

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015

Item Number: Action Item # 1

Item Name: Request on Behalf of the Old North End Neighborhood to Install an Entry Sign in the Wasatch Median (near Uintah Street)

BACKGROUND:

The Old North End Neighborhood has requested that an entry sign be erected within the Wasatch Avenue median, just north of Uintah Street. The Wasatch Avenue median is part of the City's system of historic medians.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Old North End Neighborhood has requested a revocable permit to erect an entry sign within the historic Wasatch Avenue median, just north of Uintah Street. The proposed sign is consistent in scale and character with other signs erected within the North Nevada and Cascade medians. The sign will include stone columns and wrought iron décor (see attached exhibit).

The Old North End will be responsible for all costs associated with constructing the sign, including any necessary irrigation adjustments and utility conflicts. All ongoing maintenance, repair and replacement expenses, including costs related to a flower bed at the base of the sign. Representatives from the Old North End will work with Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Staff on the final location of the sign.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

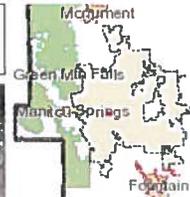
Staff recommends approval of the new Old North End entry sign to be installed in the Wasatch Avenue median.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion approving the proposed entry sign.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Old North End Neighborhood (ONEN)
Michael Collins, Historic Preservation Alliance
Pat Doyle, Revocable Permit Contact – ONEN Contact
Sue Matz, City Planning



Legend

- National Forest
- Parks
- Military
- Towns
- County Boundary
- Hospitals_2.5K
- Schools_2.5K
- Roadway_Patch_2.5K
- Interstate
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Ramps
- Roadway_2.5K
- Interstate
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Ramps
- Parcel_Boundary_2.5K
- Park_Labels_2.5K
- Airport_Labels_2.5K
- Military_Labels_2.5K
- National_Forest_Labels_2.5K
- City_Boundary_2.5K
- County_Boundary_2.5K
- Hospitals_6K
- Schools_6K

1: 471



78.5 0 39.27 78.5 Feet

NAD_1983_StatePlane_Colorado_Central_FIPS_0502_Feet
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Notes

External Geocortex Visualization for Google Maps™

Synchronize



COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015
Item Number: Action Item # 2
Item Name: 2016 Capital Improvement Budget

Summary:

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff requests approval of the proposed 2016 Capital Improvement Budget (CIP). The Budget has been developed based upon the Parks System Master Plan, a needs assessment, community input, discussion from the joint Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and TOPS Working Committee work session on May 14, 2015. The Board's recommendation will be carried forward to City Council for consideration as part of the 2016 Budget process.

Previous TOPS Working Committee and Parks Board Action:

The TOPS Working Committee had a preliminary review of the budget during the June 3, 2015 meeting. The Parks and Recreation Board had a preliminary review of the budget during their June 11, 2015 board meeting. The TOPS Working Committee will consider approval of the CIP budget at their July 8, 2015 meeting. Any recommendations or revisions from the TOPS Working Committee will be presented to Parks Board on July 9, 2015.

Background:

Each year the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department conducts a process to assist in establishing priorities for the annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget. As part of the 2016 CIP budget process, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department staff has prepared projected estimates on available funding and is seeking public input as part of the CIP budget process. In accordance with the TOPS Ordinance, the TOPS Working Committee is responsible for recommending priority projects for the expenditure of TOPS funds.

Financial Implications:

Funding for the amended 2016 Budget is recommended from the following sources: TOPS, Conservation Trust, General Fund, PPRTA, and PLDO. Staff will present an overview of the budget process, provide a report on projected revenue, and provide a summary of current financial obligation. The proposed CIP budget is attached.

Stakeholder process:

The TOPS Working Committee Meetings and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meetings provide opportunity for public comment. The Preliminary Budget was presented to the TOPS Working Committee on June 3, 2015. The TOPS Working Committee will have the opportunity to approve the budget at their July 8, 2015 meeting.

Alternative:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board can recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of the 2016 CIP Budget as presented.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed 2016 CIP Budget.

Proposed Motion:

Move to approve the 2016 CIP Budget as presented.

Parkland Dedication Fund (PLDO)

Estimated 2016 Revenue:	\$ 1,200,000
Projected 2015 Fund Balance:	\$ <u>(383,291)</u>
Amount Available for 2016 Budget	\$ 816,709

2015 Budget

Proposed PLDO Projects:

Venezia Community Park \$ 6,800,000

2016 Proposed Budget

Proposed PLDO Projects:

Venezia Community Park \$ 800,000

General Fund

Project Rating Criteria

Max Points

Safety	75 points
Service Level	50 points
Legal Mandate	25 points
Linkage to other Projects	15 points
Budget Impacts	15 points
Financial Leverage	15 points
Consistency with Plans	15 points
Number of People Served	25 points
Budget Return on Investment	15 points

Estimated 2016 Revenue:

N/A

Projected 2015 Fund Balance:

N/A

Amount Available for 2016 Budget

N/A

2016 Proposed Budget

Proposed General Fund Projects:

Pioneers Museum Exterior	\$ 75,000
Manitou Incline Phase II	\$ 1,000,000
Deerfield Hills Community Center Expansion	\$ 200,000
Pioneers Museum HVAC Improvements	\$ 300,000
Westside Community Center Site Improvements	\$ 225,000
Brush Chipper	\$ 60,000
Shooks Run Trail Replacement/Crossing Improvement	\$ 500,000
Ashpalt Parking Lot, Trail, and Road Repairs	\$ 13,935,769
Cottonwood Creek Artificial Turf Field Replacement	\$ 800,000
Goose Gossage Artificial Baseball Field Replacement	\$ 750,000
Cottonwood Creek Rec Center Pool Filter System	\$ 50,000
Jackson, Jenkins, Wagner Park Playground Replacements	\$ 350,000
Panorama Park Improvements	\$ 515,000
Pedestrian Bridge Repairs	\$ 175,000
Subtotal	\$ 18,935,769

PPRTA

2015 Budget

Proposed PPTRA Projects:

Pikes Peak Greenway \$ 1,000,000

Projected 2015 Fund Balance:

N/A

Amount Available for 2016 Budget

N/A

2016 Proposed Budget

Proposed PPTRA Projects:

Cottonwood Trail - Academy U.P. \$ 600,000

Pikes Peak Greenway \$ 1,021,000

Total \$ **1,621,000**

TOPS

All Funds Total Proposed in 2016	\$ 6,299,987
All Funds Projected Remaining Fund Balance in 2016	\$ 8,194,393

2015 Budget

<u>Administration</u>	\$216,900
<u>Maintenance</u>	\$433,800

TOPS Trails - 20% max. \$ 1,654,147

Cottonwood Trail - Vincent to Academy	\$235,000
Rock Island Trail - Sand Creek to Constitution (Phase II)	\$129,147
Midland Trail - Columbia to Ridge Road Improvement and ROW	\$230,000
Rock Island Trail - Corridor Acquisition (phase II)	\$640,000
Cottonwood Creek Trail, Austin Bluffs/Woodmen Underpass (Pl	\$420,000

TOPS Open Space - 60% min. \$ 4,670,317

Acquisition; Red Rock Canyon Open Space annual payment	\$1,005,817
Acquisition: Open Space Acquisition	\$50,000
Acquisition: Ute Valley Expansion - Part II	<u>\$2,800,000</u>

Acquisition Total \$3,855,817

Stewardship: Ute Valley Master Plan Implementation and Stewa	\$275,000
Stewardship: RRC Master Plan Implementation and Stewardship	\$250,000
Stewardship: Bluestem Open Space Management Plan	\$14,000
Stewardship: University Park Open Space Management Plan	\$11,500
Stewardship: Stratton Open Space Management Plan	\$15,000
Stewardship: Open Space Stewardship of TOPS Open Space	<u>\$249,000</u>
Stewardship Total	\$814,500

