

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC PROCESS DETAIL

Salida Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Information Gathering Trip May 30, 2007 – June 1, 2007

I. Project Team Meeting - 8 am, 5/30

Attendees

Christine
Steve
Katie
Rob
Trish

- Overview of Schedule and presentation
- Political Sensitivities – Awareness of key issues
- Survey introduction – Using Schools District boundaries – all households in Salida, Poncha and then 500 left over for random distribution, cross-tabs for Salida - survey should be ready after Friday meeting
- Starpoint – Special needs non-profit, all for ADA – should be invited to schools and Clubs focus group
- Overview of Design Guidelines expectations
- Two open space parcels – codes that say weeds over 12' high must be mowed, but now have two hillside, Vandaveer – ridgeline and open space, and Tenderfoot – new 17 acre parcel – set aside to protect ridgelines and viewsheds primarily – how do – lowlands in Vandaveer are not “wetlands” – there are not wetlands – only critical area is by hot springs Poncha Hot Springs property - source of hot water, City interested in – outside of city and not in parks – this area is not developed
- Look at Q. 12 and Financial Choices on survey to decide detail on open space
- Expectations on Vandaveer – planning grant later to fill out how it will be exactly developed – it's been entitled – selling some of it, - two proposals at end of June – City will maintain a great deal of control – designated open space, set aside 30 acre parcels, trails and open space. Developer will develop some areas.

II. Staff Input Group – 9 am - 5/30

Marlowe Marbry, Christine, Steve, Lynn, Rob, Trish

- Critical Success Factors were in newspaper today – get a copy
- Get copies of dvds of council and public process meetings
- Findings by second week of August
- Draft recommendations in September
- Survey using school district boundaries
- As of date 5/15/07
- Soccer fields – new- partially grant funded two fields on school property, city is administering grant and soccer association is partially funding and managing/maintaining – should be in inventory – BB fields

- Look at Home Rule – need to be De-Bruced? – fundng mechanisms also possibility of Special District?
- May need to have a department – Parks, Recreation and Open Space?

What are the Goals of the Department?

- We all need to be heading in the same direction – consistent mission
- Enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Salida, by offering diverse programming...and improve physical, mental and spiritual well being...(mission)?
- Provide an enjoyable experience – a lot of parks get used all day everyday – for a wide variety of users. Some just want grass – balance
- Keeping things clean and maintained
- Have rec mission statement but more programming focused
- Recreation has been primarily aquatics but now year-round recreation program in last seven years. All about serving people here in Salida – there may be a program in a park that visitors come to but priority is citizens of Salida
- Core of what we do is summer recreation program – program for kids is completely subsidized – that is a goal
- Provide a public gathering place – and a place to get away from urban environment
- What would the organizational structure look like if the two divisions were combined – big gap out there – not really has been a priority for anyone...how did that happen <grin>! Could be a goal to minimize scheduling conflicts.

What is working well?

- We have green grass and it's mowed regularly
- There are parks that have good facilities – bandshell, Alpine Park, new bathrooms here at Riverside, pavilion at Centennial
- Trail along river is an incredible improvement
- Playholes and waterpark
- Trail into the Monarch spur trail and out of town
- Increase in participation and wide variety of facilities and programs predominantly in Summer
- Process for public to rent parks is fairly user friendly – City is easy to work with, good PW support
- There have been expanded athletic activities, including tournaments
- Consistent trash removal
- We provide a wide variety of programs and facilities – for every age and every kind of interest and income levels
- Perception that departments work well together
- Skatepark is heavily used

What is not working well?

- Disconnect between departments
- Dog control – have 11 mutt stations
- Low staffing levels
- Can't keep bathrooms clean
- Vandalism – fires in bathroom,
- Need staff levels to help monitor

- Lack of enforcement – don't have enough staff – have ordinances but don't want to give tickets? H
- Small town entitlement feeling – don't want rules?
- Lack of budget – not Home Rule - capped and have no other funding sources we continue to get a smaller and smaller piece, don't have necessary political will to change?
- Low staffing levels and constant staff and council turnover – revolving door, low wages, this is a stepping stone, time commitment, many move here and don't realize that they have to change to live here, want small town but big town amenities
- Just get \$225,000 in property tax – not the viable funding sources – economy is not healthy enough to up property tax -with Home Rule could first as a lodging tax currently 1.9% - increase sales taxes – especially dedicated sales taxes, we are a retail hub funding mechanism – currently de-bruced on everything except property tax – if we went Home Rule that would not be so much of an issue
- There has been inconsistency on programming because of staffing changes, etc. so there is some mistrust.
- Need to gain public confidence – don't trust council, new people coming in – council changes –
- There are expectations – dog parks, ball fields, there are a number of users who don't think their needs are being met.
- BMX at Marvin park – not working - two groups wanted to
- Skatepark is vandalized

How can this plan help?

