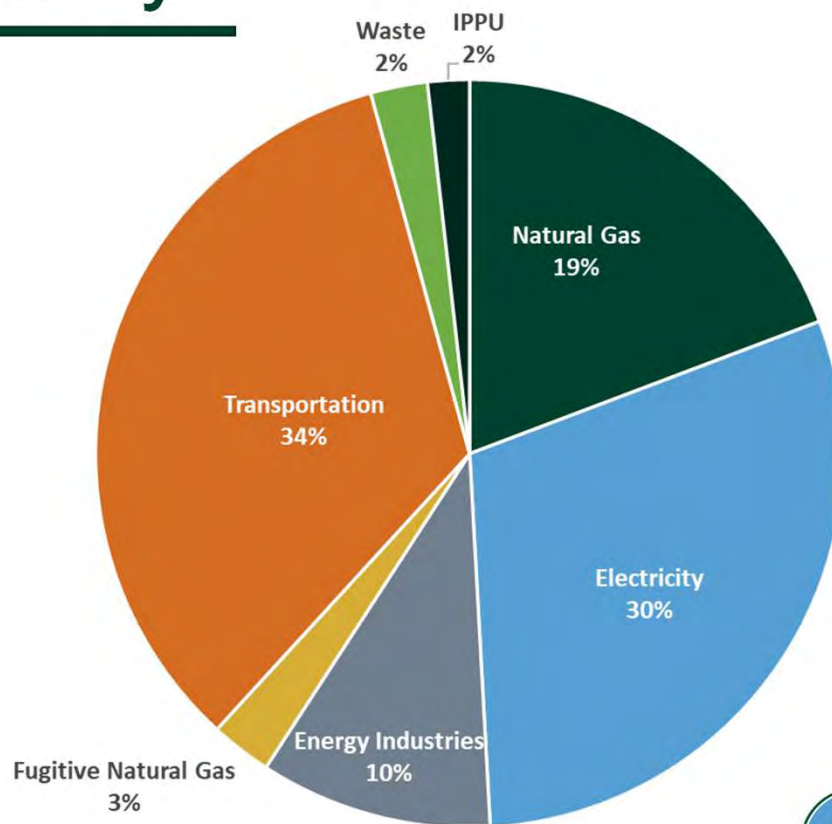
- Reduced energy consumption by 49% per square foot since 2012, achieving initial 2030 Plan goal
- Reduced potable water use in buildings and parks by 17%
- County fleet has 1 electric vehicle and 13 hybrid vehicles. Anticipating adding 2 EVs in 2022
- First county in CO to require ENVISION sustainable infrastructure framework for use on infrastructure projects
- Established Green Team

Progress to Date - Community

- County hosts many recycling events throughout the year. In 2019, over 280,000 lbs of hard-to-recycle materials were diverted from landfills
- Increased waste diversion efforts at Adams County Fair and other events
- Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE) financing is available in Adams County
- Development standards include sustainability considerations
- 13 miles of the RTD N-Line was completed in 2020, providing service from north Adams County to downtown Denver's Union Station.
- Increase in the number of farmers markets and farm stands available throughout the county for community members since 2012.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory

- 2019 Total emissions: 7,181,627 Metric Tons CO₂e
- Per capita emissions: 13.8 MTCO₂e
 - US average comparing like-for-like: 8.8
- Entire county – not split out for unincorporated
- Areas for biggest impact on emissions:
 - Transportation
 - Electricity
 - Natural Gas



IPPU = Industrial Processes and Product Use

Goal Recommendations



Energy Goals & Draft Targets

Incorporate energy efficiency and new energy technologies and building practices in new facilities and retrofit eligible existing County facilities.

Increase use and procurement of renewable energy for County facilities

Expand, create, and advocate for equitable clean energy opportunities for all community members to reduce our carbon footprint.

Draft Targets

- 15% reduction in energy use per square foot
- 50% renewable electricity by 2030
- 5 facilities with on-site solar
- Create 2 new solar co-ops annually
- 25% of developments achieving high performance building standards
- Increase # of participants in Weatherization & Minor Homes Repairs programs
- Increase # of solar permits issued



Waste Goals & Draft Targets

Reduce waste in County operations through source reduction, sustainable diversion practices, and fostering a waste reduction culture.

Ensure that all Adams County residents in unincorporated areas have access to recycling.

Achieve 30% waste diversion at county-led events.

Expand waste diversion and reduction practices in all new developments during construction and occupancy.

Draft Targets

- Establish waste diversion baseline for County operations
- Establish C&D diversion rate for each County CIP project
- Provide 1 education opportunity per quarter for County employees
- 100% of private haulers in unincorp. County provide recycling
- 30% increase in hard-to-recycle waste volume
- 30% waste diversion at County-led events
- 35% waste diversion community-wide



Water Goals

Improve water use efficiency in County facilities and parks and promote the use of non-potable water supplies where available and feasible, including in public works operations.

Promote water use efficiency for new and redeveloped residential and commercial properties in unincorporated Adams County.

Draft Targets

- Meet efficiency benchmarks for indoor domestic and outdoor irrigation use
- Maintain or increase the percent of water supplies that are non-potable
- # of participants in water conservation education activities



Land Goal

Acquire and conserve land that sustains the level of service of parks and open spaces for economic, social, and environmental benefits.