Estimated 2016 Revenue:	\$ 7,335,000
Projected 2015 Fund Balance:	<u>\$ 7,093,760</u>
Amount Available for 2016 Budget	\$ 14,428,760

2016 Proposed Budget

<u>Administration -3%</u>	\$ 220,050
<u>Maintenance - 6%</u>	\$ 440,100

Trails - 20% max. \$ 1,670,000

Cottonwood Trail - Woodmen Road and Powers Blvd Underpass	\$ 350,000
Rock Island Trail - Additional Funding at Powers Underpass	\$ 300,000
University Park Trail	\$ 300,000
Rock Island Trail - Corridor Acquisition and Construction (Pl	\$ 425,000
Foothills Trail at Garden of the Gods	\$ 295,000

Open Space - 60% min. \$ 1,050,137

Acquisition: Red Rock Canyon Open Space annual payment	\$ 1,010,137
Acquisition: Open Space Acquisition Account	<u>\$ 40,000</u>

Acquisition Total \$ 1,050,137

Stewardship: Ute Valley Master Plan Implementation	\$ 275,000
Stewardship: Bluestem OS Management Plan Implementation	\$ 70,000
Stewardship: University Park OS Management Plan Implementation	\$ 30,000
Stewardship: Stratton OS Management Plan Implementation	\$ 45,000
Stewardship - Education	\$ 100,000
Stewardship - Rangers	\$ 175,000
Stewardship - Land Management	\$ 95,000
Stewardship - Resource Management	<u>\$ 279,000</u>
Stewardship Total	\$ 1,069,000

TOPS 2015 Budget

<u>TOPS Parks - 20% max.</u>	\$ 1,630,700
Park Maintenance	\$750,700
Emergency Repair	\$50,000
Playground Renovation and Replacement	\$280,000
ADA Improvements	\$150,000
Water Footprint Reduction	\$400,000

TOPS 2016 Budget

<u>Parks - 20% max.</u>	\$ 1,850,700
Park Maintenance	\$ 750,700
Emergency Repair	\$ 40,000
Playground Renovation and Replacement	\$ 200,000
Water Footprint Reduction	\$ 150,000
Monument Valley Pickleball Courts	\$ 100,000
Venezia Community Park	\$ 450,000
Ute Valley Park MP Implementation (Regional Park portion)	\$ 160,000

CIP Grant Projects

CIP Grant Projects

Rock Island Trail - T-Gap - PPG	\$ 150,000
Manitou Incline	\$ 3,000,000
GOCO Planning Grant - Austin Bluffs Open Space	\$ 40,000
Monument Valley Park Historic Walls - Repair - SHF	\$ 100,000
Monument Valley Pickleball Courts	\$ 250,000
Forest Management - State Forestry	\$ 100,000
Venezia - GOCO	\$ 350,000
Venezia - Learning Landscape	\$ 100,000
Legacy Loop State Trails Grant	\$ 200,000
City Auditorium - State Historic Grant	\$ 100,000
Venezia - Misc	\$ 500,000
Subtotal	\$ 4,890,000

Proposed Match (included in individual categories)

TOPS	\$ 150,000
N/A	\$ -
TOPS - Open Space Category	\$ 11,500
General Fund	\$ 20,000
TOPS -Parks Category	\$ 100,000
General Fund	\$ 100,000
PLDO	\$ 350,000
PLDO	\$ 100,000
PPRTA	\$ 200,000
General Fund	\$ 100,000
PLDO	\$ 500,000
Subtotal	\$ 1,631,500

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9th, 2015

Item Number: Action Item # 3

Item Name: Pikes Peak Hospice Legacy Wall at Nancy Lewis Park

SUMMARY: A proposed redesign and renovation of the Pikes Peak Hospice Legacy Wall in Nancy Lewis Park. The redesign will include a new plaza space, donor recognition and meditation garden in the same location as the current memorial.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND: In coordination with The Pikes Peak Hospice and the Colorado Springs Parks Department, a memorial program was established with the opening of Nancy Lewis Park in 1996 to honor loved ones through the purchase of a “Legacy” tree in the park. For a donation, trees could be purchased in celebration of a new birth, a special anniversary, as living memorials to the deceased, and as family trees. The arboretum in the park is home 63 varieties of tree species. A granite Legacy Wall was made available for engraving names of donors and those being honored. The current list of names on the Legacy Wall totals more than 300. The Legacy Wall was dedication in August of 1996 with names being added through March of 1999. In addition to the trees, decorative park amenities such as benches, fountains, the gazebo and the playground were also available for memorial donation. All proceeds benefited Pikes Peak Hospice terminally ill patients and families.

In the spring of 2015, the Pikes Peak Hospice approached the Parks Department to discuss opportunities to renovate the Legacy Wall and review the donor tree signage in preparation of the 20 year anniversary. Elements to the Legacy Wall and the adjoining plaza space have begun to show signs of wear and tear. Additionally, due to the site’s geometry, children frequently use the wall as an impromptu slide. The initial intention was to provide an updated setting, using the existing engraved granite slabs. After further discussion with the Pikes Peak Hospice, the Parks Department identified several alternatives ranging from a slight update of the site, to a moderate renovation and finally to a complete redesign.

The Pikes Peak Hospice welcomed the redesigned concept, focusing on incorporating the donors’ recognition to date, while providing for a new visitor experience at the site. The selected concept includes a circular plaza space defined by large blocks of granite stones. The entrance to the plaza space will align with Pikes Peak, providing a sweeping backdrop to the western high peaks. The granite stones serve as a face to engrave the donors’ names as well as serve as an informal setting area, providing a place to reflect, rest and meditate. The plaza floor will be hand placed flagstones to match the walkway over the pond, tying in existing colors, textures and materials of the park.

Surrounding the plaza and the circular stone wall will be a perennial garden, providing seasonal interest and summer-long colorful blooms. Ornamental trees will provide vertical structure and

interest to plaza borders. The Pikes Peak Legacy Wall will change names with this redesign to the Pikes Peak Hospice Meditation Garden.

Construction of this project is anticipated to begin this fall with demolition of the existing Legacy Wall. The intent is to complete construction by the spring of 2016. Fundraising efforts will continue throughout this year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The renovation of the site will be funded through private donations. Park Staff will provide landscape architectural services and construction management. Parks' maintenance staff will devote time on the irrigation renovation as well as routine maintenance and daily clean-up of the site per the existing agreement.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: N/A

ALTERNATIVE: Deny the approval of the renovation and redesign of the Pikes Peak Hospice Wall, keeping the existing memorial wall and plaza in place.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the renovation and redesign of the Pikes Peak Hospice Meditation Garden, as presented.

PROPOSED MOTION: Motion to approve the renovation of the Pikes Peak Hospice Meditation Garden, as presented.

Attachments: Existing site photos, proposed photo simulation of the conceptual design





COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015

Item Number: Action Item # 4

Item Name: Reappointment of TOPS Working Committee Member

SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) Ordinance approved by voters in 1997 and the TOPS Policies and Procedures Manual, adopted in September of 1997, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is responsible for establishing the TOPS Working Committee to "Work together, in accordance with the TOPS Ordinance, to guide our City in the prudent acquisition, development and preservation of Trails, Parks and Open Space, thereby creating a legacy for future generations in the Pikes Peak Region."

In accordance with the TOPS Ordinance, City Council appoints three Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members (TOPS Citizen Advisory Board Members) to serve as Liaisons to the TOPS Working Committee. The Liaisons are responsible for conducting an applicant selection process and recommending candidates to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for appointment to the TOPS Working Committee.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

TOPS Working Committee Member Becky Wegner is eligible for a second term and has indicated that she would like to continue. Her second term would run from July 9, 2015 through June 24, 2018

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ALTERNATIVE:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of reappointment to the TOPS Working Committee as presented.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion approving the reappointment to the TOPS Working Committee as presented.

