

Open Spaces Commission Update



March 23, 2021



Open Spaces Commission Authority

City Code Title 2-20-001-0003

- Advise on acquisition, preservation, and management
- Advise and assist with educating the community on the value, protection, and stewardship
- Advise and assist with partner collaboration to implementation the Open Space management plan
- Advise and assist with regional open space issues and planning
- Obtain public input and participation

Discussion



Open Spaces Commission Update

- Mission and Goals
- Updates
 - Commission's focus areas
 - Positive impacts for the community
- Commission's Priority Focus
 - Connections to City Council goals
 - Defining next steps & identifying how to work together



FLAGSTAFF OPEN SPACE



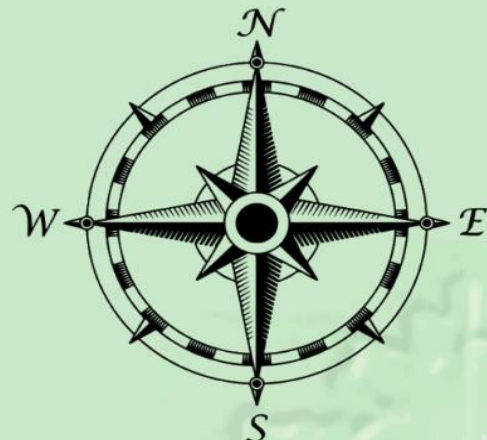
SCHULTZ CREEK

**PICTURE CANYON
NATURAL & CULTURAL
PRESERVE**

OBSERVATORY MESA

MCMILLAN MESA

FLAGSTAFF





Open Spaces Commission Mission & Goals

Mission: To advocate and support the development of the Flagstaff Open Space System, while preserving current Flagstaff Open Space, and providing equitable recreational opportunities and educational experiences.

Goal 1: Protect, restore, and maintain lands

Goal 2: Grow, link, and provide access

Goal 3: Foster discovery, learning, and stewardship

Goal 4: Cultivate partnerships

Goal 5: Achieve sustainable long-term financial viability



Commission Update: Conservation & Restoration



Current Focus

- Zoning Code Amendment - McMillan Mesa
- Arizona Public Service Restoration Partnership
- Open Space Management Plan