- Whoever yells at council gets what they want – not based on community needs – ex: 12 ballfield on Vandaveer – need community voice
- Plan needs to give guidance?
- Can help with council agendas, historical basis, turnover
- Have community understand why this plan is important
- Other plans – Southern Chaffee county district plan – comp plan have not been done – City did an informational survey but not statistically-valid
- Other studies have been more narrow – but this is more of a guiding document
- Needs to be implementable
- Need community buy-in – sometimes outside firm – they don't buy in,
- We don't want to be any place else – needs to be unique – just Salida – very strong individuals – what makes Salida special – eclecticness needs to be emphasized.

III. 10:30 am 5/30 - Organizations Focus Group

Attendees

Chuck Rose – Planning and Zoning
Don Stephens – City Planning Commission
Tom Jacobson – Tree Board
Kathyrn Hardgrave – Colorado State Forest
Kathyrn Wadworth – GARNA
Kathy Grether – SPOT
Wayne Sawyer – SPOT
Donna Rhoads – SPOT
Tom Purvis – Salida Mountain Trails
Yvonne Barnes – SPOT/SMT/Soccer

- Ideas of standards are great – but need to not be limited by current staffing limitations
- Components may need to include natural areas?
- Need to look at funding – special district options

Length of residency

<5 - 3
5-10 - 2
<10 - 5

Strengths

- SPOT has worked on plans, trails plan, City comp plans, need to be considered
- SPOT and Salida Mountain Trails – have plan almost complete – almost all of SMT plan, and good interface – looking at integrating other lands with local trails
- BLM travel management plan – 75% done draft on travel management plan, b
- We should be careful that nothing on private property is identified
- 80% of county is public lands – so we have plethora of lands available
- Oppo
- Autos, bikes and pedestrians can co-exist
- Existing Plans and surveys – Chaffee county CCVB did a leisure trends - may be proprietary? Can we get that
- Our parks and facilities are well-used – local and visitors – especially riverside, Alpine and Centennial get a lot of use
- Parks with bathrooms get heavy use
- Cooperation among organizations and interest groups – SPOT, SMT, GARNA, Govt.
- Friendly town – need to maintain this
- Downtown coming together meeting
- Strengths of recreation –
 - Trish – able to adapt
 - Multi-interest, generational, opportunity
- River – right in town – whole of downtown, changes have been great
- City of swimming pool – strength and weaknesses

- We have warm springs
- Leisure trends study shows swimming above rafting, etc.
- River is part of State park connected to Leadville and Canon City
- We have a lot of heritage and arts – but not currently city
- We will have a conference center as part of steam plant
- Steam plant is non-profit but part of oversight board managed by city appointed board

Weaknesses

- Not enough money or staff
- No more taxes mentality
- We don't have a parks plan
- We have a development community that has been highly resistant to trails – auto-centric, people who have property don't want to give up easements, county has undermined this and has offered development in county for those,
- Lack of political will and vision to block developers
- Not just lack of trails but not wanting change?
- Golf course community developing just west of here – purchased rail easement and annexing into Poncha Springs – but does not want trail
- Lack of coordination between county and city developer ordinances
- Don't have impact fees – how many others don't have this?
- No stated goals for preservation
- Public restrooms aren't open at all esp. not on weekends
- Infrastructure and urban forest are not in good shape, buildings and scout building, pool is a pit, planning for them aren't working
- Trees are not in good shape – because many are hazards – Riverside and Alpine park – no plan for tree replacement – will lose all shade - need to do it strategically. Tree board has prioritized removal, but not replacement – need master plan – need hardscape master plan and how they should be integrated
- City doesn't have rec. district and does not have money or staff to do
- Developers guidelines – there is a cash in lieu – ambiguity, contradictory, needs to be revised even though it is new (JAN 2007). Town doesn't want more land to maintain - we need more realistic percentages of dedication, and look at what is currently
- Trailside park – 50 lots – dedicated 1100SF per lot – equipment of own choosing
- Plan needs to stretch – amazing work done by citizens but don't see city stepping up. SPOT plan is good – look at it.
- Other side of river is controlled by railroad – it is a brownfield
- 1996 rails to trails program