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015
Item Number: Presentation Item # 5
Item Name: Buffalo Soldiers Memorial at Memorial Park

BACKGROUND:

The Memorial Park Master Plan identifies specific areas for the development of future memorials within Memorial Park. The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department has received a request from the Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Committee to erect a memorial in honor of the fallen Buffalo Soldiers, the black soldiers who helped settle the west from 1867-1900s.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Buffalo Soldier Committee is currently working on refining and fundraising for the proposed memorial in Memorial Park. Once the design is finalized the Committee will return to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for approval.

There are currently two locations being discussed for the Buffalo Soldier Memorial. The first is at the corner of Union Blvd and Pike Peak Ave. The second location is within the Circle of Honor. Fundraising efforts will determine which location is selected. As the memorial currently is designed the scale is better suited for the Circle of Honor. The plan of the proposed memorial is attached to this packet and will be located at plot 26. The memorial will include a narrative about the history of the Buffalo Soldiers, a map of Colorado showing important locations, the Medal of Honor names and units, logos of the Infantry Regiments, and finally a time capsule. The proposed memorial will include the text and graphics cast into bronze plaques.

The Buffalo Soldier Committee will be responsible for all costs associated with creating and erecting the memorial. Perpetual maintenance of the memorial including and repairs stemming from vandalism, theft, weather or other acts or events is the responsibility of the Committee.

Currently the Buffalo Soldier Committee is in the middle of their fundraising campaign. The goal of the Committee will be to dedicate the memorial on July 28, 2016.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

No action required.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Willie Breazell and Dennis Moore, Buffalo Soldier Committee

Buffalo Soldiers
Community Memorial
Committee



9th Cavalry Regiment

Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Project
730 N. Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80905



10th Cavalry Regiment

May 11, 2015

Park, Recreation Board
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The members of the Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Committee of Colorado Springs, CO, is proposing a monument dedicated to the Buffalo Soldiers, the Black soldiers who helped settle the west from the 1867-1900s. We are asking for plot 18 which is adjacent to the Marine Memorial at the War Memorial located in Memorial Park.

The Community Memorial is honoring those soldiers who help tame the west, but are largely unknown in American history via our public education materials.

The goal of the Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Committee is to educate the community regarding the vital role played by the Buffalo Soldiers in western history, but especially in Colorado.

We have contacted Wilhelm Monument Company of Colorado Springs, CO, to produce and install the monument. Consulting with Mr. Dick Wilhelm, our committee is taking action to approve a final design and will authorize the expenditure of funds necessary for the project.

Our vision is to have this project completed prior to the national Buffalo Soldiers Day, July 28, 2016. This day marks the 150th anniversary of the congressional authorization of the first of six Negro Regular Army regiments.

Your consideration and approval of this project will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Willie H. Brezell, Sr. CW03, USA, Ret.
Captain, USAR, 719 310-5853
brezell1@comcast.net



24th Infantry Regiment



25th Infantry Regiment

Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial

The committee is proposing this memorial be constructed of granite and placed on a textured concrete pad.

The memorial has two pieces:

The top piece is 7' long by 5' tall, and has a width of 10 inches.

The base piece is 8 feet long and 10" tall, and has a depth of 16 inches. Wilhelm Monument Company proposes the base to inset into the concrete to provide stability, and that the table is pinned to the base.

The sides of the memorial will be adorned as indicated below:

- Buffalo Soldiers historical overview (abbreviate as necessary)
- Names and rank of Buffalo Soldiers Medal of Honor Winners (included)
- Map of Colorado with significant Buffalo Soldiers hostile Native American actions
- Names and rank/position of Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Committee with artist notation
- The four Buffalo Soldiers regiments crest (logos) will be prominently displayed
- Fifty year polystyrene time capsule vault measuring 9 x 9 x 14.5 inches installed in front of the monument, approximately 12-18 inches below ground with a suitable brick covering.

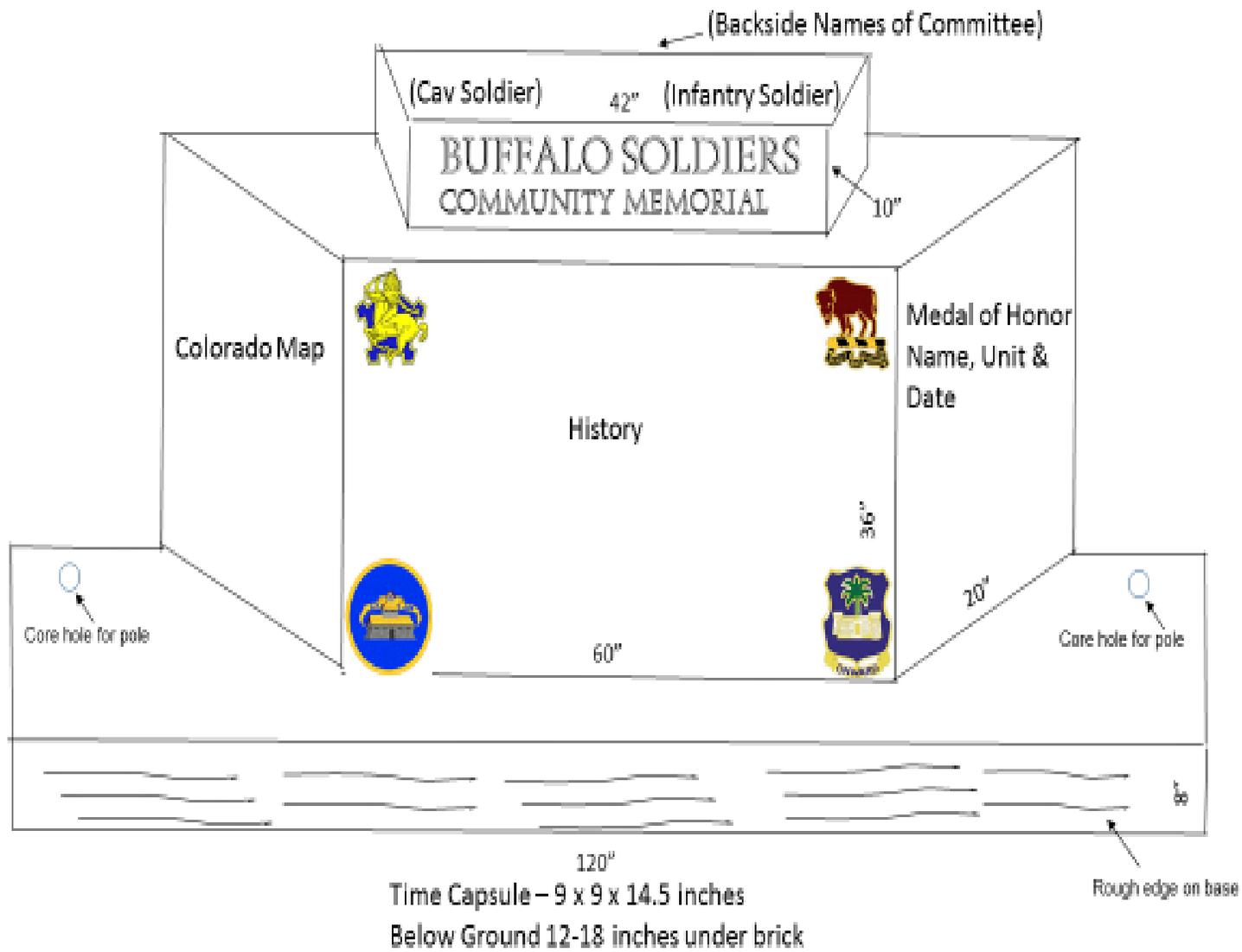
The granite is a tasteful and durable dark red. The pad is planned at approximately 12' by 9' with a matching entry walkway.

Wilhelm Monument Company (WMC), 806 S. Hancock Ave, Colorado Springs, CO, 719-633-0459, is the memorial provider. WMC has placed many of the existing memorials in Memorial Park.

