

Open Space update

15 May 2018

Lafayette Open Space Advisory Committee

Reflecting back

- ▶ Focus on the Future (September 2016)
 - ▶ Support for long-term funding for Open Space
 - ▶ Potential modification to dedication from developers
 - ▶ Support for acquisition strategies
 - ▶ Public “storefront” for Open Space
 - ▶ Consolidation of maintenance
 - ▶ Enforcement of regulations

Open Space programs are evolving

- ▶ Acquisition still a key element
- ▶ Recognizing the growing need for stewardship, education, outreach, programming, communications, wayfinding, and collaboration



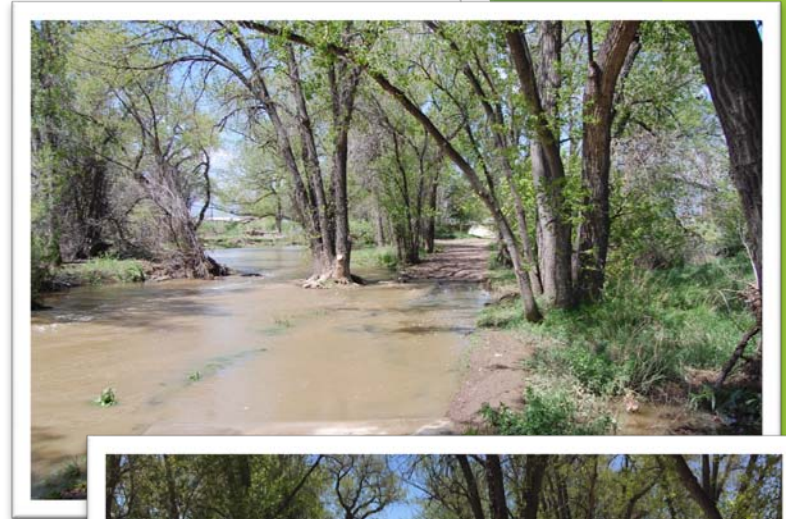
Elements of stewardship

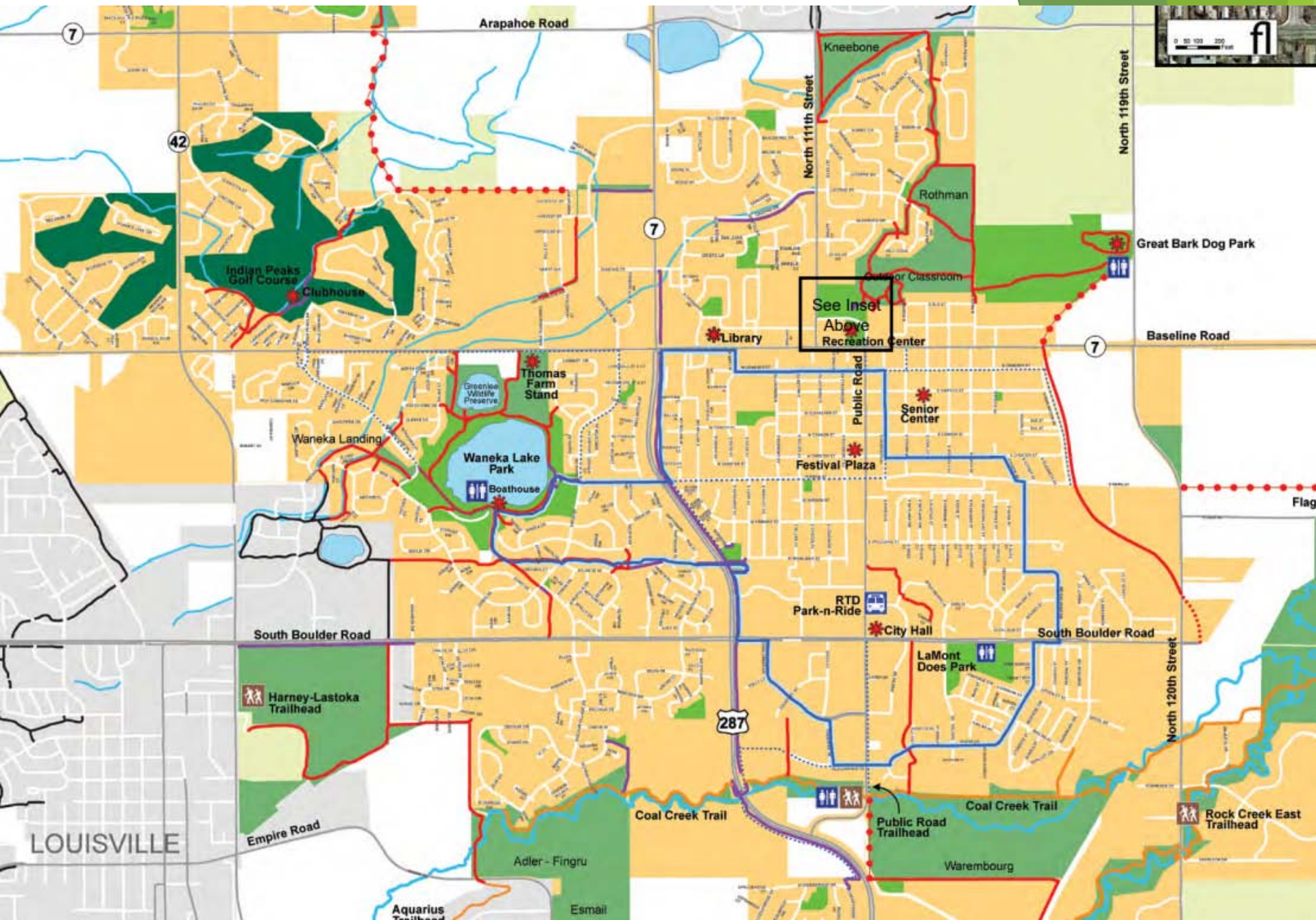
- ▶ Public face for the department
- ▶ Education and outreach about open land values
- ▶ Enforcement of regulations
 - ▶ Encroachment
 - ▶ Trail Patrol
 - ▶ Animal regulation
 - ▶ Staying on trail