Opportunities

- Lots of changes, lots to incorporate developers, to get more trails, parks, stronger ability to be more demanding for developers
- Would like to see trails coming out of center of town like a spoke
- Putting a small park in every development is not overly beneficial
- Parks plan should promote more Riverside and Alpine park – and not like small – fee in lieu may be the answer.
- Neighborhood parks are happening – neighborhood kids are a burden for the City

- Largest historical district in the state
- Vandevere property is a great opportunity
- Define what is main purpose
- Have opportunity to influence and have a great aquatics facility
- We are poor and needy and can qualify for lots of grants
- CCVB is proposing a marketing district – but marketing without facilities is ridiculous
- SPOT is working with railroad to look at the river trail – approach railroad to lease or buy land – to get interface is important to life of Salida – they could run a lot of rail with access provided to local government.
- Hwy 50 corridor improvement working with CDOT

Threats

- Funding
- Lack of communication
- Lack of new developer requirements
- New second homeowners – two week a year – don't add to city coffers, mostly don't vote for new taxes (60% of town)
- No control – has become less desirable
- Old timers – may not be positive
- Home-based businesses move out of downtown
- Real estate values are high but wages are low
- Downtown is threatened – high values are moving retail out
- County development strains city facilities – we have city facilities that county folks are using
- Trees are a big issue – there is no plan –

What are your goals and expectations?

- A very succinct plan with specific and directed recommendations
- Turn town into more pedestrian and bike friendly rather than car friendly – trails for recreation and transportation
- Happy to have GreenPlay here to put the plan together – would like an overview of demographics, trends, specific recs, and where things should go
- Existing parks – need detail on improvements –address the tree issues?

IV. Private Providers, Special Focus Group 12:30 5/29

Attendees

Pat Adlerton, Poncha Springs
Jerry Mallett, Chaffee County
Kenny Wilcox, Church/Cross-country coach
Chad Hixon, Arlie Dales/FiBArk
Jaime Kico, FibArk
Vickie Sue Vigil, Salida Business Alliance
Tom Vorkey, City Council/Salida Rotary
Lee Hart/Tourism

Length of Residency

- < 5 years: 0
- 5-10 years: 6
- > 10 years 1

Questions

Note

- Marketing and Recreation Special District
- “Coming Together For our TOWN”
- Add willingness to support P & R compared to other departments to survey

Strengths

- Scenic Byways (Collegiate Peaks)
- Surrounding ranch lands
- A Variety of non profit (45 non-profits in county)
- White water park – high usage
- Riverside park
- Water rights – RICD (Recreational in channel diversion)
- Sharing available \$\$
- \$1.3 million from county (not taxes) i.e. Head Start Program
- Cooperation between agencies

Weaknesses

- No Recreation District
- Marketing vs Recreation District
- Possibility of railroad being re-opened
- Infrastructure in parks
- ADA Access

Opportunities

- Monies from development
- Connect trails
- Kick ass hot springs resort (at actual hot springs site) Leased to a qualified vendor
- Better relationship with Poncha Springs, Cooperative effort on community needs

- Need changing facilities
- Better signage to direct people
- Work better together State Parks, BLM, and other agencies to help fund special projects

Threats

- Railroad might reopen and limit access

Goals for Plan

- Connection with Poncha Springs for building new facilities
- Long range planning (20 year plan)
- Sensitive to natural resources and energy requirements

V. Council Work Session 5/30 6 pm

Attendees

Tom Yerkey, City Council

Jimmy McCormick, City Council

Nancy McAnage, City Council

Strengths

- Wonderful recreation department with offerings for everyone
- Every kid who wants to do something has something to do
- Great Staff
- Have water available in pool, water in lake, water in river and create recreation (Fishing) opportunities
- Mountain Biking trails
- Ranching makes community unique
- Have great parks

