

## NOTICE AND AGENDA

OPEN SPACES COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
AUGUST 25, 2025

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 Commissioners may be in attendance through other technological means.*

Chair Jacqueline Thomas	Commissioner Molly Joyce
Co-Chair Bruce Fox	Commissioner Lina Wallen
Commissioner Mary Norton (P&Z Liaison)	Commissioner Nat White
Commissioner William Kluwin	Councilmember Representative: David Spence

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 June and July Open Spaces Commission Minutes**
  - A. [Approval of June 23, 2025 Minutes](#)
  - B. [Approval of July 28, 2025 Minutes](#)
5. **Open Call to the Public**  
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. **Regional Plan Review and Recommendations**  
Staff Recommendation: Decision Item.  
Open Spaces Commissioners will review the latest Regional Plan draft, outline recommendations the Commission would like to make, and select a Commission member to represent the Commission regarding the group's recommendations at upcoming opportunities.
  - B. **LASS/CAP Code Concepts Report Review and Recommendations**  
Decision Item.  
Open Spaces Commissioners will review the LASS/CAP Code Concepts Report (Land Availability and Suitability Study & Code Analysis Project (LASS+ CAP). Commissioners will outline and vote on the comments regarding the group's recommendation.
7. **Reports and Updates**

- A. Council Representative Report, Council Representative David Spence
  - B. Planning and Zoning Commission Representative Report, Representative Mary Norton
  - C. Open Space Management Report, Robert Wallace and Sylvia Struss
  - D. [PROSE Monthly Newsletter, July 2025](#)
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 Wednesday, August 20, at 2 p.m. This notice has been posted on the City's website and can be downloaded at [www.flagstaff.az.gov](http://www.flagstaff.az.gov).

Dated this 20th day of August, 2025.

*Lori Reynolds*

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Lori Reynolds, Administrative Specialist

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Lori Reynolds ([lori.reynolds@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:lori.reynolds@flagstaffaz.gov)) at least two business days prior to the scheduled meeting time to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.



**Open Space Commission**

4. A.

**From:** Lori Reynolds, PROSE Admin Specialist

**DATE:** 08/25/2025

**SUBJECT:** [Approval of June 23, 2025 Minutes](#)

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**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Executive Summary:**

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**Attachments**

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June 2025 Minutes

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## MINUTES

OPEN SPACE COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
JUNE 23, 2025

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

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Jacqueline Thomas called the June 23, 2025 Open Spaces Commission meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

### 2. Roll Call

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

Chair Jacqueline Thomas	Commissioner Molly Joyce
Co-Chair Bruce Fox	Commissioner Lina Wallen (virtual, intermittently present)
Commissioner Mary Norton (P&Z Liaison)	Commissioner Nat White
Commissioner William Kluwin	Councilmember Representative: David Spence

Others present: Ashlee Fliney (virtual), Haley Reynolds (present for part of the meeting), Lori Reynolds, Rebecca Sayers, Sylvia Struss, and Robert Wallace

### 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 May 12, 2025 Minutes.

Commissioner Norton motioned to approve the May 12, 2025 minutes. Commissioner White seconded and all voted in favor.

Motion by Mary Norton, Seconded by Nat White

### 5. Public Comment

Chair Thomas called for public comment on any items not on the agenda. There were no comments or requests.

### 6. Business Items

#### A. Update on July 4th Drone Show

Haley Reynolds, City of Flagstaff Events and Marketing Manager, shared with the commission details on the upcoming Fourth of July drone show happening in Flagstaff. This drone show, by Open Sky Productions, will be a first for Flagstaff. She referenced a map of the drone show's coverage area that is available on the Discover Flagstaff webpage (<https://www.flagstaffarizona.org/events/festivals/4th-of-july-events/>).

Haley highlighted points on the map for designated viewing areas, parking availability, and general information about the scope of drone visibility. She mentioned that there would be traffic control

points and park staff monitoring in Buffalo Park and around McMillian Mesa to provide points of communication to the public. Haley further informed the commission that the event was first brought to City Council in April of this year and the proposed budget for the event is \$95,000. She concluded by sharing that the drone show would feature custom animation and custom audio that would last just over 20 minutes, beginning promptly at 9:10 PM.