The concrete supplier is Ideal Concrete, 7980 Industry Rd, Colorado Springs, CO, 719 574-4224. They are recent providers of the pads for various other military memorials within the park. Here are a few examples: Forward Air Controllers and the example enclosed in Old Colorado City Historical Society in Bancroft Park.

Both vendors have and will work closely with the Park Recreation staff to accomplish this unique historical monument in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Notional Design of Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial





9th Cavalry Regiment



10th Cavalry Regiment

The Thirty-Ninth Congress authorized the establishment of six NEGRO REGIMENTS on July 28, 1866. They recognized the military merits of blacks by authorizing segregated regiments of black Cavalry and Infantry. The Fortieth Congress on March 3, 1869, then enacted a troop reduction; the 38TH, 39TH, 40TH and 41ST Infantry Regiments were consolidated into the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments. The 9th and 10th Cavalry and 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments Soldiers were called BUFFALO SOLDIERS by the Native Americans, some say because of the tenacity with which they fought, some say it was because of the texture of their hair reminded them of the BUFFALO.

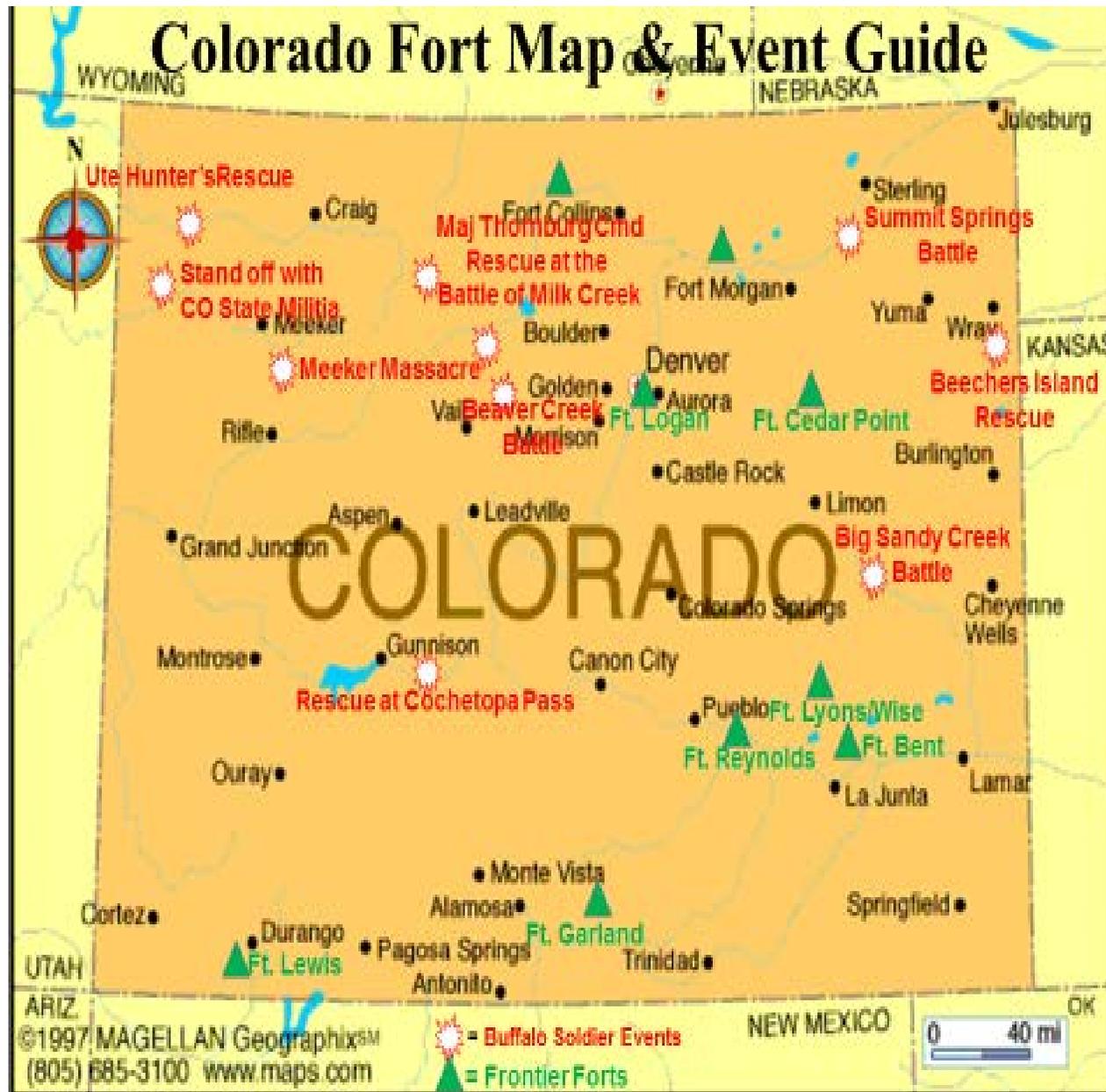
Elements of the 10th Cavalry were stationed at Fort Lyons, and troops of the 9th Cavalry were at Fort Garland, Colorado. These soldiers assisted civil authorities in controlling mobs, pursued outlaws, cattle thieves, and even Mexican revolutionaries along the U.S. Mexican border. Additionally, these soldiers served as the first US Border Patrol, rode “shotgun” on stage coaches, and delivered mail longer than the Pony Express. The BUFFALO SOLDIERS outposts were located in Arizona, Colorado, both Dakotas, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. BUFFALO SOLDIERS were also involved in numerous confrontations with hostile Native Americans in Colorado. Among the most famous confrontations are: Beecher’s Island in Yuma County; Milk Creek in Northern Colorado; and the White River Reservation.



24th Infantry Regiment



25th Infantry Regiment



Buffalo Soldier Recipients of the Medal of Honor*

NAME, RANK, AND UNIT	CAMPAIGN OR ACTION
Baker, Edward L., Jr. Sergeant Major, 10th Cavalry	Spanish-American War, 1898
Bell, Dennis Private, H Troop/10th Cavalry	Spanish-American War, 1898
Boyne, Thomas Sergeant, C Troop/9th Cavalry	Victorio Campaign, 1879
Brown, Benjamin Sergeant, C Troop/24th Infantry	Paymaster Escort, 1889
Denny, John Private, C Troop/9th Cavalry	Victorio Campaign, 1879
Factor, Pompey Private, 24th Infantry	Staked Plains Expedition, 1875
Greaves, Clinton Corporal, C Troop/9th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1877
Johnson, Henry Private, K Troop/10th Cavalry	Ute Campaign, 1879
Jordan, George Sergeant, K Troop/ 9th Cavalry	Victorio Campaign, 1879
Lee, Fitz Private, M Troop/10th Cavalry	Spanish-American War, 1898
Mays, Isaiah Corporal, B Troop/24th Infantry	Paymaster Escort, 1889
McBryar, William Sergeant, K Troop/10th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1890
Payne, Adam Private, 24th Infantry	Comanche Campaign, 1874
Payne, Isaac Trumpeter, 24th Infantry	Staked Plains Expedition, 1875
Shaw, Thomas Sergeant, K Troop/10th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1881
Stance, Emanuel Sergeant, F Troop/9th Cavalry	Texas Raid, 1870
Thompkins, William H. Corporal, A Troop/10th Cavalry	Spanish-American War, 1898
Walley, Augustus Sergeant, E Troop/10th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1881
Wanton, George H. Private, M Troop/10th Cavalry	Spanish-American War, 1898
Ward, John Sergeant, 24th Infantry	Staked Plains Expedition, 1875
Williams, Moses Sergeant, I Troop/9th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1881
Wilson, William O. Corporal, I Troop/9th Cavalry	Pine Ridge Campaign, 1890
Woods, Brent Sergeant, B Troop/9th Cavalry	Apache Campaign, 1881

*Lists rank, unit, and campaign or action at the time the medal was earned.

Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial Committee Members

Willie Breazell, CWO3, USA, Ret., Captain, USAR, Chair,

Henry Allen, 1SG, USA, Ret., Vice Chair,

E. Jim Mason, COL, USA, Ret., Vice Chair,

Bob, Null, COL, USAF, Ret.

June Waller, member, Vet spouse,

Dennis Moore, USAF, Ret., GS-13 USAF Civil Service Ret.

Dawn Elliott, Social Media

Mark Knight, US Marines, Treasurer

George Payton, CSM, USA, Ret.,

John Register, SSG, USA,

Mel Elliott, LTC, USA, Ret.,

Ed Jones, SP4, USA, former Colorado Senator

Artist/Sculpture: Rob Mench Studios LLC,

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015
Item Number: Presentation Item # 6
Item Name: War Dog Memorial at Memorial Park

BACKGROUND:

The Memorial Park Master Plan identifies specific areas for the development of future memorials within Memorial Park. The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department has received a request from the War Dog Memorial Project to erect a memorial in Memorial Park in honor of the service and dedication of war dogs, past, present and future who have served our troops at home and abroad. The War Dog memorial is intended to be a place not only to honor war dogs themselves, but also to be a place for reflection, celebration and thanks for the many people whose lives have been touched by the commitment of these service dogs.

CURRENT STATUS:

The War Dog Memorial Project team is currently refining the design of their memorial and embarking on a fundraising campaign for the proposed memorial in Memorial Park. As a next step, the team will present their proposed design to the Public Arts Commission for preliminary approval and input on final design of the monument. Once the design is finalized and fundraising is nearing completion, the War Dog Memorial Project team will return to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for final approval of the project.

Parks Department staff has worked with the War Dog Memorial team to identify a suitable location within the Circle of Honor at Memorial Park for their proposal. The monument proposal has been designed with this location in mind. The plan of the proposed memorial is attached to this packet and will be located at plot 27. The memorial will include a statue, low walls adjacent to the statue with inlayed plaques that will show war dogs in action and provide education as to their role, as well as a walkway to access the memorial.

The War Dog Memorial team will be responsible for all costs associated with creating and erecting the memorial. Maintenance of the memorial including and repairs stemming from vandalism, theft, weather or other acts or events shall be covered by a stewardship endowment provided by the War Dog Memorial team.

The War Dog Memorial team is engaged in a fundraising campaign. The success of this fundraising, along with the time required to obtain final approval from the Public Arts Commission and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board once that fundraising has been successfully completed will dictate the timeline for this project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

No formal action required. Initial approval of the proposed location and design is requested by the War Dog Memorial Project team.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Wade and Ruby Ridpath, War Dog Memorial Project

WAR DOG MEMORIAL COLORADO

www.wardogmemorialcolorado.com

Why a War Dog Memorial?

In November of 2011, we adopted a retired Explosive Detection Dog named CWD Carlos that changed our lives and inspired us to be a voice for our nation's working dog heroes. In August of 2013, we were honored to adopt MWD Alik that was retired after serving for almost 8 years as a Patrol/Explosive Detector Dog with Security Forces.

Military Working Dogs (MWDs) and Contract Working Dogs (CWDs), while their ownership is different, work in the same areas of operation performing the same jobs. They are "War Dogs" that give the best years of their lives valiantly protecting our troops, civilians and freedoms both domestically and overseas.

These noble warriors work tirelessly in scorching heat, freezing cold, blinding sand and torrential rain without complaint. They risk their own lives protecting the lives of our troops yet ask for nothing in return except some food, water and love. Their loyalty and commitment is unsurpassed. They sustain injury, use their own bodies to shield their handler and, some have lost their life.

Because of their selfless devotion many fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters have returned home to their families.

We have chosen to build this War Dog Memorial to give these "heroes with fur" the honor and respect they have earned and deserve. For generations to come, this Memorial will stand to honor the War Dogs that are truly, our "Forgotten Heroes".

Our sincere desire is for this War Dog Memorial to be a place where Military Working Dogs and Contract Working Dogs will be revered forever and be a place of reflection for those who served with and whose lives were saved by these amazing hero dogs.

How You Can Help

Monetary Donations  Fundraising Events  Sponsorships  Spreading the word

Your support and donations are paramount to building the War Dog Memorial honoring our "Forgotten Heroes".

Thank You,

Ruby & Wade Ridpath



The War Dog Memorial Project is a component fund of the **Pikes Peak Community Foundation**, a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

War Dog Memorial
P.O. Box 25822 Colorado Springs, CO 80936



Ph. 719-470-0936
email: wardogmemorialco@gmail.com



Find Us On Facebook
FB.com/wardogmemorialco



Memorial Details

The War Dogs (German Shepherd & Labrador Retriever) on top of the pedestal will be 1 ½ time life size Bronze Sculptures.

The Center Pedestal will be 9 feet in diameter.

The walkway around the center pedestal will be approximately 6 feet wide.

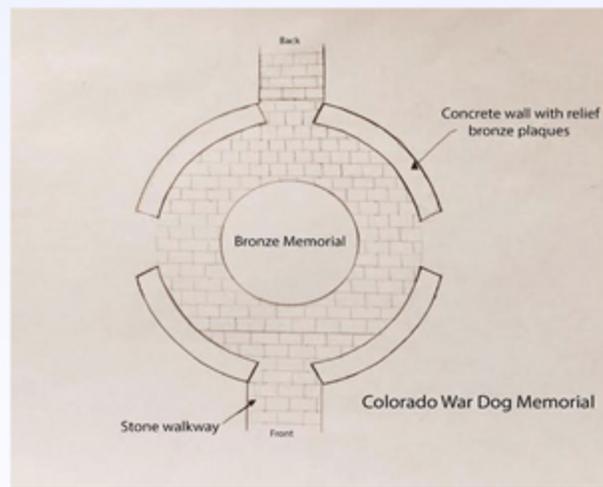
The walkway will be paved with gray laser engraved "Honor" Bricks.

8 Bronze reliefs depicting the history of War Dogs and 4 Bronze educational plaques will be permanently set into the inside face of the walls.

The diameter of the Memorial will be 24 feet including the wall.

The walls of the Memorial walls will be 3 feet high.

The entrance and exit to the Memorial will be approximately 6 feet wide .



Artist's sketch - Overview of the planned War Dog Memorial

The plans for the War Dog Memorial are subject to change.

The War Dog Memorial Project is a component fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law.







Colorado War Dog Memorial



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©Austinweishel.com

The Working Dog

My eyes are your eyes,
To watch and protect yours.

My ears are your ears,
To hear and detect evil minds in the dark.

My nose is your nose,
To scent the invader of your domain.

And so you may live, my life is also yours.

~ Cicero



City of Colorado Springs
Parks and Recreation Department

27 APRIL 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this in support of the "War Dog Memorial". I am a Navy Veteran , having served in World War II in the Pacific from 1944-1946. Because of these devoted and selfless warriors , the lives of thousands of our men and women have been saved. I feel this memorial is a wonderful way to say "Thank-you for your service".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William M. Getts". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

William M. Getts



United States War Dogs Association, Inc.

"Canines with: Honor - Courage - Loyalty"



14 May 2015

To Whom it may concern;

My name is Ronald L. Aiello, and I am president of The United States War Dog Association (USWDA). I have known Ruby Ridpath since 2012 when her adopted retired war dog CWD Carlos won USWDA's Working Dog Service Award, and Ms. Ridpath became a member of our organization. Since that time, she has generously volunteered her time to promote and help war dogs and their causes. In 2013, CWD Carlos won the Hero Dog of the Year in the military division, and Ms. Ridpath has used Carlos' achievements to fight for the betterment of retired CWDs. She has worked closely with Mission K9 Rescue who is chapter six of USWDA. Last summer when Mission K9 Rescue needed to raise funds to bring back 20 CWDs from overseas, Ms. Ridpath worked tirelessly to help raise the funds. She created an auction and online store in which all proceeds went to the campaign.