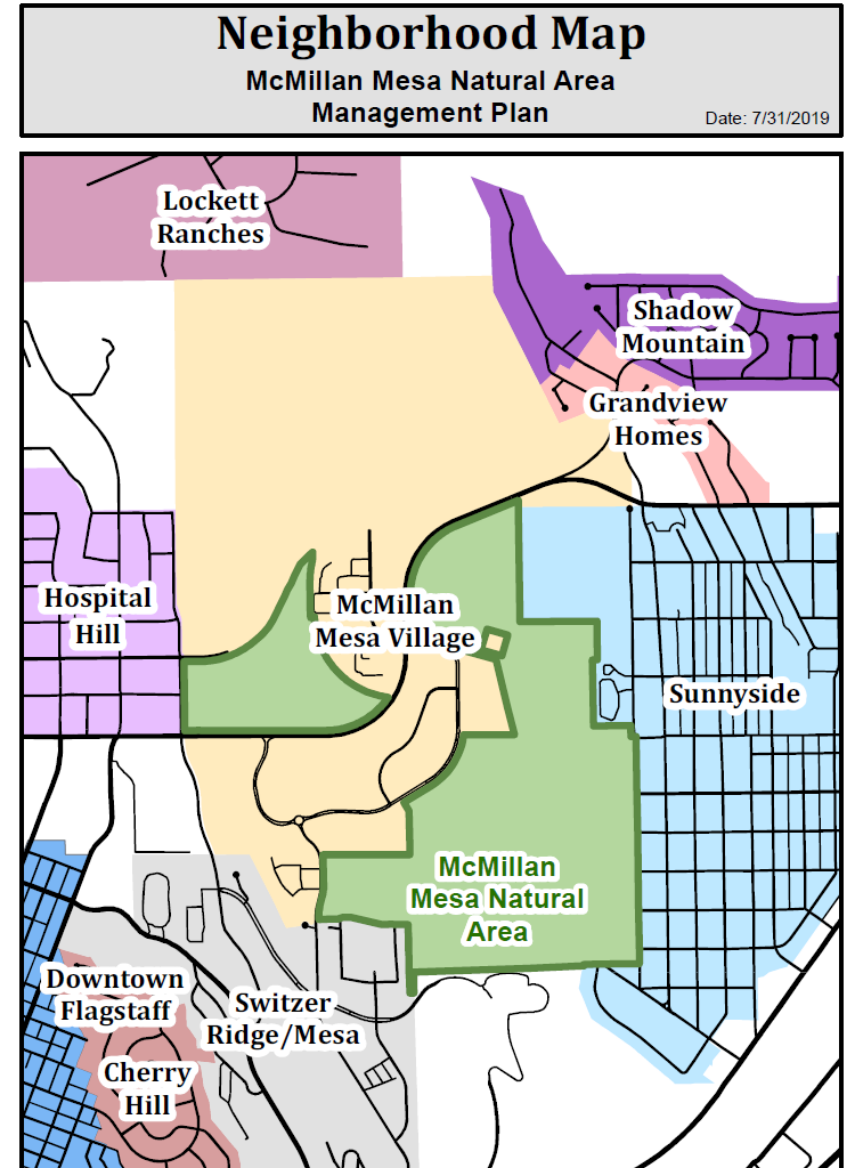


Commission Update: Conservation & Restoration



Positive Impacts

- Provide connection to nature
- Offer better access to APS Elden Substation
- Ensure best management practices





Commission Update: Integrated & Connected System



Current Focus

- Parks Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Committee partnership
- Interconnected System
- Observatory Mesa trail plan

