

NOTICE AND AGENDA

OPEN SPACE COMMISSION
MONDAY
JUNE 24, 2024

HYBRID MEETING
FLAGSTAFF AQUAPLEX
AND [MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)
1702 N FOURTH STREET
4:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **ROLL CALL**

NOTE: One or more Commissioner may be in attendance through other technological means.

Chair Bruce Applin	Commissioner Chelita Runbeck
Vice Jacqueline Thomas	Commissioner Lina Wallen
Commissioner Mary Norton (P&Z Liaison)	Commissioner Nat White
Commissioner Bruce Fox	Councilmember Representative: Deborah Harris

3. **Land Acknowledgment**

The Flagstaff Open Space Commission humbly acknowledges the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. Approval of May 13, 2024 Minutes

5. **Public Comment**

At this time, any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject that is not scheduled before the Commission on this day. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commission members may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. To address the Commission on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

6. **Business Items**

- a. **Observatory Mesa Trail Planning.**
Decision item. Staff and partners will review the Greater Observatory Mesa Area (GOMA) Trail Plan, recapping the Open Space Commission's review and the plan's revisions. The Open Spaces Commission will review the trail plan and provide any remaining feedback to staff. Staff will ask for a recommendation from the Open Spaces Commission with which to move forward with for the final public review.
- b. **John Wesley Powell (JWP) Project Update**
Information and discussion only. The John Wesley Powell Team will provide an update on the status of the JWP Project.
- c. **Land Availability and Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project (LASS+CAP) Project Update and Discussion**
Information and discussion only. This is an update on the status of the Land Availability and Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project.

7. Reports and Updates

- a. Council Representative Report, Council Representative Deborah Harris
- b. Planning and Zoning Commission Representative Report, Representative Mary Norton
- c. Open Space Management Report, Robert Wallace and Sylvia Struss
- d. PROSE May 2024 Newsletter

8. Informational Items To and From Commissioners and Staff

9. Potential Future Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on _____, at _____ a.m./p.m. This notice has been posted on the City's website and can be downloaded at www.flagstaff.az.gov.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Cynthia Burmeister, Administrative Specialist

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Cynthia Burmeister (cynthia.burmeister@flagstaffaz.gov) at least two business days prior to the scheduled meeting time to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.



Open Spaces Commission

4. a.

From: Cathy Guetschow, Administrative Specialist

DATE: 06/24/2024

SUBJECT: Approval of May 13, 2024 Minutes

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Executive Summary:

Attachments

Approval of May 13, 2024 Minutes

Form Review

Form Started By: Cathy Guetschow

Started On: 06/18/2024 09:59 AM

Final Approval Date: 06/18/2024

Minutes--Open Spaces Commission Meeting 5-13-2024 4-6pm

1. **Call to Order** Chair Bruce Applin called the meeting to order at 4:03pm
2. **Roll Call**
Present: Chair Bruce Applin, Vice Chair Jacqueline Thomas, Commissioner Mary Norton, Commissioner Bruce Fox, Commissioner Lina Wallen, Commissioner Nat White, Representative Deborah Harris
Absent: Commissioner Chelita Runbeck
Staff: Rebecca Sayers, Robert Wallace, Sylvia Struss, Desert Mulford
Others: Mark Loseth, Mike Wilson
3. **Land Acknowledgment** – Chair Applin read the land acknowledgement.
4. **Approval of 4-22-24 Minutes** – Motion to approve the April 22, 2024 Minutes by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Wallen, all voted in favor.
5. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment on any item not on the agenda.
6. **Business Items**
 - A. **Observatory Mesa Trail Plan** – Mark Loseth from Southwest Decision Resources made a presentation summarizing the discussion from the last several meetings. He confirmed that the Commission:
 - preferred a maintenance, enforcement, and funding statement,
 - appreciated the plan balance (between preservation and recreation),
 - agreed to adaptive trails, and
 - preferred multi-use trails.

Remaining to be discussed is trail 3.36 “Hot Pockets” trail, and whether to allow e-bikes.

Regarding 3.36 Hot Pockets trail, there was discussion about the strong desire to not have any single-directional trails or single-use trails. It was noted that the Hot Pockets trail is a well-known trail to mountain bikers and on various social media platforms, so it will take extra effort to rehabilitate the trail, educate folks, and enforce not using it; it will be very difficult to decommission. There was concern that it created a poor precedence to formally adopt an illegally built trail. There was concern, in looking at the AZ State Parks Conservation Easement, that it did not envision a single-use technical mountain bike trail, that the City is required to keep the land in the same condition as when we got the conservation easement, that this is a drainage area and a sensitive ecological area, and that the Hot Pockets trail is not passive recreation.

In response to questions about what the city did to deter the illegal building of Hot Pockets, Mr. Wallace reported that Open Space filed a police report, installed wildlife cameras to attempt to deter further building of the trail, and put up a “this is not a trail” sign. The US Forest Service helped out by blocking sections of the trail with slash. Unfortunately, the illegal trail building continued, with a jacket being put over the cameras. Mr. Loseth mentioned that the first Observatory Mesa (OM) Trail Plan proposed to restore the trail to its natural condition, but

public comment was to formalize the trail. He noted that it does add value to a mountain biking experience on OM, and it was well-built and sustainable. However, there was concern from the Commission that the bottom of the crevice has changed from being oak trees and oak leaf-covered ground to being a bare rocky ravine).