Commissioner White asked if Haley could elaborate on what a drone show was exactly. She informed him that it was a coordinated light show in the sky using drones. Each drone is programmed to synchronize different visual features and fly in different sequences to an audio recording. There were additional concerns expressed about the drones and what could happen if they crashed or there was inclement weather. Haley replied that the drones were not prone to crashing; they could land themselves. She also added that drones could continue to fly in a mild rain or wind event, but if a larger monsoonal system moved through, they would have to postpone until the weather was gone.

Commissioner White also requested to know who spearheaded the event, to which Haley responded that this was a city effort and that the funds were coming from a budget transfer from Economic Vitality to Events. Councilmember Spence commented that the drone show was a fraction of the cost of a traditional fireworks show and is more mindful of the current fire restrictions in effect.

Commissioner Joyce asked if the city had reached out to the bus line to see if they could run later hours to help get more people from across town closer to the optimal viewing area for the event. Haley replied that they did talk with Mountain Lion bus line, but they did not have the staffing capacity to support extended hours.

Chair Thomas expressed concern about the staff assisting on McMillan Mesa and Buffalo Park not appearing to look like official event support staff. Haley shared that all staff and volunteers assisting would have reflective vests and would each be familiar with the space and be able to educate event visitors on Leave No Trace principles.

There were no additional commission or public comments on the topic of the Fourth of July Drone Show.

## B. Observatory Mesa Natural Area Renaming Consideration

Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor, opened the topic for the commission to discuss renaming suggestions for Observatory Mesa, including what the implications or results of that name change could mean. Chair Thomas added that a result of the name change could include increased tourism and time and resources to update the name on signage and published materials.

Commissioners engaged in a lively back and forth discussion on the topic of renaming Observatory Mesa. It was acknowledged that Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve has similar founding documents as Observatory Mesa and that should be taken into consideration for the renaming. Commissioner White shared his preference for including "Preserve" in the name (Observatory Mesa Preserve), as it would keep consistency with Picture Canyon's name. Commissioners were reminded by Mr. Wallace that the names of the city's regional preserves do not determine how the open space properties are managed.

Commissioner Kluwin mentioned that the Observatory Mesa name did not communicate that it was a City of Flagstaff regional preserve within the boundaries of the City of Flagstaff. Commissioner Joyce expanded on this, sharing that other cities have different names for pieces of land, such as Community Forest or Demonstration Forest. Commissioner Joyce asked her fellow commissioners to consider consulting with local indigenous peoples to get their input on this name change. Mr. Wallace informed the commission that this name change does not need to go through City Council and that renaming this property could help set it apart from Forest Service land and other private properties.

It was requested that Open Space staff coordinate with Rose Toehe, Indigenous Affairs Administrator for the City of Flagstaff, as a starting point for indigenous consultation on the renaming of Observatory Mesa. Mr. Wallace added that by the next meeting he would have alternative name options to present.

Chair Thomas requested that the Observatory Mesa renaming be added as a future agenda item. There was no public comment.

### C. Open Spaces Commission Accomplishments & Priorities

Robert Wallace shared different topic items on Open Space accomplishments and projects that the commission could request to be expanded upon as future agenda topics.

- Observatory Mesa right-of-way easement, providing access from highway 180 to private property on the east side of Observatory Mesa Natural Area, section 6.
- Don Weaver Trail realignment Open Spaces Commission's recommendation.
- Community naming memorial, approval for the Jack Welch Memorial Bridge.
- Community beautification grant approval for the artwork on the Jack Welch Memorial Bridge.
- Community Beautification grant approval for landscaping native plants near Izabel Street and the Segó Lily Trail.
- Regional Plan comments submitted by the Open Spaces Commission.
- Grants and conservation easements report completion
- Ongoing projects for new signage along McMillian Mesa and new fencing along the boundary of Picture Canyon.
- Insight into future focus areas, including the Regional Plan, LASS CAP input, and the Forest Resource Pilot Program Zoning Code Text Amendment.

Concluding the topic with future priorities and agenda items, Mr. Wallace shared with the commission that LASS CAP input for Framing Our Future Together was looking for feedback on the Code Concepts report.

