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Berthoud Recreation Center and Parks Master Plans

Community Meeting #1 Public Input

Meeting Location: Berthoud Town Hall, Board Room

Meeting Date/Time: July 12, 2018 5:30-7:00 pm

Attendees: Approximately 70-75 participants

Facilitators/Staff: Town of Berthoud
Wenk Associates
BRS Architecture

Open House Format:

Five stations were set up at the open house – one for each park (Wagener, Richardson, Kinevil, and Town Park) and one specific to the recreation center facilities. Meeting attendee participants were asked to give their preferences for the park program at each site. Preliminary park diagrams were shown as a scenario for how the program could potentially fit on the site. The feedback on the attached pages summarizes both verbal and written comments received for each park site.

Attendance:

Approximately 70-75 attended the meeting. The sign in sheets (attached) documented 40 people signed in for the meeting. Several meeting attendees came together (families representing similar views) and only had one person sign in although both may have participated in the comments and surveys.

Summary Overview:

Participants were generally happy with the park programs for Richardson, Knievel, and Town Park. The greatest deviation in program was at Wagener Farm Park with many attendees expressing a preference for fewer to no soccer fields and no recreation center at this site.

Participants preferences generally varied in the following areas:

- Location site for Recreation Center. Most participants leaned towards the Richardson Park site with a desire for better trail connectivity to this site. However, there were participants that also preferred the Wagener Farm Park location because of its connectivity to downtown.
- Preference for the Outdoor Pool to be close to the Downtown neighborhoods for safe access – either at Town Park or Wagener Farm Park. General preference for significant upgrades and/or a new facility to accommodate all age groups the growing population and popularity of the outdoor pool.
- Several comments for an “artificial/natural creek” play water feature.
- Several comments for additional ballfields

- Desire for Wagener Park to have fewer sports fields and more of an open space focus.

Some participants were very interested in costs of the improvements. Some felt that this would help guide their preferences on program.

Some concern that the process is happening too quickly.

Park Site Program Overview:

Below outlines the program recommendations based on the participants at the Community Open House #1:

Town Park:

- *Community / Civic gathering space*
- *Pool (if not relocated to Waggener)- All ages*
- *Parking*
- *Lawns + Plaza / Promenade for markets and events*
- *Enhanced Playground – All ages/adventure/imagination*
- *Playground*
- *Bandstand / Community Pavilion*
- *Picnic + BBQ areas*
- *Restroom Facility*
- *Loop Walk*
- *Lawn Games / update and remain*
- *Bat / Bird / Pollinator education*

Wagener Farm Park:

- *Community Gathering Space*
- *Parking*
- *Picnic Pavilion*
- *Restrooms*
- *Playground*
- *Agricultural Fields*
- *Orchards*
- *Community Garden*
- *Demonstration Garden*
- *Irrigation Pond*
- *Loop Trail*
- *Regional Trail Connections*

Richardson Park:

- *Athletic Fields (Baseball, multi-use turf fields)*
- *Sports Courts*
- *Restrooms/ Concessions*
- *Destination Playground/ Rock Wall*
- *Pool or Spray ground/ Artificial River*
- *Recreation Center (contingent on key trail connections are provided from neighborhoods and downtown)*
- *Trails: Regional, Loop, Multi-use*
- *Future water use: Kayak/ Boat/ Canoe/ SUP access and rentals*

- *Bike park/Skate Park (non-motorized)*
- *Amphitheater*
- *Dog park*
- *Disc Golf*

Knieval Park:

- *Lawn/Multi-purpose Field*
- *Playground/Nature Play*
- *Archery*
- *Disc Golf*
- *Dog Park*
- *Parking*
- *Loop Trail*
- *Connections to regional trails*
- *Natural area/open space*
- *Consider future access across Hwy 287 from Richardson Park to Knieval Park*
- *Baseball (consider in future when access is provided)*
- *Soccer (consider in future when access is provided)*



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Community Meeting #1 Public Input – TOWN PARK COMMENTS

General Comments:

Below summarizes the comments from meeting attendees shared verbally with the table facilitator:

People are generally divided on whether or not the pool should stay in Town Park. However, if it does the majority of people I spoke with agree it needs significant upgrades or a new facility.

Walkability to the pool now is a primary driver for why people like it within the Town Park – Their kids can walk/bike and go alone safely.

People also considered Waggener Park to be walkable + bikeable

Multiple people with children said the pool needs more activities and facilities for multiple age groups such as splash pads, zero entry etc. Many drive to Loveland because they have these features.

Some drive because they can go to a free splash pad as well. Potential for splash pad to be free of charge.

People love the trees – and many liked the tree house image that incorporates more play elements into the existing tree canopy.