There was discussion about trail 3.37 being a nice trail in the future when it connects to Section 17 (Lowell property), and if connected downward along the pink line on the current map.

Mike Wilson made a public comment, that since this is on City property, why can't the City do something to 3.36 to discourage further degradation of that area, now, as opposed to waiting until the trail plan is formally adopted and approved? Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Events (PROSE) Director Rebecca Sayers thought that because we are the stewards of the land, and since we took action to discourage building 3.36 illegally, we could take steps now.

It was recommended that signage for Hot Pockets trail 3.36 focus on educating people about the restrictions in the conservation easement. There was some discussion about whether there should be a process for people to request to build a new trail on city property, or at least include a contact person in the plan, so that people can reach out to the city.

There was a reminder that after this Commission's recommendation, it goes to City Council, then to Arizona State Parks for approval, and to the State Historic Preservation Office for approval.

The consensus was that there be no single-directional or single-use trails, to adopt 3.10 and 3.37 social trails as formal trails, but not 3.36 Hot Pockets trail.

The Commission expressed being open to revisiting any part of this plan pending Lowell Observatory's trail plans on Section 17, or Forest Service plans on their sections of OM.

Regarding E-bikes, there was discussion about US Forest Service allowing e-bikes on forest service roads, about City Council allowing e-bikes on FUTS trails (which already run through OM). There was discussion that the county appears to be working toward allowing Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on county trails, and if they do, e-bikes would be allowed on the county easement of the Flagstaff Loop Trail from N. Tilley Lane (3.3 on the map), noting that the easement pre-dates the City's conservation easement. There was concern that if the city wanted the county to restrict the remainder of the Flagstaff Loop Trail, the county may want the city to take over the easement and maintenance of that trail.

There was some discussion about 4.41, which connects from the Fort Valley trail system to 5.12, as being an e-bike friendly route in the future. The Commission wanted to make it as clear as possible to the public where e-bikes can and cannot be used.

There was consensus to "limit e-bikes to current roads and FUTS trails, and work to get a consistent direction with the county and understand the County's position on trail 3.3" and that e-bikes mean only Class 1 and 2 e-bikes.

Mr. Loseth and Mr. Wallace indicated that next steps are to make some revisions to the plan and bring a final proposal back to the Commission in June.

7. Reports & Updates

- A. Council Representative Report—Councilmember Harris encouraged people to come to the Saturday water rate analysis meetings.
 - B. Planning & Zoning Commission Representative Report--Commissioner Norton reported continued discussions about land availability plan, and the JW Powell corridor. She noted that on May 8th, the P&Z Commission got an update of the preferred scenario of the Regional Plan which touched on the JW Powell corridor—a “sector plan,” (the ability to identify the resources needed) rather than a specific plan (a guide to the development before it happens). She looks forward to a presentation on the JW Powell plan to this Commission. Ms. Norton said that Arizona state law does not allow the city to require inclusion of open space within a development plan but can require resource protection. She noted there was a first case of a request for a variance of a slope protection, with a possible code revision on that, all of which brings Open Space lower on the priority list.
 - C. Open Space Management Report—Mr. Wallace reported being in a second round of interviews for the Open Space Coordinator/Educator. Ms. Struss distributed a list of upcoming Open Space events for the summer.
8. **Informational Items to & from Commission.** Ms. Sayers updated the Commission on the BBB code change presentation to City Council, and that the council was amenable to it. She noted that the first read of the proposed code change ordinance is June 4, 2024, and the second reading June 18, 2024. Ms. Sayers also directed the Commission to the PROSE April 2024 Newsletter.
9. **Future Agenda items:** Future agenda items include JW Powell Alignment Update, Land Availability & Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project, Observatory Mesa Trail Plan Update, Open Space in the Development Process (Tiffany Antol).
10. **Adjournment.** Commissioner Norton motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner White. The meeting adjourned at 5:37pm.



Open Spaces Commission

6. a.

Co-Submitter: Rebecca Sayers, Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Events Director
From: Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor
DATE: 06/24/2024
SUBJECT: Observatory Mesa Trail Planning.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Decision item. Staff and partners will review the Greater Observatory Mesa Area (GOMA) Trail Plan, recapping the Open Space Commission's review and the plan's revisions. The Open Spaces Commission will review the trail plan and provide any remaining feedback to staff. Staff will ask for a recommendation from the Open Spaces Commission with which to move forward with for the final public review.

Executive Summary:

The City of Flagstaff Open Space Section has been working with the community to develop and review a draft of the Greater Observatory Mesa Area Trail Plan. The Trail Plan's purpose is to design a trail system for implementation in the Greater Observatory Mesa Area. The final plan includes recommendations for restoration and defining appropriate uses for a trail system. The City of Flagstaff will use the approved final plan to direct future management and trail implementation.

The Open Spaces Commission will be reviewing the trail plan and voting on recommending the plan for City Council review.

