

**2017 General Obligation Bond
Meeting Minutes**

2017 General Obligation Bond- Parks and Recreation Committee

Date: 4/27/17**Time: 9:00am – 11:30am****Location: McNichols Civic Center Building, Denver, CO****Attendees****Committee Members:**

1. Sarah Kurz, Committee Chair
2. Barbara Evans Small
3. Jeanne Robb
4. Leslie Twarogowski
5. CM Wayne New
6. Erin Porteous
7. Landri Taylor
8. Rosemary Rodriguez
9. Nancy Jackson

City Staff:

10. Jay Henke
11. Adam Phipps
12. Jeremy Matsen
13. Michael Bouchard
14. Jason Moore
15. Gordon Robertson
16. Jerry Tinianow

Executive Committee Members:

17. J.J. Niemann

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions

- Welcoming comments by Committee Chair Sarah Kurz

Call for Public Comment and Agency Responses

- Eight members of the public were present and commented on the following projects: New playground in Inspiration Point Park (3 members of the public); Westwood Recreation Center (3 members of the public); Morrison CCC Camp project (1 member of the public).
- Additional Public Comment: Committee Chair Kurz stated that Green Valley Ranch residents submitted a packet of information for the committee to consider.

Agency Responses to Committee Questions from prior meeting:

- Clarification of the Downtown Park Acquisition/Development & Existing Park Improvements and Amenities and the Civic Center Master Plan Completion project was provided.
- Paco Sanchez Re-imagine Play Project Clarification:
 - o Discussed phase 1 DPR funding of \$3,250,000 and grant funding of \$1,280,000 that the department has applied for.
 - o Bond request of \$6,555,000 – This ask is for phase 2
- North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC) Neighborhood Parks:
 - o Dunham Park – No longer required by DPR as of this summer. Scope was modified to include Swansea Park improvements instead.
 - o Elyria Park – Scope includes basketball & futsal courts
 - o The three neighborhood parks located in NDCC can be included for consideration as part of the Neighborhood Park Improvement project if they are not considered as stand-alone projects.
- River North Promenade
 - o Additional clarification was provided related to the potential scope of work that could be included in a \$5 million project.
- Acquisition Costs:
 - o Anticipated acquisition costs are \$5-15 million in the Downtown core.
 - DPR priority funding recommendation \$10m
 - o Outside of the downtown core, anticipated acquisition costs are approximately \$5 million (which would be around 2 acres in size)
 - o Discussion by the committee about Park Hill acquisition.
- Park Development Projects
 - o Westwood Xcel Site
 - This project can possibly be funded through other funding sources.
 - o First Creek Park
 - Phase I Construction funded for 2017-2018 implementation.
 - Phase 2 GO Bond funding request - \$500,000
 - o 47th & Walden
 - 14 AC community scale park
 - GO Bond funding request to complete phase I design and construction - \$3.5 million
- Downtown Parks Scope Clarification
 - o Downtown Acquisition and Park Improvements scope includes:
 - Civic Center Promenade - \$2.5 M
 - Existing Downtown Park Amenities - \$5 M
 - Downtown Acquisition - \$10M
 - o Total Project cost - \$29m

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- DPR proposed phase I funding request \$17.5m
- Downtown TIF Funding
 - Original plan for the TIF funds included a new Downtown park
 - No other projects are currently being programmed until the plan for the 16th Street Mall project is final.
- Scheitler Rec Center
 - DPR has not been briefed on any programming/re-design efforts
 - Any project development that has been done has not been part of a public outreach process
 - Scheitler has Facilities Condition Assessment Program needs (HVAC) but is not a DPR priority for major upgrades.
- Discussion by the committee of DPR of recommendation of funding for projects. DPR gave clarification of the funding recommendations by the department and the logic behind the funding recommendations from DPR.

Project Discussion

PROJECT DELIBERATIONS:

Overview of Proposed Projects:

- The committee discussed a map which project locations relative to areas of inequity of the city.
 - Once the committee makes a recommendation on projects, DPR will do an overlay on the map, which will show dollar amounts associated with projects within the districts.

PROJECT DISCUSSION:

- The committee discussed the project list and projects currently ranked as "High".
 - Neighborhood Park Improvements;
 - ADA;
 - City Park Playground
 - Irrigation Projects and Turf Conversion
 - CW Pool Reconstruction
 - Congress Park Pool Rehab
 - Genesee Park/Katherine Craig Rehab
 - Globeville/Elyria-Swansea Rec Centers improvements
 - Parks Maintenance
 - Bear Valley Tennis Courts
 - CW Fountain Rehabilitation
 - Civic Center Master Plan
 - Sullivan Gateway Restoration
 - CW Synthetic Sports Fields: Committee voted on this item following a discussion on the uses of the fields. The committee would like to recommend that the city examines the policy of renting fields out to private entities.
 - Historic Structures
 - Mountain Parks Structures and Infrastructure
 - Paco Sanchez Park
 - Ruby Hill Improvements
 - Sun Valley Park
 - West Denver Rec Center
 - Discussion: Committee should consider full funding of the project.
 - Sloan's Lake Playground
 - CW Dog Park Enhancements
 - Green Valley Ranch Pool
 - Morrison CCC Improvements
 - Recreation Centers Renovations and Improvements

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- Swansea Neighborhoods Park Improvements: Move this to medium priority, scope can be included in evaluation of Neighborhood Park Improvements project.
- Project List Discussion: PROJECTS INCLUDED FOR ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION
 - River Promenade
 - Urban Greenway Corridor South
 - Elyria Park Improvements: Move to low priority list, scope can be included in evaluation of Neighborhood Park Improvements project.
 - Additional New Green and Park Space:
 - Sand Creek Regional Trail Master Plan Implementation
 - Park Development Funding
 - Downtown Park Acquisition
 - Sheitler Recreation Center Update/Expansion
 - Pickleball Courts
 - Committee Comment: This should be included by the yearly capital budget by the city.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE BY THE COMMITTEE:

Each committee member was given 5 votes to vote on their highest priority projects.

- Discussion of the committee in determining how they will recommend their top projects to the Executive Committee.
- Discussion of prioritizing second tier projects by committee vote.
- The group discussed how the projects will be presented to Executive Committee, and how the prioritized project list will be presented to the committee.
- The committee summed up the votes of high priority projects. The committee agrees that the top tier projects that are highest priority (from the prioritization exercise) will be recommended to the Executive Committee.
- Further discussion of projects within the top priority projects list.
 - Committee discussed recommending full or partial funding to Executive Committee for projects on the top tier projects
 - The committee will submit comments to the Executive Committee that they take into consideration projects that may have external/partner funding. Also, the committee will recommend that the Executive Committee take note that many of the projects are in areas of high inequity within the city.

Each committee member was given 5 votes in order to vote on their second tier projects. However, the group did not have time to go discuss the second tier of projects. The group will reconvene tomorrow to finalize the project list.

Look Ahead

- The group will reconvene on 4/28/17 at the City Park Greenhouse to finalize the project list.