The commission returned to the discussion on the need for an Open Space Master Plan. Rebecca Sayers, PROSE Director, provided insight that the Open Space Master Plan, it would be a part of a PROSE Master Plan. This would involve going through a procurement process and would take time. Once they had a contractor in place, the Open Space Commission would likely become a focus group for the contractor, and the Commission would be encouraged to get the community to participate through public meetings, feedback and surveys. Chair Thomas remarked, speaking on behalf of the commission, that they fully support the PROSE staff working on getting this procurement project moving this year.

## 7. Reports and Updates

### A. Council Representative Report, Council Representative David Spence

Councilmember David Spence did not have anything specific to share with the commission, but he did mention that he has been sharing with the City Council the status of various Open Space projects.

### B. Planning and Zoning Commission Representative Report, Representative Mary Norton

Commissioner Norton shared with the commission details on an upcoming community meeting for a conditional use permit for a golf course and related facilities in the 125-acre parcel of land south of I-40 near the Pine Canyon development. The meeting will be held via Zoom on July 2, 2025 at 5:30 PM. Anyone in the community can listen, learn, and provide feedback.

**C. Open Space Management Report, Robert Wallace and Sylvia Struss**

Sylvia Struss, Open Space Coordinator, shared an update with the commission on current Open Space projects.

- Staff drafted a FUTS connection proposal between Route 66 and Picture Canyon.
- Applied for a \$170,000 grant with the Tohono O'Odham Nation.
- Addressed abandoned campsites and trash dumps on McMillian Mesa.
- Worked on a beautification grant at the bottom of the Sego Lilly Trail, adding riprap rock to reduce erosion.
- Ongoing work addressing the illegal mountain biking trails that have been created around Observatory Mesa past the Railroad Springs neighborhood.

Sylvia also shared upcoming Open Space events.

1. Wednesday Weed Pulls, recurring on select Wednesdays through September 3, 2025.
2. Bug Out event at Frances Short Pond on June 28, 2025 from 10 AM to 12 PM.

**D. PROSE Monthly Newsletter**

The May 2025 newsletter was shared. No comments or feedback was received from commissioners.

**8. Informational Items To and From Commissioners and Staff**

There were no additional informational items from Commissioners or Staff.

**9. Potential Future Agenda Items**

Chair Thomas referenced discussions from earlier in the meeting, reiterating that they would add the Observatory Mesa renaming consideration into next month's agenda.

**10. Adjournment**

Commissioner White motioned to adjourn. The meeting ended at 6:07 PM.

Motion by Jacqueline Thomas, Seconded by Nat White



**Open Space Commission**

4. B.

**From:** Lori Reynolds, PROSE Admin Specialist

**DATE:** 08/25/2025

**SUBJECT:** Approval of July 28, 2025 Minutes

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**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Executive Summary:**

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**Attachments**

Approval of July 28, 2025 Minutes

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## MINUTES

OPEN SPACES COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
JULY 28, 2025

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

### 1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Bruce Fox called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

### 2. Roll Call

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

Chair Jacqueline Thomas: Absent  
Co-Chair Bruce Fox: Present  
Commissioner Molly Joyce: Present  
Commissioner William Kluwin: Absent

Commissioner Lina Wallen: Present  
Commissioner Nat White: Present  
Commissioner Mary Norton (P&Z Liaison): Absent  
Councilmember Rep. David Spence: Present

Staff Present: Rebecca Sayers, Robert Wallace, Sylvia Struss, Rose Toehe (joined virtually at 5:50 PM), Lori Reynolds, and Ashlee Fliney

### 3. Land Acknowledgment

The Flagstaff Open Spaces 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.

Read by Co-Chair Bruce Fox.

### 4. Approval of June 23, 2025 Minutes

Review and approval of June's commission meeting minutes was deferred to the August 25th meeting so that all commissioners may review the document.

### 5. Open Call to the Public

Read by Co-Chair Bruce Fox. No public comments were received.