Community notice and participation opportunities summary:

- Phase 1 public survey: June - July, 2022
- Phase 2 public meeting: Wednesday, June 29th, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm virtually (via Microsoft Teams) and in-person on the second-floor staff room of Flagstaff City Hall
- Phase 2 public survey: June 13 and July 15, 2022
- Phase 2 stake holder meetings offered to neighborhoods surrounding Observatory Mesa
- Phase 2 public meeting: June 14, 2023, from 5:00-7:00 pm in-person at the Flagstaff Aquaplex
- Each phase included:
 - Press Release
 - Community Forum announcement
 - Public survey -- Community Forum
 - Public meeting
 - Facebook event
 - Social media posts on PROSE and City Accounts
 - Community Calendar postings: AZ Daily Sun, Flag 365, KNAU
 - Flyers posted around Flagstaff
 - Flyers posted at main entry points into the Natural Area
 - Mass email notice
 - Requested Commission meeting presentations

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox
Assistant Parks/Recreation Director

Reviewed By
Amy Hagin

Date
06/18/2024 11:06 AM
Started On: 06/18/2024 08:19 AM

Form Started By: Robert Wallace

Final Approval Date: 06/18/2024



Open Spaces Commission

6. b.

Co-Submitter: Rebecca Sayers, Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Events Director
From: Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor
DATE: 06/24/2024
SUBJECT: John Wesley Powell (JWP) Project Update

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information and discussion only. The John Wesley Powell Team will provide an update on the status of the JWP Project.

Executive Summary:

This update to the Open Space Commission will include the latest information on the JWP alignment, the status and rescoping of the Specific Plan, and a discussion on the anticipated timelines for project design and construction.

Information:

Connection to PBB Key Community Priorities/Objectives & Regional Plan: Sustainable, Innovative Infrastructure Utilize existing long-range plan(s) that identify the community's future infrastructure needs and all associated costs Environmental Stewardship Actively manage and protect all environmental and natural resources Council Goal 2017 -- 2019 - Transportation and Other Public Infrastructure Deliver quality community assets and continue to advocate and implement a highly performing multi-modal transportation system. Council Goal 2017 -- 2019 - Environmental and Natural Resources Actively manage and protect all environmental and natural resources Region Plan Goal -- Environmentally Sensitive Lands Goals and Policies Goal E&C.7. Give special consideration to environmentally sensitive lands in the development design and review process. Team Flagstaff Strategic Plan -- Priority 3 Deliver outstanding services through a healthy environment, resources, and infrastructure. Has There Been Previous Council Decision on This: The JW Powell Extension Project has been before City Council nine times in the past seven years. 10/25 October 2016 (Council Work Session) - Discussion on Infrastructure and Public Facilities Planning and Engineering in the John Wesley Powell Boulevard area. 2/6 February 2018 (Council Meeting) - Award of contract to Peak Engineering for design and planning services. 4/24 April 2020 (Council Budget Retreat) - JW Powell Blvd Extension discussed during the Capital Programming update. 10/27 October 2020 (Council Work Session) -- Land Use Framework and engineering design update shared for the original alignment. 10/5 October 2021 (Council Meeting) -- Project update and Change Order 4 approved by Council. 3/31 March 2022 (Five-Year Summary Retreat) -- JW Powell Blvd Extension discussed in project prioritization. 4/22 April 2022 (Council Budget Retreat) -- JW Powell Blvd Extension discussed during the Capital Programming update. 6/28 June 2022 (Council Meeting) -- Council direction sought on proposed alignment for new roadway. 7/7 July 2022 (Council Meeting) -- Council finalized proposed alignment for new roadway. 5/30 May 2023 (Council Meeting) -- Project update and discussion on Specific Plan and Scope of Change Order 5.

Background/History: On 20 February 2018, City Council approved the contract with Peak Engineering, Inc. for the John Wesley Powell Area Specific Plan Study to develop a Specific Plan to guide the future private development of public infrastructure, utilities and public facilities (schools, fire/police stations, libraries, parks, etc.). In November 2018, voters approved Proposition 419 which allocated a proportional share of funding for roadway and bike and pedestrian improvements along the future John Wesley Powell Boulevard extension. On 27 October 2020, City Staff and the JW Powell Design Team presented an update to City Council regarding the current design work and the Land Use Framework. On 28 January 2021, the JW Powell Design Team conducted a corporate meeting with the small-parcel property owners and consequential one-on-one meetings with small-parcel property owners who requested to meet regarding specifics to their respective

parcels. Starting in May 2021, the JW Powell Design Team began to meet with the large-parcel property owners individually. On 28 June and 7 July 2022, City Council, along with copious community input, selected the final alignment for the new JWP roadway extension. The final alignment shifts the alignment to the west and out of the South Fourth Street corridor.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Assistant Parks/Recreation Director	Amy Hagin	06/18/2024 11:31 AM
Form Started By: Robert Wallace		Started On: 06/18/2024 11:05 AM
	Final Approval Date: 06/18/2024	



Open Spaces Commission

6. c.