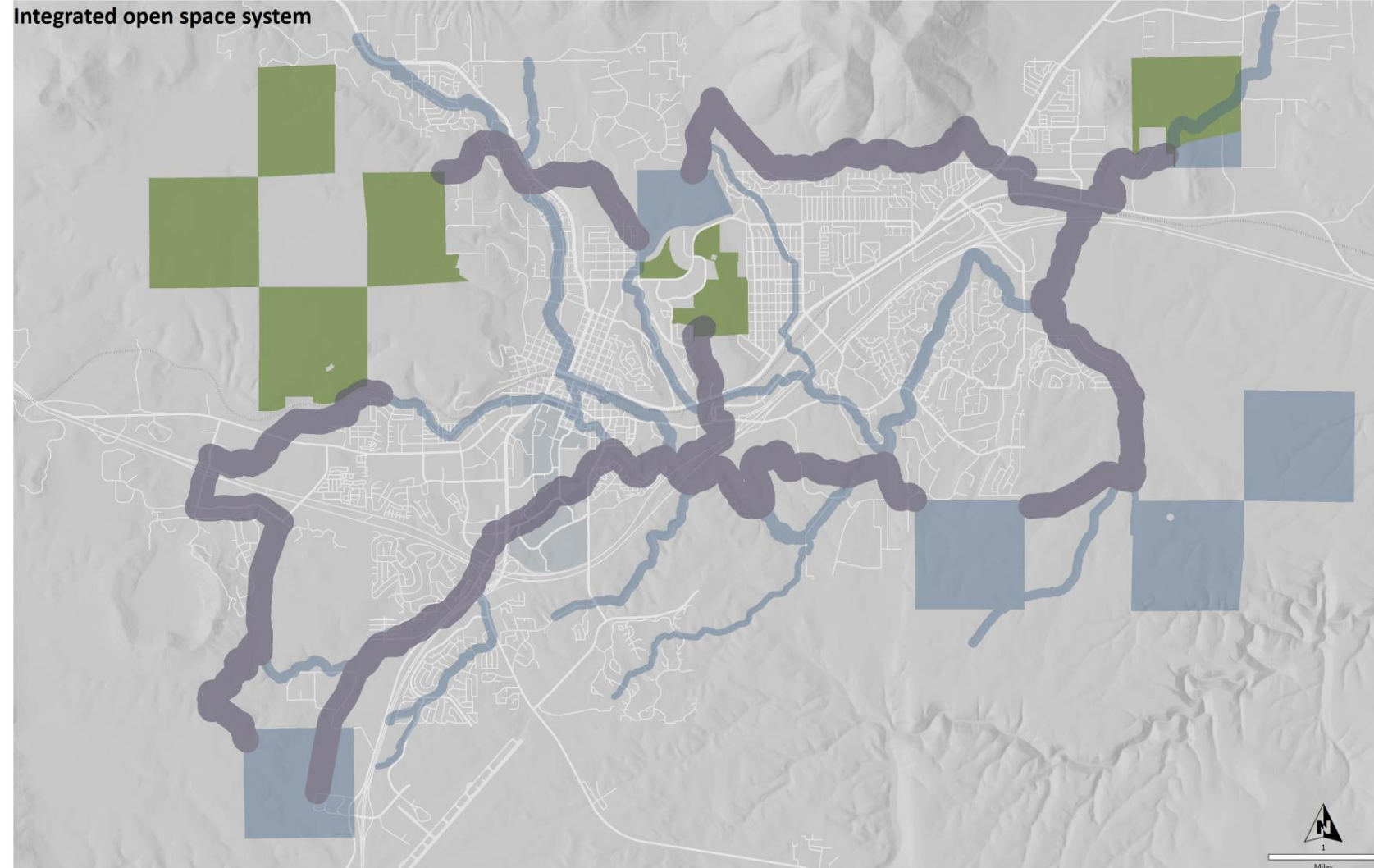


Observatory Mesa



Positive Impacts

- Identify community needs and associated costs
- Supports economic prosperity
- Prioritize walking and biking





Commission Update: Community Involvement

Current Focus

- Make A Difference Day
- Indigenous Youth STEM Academy



Make a Difference Day



Positive Impacts

- Ensure accessibility for all residents
- Promote a healthy environment
- Provide educational opportunities



Educational Programming



Commission Priorities Moving Forward



Fiscal Year 2022 Focus

1. Conserve and Maintain
2. Complete City Code Review
3. Progress towards Interconnected System
4. Achieve Sustainable Funding



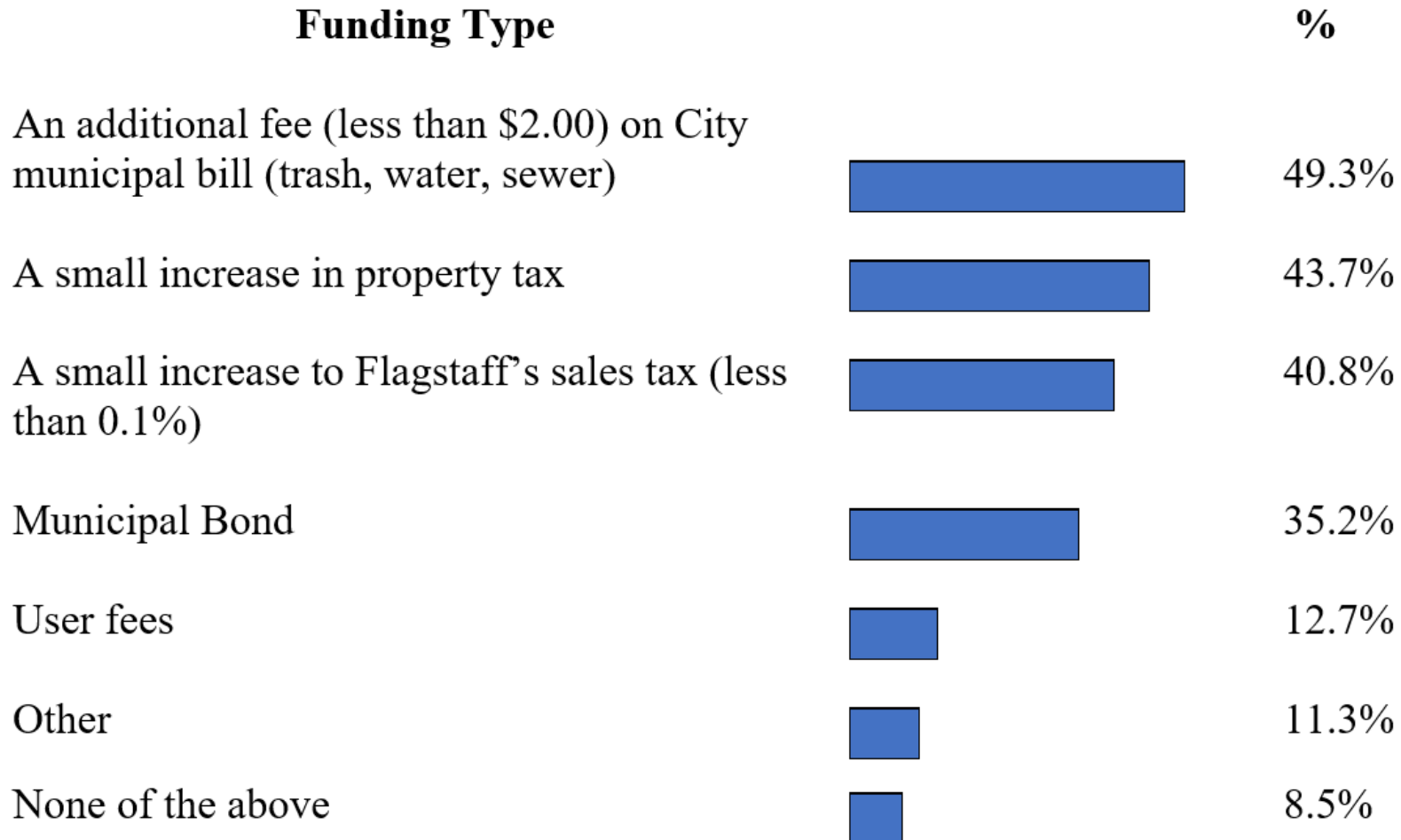


Commission Priorities Moving Forward










Funding Thoughts

If the City were to allocate additional funding for the upkeep, what funding mechanisms would you support?



