

OSTAB Status Report

Open Space and Trails Advisory Board

Presented by: Ken Martin

September 9, 2025



- Acknowledgements
- What does OSTAB do?
- Board Members
- Highlights
- Going Forward

Acknowledgements

- Town Council Liaisons
 - John Mortellaro (2025)
 - Dan Hoback (2024)
- Parks & Recreation
 - Luke Bolinger (Director)
 - Mike McGill
 - Matt Spinner
- Town Clerk's Office

What does OSTAB do?

- Evaluate OS&T during the development approval process and submit formal responses.
- Advise Town Council on planning, acquisition, development, and management of OS&T.
- Coordinate with BOCO and WECO, and nearby jurisdictions on identifying and acquiring open space and trails.
- Assess and recommend amendments to OS&T provisions in town plans and ordinances.

As a Community Liaison

- Ongoing involvement with Boulder County on the Boulder to Erie Regional Trail (BERT) and Prairie Run Management Plan.
- Serve as a liaison between the community and the town on questions and issues related to open space and trails.
- Participate in annual Town Fair in May and Earth/Arbor Day in April. Typically distribute about 300 paper trail maps to attendees, and answer questions.

Board Members

- **Ken Martin -- Chair:** Information Technology
 - Has worked on many town advisory boards -- conservation and outdoor recreation advocate (>25 years)
- **Christine Felz – Vice Chair:** Environmental Studies and Geography
 - Land and environmental project management (>10 yrs)
- **Phil Brink:** Animal and Environmental Sciences
 - Consults on compliance and water resource challenges (>20 yrs)
- **Tim Payne:** Engineering Manager -- Aerospace/Defense Industry (>20 years)
 - Passionate outdoorsman and cyclist and community volunteer
- **Bill Rigler:** Public relations and strategic communications
 - Active on multiple boards, Chambers, and EDCs throughout Boulder County
- **Joe Swanson:** Natural/Park Resource Management
 - BOCO Parks and Open Space Noxious Weed Dept (>10 yrs)
- **Dave Tazik:** Ecology, Regional/Environmental Planning
 - Research Ecologist/Project Scientist (>30 yrs)

Highlights

- Village at Coal Creek:
 - Lead/participated in 2 property walks;
 - Reviewed and submitted a written evaluation of the consultant's Background Information report;
 - Reviewed (yesterday) and will submit a written evaluation (tomorrow) of the consultant's 3 Concept Options.
- Reviewed a possible open space acquisition and recommended the price range
- Participated in a site walk of a section of the proposed Boulder to Erie Regional Trail (BERT) organized by Boulder County
- Discussed a likely new trail connecting the Compass subdivision with the Coal Creek Spine Trail. Approved negotiating to purchase an easement with funding from TNACC
- Approved proposed new cell towers in Highlands and Arapahoe Ridge on Town dedicated open space parcels
- Will be meeting with the Lafayette Open Space Advisory Board in late October to discuss coordination.

Going Forward

- Wise Homestead Open Space and BERT
 - Develop trails to connect the BERT trail and the 2 sections of Prairie Run Open Space
 - Possibly create a trailhead jointly with Boulder County to serve the above 3 trails
 - Develop town trails on the Wise Homestead Open Space
- Village at Coal Creek (VCC): continue to participate in the planning process for affordable housing, open space, and trails.
- Long range planning
 - Open space acquisition priorities
 - Trail connectivity
 - Habitat quality and connectivity
 - Opportunity for public engagement
- Outreach to property owners
- Town Fair & Arbor Day
- Support to Parks & Recreation and Planning Departments as needed