Co-Submitter: Rebecca Sayers, Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Events Director

From: Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor

DATE: 06/24/2024

SUBJECT: Land Availability and Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project (LASS+CAP) Project Update and Discussion

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information and discussion only. This is an update on the status of the Land Availability and Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project.

Executive Summary:

i. Project Overview:

Flagstaff's growth in population, coupled with a housing crisis that has limited housing choice and affordability and a climate crisis that is disrupting weather patterns and threatening communities, has exemplified the need to better plan and coordinate internally and externally. The City's housing emergency, as well as the increased threats of wildfire, flooding, drought, and other climate impacts, has presented a vital need for Flagstaff to better understand the extent of land that is available in Flagstaff for housing development, the barriers that exist to developing new housing, and the changes that can be made to the City's development code and processes to encourage and increase the supply of new housing while recognizing the City's Carbon Neutrality Plan goals. This work supports several City housing and climate goals in the City's 10-Year Housing Plan, Carbon Neutrality Plan, and other documents while acknowledging the tensions between other community assets and values.

The Land Availability and Suitability Study and Code Analysis Project (LASS+CAP) is a multi-pronged initiative to address critical long-term planning and resilience needs. There are two components to this project: the Land Availability and Suitability Study (LASS) and the Code Analysis Project (CAP).

1. The purpose of the LASS is to understand what land is available within the Flagstaff city limits and peripheral areas for development and redevelopment/infill and the barriers that exist.
2. The Code analysis portion of the project will analyze City codes applied to development projects and will identify what works well and identify the barriers to meeting the City's housing and climate goals and policies.

The LASS and the CAP are being completed concurrently. The LASS is a land inventory study to identify what lands are left to develop or redevelop as residential and identifying the opportunities and/or barriers for their development or redevelopment. While the LASS includes both privately and publicly owned lands, the study does not make commitments or obligations for any of the parcels identified, rather this is a data snapshot to understand how much land is potentially available to meet our residential needs. Any private property owner whose property has been included in the inventory is welcome to reach out to staff to discuss the project in more detail. The CAP is a code analysis looking at all development codes and processes to ensure all are working towards our housing and sustainability goals. While being done concurrently, the LASS is a standalone document representing technical data from a point in time that will inform the CAP project, as well as the Regional Plan Update, regarding scenario planning and policy setting.

This effort is being completed in partnership between Community Development's Planning and Development

Services and Housing Sections, the Sustainability Division, and the Transportation Engineering Section. It will provide a much-needed base for high-level coordination between numerous other City Divisions/Sections such as Fire, Building Safety, Economic Vitality, Water Services, PROSE, in addition to the primary City partners, and Mountain Line.

Land Availability and Suitability Study

The draft LASS report was completed using the following methodology:

- Establishing a preliminary buildable land inventory for the City of Flagstaff and peripheral areas in the project's study area;
- Determining which areas are buildable by applying screening criteria to the study area based on environmental constraints; and
- Identifying and assessing "opportunity sites" from the resulting net buildable land inventory. These are sites that present unique opportunities for the creation of housing.

Through the Land Availability and Suitability Study, the consultant has established the following key findings about Flagstaff's land availability:

- Flagstaff and the peripheral areas that make up the LASS area contain approximately 8,125 acres of vacant land spread across 2,242 parcels. Of this land area, approximately 6,735 acres are residentially zoned.
- The study area also contains approximately 5,399 acres of underutilized land spread across 1,822 parcels. These lands contain minimal structures that have a low enough improvement Full Cash Value (FCV) to suggest that economic forces could encourage their redevelopment for a greater or higher value use, such as housing.
- In total, the study area contains approximately 7,062 acres of vacant buildable land and approximately 4,865 acres of underutilized buildable land. These lands represent the lands most likely to develop or redevelop in the future.
- Approximately 13% of the vacant land within the study area is environmentally constrained by stream corridors, wetlands, steep slopes, and floodplain or floodways. These lands may not be conducive to development or redevelopment, including for housing.
- The most common environmental constraints in Flagstaff are steep slopes and floodplains and floodways. This analysis considered steep slopes as any slope 25% or greater, which impacted nearly 7% of the study area's land. However, Flagstaff currently regulates development on slopes 17% or steeper through the Resource Protection Overlay, which represents a significant barrier to housing development on sites that may be able to support development. As the LASS+CAP project team continues to evaluate code section modifications that, if implemented, could result in greater residential yield, the steep slope provisions of the Resource Protection Overlay may offer such an opportunity.
- Floodplain and floodway areas impact over 4% of the study area land. It is likely that this number will be reduced through the eventual construction of the Rio de Flag Flood Control Project. Nonetheless, floodplain and floodway within Flagstaff currently presents a significant challenge to the development of housing in the study area's vacant parcels.

In general, Flagstaff has a significant amount of buildable land within its city limits and in its immediate periphery that can be used for the development of housing. However, much of it will require being rezoned to a higher density zoning designation and is lacking the necessary infrastructure to support higher density development.