I am thrilled that Ms. Ridpath has decided to take on the challenge of creating a war dog memorial in Colorado Springs. As a Vietnam veteran and former canine handler, I know first hand what these dogs mean to our servicemen and women. It is important that they are recognized and honored along with the rest of their comrades.

Yours Truly,

Ronald L. Aiello

1313 Mt. Holly Road, Burlington, New Jersey 08016



PIKES PEAK DETACHMENT

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

PO BOX 10536
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80932-1536

From the Office of
Russell Miller

Commandant / Chaplain

Sir,

On behalf of the Marine Corps League, Pikes Peak Detachment. I would like to take this opportunity to say that we support your effort to install a War-Dog Memorial alongside the other memorials that are currently displayed at Memorial Park here in Colorado Springs.

Military working dogs have played an integral part in all the branch's mission goals for generations.

We salute you and wish you great success in your undertaking.

Semper Fi

Russ Miller

Commandant

Toys for Tots Coordinator

Marine Corps League, Pikes Peak Detachment 29

719.235.1058

rcmlr@msn.com

cstoys4tots@live.com

www.mclpikespeak.org

"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"

April 14 2015

To Whom it may concern

I understand that there is some conflict over the War Dog Memorial. Being A Marine Veteran of the Viet Nam War plus an American Citizen, Here is my TWO cents.

These Fine Brave animals served with Courage and Dedication questioned by no one. These Animals did what was asked of them and many gave there lives or were badly injured and Never questioned their job.

These fine animals saved God only knows how many lives while serving along side of our TROOPS.

So my TWO CENTS is this Please Allow this Memorial to be Placed beside the Brave Men and Women that they Served with.Allow them the Same Honor they Deserve.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cpl. R. D. Starkey". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Cpl. R. D. Starkey
U.S.M.C.



LENDING A HAND TO PAWS THAT SERVE

April 17, 2015

City of Colorado Springs
Parks and Recreation Department

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kristen Maurer and I am president of Mission K9 Rescue. We rescue and rehome war dogs. I am writing you in reference to Ruby Ridpath and her commitment to these war dogs.

I met Ms. Ridpath in 2012 when we were both on the board of directors for an organization called Military Working Dog Adoptions (MWDA). In 2013 the founder of MWDA decided to change career paths, and we had to decide how we wanted to restructure the organization. With MWDA, we were bound strictly to adoptions of military working dogs, so we decided to dissolve MWDA and change the mission in order to help assist the dogs financially as well as include contract working dogs and any dog who serves. Ms. Ridpath was so committed to these war dogs, that we knew that we would not be able to successfully start this venture without her assistance. She decided that due to work conflicts that instead of being a board member that she would volunteer; and volunteer she has!

She created all of our fliers and brochures, she had our logo created, and she even came up with the tag line for Mission K9 Rescue. In July of 2013, Mission K9 Rescue committed to bring back 20 retiring contract working dogs from Afghanistan and Kuwait. Just to fly them home would cost upwards of \$35,000. We began one fundraiser, and Ms. Ridpath started her own fundraiser for the dogs. She created an online auction and store. She was the proud mom of a retired contract working dog by the name of Carlos, who was the Hero Dog Of The Year in 2012. In her fundraiser, she committed to give everyone of Carlos' fans an "autographed" picture of Carlos. Orders came flying in and she and Carlos stamped his foot on many many pictures for his fans. Ms. Ridpath's efforts raised 8600.00 for the war dog's transportation home!

Ms. Ridpath has dedicated her life to these amazing dogs. She has transported them across country, she has assisted owners with these dogs to vet visits and she has attended many functions in order to speak on behalf of their plight and welfare. Just recently in Colorado Springs, one of our retired war dogs that we adopted to a soldier at Ft. Carson went missing. Ms. Ridpath organized and carried out a search party in order to find him. He was found during that search.

I am honored to be writing this letter in her behalf, because there is no one that is more dedicated to these dogs or more qualified to be organizing the creation of an amazing war dog memorial! She has chosen a talented sculptor whose work is in a league all his own. She is intelligent and professional, and she will make Colorado Springs proud. I know that she makes me proud to not only call her a colleague but to also call her a friend!

If you have any questions for me do not hesitate to reach out.

Yours very truly,

Kristen Maurer
President
Mission K9 Rescue
713-240-1383
km@Mission K9 Rescue.org

April 14, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand there is some concern about the appropriateness of a War Dog Memorial in the same park as a Veteran's Memorial. I believe it is fitting to include the War Dog Memorial there. From as far back as the Civil War dogs have been instrumental in aiding and assisting our troops. There have been countless instances where the War Dog has saved lives by his action. The dog's dedication and unswerving faithfulness to his troops is remarkable. Dogs such as CWD Carlos, MWD Gabe (both American Humane Association Hero Dogs) and MWD Cairo (who was part of the SEAL team that captured Osama Bin Laden) are all heroes who demonstrated their courage every day of their service.

As veterans, my family believes these heroes deserve no less a place than the Veteran's Memorial Park. I was in the National Guard, my husband Rick was a Marine, and our Daughter Johna was also a Marine. We appreciate the service and sacrifice these noble animals gave and continue to give to us.

Sincerely,



Merry Starkey

War Dog Memorial, Colorado

To Whom It May Concern

It is very appropriate to honor War Dogs and in that matter all animals that help America's Service Members. There are dolphins that assist in Naval and Coast Guard Operations. The list of God's creatures who contribute would be stunning to anyone unaware.

I personally have seen the work these war dogs do. Their dedication to duty and the mission are the driving force in their lives. Had there been a war dog at the Al Kasik Iraqi Army Base, Iraq, August 7th 2004, four fewer American's would have Purple Hearts, myself included and probably fifteen to twenty Iraqi soldiers would not have perished. The War Dogs would have detected the two explosive filled water tankers that were allowed onto the base by civilian security contractors, who failed to detect the explosives.

It is most appropriate to honor all who served and I would expect there will be great support from the various K9 operators at all of the military bases in the Colorado Springs area, both Air Force and Army.

Honoring these War Dogs is the Right and proper thing to do, and I hope to someday take my Grandkids to Memorial Park and show them the monument and tell them of these heroic animals.

LTC (Ret) Steve Alexander

US Army,

719-433-1236

stevealexanderauthor@gmail.com

Colorado Springs
Parks and Recreational Department

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the "War Dog Memorial". My husband John J. Howe, M.D., served in Viet Nam from 1966-1967. As his widow, I am speaking for John and myself. I feel this memorial is a wonderful tribute to these noble warriors who have risked their lives and by doing so, have saved the lives of thousands of our men and women.

Sincerely,



Gayle Getts-Howe

27 April 2015

1201 Lakeshore Drive

Irving, Texas 75060

11 April 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a retired United States Air Force Veteran who served this great Nation for 21 years. I started my military career in a combat role for 3 tours in South East Asia, and finished after Desert Storm.

I would consider it an honor to have our great K9 warriors memorialized alongside our military members. These often forgotten K9 members have made uncountable sacrifices to protect and serve our military in hostile areas. Anyone that has served in areas of conflict know how important they are in helping provide a threat free environment at installations, bases, forward operation locations, downrange, and even off site on patrols and in local villages.

I myself, as many others, owe my life to these wonderful K9s. If it wasn't for their service, I would not be here today. When the day comes, I have made arrangements to have the ashes of a K9 Warrior buried forever with me.

WILLIAM D. QUEITSCH, MSgt. USAF, Ret.

AUSTIN WEISHEL

b r o n z e s c u l p t u r e



Austin Weishel
Info@austinweishel.com
(970) 231-8077

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ABOUT AUSTIN



"When I Grow Up" Life-size 6.3 FT

With his unique ability to capture the world around us, he creates bronze pieces of inspiration. He has installed artwork from the east coast to west coast, including a national monument in *Washington, D.C.*

Austin's work has been featured on the *Today Show*, *Fox and Friends*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post* and is favored by local art collectors.