Weakness

- Lack of \$\$\$\$
- Lack of park master plan
- City is not Home Rule
- Some citizen are afraid of change (Home rule)
- Need larger parks as opposed to small neighborhood parks
- Need community recreation center
- Have so many things available it hard to know where to put resources
- Providing for a much larger service area than the population of Salida
- Steam Plant is great example of partnership
- Chisolm is a rotten park – Serves the lowest economic part of the population

Opportunities

- Master Plan for GOCO grants
- Land across the river from ballpark (opportunity)
- Use tax

- Source of hot springs (opportunity)
- Growth in sports tournaments
- Tap into artist community to develop a playground
- Moving operations of event center under City
- Changing demographics (i.e. baby boomers) and they have needs
- More summer activities and for the shoulder seasons (dedicated person to organize)
- Relationship with county is good at this time.
- CCVB – cooperation is sometimes based on who is on the board
 - Looking to create a Marketing District to better promote the county
- Re-address the land dedication/cash in lieu policies of the City
- Home Rule
- Break down conflict between the north end and south end of the county
- Relationship with school is good, they want gyms
- School has land inside the City limits

Threats

- Recession
- Drought
- Fire

Cost recovery

- Need to figure out how to collect more fees without restricting access
- Where do we draw the boundary

Goals

- Get grant money to do thing
- Plan should broaden our horizons
- Stop the band-aid solution – have the ability to plan ahead

VI. Special Interests Focus Group – 5/31 9 am

Attendees

Tom Purvis, Salida Mountain Trails
 Paul Pursell, Salida Tennis Club
 Deb Juchem, Skatepark Expansion Committee
 Joyce Close, Salida Tennis Club
 Alan Purcell, Salida Tennis Club
 Tom Thomas, Salida Fishing – Trout Unlimited
 Dow Stewart, Salida Golf Club
 Laura Pintane, Salida Dog Park
 Dionne Rudney, Skatepark Expansion

Comments

- Only two tennis courts - in disrepair
- 9-hole city-owned golf course – new private course with 18 holes going in near Poncha Springs
- Need for BMX area, perhaps with enhanced skatepark features at new soccer fields?

Strengths

- People are active in this community
- Very outdoor community
- Hot Springs Pool – strong attraction for visitors
- The RIVER – beautiful
- Copious public land availability
- Having mountains nearby - can be downtown but can get out quickly
- Management plan for river users – parks and recreation does a good job making arrangements for various users, we also don't have a lot of private land owners trying to limit access
- The recreation program – various things for different age groups, dog training
- Hub for so many trails, can ski, golf everything each day
- Variety of youth programs for kids – and cooperation of Boys and Girls Club, golf course, rec.
- Lots of volunteers
- Trish has really increased programs
- Trout unlimited really strong – 250 members

Weaknesses

- Loose unsupervised dogs and no parks available for dog owners, dogs scaring pedestrians, no legal place to go, illegal park use
- Unresolved demand for certain specific activities
 - BMX kids at skateparks
 - Dogs
 - Huge demand for trails
- Lack of funding! – Everything done by shoestring, like trail that ends at Walmart
- Things we have that are unusable because of lack of maintenance
 - Tennis courts
 - Golf course – not operated by the City – established by group in 1926, land is owned by City but no funding from City, 25 year lease - report annually – no City expertise provided – serves tourist industry, should get credit for that? Golf is often promoted, but here it is hindered?
 - Long term maintenance is needed instead of patch over patch
- Generational issues – cheap blue collar town, but new second homeowners – how do we tap that \$\$\$. Animal shelter got something passed
- Difficult for a lot of people to live here due to economic issues. Can't hire teachers due to low wages – lots of competing
- Tennis – only two public courts, have combination to school courts but school tennis coach can pull that availability as desired, existing City courts are dangerous, and not enough for current 70 part in Salida Tennis club, 30 at Salida High school (spill over to school courts), 50 at Buena Vista (have two courts of their own) and tourists don't have a place – can't play at schools and city courts are bad. Indoor courts would be very popular? No lighted courts. Can't hold a tournament – need four to six courts to do tournaments
- “Skatepark Ghetto Moms” – lots of issues with skateparks - 8 to 15 year olds, mostly boys, on a busy Saturday will stand in line to drop-in. One big hole and drops, and no little beginning drops – lots of 5 – 8 years old. Existing park is too hard for