It is expected that this analysis will help inform both the CAP and the Regional Plan update by identifying the areas that could most benefit from additional density and infill, among other changes that could positively impact housing yield. For example, the CAP may recommend zoning code or development review process changes that impact the density allowed in different zoning districts or when Water Sewer Impact Analyses (WSIA) or Traffic Impact Analyses (TIA) are required. Some observations of note include:

- Currently, only individual Opportunity Site redevelopment on the smallest of downtown or Southside sites may not trigger WSIA's, and even then, this only applies if existing infrastructure appears to be sufficient to meet new development needs. Any larger developments will all require WSIA's.
- Currently, most of the higher opportunity level sites will require TIAs. Developers in the community have noted that this can be a lengthy and expensive process with difficult-to-predict mitigation. Changes to how the City manages traffic information and TIA processes could improve the likelihood and

affordability of more significant housing development projects.

- Some of the largest sites that may become entirely new development areas tend to be zoned Rural or Estate Residential, which leads to very spread-out development that only serves high income groups. Whether these sites are currently owned by other public entities or private owners, the next steps in Table 25 of the LASS report recommend the City investigate ways to help encourage at least some areas within these large sites have higher density.

The draft LASS document will help provide specific locations and examples of where significant housing opportunities exist and therefore serves as a resource for considering when, where and how future code amendments, zone changes, collaborative development planning and master planning efforts will make the most impact in the City.

Code Analysis Project -- Code Diagnostic

The Code Analysis Project is a multi-phase project that will identify code barriers, provide opportunities to remove barriers, and recommend code revisions that will support the achievement of the Flagstaff Carbon Neutrality Plan and Housing Plan goals. The Project will be completed through three deliverables including a code diagnosis, exploration of concept code changes, and then a final report with recommendations. All phases of this project will be presented to supporting Commissions (Planning & Zoning, Housing, Sustainability, and Transportation). This three-prong approach will allow staff in conjunction with City Council to identify smaller code changes that may be processed prior to the final recommendations. The draft Code Diagnostic is the first deliverable in the Code Analysis Project which is attached for Commission and Council review.

The scope of the Code diagnosis, concepts, and recommendations addresses the following codes and any other identified affected codes, standards, policies, or plans as identified by the City:

- Fire Code
- Engineering Design Standards and Specifications for New Infrastructure
- Zoning Code
- General Plans and Subdivisions
- Public Ways and Property
- Building Regulations
- Transportation Impact Analysis Manual
- Incentive Policy for Affordable Housing

Additionally, an Equity and Displacement Vulnerability Assessment was conducted to assist with identifying code barriers. The consultants prepared a demographic and spatial analysis of the city to assess which neighborhoods are more vulnerable to the potential negative impacts of Code changes in accelerating gentrification and residential displacement.

Each code barrier was reviewed as follows:

Relevant Goal/Policy: Identify all of the relevant goals/policies that the code provision presents a barrier to meeting.

Magnitude and Impacts: Evaluate the magnitude of the barrier and discuss the specific impact it has on the ability of the City to meet its policy goals. The Consultant Team will coordinate to use a consistent method for evaluating the magnitude of a barrier. The magnitude of the barrier may vary depending on the policy goal. If so, that variation will be identified. The barriers were graded on the following scale:

- **Critical Barrier:** Code provisions that render it physically or economically infeasible to develop a project that contributes to the City's housing and/or climate goals. These code provisions generally are barriers independent of other standards or requirements and apply broadly to many types of developments or locations.
- **Major Barrier:** Code provisions that significantly reduce the feasibility of developing a project that contributes to the City's housing and climate goals. The degree to which these provisions are barriers may be contingent on other standards or requirements and the barrier may apply to a narrower range of development types of locations.
- **Minor Barrier:** Code provisions that may have a limited negative impact on the feasibility of developing a project that contributes to the City's housing and climate goals. The degree to which these provisions

are barriers may be contingent on other standards or requirements and the barrier may apply to a narrower range of development types of locations.

Please note that the attached draft does not adequately address the cascading climate barriers identified in the Key Outcomes for each code barrier identified. Additional work is necessary to refine how the climate barriers identified in the Carbon Neutrality Plan will be addressed in the final draft of this report.

Co-benefits: Identify areas, where relevant, reducing or removing a code barrier may have co-benefits or synergistic impacts on both housing and climate goals.

Tensions: Additionally, identify any potential tensions or trade-offs between policy goals that may arise as part of the assessment of code barriers. The consultant team identified two types of conflicts:

- **Housing/Climate Tensions:** Removing the barrier would advance one of the City's two primary goals but may constrain the ability to meet the other policy goal.
- **Tensions with Other Policy Goals:** Removing the barrier may have a negative impact on the City's ability to meet other policy goals. For example, reducing minimum parking requirements may reduce the cost of housing development, but may also impact neighborhood livability.

Feasibility of Alternatives: The consultant team, along with staff, will determine and discuss whether there are alternative regulations or standards that are reasonably feasible for the City to implement. Feasibility includes physical, legal, or economic feasibility. Specific alternatives will not be proposed at this stage.

By including all the above information for each code barrier, the City Council will be able to make more informed decisions and prioritize the most critical barriers to achieving housing and climate goals.