Image Identification List

1. **"Ashes to Answers"** 2013, Bronze, 71"h, 48" w, 36"l, Washington, D.C., 500 F Street, Fire Station 2
2. **"When I Grow Up"** 2013, Bronze, 72.3"h, 48.3" w, 48"l, Grand Junction Co. 330 S 6th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501
3. **"Forced Entry"** 2011, Bronze, 18"h, 6" w, 3"l
4. **"Chivalry"** 2013, Bronze, 18"h, 12" w, 12"l Edition 50
5. **"Windsor Severance Historic society"** 2015, Clay soon to be bronze, will be 9'h, 12' w, 12'l once complete late 2015
6. **"Follow Your Heart"** 2011, Bronze, 48"h, 72" w, 96"l Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue, Co., 100 N 7th Street, Windsor, CO 80550
7. **"The Trails End"** 2013, Clay (Bronze), 24"h, 12" w 18"l
8. **Sketch for new bronze sculpture**
9. **"Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial"** 2015, Clay, soon to be bronze, 5'h, 4' w, 6'l
10. **"Modesto Fallen Officer Memorial"** 2014, Bronze, Life-Size 4.5'h, 5' w, 3'l
11. **"The Golden Years"** 2015, Clay soon to be bronze, Life-Size 5'h, 4' w, 6'l

1



2



3



4



5



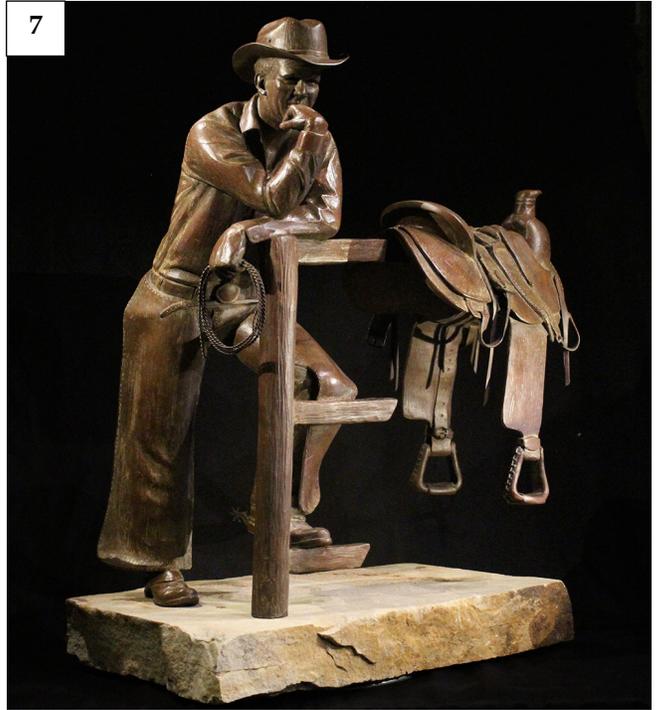
6



8



7



9



10



10



11



11



CREATION PROCESS

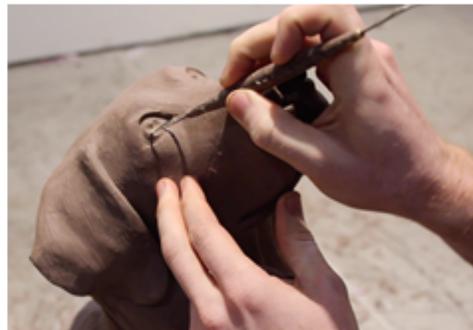
1. Concept

- Work with project team to design concept
- 2-4 week to create small version of sculpture (referred to as a Maquette)



2. Sculpting

- 3-13 months for over life-size
 - 2500+ hours of sculpting work
- Final review for client (before sent to bronze)



3. Bronzing

- 3-4 months
 - Mold making
 - Wax stage
 - Shell Stage
 - Bronzing
 - Welding
 - Chasing/finishing
 - Patina/coloring



4. Delivery/Installation

- Base installed before sculpture is delivered
- Install time, 2-5 hours



References

Jerry Means

Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
CBI Agent, Founder of "Ashes to Answers"
710 Kipling Street, Suit 200, Denver, CO 80215
Cell: (303) 941-3117
jerry.means@cdps.state.co.us

Heather Paul

State Farm Insurance
Public Affairs Specialist
One State Farm Plaza, B-4, Bloomington, IL 61710
Desk: (309) 766-0922
Cell: (309) 826-7899
heather.paul.jaw8@statefarm.com

Lorie Gregor

Grand Junction City Parks and Recreation
Recreation Coordinator
1340 Gunnison Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501
Desk: (970)-254-3876
lorieg@gjcity.org

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: July 9, 2015
Item Number: Presentation Item # 7
Item Name: Bankers Loop at Goose Gossage Park Presentation

BACKGROUND:

The Urban Singletrack Project completed the Bankers Lunch Loop Pilot Project in the spring of 2014. After a year, the trail has seen an increase in users from many different groups and riders. The loop trail serves as a node along the greenway that can be utilized by commuters, lunch time riders, as well as special events and skills clinics. The trail promotes recreational infill along the Pikes Peak Greenway as well as additional single track trail opportunities in the urban setting.

SUMMARY:

Urban Singletrack is proposing a second single track trail loop to expand the concept. The second site is proposed adjacent to the Pikes Peak Greenway near the Goose Gossage Dirt Jumps. The addition provides users on the northern end of the Greenway an opportunity to experience single track trails in the urban setting. The project will include 0.8 miles of new trail.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

No action required.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Urban Singletrack



Bankers Loop at Goose Gossage

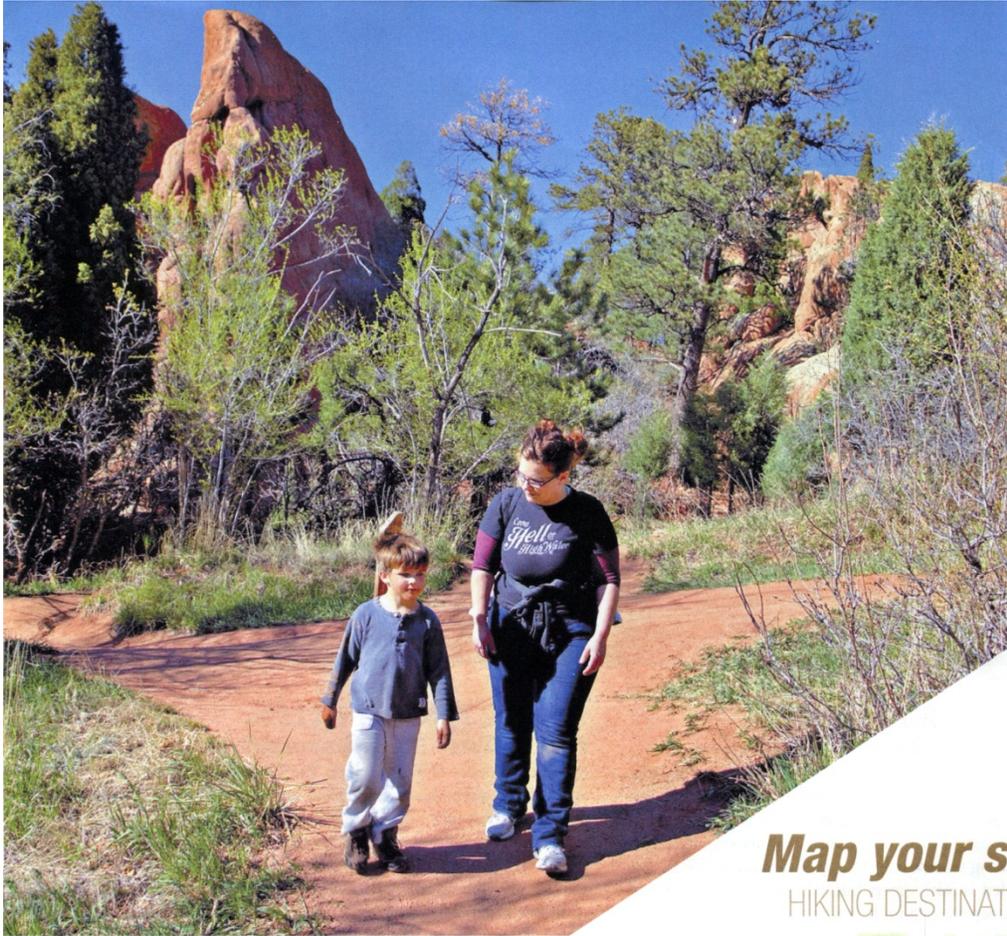
60 30 0 60 Feet



State Plan Coordinates
Colorado Central Zone
NAD83-US Survey Feet
Vertical Datum-NGVD29