### 6. Business Items

#### A. Regional Plan Review and Recommendations

Co-Chair Fox opened the discussion topic for the commission, sharing that the Regional Plan was currently undergoing a second round of public comment. He asked fellow commissioners to share any comments that they have on the plan. Commissioners had concerns about how the plan read - the tone and assumptions made surrounding the core purpose of the plan. They also questioned the sustainability of the plan and what it is seeking to achieve and if the plan would focus on supporting people who currently live here. Councilmember Spence shared with the commission that the Continental area belongs to the city and is a part of long-range planning that includes opportunities for recreation and an event venue within the Continental space. This opportunity, Spence said, could fit into the plan's PROS.2 Policy. Overall, the commission's discussion centered on how open space considerations are minimal and secondary to the priorities of housing and climate change.

Rebecca Sayers thanked the commission for their input and shared with them that PROSE staff

provided similar comments with Regional Plan drafters. She suggested that if the commission decides to prepare a recommendation that includes those points, it will be important to clearly communicate their concerns and address why the recommended changes are valuable. She further stated that the Regional Plan references a future updated PROSE Master Plan that may help provide leverage for implementation of regional plan goals and policies. Chair Fox asked what the timeline would be for the consultant group with the PROSE Master Plan. Rebecca replied that the process would likely be a twelve-month process that would involve public engagement, plan review, a gap analysis on what PROSE is missing, and set priorities.

The commission decided that each commissioner would submit their top four comments and recommendations on the plan to Robert by August 11th. He and Co-Chair Fox will then draft a letter to be shared at the next Open Spaces Commission meeting on August 25, 2025. Next, the letter will be shared with the City Planning and Zoning Commission at their meeting on August 27, 2025.

Co-Chair Fox called for public comment on this topic. No public comments were received.

#### **B. Draft Code Analysis Project: Code Concepts Report Review and Recommendations**

Robert provided a general summary of the Code Concepts Report. The commission asked if PROSE staff had provided any comments on the draft. Robert replied that they had not, and it was to be determined if staff would in the future. Rebecca added that this should not deter the commission from providing their own comments. Robert informed the commission that if the commission was interested in reviewing and submitting comments on the report that they would have until the August 26, 2025 Council meeting. The Commission decided to review the report individually and submit comments for inclusion in a recommendation. Co-Chair Fox added that the feedback should be reviewed and incorporated into a formal recommendation by August 11th. A draft letter will be shared at the next Open Spaces Commission meeting on August 25, 2025.

Co-Chair Fox called for public comment. No comments were received.

#### **C. Observatory Mesa Natural Area Renaming Consideration**

Co-Chair Fox reiterated some of the comments that were made on this topic from June's commission meeting. Robert commented that he reached out to Flagstaff's Indigenous Commission for their input on the topic. He shared that while the Indigenous Commission was unable to get the topic onto their most recent meeting's agenda, he was invited to attend their next commission meeting.

Beginning the renaming discussion of Observatory Mesa Natural Area, Commissioner White shared that he was in support of including "Preserve" as it conveys the intent of the land and provides naming consistency with another Open Space, Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve. Open Spaces Commissioners expressed support for including "Preserve" in the name. They also commented that the cultural history of the Mesa could be incorporated via interpretive signage and into trail names, too.

Indigenous Commissioner, Cherylee Francis, and Indigenous Commission staff liaison, Rose Toehe, joined the meeting. Rose Toehe shared with Open Spaces Commissioners that she had informed her commission on this topic and that there were individuals interested in providing input.

Robert shared that he would provide a short presentation for the Indigenous Commission and share that that Open Spaces Commission is considering recommending an update to the name of the city's regional preserve, currently known as **Observatory Mesa Natural Area**, to **Observatory Mesa Natural and Cultural Preserve**, with the intent of reflecting the significance of the area as more than a recreational destination, and to emphasize the preservation of both natural and cultural resources.

Co-Chair Fox called for public comment. No comments were received.

## **7. Reports and Updates**

### **A. Council Representative Report, Council Representative David Spence**

Councilmember Spence did not have anything to share at this time.

### **B. Planning and Zoning Commission Representative Report, Representative Mary Norton**

Representative Norton was not present.

### **C. Open Space Management Report, Robert Wallace and Sylvia Struss**

Sylvia Struss, Open Space Coordinator, shared with the commission highlights of recent and upcoming Open Space events.