Draft Targets

- Maintain or increase acres in conservation easements from 6,000 acres



Sustainable Infrastructure Goal

Use sustainable infrastructure in Public Works projects to maximize economic, environmental, and social durability and minimize economic impacts from natural hazards.

Example Draft Targets

- X% of master drainage studies implemented
- X water quality structures per mile of projects
- X trees planted through Tree Amenity program
- X ENVISION or LEED informed projects



Transportation Goals

Decrease county fleet emissions through vehicle and operational efficiency and fuel switching.

Support electric mobility and infrastructure across all of Adams County

Support alternative modes of transportation and enhance mobility for all Adams County community members

Draft Targets

- 50% decrease in idling hours
- 75% of eligible light-duty fleet vehicles electrified
- 25% of medium/heavy duty vehicles converted to alternative fuels
- Electrify 5% of total vehicles
- Align with Transportation Plan performance measures for alternative transportation



Healthy & Resilient Neighborhoods Goal

Increase access to resources, opportunities, and services that support financial, mental, and physical well-being for all community members in Adams County.

Draft Targets

- 2 education events per neighborhood per year
- Establish formal neighborhood groups in areas with higher incidence of code violations
- 50%+ of grant funding awarded to neighborhoods with higher incidence of code violations



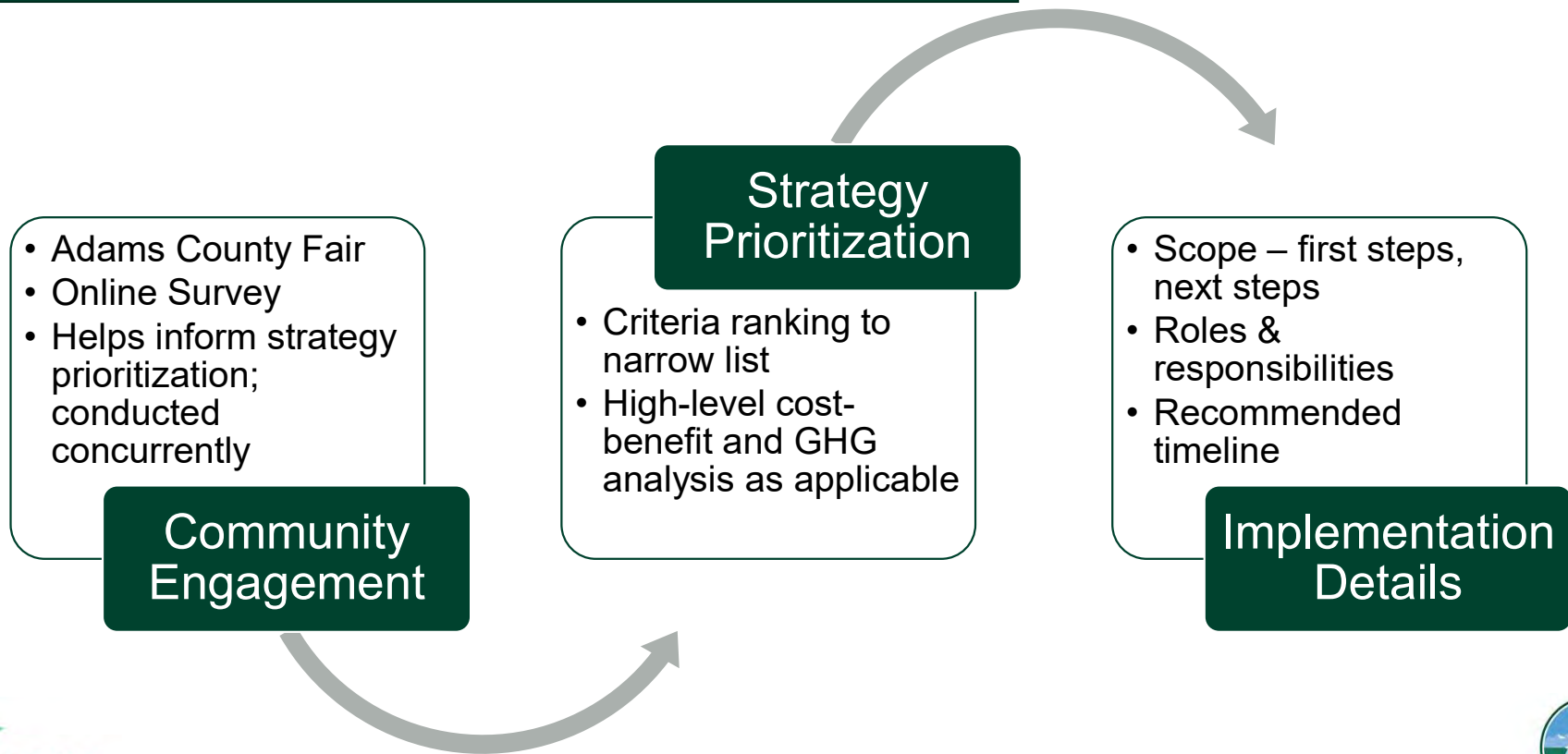
Air Quality Goal

Reduce indoor and outdoor air quality impacts on disproportionately impacted communities through advocacy and mitigation practices

Draft Targets

- Increase participants in Weatherization and Minor Home Repairs programs
- Increase number of air quality monitors in Adams County
- 1 air quality education action per quarter

Next Steps



Questions?

For more information, contact:

Alisha Reis, Deputy County Manager

Jeff Bowman, Deputy Director, Facilities and Fleet Management

Melody Redburn, Brendle Group