The idea of a civic gathering space was well received by many age groups. This was of particular interest to older age groups.

Safety and security should be considered to discourage undesirable activities in the park. This includes kids hanging out and smoking, drug dealing, driving donuts etc. Parking should be considered in this.

People would like to see costs

There is support for building the pool at the Waggener Park site as part of a future rec center.

Town Park – Park Program A (With Aquatics)

A survey was provided at each table/station to gather feedback on the park programming specific to each site. Below are the responses provided.

1. Agree with Park Program

Yes – 5

No – 2

2. Do you prefer the outdoor Pool on this site (results show a combination of Park Program A and Park Program B responses)?

Yes – 11

No – 8

No Preference - 1

General Comments:

- Not if there is a pool at a rec center
- Pool needs to move by future rec center
- Not enough room for quality pool features and park room (2)
- Keep pool until another is build (?ever built?)

3. What program elements would you remove:

- Pavilion + Bandstand should be moved to location more central for more viewers
- Put pool near future rec center for economy of scale
- Do not like open parking within the park
- Like to keep high intensity uses along Welch and 5th

4. What program elements would you add?

- Turn existing pool into natural pool, \$ double as source for sprinkler non-pot water
- Include Nielsen Greenway
- Backboard for tennis
- I really like taking out ball fields + making it more 'all' age friendly
- Add artificial creek (water) (2)
- Keep pool and aquatics in town park
- If you take out the ball fields please make sure they have ball fields at other parks. The town needs ball fields

Town Park – Park Program B (Without Pool)

1. Agree with Park Program

Yes – 4

No – 2

2. Do you prefer the outdoor Pool on this site (results show a combination of Park Program A and Park Program B responses)?

Yes – 11

No – 8

No Preference - 1

3. What program elements would you remove:

- Bandstand should be more central to better accommodate viewers
- Would like to see options if the loop street did not go through. Keep parking along street if possible

4. What program elements would you add?

- Artificial Creek
- Non-pot system
- Park Train
- -None
- -Possible Ball field – Shortage while being constructed.
- Keep pool and aquatics in town park
- If you take out the ballfields please make sure they have ballfields at other parks. The town needs ballfields
- Wonder if it is a good idea to keep the pool south in addition to the rec center pool

5. General comments:

- Pool needs to move by future rec center
- Imaginative (Play house)
- Adventure (climbing, caves, rocks, sand)
- Water Features (Wading area and splash pad)
- Natural feel (trees, rocks, sand)
- Need toddler area w/ zero depth entrance
- -Toddler play (squirt guns, sit on, small slides etc)
- Too small for fitness Loop
- Keep ball fields for younger kids closer to older homes – Waste of money to change them
- Would like the splash area in a more interior location (area 7)...safer feel for parents and children
- Would love a water feature to bring kids
- Picnic and BBQ (2 stars)
- The shade is great
- Playground

Program Summary:

- *Community / Civic gathering space*
- *Pool (if not relocated to Waggener)- All ages*
- *Parking*
- *Lawns + Plaza / Promenade for markets and events*
- *Enhanced Playground – All ages/adventure/imagination*
- *Playground*
- *Bandstand / Community Pavilion*
- *Picnic + BBQ areas*
- *Restroom Facility*
- *Loop Walk*
- *Lawn Games / update and remain*
- *Bat / Bird / Pollinator education*



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Community Meeting #1 Public Input – WAGGENER FARM PARK COMMENTS

WAGGENER FARM PARK

A survey was provided at each table/station to gather feedback on the park programming specific to each site. Below are the responses provided.

1. Do you agree with the proposed park program?
Yes – 7 No – 17

2. Do you prefer the recreation center complex on this site?
Yes – 15 No – 38

3. What program elements would you remove?
 - Ball Fields – 4
 - Recreation Center – 9
 - Access Road to Franklin – 10
 - Lights – 4
 - Structures – 1
 - Through Street – 2
 - Pavilion – 1
 - Non-native planting – 1
 - Soccer – 1
 - Basketball – 1

4. What program elements would you add?
 - Walking Paths – 7
 - Conservation Areas – 1
 - Orchards – 2
 - Picnic Areas – 2
 - Bike Trail – 2
 - Bike Skills Course – 2
 - Bocce – 1
 - Playground – 3
 - Flower Gardens – 1
 - Sculptures – 1
 - Artificial Creek – 2
 - Water Feature – 1
 - Tennis – 1
 - RC Sailing – 1
 - Dog Park – 2
 - Benches – 2
 - Arboretum – 2
 - Agricultural Fields – 2