- beginners and not friendly to lower age groups. Too busy for little ones. Too small. Mostly locals. Some visitors in summer. Crested Butte and Telluride – have more \$\$ but they advertise the skateparks and have tours, like Montrose and Trinidad.
- Lack of teenagers opportunities – don't have place to dance, don't have place to do anything at night – where would they want to go?
 - Need to maintain fishing access – at ballpark need to maintain fishing access – but not a place to put a boat ramp
 - People with money don't care about schools and folks with kids.
 - We have too many volunteers involved in things that should be managed by experts.

Opportunities

- Dog park – near Marvin Park – was considered but very small, but maybe better at Vandaveer Park – do have a lot of tourists – we appear to be unfriendly to dogs. We are currently trespassing at railroad property. Opportunity to do (like Buena Vista) to make dog friendly area for others
- Tennis – assets at Centennial are good central spot, Jim McCormick said maybe at Golf Club? Vandaveer? We don't care, but as long as there is a place to play. USTA has funding programs – but isn't 100%, opps for capital funding, GOCO – could you bring the existing courts up to speed? Would need to be torn out and repoured - \$30,000 for new court there, or \$40-50K a piece for full. – Need at least 4, would settle for, but 8 would be ideal. 4 good courts at school – but problem of integration of schools with - attitude needs to be rectified – they are public courts, but they are padlocked, there are no bathroom or facilities. Could even have courts at multiple areas – room at Chamber area? Indoor would make many play more than they do in the summer – charge admission. If there were more and better courts they could hold tournaments
- Skatepark – have drawing of new soccer fields – area for all the dirt piles about 5 acres – could be ideal site for street skate facility – currently owned by school administration – ideas to build low income housing? But better site – bike path, potential bathroom, could double use of area between soccer and skaters, more family friendly.
- At current skatepark, approached Shriner parking – interested but decided not too. Current site is limited.
- Golf opportunities are stymied? – land adjacent was at the verge of being traded with DOW – but now land is being used for hospital – no expansion, can't happen. Limited by weather, tourists are 25% of play, not busy enough, no area to expand – currently have positive cash flow – could market more to tourists, could keep greens open? But they are closed to protect – still accessible in winter but not open have a driving range open year round.
- Vandaveer – current day golf course is still platted, but Vandaveer could be a great 18-hole course = turn current course into residential, and then make Vandaveer a better course.
- Chamber has opportunity to help with organized group to change attitudes from cannot to “can”. Rec facilities have been added grudgingly. We have one of the finest hot water facilities – but it has always been a ‘red-headed” step child. Chamber is trying to enhance economic development – when we see other

communities – we want what they have. We need a core group to constantly lobby local government to ensure that.

- We need a recreation district - have tried three times but have failed – last time lost by 100 votes – whatever we need to do to create a better funding mechanism for these things.
- School district- have opportunities because we have new superintendent and 3 new board members coming in – better relationships and partnership
- Non-rail corridor railroad land should be used for PROST purpose
- Town has never really been involved in ski area – that is a wasted opportunity – could get kids involved at Monarch.
- Population is changing – rail, mining and ranching history is changing – we need new mindset here that embraces recreation.
- Our growth is retirees – not necessarily families – how do we get them involved.

Goals

- Need to incorporate youth and seniors common ground.
- Strong support and relationship with schools and other local governments – need a unified effort.
- Long-term – where are things going to be in 10 years, quit patching and look long term
- We need to get various volunteers involved in the community.
- Maximizing use of property
- May want to look at other properties that the City owns – perhaps could sell underused properties and use money for other things.