Trail connectivity, upgrades

- ▶ Harney-Lastoka Drainage Way 7
- ▶ BNSF Trail crossing at Highway 7
 - ▶ Designs and bid process
 - ▶ Construction to began April 9
- ▶ Public Road trailhead Phase 2
- ▶ Rock Creek Drainage study and design, UDFCD, OTAK, Architerra
-currently on hold
- ▶ Five volunteer projects with Wildlands Restoration Volunteers under the *Inspire Initiative* grant





LOUISVILLE

Lafayette

Going mobile

- ▶ Part of the implementation of the StriveON / Activate Lafayette mobile application
- ▶ Grant awarded for a countywide recreation map application, which will incorporate Lafayette area trails



Open Space stewardship

- ▶ Thomas Open Space barn, electrical and solar array repairs and improvements
- ▶ Trail maintenance
- ▶ Emerald Ash Borer plan (LOSAC role as Tree Board)



Wayfinding

- ▶ Signage project
 - ▶ Lafayette look-and-feel for parks, open space
 - ▶ Updated information and mapping
 - ▶ Design is complete
 - ▶ Fabrication in process



Education and Outreach

- ▶ Continued successful partnership with Martin Ogle, Entrepreneurial Earth
 - ▶ Have developed a volunteer base
 - ▶ Trailhead hosts
 - ▶ Workshop programs
- ▶ Events
 - ▶ Arbor Day
 - ▶ Open Space Day
 - ▶ Lafayette Birds event first Sunday of the month
 - ▶ Migratory bird celebration



Connection, collaboration

- ▶ Lafayette partners
 - ▶ Joint workshop with Planning Board
 - ▶ Public art at Thomas Open Space
- ▶ Area involvement
 - ▶ Staff collaboration with partners is key
 - ▶ *Harney/Lastoka trail upgrades*
 - ▶ *Public Road trailhead*
 - ▶ Lynn R attending POSAC
 - ▶ Dave B talking with Erie OS counterparts
 - ▶ Joint meeting with Louisville last week
 - ▶ Regional Open Space tour

2018 planned projects

- ▶ Open Space stewardship
 - ▶ Coal Creek Trail hazard tree assessment
 - ▶ Develop a Wildlife Management Plan
 - ▶ Discuss, develop Three Leaf Farm horse lease
 - ▶ Insulate/Heat the Beauprez Barn for Open Space staff use
- ▶ Trail upgrades, connectivity
 - ▶ Finalize designs, potentially bid and construct *INSPIRE* trail
 - ▶ Develop and manage five Wildland Restoration Volunteer projects
- ▶ Going mobile
 - ▶ Finalize countywide map app

2018 planned projects

- ▶ Wayfinding
 - ▶ Open Space signage installation, Phase 1
- ▶ Education and Outreach
 - ▶ Finalize designs, potentially bid and construct Sanchez nature play area
 - ▶ Outdoor classroom design phase
 - ▶ GOCO *INSPIRE* grant closeout and reimbursement
 - ▶ Develop and manage Open Space Day and Arbor Day projects
 - ▶ Continue development of the Open Space volunteer program
- ▶ Connection, collaboration
 - ▶ Pursue a capstone project with students from CU Boulder's Masters of the Environment program

Staff are incredible stewards

- ▶ Passionate about the work, environmental stewards
- ▶ Policy updates
- ▶ Responsive to the public
- ▶ Achieve an incredible amount - THANK YOU!

