



## Open Space and Trails Advisory Committee

*Minutes  
August 25, 2022*

### **Meeting Summary**

OSTAC members made a site visit to the Nissen Channel Floodplain Improvement and Trail project, were given an overview of Broomfield's trail counter data, the use of Strava heat maps for trail use information, the Colorado bikeability study and upcoming events.

### **OSTAC (Open Space and Trails Advisory Committee)**

Present:

Michael McLane, Chair

Renaë Stavros, Vice-Chair (departed at 8:30 p.m.)

Teng Keng (TK) Vang

Alexis Sweet

Scott Whitmore

Patrick Tennyson

Dave Holmstrom

Councilmember Todd Cohen

Absent:

Chris Petrizzo

Mayor Pro-tem Stan Jezierski

Interested Citizens:

N/A

Other staff, presenters, and consultants in attendance:

Kristan Pritz, Open Space and Trails Director

Peter Dunlaevy, Open Space and Trails Manager

Jack Pritchard, Open Space and Trails Specialist

Lexi Brewer, Open Space and Trails Technician

Beverly Burbach, Open Space and Trails Administrative Analyst

Rebecca Baker, Engineering Manager, City and County of Broomfield

### **Agenda Minutes**

**1. Call to Order by Michael McLane at 6:01 p.m. for the tour.**

Michael called the meeting to order and welcomed any members from the public.

**2. Site Visit to the Nissen Channel Floodplain Improvement and Trail Project**

**3. Call to Order by Michael McLane at 7:52 p.m. for the meeting.**

**4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

None

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### 5. Review of Trail Counter and Bikeability Rating Information

Jack gave an overview of the trail counters used in Broomfield. The presentation included Including what the counters look like, where they are located, what they do, maintenance challenges, a summary of the data gathered, and the importance of the data pulled.

Jack also gave a review of the *People For Bikes* organization's Broomfield Bikeability Rating. He mentioned that Broomfield has high ridership and Broomfield's score in relation to other cities in Colorado.

Patrick, there is a water valve that opens up and pours water out at that Sheridan pass correct?

Pete, yes there is a pump in there, but when there is an abundant amount of water the pump actually does not work. It works really well when there is not a major amount of water, it pulls out water from inside the tunnel to keep it clear.

Dave, when you are putting in a trail do you look at the need before putting a trail in?

Jack, the trail counter located near the 96th Street Underpass and Rock Creek will be used to collect data for the trail improvements anticipated for this general area.

Pete, this has been an ongoing project and will be helpful in selecting CIP projects. (Additional clarification added after the meeting: However, the counters take significant staff time to manage, so we will likely not have counters in every location for proposed trails.)

Michael, did they mention how they get their data? (Bikeability study)

Pete, we actually met with the People for Bikes staff and reviewed their data and scoring. In some ways it would be hard for Broomfield to score very high under their model because of areas like Northeast Broomfield that do not have a lot of development or activity yet. The scoring is really geared towards urban environments that are active and populated, and even larger natural areas like Open Space do not score particularly well. Either way, the information is interesting to see.

### 6. Strava Introduction

Pete gave an overview of the [Strava](#) application. He explained the data collected, the heat maps created and the importance of this data in relation to upcoming projects. You can toggle the data between walking and biking or all trail uses, so you can see the connections that are important to people (i.e. lots of people go down this road but then stop or turn around). Using this you can tell things like overpasses that have stairs are not being used by bikes. This helps us to see what trails are being used by bikes or pedestrians and how we can best design trails for them.

### 7. Review and Approval of the July 20, 2022 Joint OSTAC/ PRSSAC Meeting Minutes and OSTAC Meeting Minutes

Renaie motioned to approve the Joint OSTAC/PRSSAC July 20, 2022 minutes; TK seconds; Minutes were approved unanimously.

Renaie motioned to approve the OSTAC July 20, 2022 minutes; TK seconds; Minutes were approved unanimously.

### 8. OSTAC Updates

Markel Property, Parcel 4 Open Space Acquisition (6 acres), Begin Environmental Due Diligence at 13781 Fox Ridge Drive end of August-early September

Kristan gave an update on the environmental work being done at the above site. Once work is completed Broomfield will acquire this property per the Markel Land Acquisition contract completed many years ago.

Open Space, Parks, Recreation and Trails Refresh-Spanish Speaking Focus Group

Lexi provided an overview of the August Spanish Speaking Focus Group.

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Michael, any specific outliers?

Lexi, we are still figuring that out, but what we have heard so far is the need for diversity of playground equipment for kids of different ages, signage in English and Spanish, the hours that the bathrooms are open, Spanish speakers at the recreation center, and more transit to parks and open spaces.

### Events

- Brewfest, August 27, 2022, Saturday, Anthem Community Park, 5:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Broomfield Days, September 17, 2022, Saturday, Midway Park, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Kids Fishing Derby, October 1, 2022, Saturday, Tom Frost Reservoir, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Registration Required on Brex)
  - Michael, this has filled up several years in a row, could we look at making it run a few more dates?
  - Kristan, what are you thinking – longer day or multiple days?
  - Michael, a longer day would be a lot for staff and volunteers, but multiple days would be good.
  - Kristan, we would have to discuss as a staff as it is a big event to organize.
  - Jack, I know CPW does put on different clinics throughout the year.
  - Michael, I know a lot of parents would love to do it, but cannot get in.
  - Jack, we have had extra poles in years passed and given those away for people to fish after the event. We could do more of that.
- Historic Sites Tour, Metzger, Saturday October 8, 2022 10 a.m to 2 p.m.
- An Inspired Life, The John Metzger Story, May 13, 2023, Saturday, Metzger Farm, 12080 Lowell Boulevard, 10:00 a.m.

### Other topics as requested by Citizens

None.

## 9. Other Topics as Desired by OSTAC

Dave, talking about Anthem Ranch, I live on that path and I have a concern about the new ebikes (with the wide tires) going very fast on this trail.

Michael, I think we should have speed limits on the trails, especially in heavy use areas.

Pete, The trails in Anthem Ranch are definitely an area where see some conflicts between different user groups, with a lot of dog walkers mixed in with higher speed cyclists, for example.

Dave, what about some new signage for that trail?

Pete, We have had our staff do some monitoring on those trails and we've installed some signage in the areas experiencing conflicts, to try to reduce speeds and promote trail etiquette.

Pete, regarding e-bikes, we allow only Class 1 and 2 bikes which are capped at 20 mph for usage of the assist motors, but we have heard that speed is still a concern.

Scott, I saw an e-skateboard incident in which a man got into an accident.

Pete, with the Master Plan we are looking into all of these new devices and a variety of topics related to trail use. Speed limits are something that can be evaluated through this process. Enforcement will also need to be considered for speed limits.

**Motion to adjourn by TK and seconded by Scott.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Minutes were prepared by Beverly Burbach.**