VII. Schools and Other Youth Providers – 11 am 5/31/07

Attendees

Cindy Edgington , Parent w/ small children
Andrew Kahan, Strawberry Door – Preschool
Randy McFarland, TLC SSI Salida Christian School
Bill Davis, CCB Starpoint (Development Disabilities)
Leslie Burkley, Parent w/small children
Christine DeChristopher, Boys and Girls Club

Strengths

- Hot springs pool
- Recreation programming (Something for everyone)
- Quantity and diversity of parks
- Alpine park
- Good progress on trail system
- Riverside Park (access and location) Nice bathroom - recent ADA improvements

Weaknesses

- Lack of access to bathrooms
- Level of safety at parks (i.e. playgrounds, sidewalk condition)
- ADA access in parks and around town

- City does not replace things they take out
- Crosswalks are not brightly painted
- Lack of parking at fields, parks and trails or not clearly marked
- Bathrooms are locked at Marvin Park
- Recycle center causes trash into Centennial Park and surrounding neighborhood
- Lack of safe trails to schools
- Inconsistency in trails
- Lack of playground equipment (not enough at parks to handle big crowds)
- No place to go on bad weather days except to pool
- Hwy 50 is barrier
- Resistance from businesses to improve Hwy 50
- Lack of up keep/taking care of what we have
- Disconnect between capital planning and operations and maintenance
- Disconnect between agencies and special interest groups
- Lack of mingling of ages

Opportunities

- Need well marked crosswalks near parks
- Interconnecting/Integration trail system
- Connection between Salida and Poncha Springs
- Indoor recreation spaces (all ages)
- Go Home rule. Citizens have to vote to go Home Rule then develop a charter
- Take advantage of tourist (i.e. Tax \$\$)
- Do more with county (i.e. Steam plant)
- Partnerships – Schools are having same funding issues that city has
- Formalized IGA's with government agencies
- Partnerships with Boys & Girls Club
- Endowment /Gifting catalog
- Potential focus on alternative funding?
- Look at adjacent property to pool
- Put nice park at soccer fields and move Centennial – use Centennial for Pool/center expansion

Goals

- Consistency with following through with plan
- Inclusiveness with groups with plans
- Maintenance issues dealt with
- Affordable options/access
- Guiding Document to keep all things good and road map to keep improving
- Improved playgrounds
- Lifestyle opportunities for all ages and background
- Ice Rink

VIII. Focus Group – Sports 1 pm

Attendees

Jerry Cannon, Chaffee Ball and Bat Association

Ben Oswald, Salida Soccer

Russell Granzella, Salida Babe Ruth, School Board

Cheri Schleicher, Volleyball

Strengths

- River and Public Lands
- System has been held together by baling wire and bubble gum, shows strengths – the fact that we have any facilities at all
- Pool has potential
- Very good core of volunteers – especially for youth sports
- We have lighted ball fields
- We will have eight acres of new grass at school fields – but is school district owned
- Marvin Park grass is somewhat improved and we will have bathrooms

Weaknesses

- Majority of facilities are owned by School District – big headaches for school district and school district doesn't have \$\$ and their prime concern is education and not recreation facilities – City has skated on school District – never has been a good level of cooperation
- Doesn't appear that city has much desire to develop anything except the river – not interested in long-term other things
- Only city-owned active sports facility is at Marvin Park
- Unimplemented plans in the past, mostly from the lack of \$\$
- Salida is only concerned about \$\$ - not open to new ideas
- Whoever yells the loudest – or contributes \$\$ will get what they want
- City could never take over management of sports since they don't have expertise or money
- Very difficult to get schools to cooperate - janitors have locked volleyball out even when facility is rented – gym is overbooked – volunteer associations are burned out – too much work. Use all school gyms – 60 women for each season
- Salida does not have enough facilities to run existing athletics programs, let alone do any expansion – not for soccer, gyms, baseball, etc.
- Not able to meet needs of facilities
- Sports could pay \$\$ back to the City
- Need a definition of City's desire for involvement in recreation (sports) or even who you are supposed to go to.
- This is not a community of young families – tremendous amount of second home owners and therefore we don't have a lot of support of sports for youth
- Taxpayers don't support tax increases – so City can't build facilities
- 1983 Special District – didn't pass by voters – don't see new tax increases helping to build
- If leadership of current associations goes away, those programs will probably die

Opportunities

- City could take charge of volleyball – collect money, etc., would like to have a recreation center gym to take over volleyball so they could just go and play
- Could have a better agreement with the schools but there is not enough facilities now to even use
- Could pay more fees to City to cover costs?
- They are currently paying some fees to use fields – could provide more
- City needs to provide staffing resources for recreation or get someone else to do it? Need to make up their minds.
- North end of County – Buena Vista – looking to build a private sports center, why don't we have one?
- Could do better partnerships with associations for grants and more formalized arrangements for operations?
- City could be more involved for more cooperation in grant funding
- Associations should put up 30% for new facilities, and could step up to do maintenance, if the City was just open to it
- Need to change “can't do” to “can do” attitude at the City
- Salida is going to grow in spite of no-growth attitude – we have a chance right now to decide what growth is going to look like – we want to make Salida a community something that is attractive to young facilities
- Maintenance and operations should be paid by user fees