Project Outreach

These draft reports and a presentation were presented to the larger city staff steering committee, and the Housing, Sustainability, Transportation, and Planning and Zoning Commissions. At the time of this staff report, only feedback from the Steering Committee meetings was available and is discussed in the attached memo (Attachment A). Additional feedback from the respective commissions and Council will be incorporated into the draft reports before finalizing.

Information:

A link to the draft reports and appendices can be found here: <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/4888/Land-Availability-Suitability-StudyCode->

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Assistant Parks/Recreation Director	Amy Hagin	06/18/2024 11:31 AM
Form Started By: Robert Wallace		Started On: 06/18/2024 11:10 AM
	Final Approval Date: 06/18/2024	



Open Spaces Commission

7. d.

From: Cathy Guetschow, Administrative Specialist

DATE: 06/24/2024

SUBJECT: PROSE May 2024 Newsletter

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Executive Summary:

Attachments

PROSE May 2024 Newsletter

Form Review

Form Started By: Cathy Guetschow

Started On: 06/18/2024 10:06 AM

Final Approval Date: 06/18/2024



PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER



*Connecting our community through people,
parks, natural areas, and programs.*

Aquaplex & Jay Lively Cleaning and Maintenance

The Aquaplex is open again after completing several facility projects during the annual cleaning and maintenance closure. Jay Lively Activity Center continues work on large scale projects to reopen soon.



Spring Events are Here!

Event season is upon us as our parks and public spaces continue to be utilized daily for events large and small while our recreation centers offer a variety of enriching opportunities for the public.



West Flagstaff Little League Field looking well-groomed and ready for the season



PARKS

Playground Safety Training

Parks staff attended a Playground Safety Training taught by Parks Supervisor Lynold Herder, and Parks Technician Daniel White. The training reviewed how to inspect playgrounds for safety including elements of hazard identification, surfacing requirements, and risk management.



Fresh cut grass at W Flag Little League Field



Examples of old playground hardware

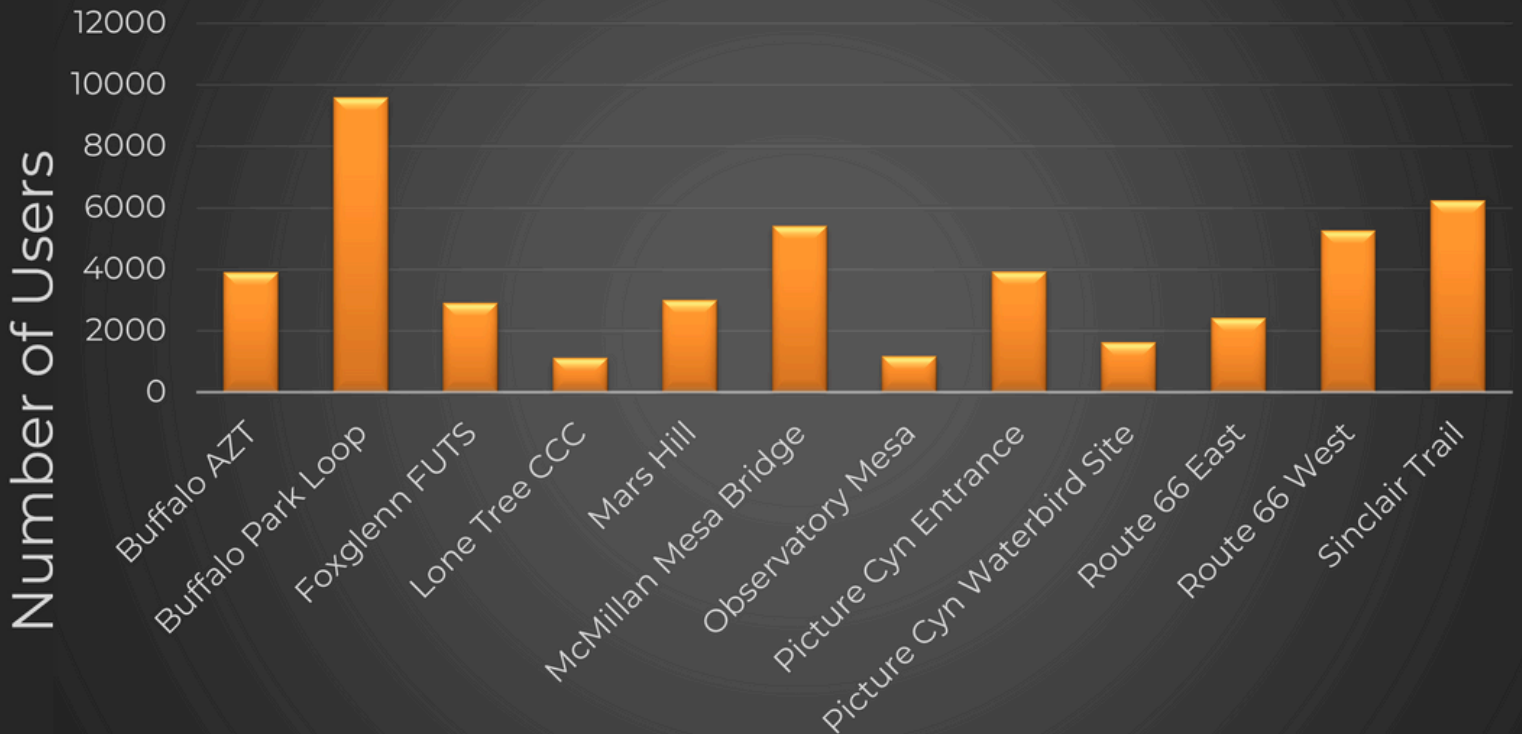
Daniel pointing to some slides



Irrigation Improvements

After an energy audit was performed in partnership with the Sustainability section, Parks' smart irrigation systems were upgraded with new flow sensors and master valves. This improvement will help save water by automatically detecting breaks and offering a quick way to stop the flow, minimizing wasted water.

