

Open Space & Trails Advisory Board Application

02/10/2026 7:45 AM (MST)



Open Space and Trails Advisory Board Application

All advisory board and commission members will be expected to support the priorities and work plan set forth by the Town Council.

This board meets the **second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without a leave of absence approved by majority of the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board could be grounds for dismissal.

Full Name	William Schum
Are you an Erie resident?	Yes
Are you under the age of eighteen?	No
Are you currently serving on the advisory board you are applying for?	No
Home Address	
Email	
Primary Phone Number	
Employer	Advanced Space
Job Title/Occupation	Space Technology Senior Program Manager
Have you ever been employed by the Town of Erie?	No
Do you work for or own a company that does business with the Town of Erie?	No
What is your highest level of education completed?	Masters Degree or Higher
Are you currently serving on a board?	No

Are you applying for more than one board? No

This board meets the **second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Only three excused absences are allowed per year.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission and what specific talents or expertise do you bring if appointed?

I am a retired Air Force officer currently working 30 hours per week for a space technology company based in Broomfield. I have been a resident of Erie since 2019 and my wife and daughter both work for the Town of Erie.

As an avid recreational runner, I use the open space and trails in Erie almost every single day. My wife and I chose Erie based in large part to the availability of open space and trails.

My 30+ year career in the aerospace industry as a program manager has taught me how to work in groups of all sizes to bring about successful completion of projects of varying degrees of complexity.

I have been able to complete 90+ marathons and ultra-marathons, most of which have been on trails and public land all over the country. In addition to completing those events as a participant, I also regularly volunteer with the same organizations that put on runs and other events in the open space and on the trails of our local communities. I am keenly aware of the challenges facing communities that dedicate resources towards maintaining open space and trails.

I love living in Erie and I want to see the open space and trails that I use so often continue to be a highlight of the community.

Have you served on another board/commission in an advisory capacity? If so, please describe the board and what made serving in that capacity a good experience? What were the major concerns or issues?

I am currently serving on the Run Committee for the Hardrock 100 Endurance Run. Hardrock is a non-profit organization that puts on an annual 100-mile footrace on the trails and public lands of the San Juan Mountains of southwest Colorado. Proceeds from the run go towards academic and job-training scholarships for graduating high school seniors in the 4 small mountain towns of Silverton, Lake City, Ouray, and Telluride.

In my capacity on the Run Committee, I have had to lead large groups of volunteers and interact with local, state, and federal government organizations. The coordination among all the vested groups is the biggest challenge, but the rewards of seeing so many people enjoying the trails and open space to benefit the local communities have been immeasurable.

Please describe a situation where you were working with a small group and disagreed with the direction of the project, what did you do? What was the result?

Throughout my 24-year career in the Air Force, I have been in numerous small groups in all possible capacities. Once we had our direction established, whether I agreed or not, it was incumbent upon me to do my part to make it work. Success as a group was paramount and I did everything I could to make the group successful. In the times I disagreed with the direction, I paid particular attention to the developments of the project with an eye towards making improvements both as went and also at the conclusion of the project.

If you were appointed, what goals would you like to see accomplished on this board or commission?

1. Review what has been accomplished to date and determine, as a board, what should continue, what should be changed, and what should be ended.
2. Develop a list of new initiatives to consider adding to the docket. Community outreach and inclusion in open space and trail initiatives is important, if not critical. Let's get more people involved and feel a part of the open space and trail network in Erie!
3. Find ways to emphasize open space and trails in all discussions and plans as Erie continues to grow.

Are you aware of the time commitment, and do you have the personal time to devote to this board or commission?

I am aware of the time commitment and have the ability to devote that time, and more, to the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Upload resume and additional documents (optional)

 William Schum Resume 2026.pdf

Please read and agree with the following statement:

I certify that the facts and statements contained in this Board and Commission Application are true and correct.
I further understand that false statements shall be sufficient cause for rejection of this application.
I further certify that I have not been convicted of a felony under the laws of the State of Colorado or in another jurisdiction.
I understand that falsification, omission or misrepresentation will result in a rejection of this application. Any falsification, omission or representation is evidence of perjury in the second degree.
If I become a board or commission member with the Town, this form is valid for the period of my term with the Town and the crime records may be updated periodically at the discretion of the Town.
I understand that this application is considered a public record and subject to the Colorado Open Records Act.

I Agree

Yes

All board and commission members must follow the rules and regulations in the Erie Municipal Code as well as the Town's policies related to harassment, anti-violence, and technology use.