- A group of 15 youth from Iowa assisted Open Space staff remove invasive elm along North Turquoise Drive. Staff will be planting Juniper and Pinyon in their place.
- Completed trash removal along McMillan Mesa.
- Ongoing volunteer event, Weed Pull Wednesdays. The next upcoming events will be held on September 3rd and 17th.
- Upcoming full moon hike on August 9th along the Mars Hill Trail.
- Upcoming mushroom walk on August 23rd, partnering with AZ Watchable Wildlife Experience. Registration for the event is required and can be found at [Volunteer Flagstaffaz.gov](http://VolunteerFlagstaffaz.gov)

### **D. PROSE Monthly Newsletter**

Review of the June newsletter is postponed until the August commission meeting.

## **8. Informational Items To and From Commissioners and Staff**

No additional items were discussed.

## **9. Potential Future Agenda Items**

Future agenda items include commissioner comments on the Regional Plan and feedback on the Code Analysis Project.

## **10. Adjournment**

Co-Chair Fox adjourned the meeting at 6:10 PM.



**Open Space Commission**

6. A.

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

**From:** Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor

**DATE:** 08/25/2025

**SUBJECT:** Regional Plan Review and Recommendations

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**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff Recommendation: Decision Item.

Open Spaces Commissioners will review the latest Regional Plan draft, outline recommendations the Commission would like to make, and select a Commission member to represent the Commission regarding the group's recommendations at upcoming opportunities.

**Executive Summary:**

The Regional Plan draft is currently open for public review. The Open Spaces Commission will review the plan, identify comments directly related to open space, and appoint an Open Spaces Commissioner to provide public comments during the upcoming hearings. Upcoming public hearings include:

August 27 - Citizen's Review Session with the City Planning and Zoning Commission

September 10 - Public Hearing #1 with the City Planning and Zoning Commission

September 24 - Public Hearing #2 with the City Planning and Zoning Commission

October 9 - City Council Public Hearing on adopting the Regional Plan

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**Open Space Commission**

6. B.

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

**From:** Robert Wallace, Open Space Supervisor

**DATE:** 08/25/2025

**SUBJECT:** LASS/CAP Code Concepts Report Review and Recommendations

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**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Decision Item.

Open Spaces Commissioners will review the LASS/CAP Code Concepts Report (Land Availability and Suitability Study & Code Analysis Project (LASS+ CAP). Commissioners will outline and vote on the comments regarding the group's recommendation.

**Executive Summary:**

Land Availability and Suitability Study & Code Analysis Project (LASS+ CAP) is happening in multiple stages. The Open Spaces Commission will review this report and determine what comments they would like to make. Final code recommendations are planned to be presented to the City Council on October 26, 2025. You can find the Code Concept report and the recording from the recent public meeting, and the questions they presented at: <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/4888/Land-Availability-Suitability-Study>

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**Open Space Commission**

7. D.

**From:** Lori Reynolds, PROSE Admin Specialist

**DATE:** 08/25/2025

**SUBJECT:** [PROSE Monthly Newsletter, July 2025](#)

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**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Executive Summary:**

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**Attachments**

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July 2025 Newsletter

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# PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

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

Spectators enjoying the Drone Show at  
Coconino High School



The drones before launch

## Fourth of July Drone Show

PROSE launched Parks and Recreation Month in spectacular fashion with Flagstaff's first-ever Fourth of July Drone Show! In partnership with Economic Vitality, the event brought a fresh and innovative celebration to the community. After a competitive selection process, Open Sky Productions LLC was chosen to deliver the show. Coconino High School served as the ideal launch site, providing great views for the Sunnyside neighborhood, Buffalo Park, and McMillan Mesa. The show featured stunning drone displays choreographed to a custom soundtrack, showcasing Flagstaff's rich history, Native American heritage, and patriotic themes. Residents and visitors alike gathered to witness the one-of-a-kind experience, marking what we hope is the beginning of a new annual tradition.