April 2024 FUTS Trail Counts



Jay Livley staff photo in the iceless rink



RECREATION

Jay Lively Activity Center

Cleaning and Maintenance Closure

Jay Lively staff have been working hard during the cleaning and maintenance closure. With the help of Facility Services, Parks, and some contract work, the center has been able to break ground on some much-needed maintenance and cleaning projects. Staff continue working diligently to complete these projects before the target re-opening date of June 1st.

Some work completed/in progress:

- New rubber flooring installed in previously hazardous areas
- Ice from rink completely removed and soon to be replaced
- Cracking in ice rink concrete inspected with cracks and other exposed areas throughout the surface filled with epoxy
- Ice rink surface, markings, lines and new logo repainting/installation
- Chiller lines exposed to inspect ice buildup around pipes (solution to the problem has yet to be determined and solved)
- Deep cleaning of the entire facility, sanding and staining all benches, paint touch ups, scrubbing dasher boards etc.

Chunks of ice ready for removal



Trenching outside the building

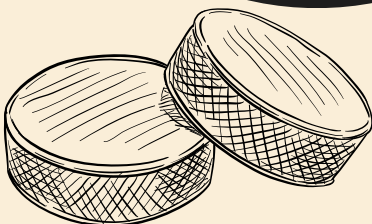


Staff pulling up the lines under the ice.



Chillin' in the Pines Hockey Tournament Success

Chillin' in the Pines Hockey Tournament had another successful outing this year with ten teams participating in the B & C divisions and twelve teams participating in the D division.



Skate shredding the ice



Sidewalk chalk art in front of Hal Jensen



RECREATION

Hal Jensen Recreation Center

Artist Chas Frisco creating word art

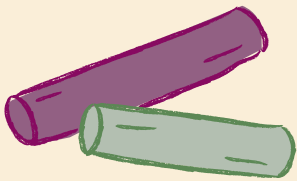


Hal Jensen Chalk Your Walk Event

In partnership with ARTx, Hal Jensen hosted Chalk Your Walk, where artist Chas Frisco led community members in creating art with chalk on the sidewalk in front of the Center. The event was greatly appreciated by all ages and saw over 30 participants.



Event participants creating chalk art



NACA Garden Blessing

Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) hosted a Garden Blessing event to commence the growing season at the Community Garden plots.



Garden growth from last season

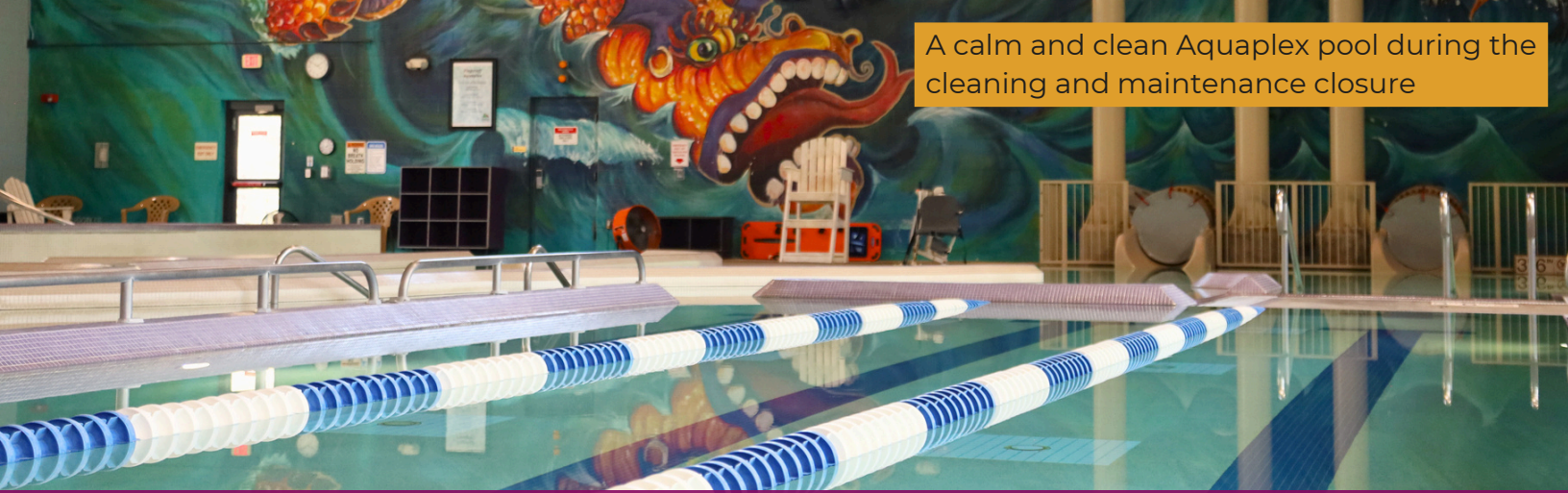
Night Court

Night Court continues to grow in popularity, offering an opportunity for youth to practice their basketball skills in a fun late night setting.