Priority Based Budgeting Priorities and Objectives



 High Performing Governance	 Safe & Healthy Community	 Inclusive & Engaged Community	 Sustainable, Innovative Infrastructure	 Robust Resilient Economy	 Livable Community	 Environmental Stewardship
Serve the public by providing high quality customer service	Enhance community engagement & strengthen relationships between the community & public safety services	Foster community pride & civic engagement by increasing opportunities for public involvement, in line with best practices & legal requirements	Deliver outstanding services to residents through a healthy, well maintained infrastructure system	Support & strengthen a more robust, diverse, & sustainable economy in ways that reflect community values & provides for affordable housing opportunities	Create a welcoming community through partnerships, resilient neighborhoods, & civic engagement	Promote, protect & enhance a healthy, sustainable environment & its natural resources
Foster community-wide clear & consistent communication strategies & products	Support social services, community partners & housing opportunities	Advance social equity & social justice in Flagstaff by supporting social services	Utilize existing long-range plan(s) that identify the community's future infrastructure needs & all associated costs	Maintain & enhance an equitable & effective business recruitment, retention, & expansion program throughout the community	Provide amenities & activities that support a healthy lifestyle	Engage community members through education & volunteer opportunities
Encourage public trust through transparency, accessibility & use of the City's public participation policy	Provide alternative responses, resources & programs, inclusive of mental health & other services	Facilitate & foster diversity & inclusivity, including support of anti-racist policies & practices	Provide effective management of and infrastructure for all modes of transportation	Enhance understanding between the development community, the City & Flagstaff residents	Support regional partners which provide equitable & inclusive educational opportunities for Flagstaff residents of all ages	Implement sustainable building practices, enhance waste diversion programs, alternative energy programs & multi-modal transportation options
Enhance the organization's fiscal stability & increase efficiency & effectiveness	Provide public safety services with resources, staff & training responsive to the community's needs	Enhance community involvement, education & regional partnerships to strengthen the level of public trust	Facilitate & develop carbon-neutral energy opportunities	Attract employers that provide high quality jobs & have a low impact on infrastructure & natural resources	Actively support attainable & affordable housing through City projects & opportunities with developers	Increase the private sector's participation in environmental stewardship efforts
Implement innovative local government programs, new ideas & best practices; be recognized as a model for others to follow	Promote physical health through providing recreation opportunities, parks, open space & multiple transportation options	Ensure city facilities, services, & programs are accessible for all residents & representative of Flagstaff's diverse community	Support the community's social infrastructure needs; assist those partner organizations that provide services the City does not	Enhance the community's workforce development programs & improve partnerships with higher education institutions & the private & public sectors	Support diverse employment opportunities that provide residents with a living wage	Implement, maintain & further the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) with awareness of social inequities
Be an employer of choice through inclusive recruitment & by providing employees with the necessary tools, training, support & compensation	Ensure the built environment is safe through the use of consistent standards, rules & regulations, & land use practices	Promote environmental justice & the fair distribution of environmental benefits		Embrace & invest in responsible tourism opportunities to promote economic development	Achieve a well-maintained community through comprehensive & equitable code compliance, & development that is compatible with community values	Strengthen Flagstaff's resilience to climate change impacts on built, natural, economic, health, & social systems



Commission Priorities Moving Forward

Community Benefits

- City Council Goals
- Community Health
- Youth Education
- Supports Climate Action Adaptation
- Supports Flagstaff Trail Initiative's regional trail strategy
- Implements Open Spaces and Greenways Plan
- Economic Return





Next Steps



- Complete Observatory Mesa Trail Plan
- Advance Open Space System
- Sustainable Funding



Open Spaces Commission

Chair: Wm. Mike Wilson

Vice Chair: Andy Bessler

Comm: Jim Burton

Comm: Joseph Thomas

Comm: Mark Loseth

Comm: Eric Nolan

Comm: Jack Welch



Thank you. Questions?