Route 66 100<sup>th</sup>



McMillan Mesa Park

# PARKS

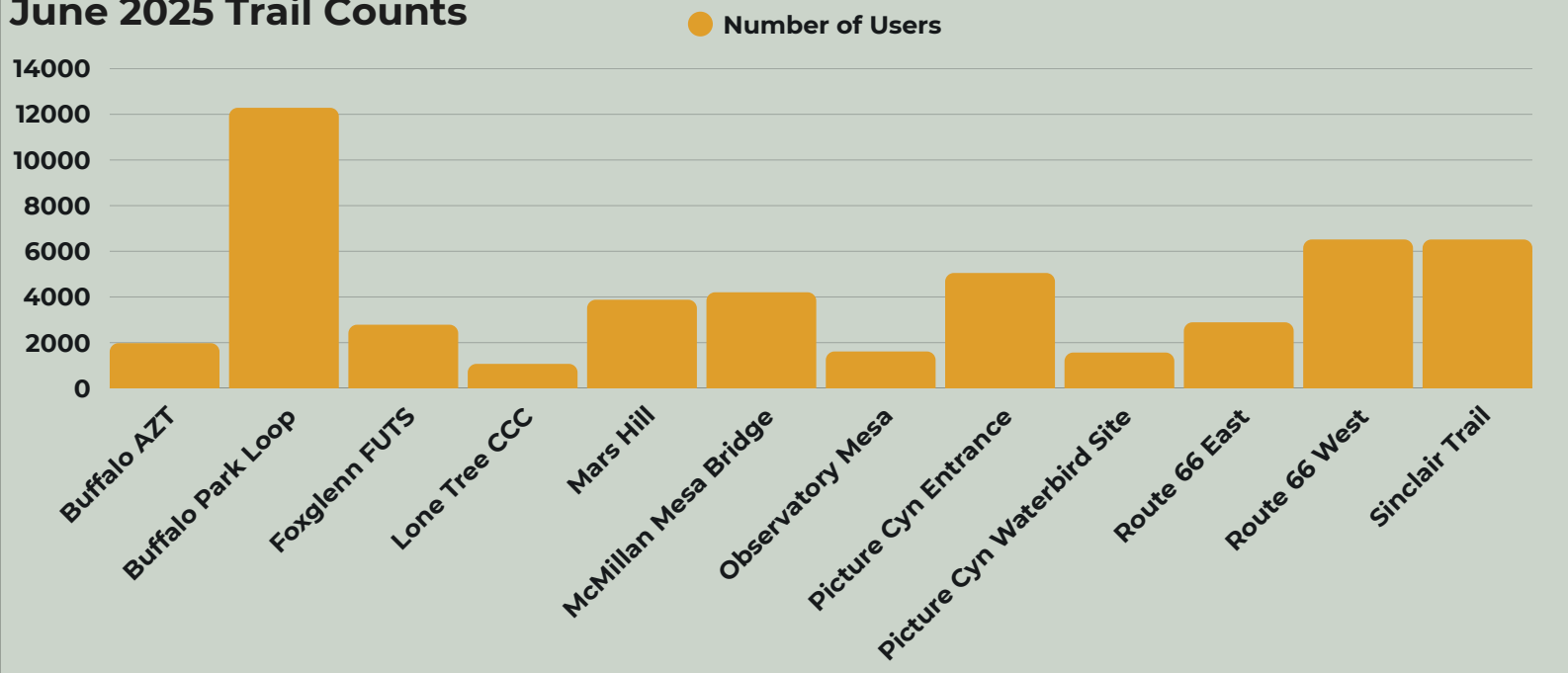
## Removal of Hazardous Tree at Bushmaster Park

This month, Parks partnered with the City’s Wildland Fire Crew to successfully remove a large dead ponderosa pine tree located near the playground at Bushmaster Park. The hazardous tree posed a safety concern for park visitors. Rather than contracting the work externally, this collaborative effort served a dual purpose: eliminating a public safety hazard while also providing a valuable training opportunity for both the Parks team and Wildland Fire personnel. This is a great example of interdepartmental teamwork benefiting both the community and city staff.



Down tree at Bushmaster Park

## June 2025 Trail Counts



# PARKS & RECREATION MONTH IN REVIEW

## Touch A Truck

This year's Touch-A-Truck was a tremendous success with over 1,200 people in attendance! Special thanks to Andrew Edwards, Recreation Coordinator I at Hal Jensen Recreation Center, for his outstanding work in coordinating vendors and assembling an impressive lineup of 38 vehicles. We are grateful for the enthusiastic participation from local businesses and several City departments, including Streets, Jay Lively Activity Center, Water Services, Parks, Fire, and Police, who helped make this event exciting and memorable for families across Flagstaff.