Night Court action





A calm and clean Aquaplex pool during the cleaning and maintenance closure

RECREATION

Aquaplex & Joe C Montoya Community and Senior Center

Aquaplex Cleaning & Maintenance Closure Complete

The Aquaplex utilized staff as well as contracted help to make diligent use of the annual cleaning and maintenance closure.

Completed cleaning and maintenance:

- New slip-resistant flooring installed in the Party Room
- Carpet in the Fitness Floor replaced with rubber flooring to match other areas
- Deep cleaning of the gym floor, track, carpets
- Stripped and waxed kitchen, community room, and movement studio floors
- Pool drained and refilled with fresh water and areas deep cleaned
- New slide pad installed
- Deep cleaning of all other areas and organization of front desk operations materials



Members of the public enjoying open swim after the re-opening

Wild West Pool Party

The Aquaplex hosted a wild west themed pool party which saw over 80 attendees. Participants received a bandana, cowboy hat, snap bracelets, and snacks. The party room and pool area were decorated and games such as horseshoes and pin the tail on the donkey were set up while country music played.



Decorations and games at the Pool Party

Tai Chi at Joe C. Montoya Community & Senior Center

Tai Chi classes have been well attended and growing rapidly. Plans for expanding this program to meet the popularity are in the works!



OPEN SPACE



Watercolor painting of Elden by an event participant



Event participant painting a nature scene

Plein Air in Open Space Event

Open Space hosted two Plein Air events in conjunction with ARTx. Each event featured a participating artist and offered an opportunity to create a painting or drawing while immersed in nature.



Event participant and their watercolor painting



Public Outreach and Education

Open Space has been reaching the public through participating in several events this month, including the STEM City Festival at Fort Tuthill and Earth Day at Bushmaster Park. Staff and volunteers offered hands-on educational activities and information about Open Space properties and programs.



Booth at STEM City Festival

School Field Trips

School field trips to Open Space have been in full swing! This month, students from Killip & Cromer Elementary visited Picture Canyon to learn about the watershed and do some



Students on a field trip at Picture Canyon



Booth at Earth Day

hands-on restoration and trail service projects in partnership with the Arizona Trail Association Seeds of Stewardship Program.

EVENTS & MARKETING



Event Season Begins!

The Events and Marketing team helped permit over thirty events that took place in our parks or public spaces this month. They also completed twenty-five internal marketing requests and continue working creatively to spread the word about upcoming events and programs.

Some upcoming events and programs

Flagstaff Aquaplex

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Two-Week Sessions

June 17th - 28th
July 8th - 19th
July 22nd - August 2nd

Ages: 6-11 Years

Monday - Friday

7:30am - 6:00pm

928-213-2300

Member Price: **\$250** Non-Member Price: **\$300**

Click to register on WebTrac

Flagstaff Aquaplex

LEARN TO ROCK CLIMB

Ages 6-14

Tuesdays

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Click to register on WebTrac

Hal Jensen Recreation Center

JUNETEENTH BLOOD DRIVE

in partnership with **vitalant** Blood Donation

Monday, **June 17th**

12:00pm - 5:00pm

Hal Jensen Rec Center (2403 N Izabel St)

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Wednesday nights in June & July 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

JUNE	JULY
6/5 Tommy Dukes Jim Cullen Park	7/3 Arizona Hired Guns Peaks View County Park
6/12 Dennis Herrera Band Bushmaster Park	7/10 Big Daddy D and the Dynamites Mobile Haven Park
6/19 Cameron Jameson Cheshire Park	7/17 Optimal Delusion Raymond County Park
6/26 The Flag 5 Band Duck Pond Field	7/24 The Carbonics Bushmaster Park
	7/31 Ace Slim Jim Cullen Park

Join Open Space for June's

FULL MOON BIKE RIDE

Trail Head: **Buffalo Park**
to ride Nate Avery loop & McMillan Mesa loop

Friday, June 21st
7:30 - 8:45pm

Introduction to Invasive Weeds Workshop

Learn how to identify invasive plants. Bring your weeds to the experts! This workshop is in partnership with the **Climate Resilience Project**.

Tuesday, June 11th
6:00-8:00pm
Foxglenn Park Ramada

Volunteer Weed Pull

Pull weeds at the Flagstaff Aquaplex and along Industrial Drive. Wear long pants and long sleeves. Bring water, sun protection and gloves if you have them (there will be extra to borrow). All other materials and tools will be provided.

Wednesday, June 26th
7:00-9:00am
Flagstaff Aquaplex