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07/03



Bob Falcone

DEVIL'S CANYON TRAIL

Pueblo – 1 mile roundtrip

Given Pueblo's reputation as the gateway to the Great Plains, one doesn't immediately think of hiking, but don't skip it. Just 12 miles from downtown lies the Mountain Park Environmental Center, which contains 6 miles of hiking trails. Some of these trails connect to U.S. Forest Service trails for much longer adventures. The best easy option in the park is the Devil's Canyon Trail, a short shady walk through fir trees and an excellent place to birdwatch, too. At the canyon you may find a trickle of water, or even a torrent in the late-spring runoff.

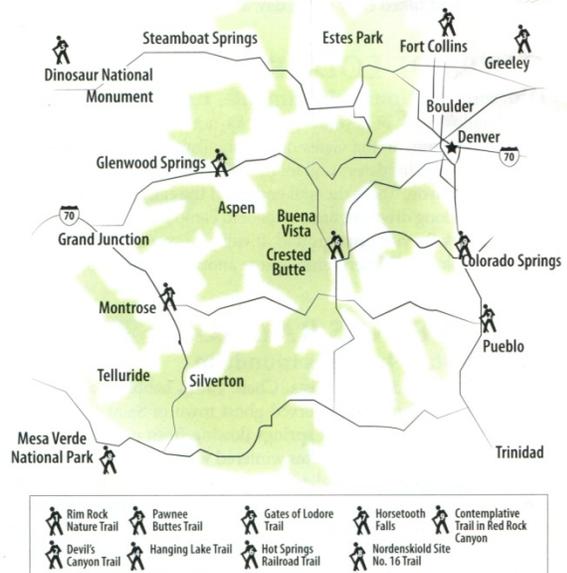
PAWNEE BUTTES TRAIL

Greeley – 3 miles roundtrip

About 25 miles northeast of Greeley, the Pawnee National Grassland is 193,060 acres of birdwatching paradise. The Pawnee Buttes rise 300 feet above the surrounding prairie, and a 1.5-mile trail leads straight to the buttes from the parking lot. The second butte lies on private land, but access is allowed. Besides being a famed birding area, this is also a great area to look for fossils on the surface limestone. As always, when you find fossils, enjoy these ancient treasures but please leave them on site for others to enjoy, too. This hike is fairly remote compared to the others on this list and is a real adventure.

Map your steps

HIKING DESTINATIONS





Above: Joshua Hardin /Right: Bob Falcone

HANGING LAKE TRAIL

Glenwood Canyon – 2 miles roundtrip

One of the most beautiful short hikes in Colorado, the Hanging Lake Trail perches on the edge of Glenwood Canyon 10 miles east of Glenwood Springs. Designated a national natural landmark in 2011 for its purity and uniqueness, Hanging Lake stuns visitors with clear turquoise waters, a gushing waterfall and unique hanging gardens. The short trail to this Eden is fairly steep, but bridges, resting spots and handrails along the steepest sections help you along the way. To avoid crowds, it's best hiked early in the day, as it's quite popular.

GATES OF LODORE TRAIL

Dinosaur National Monument – 1.5 miles roundtrip

In Colorado's "back of beyond" on the far northern side of Dinosaur National Monument, the Gates of Lodore Trail leads to a place few people ever see. This desert trail follows the Green River to the mouth of Lodore Canyon. There the trail ends, and the canyon is impassable by foot. It's a long drive out here, so plan to camp a night or two in the National Park Service campground. It will give you time to enjoy the beauty of Colorado's deserts and explore another trail or two.

HOT SPRINGS RAILROAD TRAIL

Buena Vista – 4.4 miles roundtrip

Between Salida and Buena Vista, Chalk Creek babbles past storied pioneer lands – the well-preserved ghost town of Saint Elmo, Iron City and healing mineral hot springs flowing from near the base of Mount Princeton where the Utes wintered for many years. Just west of the hot springs, a quiet singletrack trail follows a 2.2-mile section of the old narrow gauge railroad that once served Saint Elmo. This out-and-back hike offers fantastic views of Mt. Princeton's famed Chalk Cliffs, and climbs at a mere 2- to 4-percent grade. The hot springs make the perfect end to a perfect hike.

HORSETOOTH FALLS

Fort Collins – 2.4 miles roundtrip

Just 9 miles west of Fort Collins, the Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Park offers hikers fine trails of all lengths and difficulties. One of the best easy hikes here follows the trail to Horsetooth Falls. There aren't many waterfalls in northern Colorado, and these drop just 20 feet in early to mid-summer. Despite their small size, they've carved a shallow pool at their base, perfect to soak your feet and cool down before heading back. It's an ideal picnic hike.

NORDENSKIOLD SITE NO. 16 TRAIL

Mesa Verde National Park – 1 mile roundtrip

Long before any of us were born, the Swede Gustaf Nordenskiold arrived at the Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings now known as Mesa Verde. Just 23 years old, he scientifically excavated many sites, including this one, known simply as Site No. 16. This leisurely hike remains one of the least travelled in Mesa Verde National Park and delivers you to an overlook of this fascinating archaeological site. The forested area burned in 2000, so little shade remains. Hike early to avoid the summer heat.

CONTEMPLATIVE TRAIL IN RED ROCK CANYON

Colorado Springs – 1.75 miles roundtrip

Everyone knows the famed Garden of the Gods, but not many know of Red Rock Canyon, which some people wanted to name the "Garden of the Goddesses." Closed to bikes and horses, the Contemplative Trail meanders between rock walls, teases rock formations and offers a quiet respite close to the city. Many say it can be hiked as a meditation, honoring these sacred rock lands. Pine benches and natural rock benches along the loop offer plenty of places to rest. Take it slow and enjoy this special place. 🌲

06/25

Your Viewpoint: Irresponsible park visitors

The Gazette

Manitou Incline generates more trash complaints

More visitors, dogs, lack of trash barrels and enforcement among factors

KRDO

Mayor pedals for Bike to Work Day

KRDO

06/24

City to get \$1 million to finish Legacy Loop trail

The Gazette

06/23

City: Rights trump safety concerns

Tejon Street Bike Fest organizer told he can't evict those he deems troublemakers from Sunday's event

The Gazette

Benefit for "Toys for Tots" at risk of being canceled

KOAA

News5 Investigates Follow-Up: Asbestos removal underway in America the Beautiful Park

KOAA

06/22

Wet and wild: Giant slip 'n slide coming to Colorado Springs street

The Gazette

06/21

A park no more for Briargate residents

The Gazette

06/20

Toys for Tots organizer stymied by Colorado Springs' new procedures

The Gazette

06/18

Progress made in park cleanup--Opening date for Red Rock Canyon Open Space still unknown

The Gazette

James joins museum staff

The Colorado Springs Business Journal

06/13

YOUR VIEWPOINT: Nothing short of a pig sty

The Gazette

06/11

First Tee program expanding with new area at Valley Hi Golf Course

The Gazette

06/09

Crews clearing the way for the 'race to the clouds'

KRDO

06/08

An open letter to Mayor Suthers on National Trails Day

The Independent

06/07

Meth arrests made at city park

Drug crackdown at Monument Valley

The Gazette