Touch A Truck



Dance party with the Special Olympics

## Aquaplex Pool Party

Nearly 200 community members joined in the fun at the Aquaplex Pool Party, held intentionally on a Sunday to spotlight the facility's new weekend hours. Guests enjoyed swimming, mini golf, an all-abilities obstacle course, face painting, and even helped paint new garden boxes—adding both color and community spirit to the event.

## Jay Lively Activity Center Summer Luau, Tournament & Hockey Clinic

July was packed with activities at Jay Lively Activity Center. The Luau Skate brought a good crowd to the rink, with about half the skaters dressing up for the occasion. The Mountain Mashup adult hockey tournament had 44 participants and evenly matched teams—each team walked away with at least one win and one loss. The Beginner's Hockey Clinic welcomed ten new players, who expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for the opportunity. Due to strong interest, staff is exploring options for future clinics.



## Build Together, Play Together Event

PROSE celebrated the end of Parks & Recreation Month with a brand-new Build Together, Play Together event. This was a collaborative effort from Recreation Coordinators across all four recreation centers, along with support from Events, Marketing, and Athletics. Thanks to The Home Depot, kids and families had the opportunity to build projects together with hands-on kits. The event also featured bubbles, yard games, crafts, a mini-golf course, and more! Community partners including the Flagstaff Police Department, Flagstaff Fire Department, Scoop There It Is Ice Cream, and Soul Coffee added to the festive atmosphere. Over the course of the day, approximately 250 attendees joined the fun, making this event a big success.



Build-it kits with The Home Depot

## Joe C. Montoya Community & Senior Center Open House

The Joe C. Montoya Community & Senior Center Open House welcomed around 100 guests throughout the day. Visitors toured the facility, met staff, and participated in a selection of popular classes. Attendees had the opportunity to sample programs such as Stand Tall Don't Fall, Chair Yoga, Senior Stretch & Mobility, Wisdom Seekers, and Tai Chi—offering a well-rounded glimpse into the wellness and enrichment opportunities available at the center year-round.



Chair Yoga class

# OPEN SPACE

Boys from Hal Jensen Recreation Center hunting for bugs during a hike with Open Space



Enjoying shade from an oak tree



## Connecting Recreation Centers to Nature through Summer Partnerships

This summer, the Open Space Educator partnered with three recreation centers to provide fun, educational experiences that bring nature into the heart of our community programs.

- **Aquaplex:** Open Space programming complemented the Aquaplex's weekly summer camp themes by weaving in hands-on STEM

activities and nature-inspired crafts, helping participants explore the natural world in engaging, creative ways.

- **Hal Jensen Recreation Center:** Each week, Open Space led field trips for Hal Jensen's summer visitors, offering elementary and middle school students the chance to discover Flagstaff's open spaces through outdoor exploration.
- **Joe C. Montoya Community & Senior Center:** Following the monthly Sit and Stretch class, Open Space began offering guided walks on Observatory Mesa. These walks invite participants to connect with nature while learning about the mesa's unique ecology and geology.

By integrating nature-based education into recreation programs, PROSE continues to foster curiosity, wellness, and environmental stewardship across all ages.

Drawing activity... can you guess where this hike was?



Examining a wax-currant berry



Learning to use a compass



Mid-hike 'sound-scape' activity



# PHOTOS FROM PARKS & RECREATION MONTH

FOLLOW US ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOR MORE!



Hal Jensen Supervisor, Crystal, handing out hats at Touch-A Truck



A child waves inside the EZ-Liner Truck



Testing out the intercom



Rec Coordinator David on the tractor



Child smiling inside ADOT tractor



Pool Party community tree



Mini-golf!



Psyched inside the parachute



Special Olympics obstacle course



Aquaplex Supervisor Kyle shows off his face-paint



Grass Volleyball at dusk



Concert at Cheshire Park featuring Sleep Stampede



Kids dance to Wild World Irish Fiddle at Smokerise Park



Kid samples an apple from a tree at Jim Cullen Park during the last Concert featuring Optimal Delusion



Two kids play a game of giant chess



Mini-golf



Rec Coordinator Andrew takes part in the build-together fun



Yard games at the Build Together, Play Together event