Goals

- I'd like to see the acceptance of the proposal we made to City for outdoor sports complex at Vandaveer – 40 acres - sell Marvin Park and use \$\$ for development and seed \$ for grants – problem – some are philosophically opposed to changing use of parks/open space, and also a problem with transition schedule – maybe not sell all of Marvin park – but keep part and maybe bridge across to other 10 acres – good highway access and near hospital and river
- Better utilization of existing facilities - ex: 10 acres across RR tracks
- The City needs to get to a point of identifying what they can or can't do and define that – Associations are getting frustrated and leadership is changing. Need to address economics of it all.
- I would love to have an indoor recreation center with three gyms, multi-purpose space.
- Any of us would truly like to see the City just respond – we need response!

Goals

- That we will finally get people talking – there is a lack of intelligent conversation among groups and staff

IX. Public Meeting 6/31 – 6 pm at Council Chambers

23 Attendees plus City Staff and Consultant

Length of residency

< 5 years: 9

5 – 10 years: 4

> 10 years: 8

Strengths

- Trails are great , the way radiate from town
- White water park
- Active involved community/ like to volunteer
- DOW lakes at edge of town
- Parks are well maintained with limited staff and budget
- Great old trees
- Variety of recreation opportunities
- Historic District
- Lots of special events i.e. Brewers, fibarch
- Dog are prohibited
- Easy town to get around by biking and walking
- Good Recreation programs
- Thermal Hot Springs
- Proximity to public lands
- Moderate temperature
- Good local ski area
- Good grant writers
- Skate park

Weaknesses

- No place for dogs
- Restroom and changing facility at river park
- Access to restroom and hours of operations
- Local participation at special events is lacking
- Under funding
- Chronic reliance on volunteers
- More access points to federal lands
- Pool – no hot water, problem keeping it up
- Lack of cross walks and maintained crosswalks (Hwy 50 lack of sidewalks)
- Lack visionary plan to deal with growth and ped and bike friendly
- No doggy station down at river
- Irresponsible dog owners both local and visitors (Lack of education and enforcement)
- Trails just end
- Lack of view shed management
- Coming to a solution to crossing the “F” street bridge
- Brown Field not being addressed

- Lack of definitions for what open space is
- Pool has lost it's reputation as a hot springs pool and will take a decade to get it back once the hot water returns

Opportunity

- BMX, Pump bike facility behind baseball **fields**, or new soccer field
- New parks at Vandaveere , possibly move baseball fields from Wagner
- Salida Mountain trails system,
 - BLM Travel management plan
 - SPOT trails
- Indoor use recreation facility , i.e. weights, R-ball, gym,
- Rails to trails (Committee being formed to research this)
- Dog Park
- Partnerships
 - County – Better relationship
 - Poncha Springs
 - Schools
- Need sanctioned trail map
- Key connections
- Privatize the swimming pool

Threats

- Changing demographics (2nd homeowners, retirees, less children)
- Development is changing access points
- Overwhelm the City government with complexity
- Cost of living is making people think more about basic needs than recreation
- With people moving further out of town people are using cars more—transportation issues
- Cannot let development drive accessibility to trails, public lands, etc.

X. Project Team Wrap-Up Meeting

June 1, 2007 – 8:30 am

Attendees

Katie, Christine, Trish, Dara, Rob, Steve

- Good attendance of public meeting
- Steam Plant is economic driver to bring people here – coordinating the non-profit efforts – a commission, appointed guidance set policies – enterprise fund - hot political thing – keep separate
- Should you go into sports or just facilities
- Perhaps a commission of PROS and T – oversight – Advisory Board
- Jerry is not a city resident can't happen
- City does not have 40 acres and not the people to support a sports complex
- 90 non-profit groups need to do a balanced way
- Privatization, Home Rule or Special District?
- Survey Overview