Art Walk – 1
Community Garden – 2
Shelter – 1
Recreation Center – 4
Nature Play – 1
Star Gazing – 1
Disc Golf – 1

5. Additional Written Comments

- If agricultural focused the park should be balanced with flowers
- Work with NCWCD on agricultural
- Keep low impact
- Day use only
- Add non-potable irrigation – 2
- No noise
- No traffic
- One person agrees with the park program only as a quiet garden park with gardens, trails, benches, etc.
- Promote agriculture
- One person liked the focus on the agriculture and learning
- Add a connection from town to rec center
- Include kid input
- Why add roads inside the park?
- Agree with Program A and NOT Program B
- Focus on native areas and natural areas
- Heavy traffic with many kids around
- Remove street through park
- New construction along Berthoud Parkway
- Adjust the property line on the southeast corner of the site
- Adjust the property line around the middle school
- Need irrigation pond
- Keep open vistas, no structures
- Other town properties are not restricted...build there. Open space is important with all development
- Roads and parking are not a good idea...just have an open “garden” park that people walk to
- Will the parking be illuminated at night?
- Add left turn lane on Hwy 17 south at W County Rd 8e
- Advertise public meetings on Next Door
- Kids, teens, and families can walk/bike to rec center at this location
- Retain some openness
- People that go to a rec center have gym bags, gear, change of clothes, etc. and drive/stop by workout en-route to work or home
- Developments are going up all around Waggener, with a rec center it will feel too closed in. Preserve our open space, it is critical for the growing population.
- As a mother of two young children please put a in rec center and improved parks. I am tired of driving out of town to play at nice and safe parks. All of my money goes to restaurants, gas, etc. when we spend all day out of town at other parks.
- Include trees on the western perimeter
- Is the irrigation pond adequately sized to irrigate the entire park?
- With new houses being built across from Richardson, the rec center makes sense in Richardson. How many kids go from school to rec center?

- Rec center closer to schools is wonderful for kids, can the rec center include Boys and Girls clubs?
- Ball fields closer to town is good
- Agricultural fields honors Waggeners passing wishes
- The park should either be passive or active, at this location the passive theme aligns with the agricultural feel
- Brett Dowgin at Thompson School District
 - Irrigation system was sized for 8 acre feet of storage in irrigation pond
 - Thompson has a geotech report for the site, may be 10 years' old
 - Look at assessor's website for property lines
 - School district has an easement from Hwy 17 to the school property
 - There is a high water table on the site
 - There is an open vault/pump house on the northwest corner of the site that the Town owns. Irrigation originates at this location and a 12" line goes south and has a stub-out to the east.

Program Summary:

Based on feedback, below is the program recommendation based on the highest preferences from the attendees at the public meeting.

- *Community Gathering Space*
- *Parking*
- *Picnic Pavilion*
- *Restrooms*
- *Playground*
- *Agricultural Fields*
- *Orchards*
- *Community Garden*
- *Demonstration Garden*
- *Irrigation Pond*
- *Loop Trail*
- *Regional Trail Connections*



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Community Meeting #1 Public Input – RICHARDSON PARK COMMENTS

General Comments:

Below summarizes the comments from meeting attendees shared verbally with the table facilitator:

General positivity over having athletic fields/ sport courts at this location (especially baseball) as this location currently does not have traffic (compared to Town Park), has more land available for parking area, and has potential access for field irrigation from the reservoir.

Residents desire amenities associated with ball fields: restrooms, playgrounds, concessions, etc.

People are mostly in favor of having the Rec Center at this location, but express concern for being able to access the rec center via trails with safe crossings over highway 17 (especially for kids biking/walking there) and transportation from the downtown area. People are in favor of some shuttle system to provide this connection.

Some people consider this too far out of town for a Rec Center and for kids to walk to.

Residents have seen other towns successfully develop Rec Centers and Athletic Parks along the outskirts of towns.

A general desire for residents to be able to access the reservoir's water in the near term and long term. In the near term via trails along and around the reservoir edge and long term via boating/kayak/SUP access.

A common theme of desiring trail connections from other parks, loop trails through parks, and regional trails throughout the county.

Residents expressed a desire to utilize visibility of the park from 287 to attract drivers into the park/town.

A resident and son who live north of Richardson expressed desire for having a park within walking distance as there are no current parks within their housing development.

Residents who walk along highway 17 every day enjoy the view of the reservoir/ mountains/ fields. Generally older age groups would be okay with just trails for the park.

RICHARDSON PARK SURVEY:

A survey was provided at each table/station to gather feedback on the park programming specific to each site. Below are the responses provided.