Yes

Acknowledgement Signature



WILLIAM SCHUM

Denver Metropolitan Area

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Extensive expertise in all phases of aerospace systems program management and systems engineering including requirements definition, planning, budgeting, system design, production, integration, testing, and delivery

30+ years leading, managing, and delivering complex technology programs of all types and size including 20 years as U.S. Air Force active-duty acquisition program manager in organizations across the United States

EXPERIENCE

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Advanced Space
Senior Program Manager | Westminster, CO | 2024-present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct oversight and management of 6 DoD and NASA funded programs optimizing spacecraft mission design• Senior staff PM and new business development support for all company efforts with DoD and NASA programs | | |
| Benchmark Space Systems
Senior Program Manager | Burlington, VT | 2021-2023 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led multiple engineering and manufacturing IPTs designing and building satellite propulsion systems• Led PMO and business development support for program definition on company efforts with DoD and NASA | | |
| Blue Canyon Technologies
Senior Program Manager | Boulder, CO | 2018-2021 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led engineering and manufacturing teams designing and building state-of-the-art satellites for government, DoD, and commercial customers - responsible for lifecycle cost, schedule, and technical performance• MicroSat product line lead program manager - standardized capabilities across multiple spacecraft platforms• Business development lead - built proposals and negotiated contracts for efforts across spacecraft industry | | |
| Millennium Engineering and Integration Company
Program Director and Mission Manager | Albuquerque, NM | 2015-2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Directed spacecraft programs for the DoD's Rapid Response Space Works including multiple satellite development efforts delivering the latest technology through in-house integration and key sub-contracts• Division Director responsible for program control of 40+ efforts on \$550M ID/IQ NASA contract with 20+ government and university customers, 30+ sub-contractors, and employees ranging from interns through PhD | | |
| Applied Research Associates (ARA)
Senior Subject Matter Expert | Albuquerque, NM | 2014-2015 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluated military utility of state-of-the-art spaceflight experiments for the Air Force Research Laboratory• Wrote, negotiated, and managed contracts with experts in spacecraft design and mission planning | | |
| Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Office
Program and Mission Manager, Lieutenant Colonel, US Air Force | Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM | 2012-2014 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managed multiple Congressionally directed rapid satellite & launch programs; directed efforts of PhD-level engineers & scientists as well as senior technicians & operators in all phases of system development• Ushered \$70M NASA contract for space-based radar program through requirements and proposal stages• Ranked #1 of 4 Lieutenant Colonels in organization by the office Director; retired after 20-year USAF career | | |

Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) **Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM** **2009-2012**

Deputy Site Commander, Lieutenant Colonel, US Air Force

- Directed 100+ mil/civ team, \$790M technology R&D portfolio in research lab's Space Vehicles Directorate; established and executed budgets, evaluated science proposals, distributed resources across groups
- Responsible for 180 military members across two research laboratory Technical Directorates; conducted annual performance evaluations, disciplinary actions, recruitment, and hiring actions

Space Superiority Systems Wing **Los Angeles AFB, El Segundo, CA** **2005-2009**

Division Chief & Program Manager, Major, US Air Force

- Managed USAF's only counter-space test and training program with small business rapid acquisition
- Led division responsible for developing/transitioning space control technology supporting multiple Special Access Programs including Space Domain Awareness, RF engineering, and Position/Navigation/Timing
- Deployed to Iraq, led military/civilian command staff overseeing \$6B logistics program

Flight Test Support Squadron **[classified location]** **2001-2005**

Squadron Commander, Major, US Air Force

- Commanded 75-member squadron operating, maintaining, and upgrading world-class electronic combat test equipment supporting critical national security test programs and Special Access Programs
- Oversaw testing of B-2 / F-22 / F-117 aircraft during fleet readiness inspections and 110 flight test missions
- Directed \$12M annual operations budget, \$8M technical services contract, and \$45M upgrade project
- Led team of 20 engineers and scientists to establish first ever joint live fire electronic combat test program

Human Systems Program Office **Brooks AFB, San Antonio, TX** **1998-2001**

Chief, Director's Action Group, Captain, US Air Force

- Led cost & schedule management of 30+ Air Force programs; acted on behalf of the System Program Director
- Directed rapid assessment team transforming priority combat aeromedical needs into fast-track solutions
- Humanitarian Service Award for dedicated airborne communication system for aeromedical evacuation

Air Force Institute of Technology **Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH** **1997-1998**

Graduate Student (Systems Management), 1st Lieutenant, US Air Force

- Studied quantitative and logical problem solving, management of human and financial resources, and application of leading management techniques for the acquisition of complex technical systems
- Graduate thesis published in *Armed Forces and Society* and presented at national symposium

Space and Missiles Systems Center **Vandenberg AFB, Lompoc, CA** **1994-1997**

Test Manager, 2nd Lieutenant, US Air Force

- Managed and conducted test and evaluation activities of satellite and space vehicle booster systems

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Security clearance(s): DoD Top Secret-SCI Security Clearance; DoE Q Security Clearance

PMP: Level 3, Program Management, Defense Acquisition University Professional Development Program / DAWIA

PMP: Level 2, Test and Evaluation, Defense Acquisition University Professional Development Program / DAWIA

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Systems Management
Bachelor of Science, History

Air Force Institute of Technology
United States Air Force Academy

Dayton, OH
Colorado Springs, CO