1. Do you agree with the proposed park program?

Yes – 19

No – 4

2. Do you prefer the Recreation Center complex on this site?

Yes – 26

No – 7

3. What program elements would you remove?

- Put the rec center closer to Hwy 287 to draw in commuters
- No recreation center – locate on Waggener where pedestrians can access and bring people downtown; closer to schools for kids to access (3)
- No BMX park (2)
- Athletic Fields – should be located at Knievel
- Soccer fields- make multi-use fields that can be used for various sports
- Amphitheater – what is the need?

4. What program elements would you add?

- Year round activity options
- Access from 287; Bridge over/under 287 (2)
- Hot tub
- Rental station at rec center for paddleboards, canoes, etc.
- Future surface water access – fishing, canoe/kayak, SUP, rental, swim, sailboats (3)
- Turn the existing ditch into an artificial creek (2)
- Dog Park
- 4 Ball fields is not enough, especially if they are removed from Town South & North
- Berthoud Day
- Playground near ballfields
- Bathrooms
- Safe crosswalks (with lights) across CR 17
- Overpass for walkers/bikers across 17- not more stop lights
- Multi-Use trail connection from Waggener Park along CR 17 (2)
- Park Train; A trolley that goes back and forth from downtown to out here – connection to all; Bus/transportation (4)
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Bocce lane
- Disc Golf (3)

5. Additional Comments

- The indoor pool should be built prior to the outdoor pool
- Not all activities need to be at the rec center
- Needs more kid input
- Would like to know pricing
- Long-distance trails and connections to Loveland and Longmont are highly desired
- Irrigate all grassy areas with non-potable water from Loveland Res (2)
- Trail connections between parks, regional trails (2)

- Loop trails within the parks (2)
- Ball fields desired
- Kids wanted a destination playground
- Easements on E side of 17 – school district storm drain + 12 irrigation pond
- Fences along reservoir may be required by Outdoor Sportsman
- The southern end of Loveland Reservoir is currently fenced as private with no allowed accessibility. It should be open to all for public use [desire for continuous walking trail around Reservoir]
- Would like Rec center to have: Racquetball, gym, indoor pool, indoor track., rock climbing wall
- Incorporate outdoor space with roll up doors towards lake & mountains with amphitheater
- I like the rec center here if there is easy and safe ways for kids to get there (2)

Program Summary:

Based on feedback, below is the program recommendation based on the highest preferences from the attendees at the public meeting.

- Athletic Fields (Baseball, multi-use turf fields)
- Sports Courts
- Restrooms/ Concessions
- Destination Playground/ Rock Wall
- Pool or Spray ground/ Artificial River
- Recreation Center (contingent on key trail connections are provided from neighborhoods and downtown)
- Trails: Regional, Loop, Multi-use
- Future water use: Kayak/ Boat/ Canoe/ SUP access and rentals
- Bike park/Skate Park (non-motorized)
- Amphitheater
- Dog park
- Disc Golf



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Community Meeting #1 Public Input – KNIEVEL PARK COMMENTS

KNIEVEL PARK Survey

A survey was provided at each table/station to gather feedback on the park programming specific to each site. Below are the responses provided.

1. Do you agree with the proposed park program?
Yes - 11 No – 3

2. What program elements would you remove?
Dog Park - 2
Archery – 2
Disc Golf – 2
Less Grass (requires lots of water and maintenance) – 1
Arboretum – 1

3. What program elements would you add?
Community Garden – 1
Recreation Center – 4
Multi-purpose Fields – 1
Native and Natural Features – 1
Playground – 1
Pedestrian Access from east of Hwy 287 (tunnel or bridge) – 3
Artificial Creek (use existing ditch) – 1
Non-potable Water – 2
Baseball – 1
Soccer – 1
Parking – 1
Archery – 1

4. Additional Comments
 - Keep ballfield lights near Hwy 287
 - This is the second preference for the recreation center (Richardson is first)
 - Higher traffic, sports, buildings, and lights near 287
 - Signage visible from 287
 - Include kid input
 - Archery is a great idea, should be functional for real archery shooting (similar to Lon Hagler Reservoir)
 - Keep as simple as possible – open space
 - How do you access across Hwy 287 to get to a recreation center?

Program Summary:

Based on feedback, below is the program recommendation based on the highest preferences from the attendees at the public meeting.

- *Lawn/Multi-purpose Field*
- *Playground/Nature Play*
- *Archery*
- *Disc Golf*
- *Dog Park*
- *Parking*
- *Loop Trail*
- *Connections to regional trails*
- *Natural area/open space*
- *Consider future access across Hwy 287 from Richardson Park to Knievel Park*
- *Baseball (consider in future when access is provided)*
- *Soccer (consider in future when access is provided)*