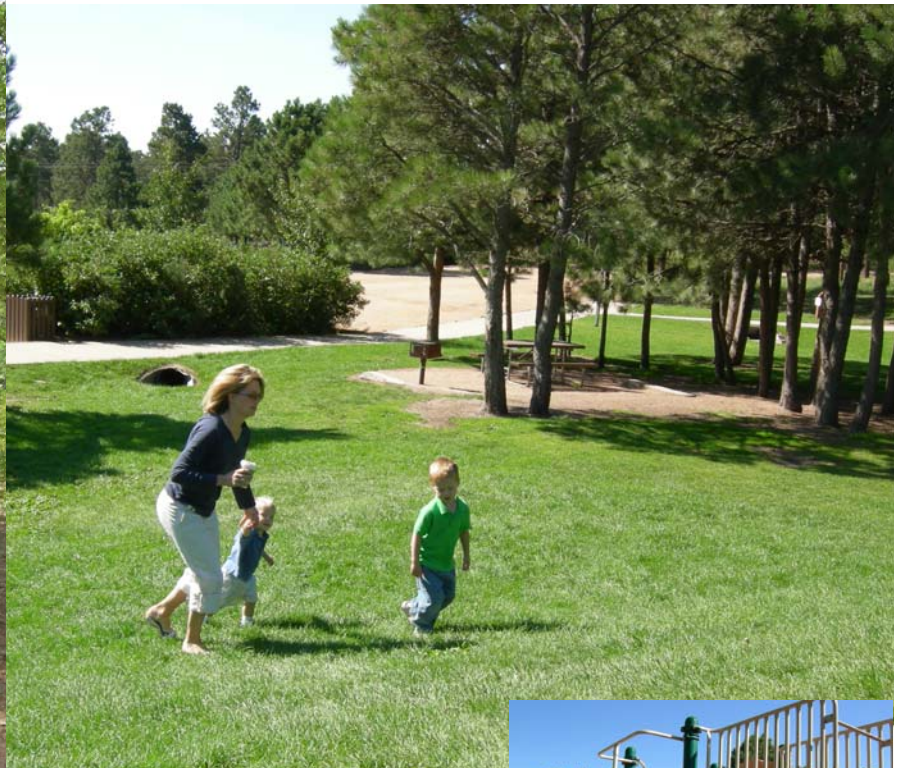




El Paso County Parks and Leisure Services

STRATMOOR VALLEY TRAILHEAD MASTER PLAN



Park Advisory Board Endorsement:
BoCC Approval:

September 12, 2006

Background

Stratmoor Valley is located in unincorporated El Paso County approximately two miles south of Colorado Springs, Colorado and is home to approximately 2,100 residents. The area is bordered by I-25 to the west and Fountain Creek to the east. The Fountain Creek Regional Trail is located within the Fountain Creek corridor and is accessible from social trails within Stratmoor Valley.

The need for the Stratmoor Valley Community Park was initiated by the grassroots efforts of members of the Stratmoor Valley Neighbors Group. During a series of citizen meetings, the need for a community park was determined as a high priority for the area.

Public Input Process

County Commissioner Dennis Hisey and representatives from the Parks Department were invited to attend two community meetings hosted by the Stratmoor Valley Neighbors Group in the spring, 2005. The discussions included the method to establish additional park facilities in Stratmoor Valley. During the spring, 2005, the Parks Department included the project in the 2006 – 2010 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with the understanding that third party funds will need to be raised to supplement County funds. On June 14, 2005, the Park Advisory Board endorsed the inclusion of the project in the 2006 CIP program. The Board of County Commissioners approved the County funding for the project on November 7, 2005.

The Parks Department hosted a meeting on January 31, 2006 with Stratmoor Valley residents to discuss the development of the community park. The agenda included a survey of meeting attendees to determine the park amenities. The survey determined the following facilities should be included at the park: (1) playground structures for ages 2 – 12 (2) basketball court (3) picnic pavilion (4) multi-use field. The attendees also analyzed the potential sites for the park and agreed the Glenarm Street location was the best site. The Parks Department hosted a second public meeting on February 21, 2006 to obtain feedback on the proposed park design. Overall, the proposed development plan met with enthusiastic approval from the residents in attendance.

Trailhead Amenities

The proposed park will be constructed adjacent to Glenarm Street which dead-ends into the Fountain Creek corridor and will contain the following amenities.

Trail Connections

The park will include formal trail connections to the Fountain Creek Regional Trail from both Glenarm and Glenwood streets. The connection will allow residents to access the trail which is approximately 14 miles in length and also connects to the City of Colorado Springs trail system.

Parking area

The trailhead will include a parking area that will accommodate approximately twenty-five vehicles.

Playground

The playground will include components for both 2 - 5 year olds and 5 - 12 year olds. In addition, park benches will be installed near the playground to allow parents the opportunity to monitor their children while socializing with their neighbors.

Basketball Court

The basketball court will be a regulation size court (44' x 72') designed for teen play. The court will be used for both pick-up and organized league play.

Picnic pavilion

The picnic facilities will include a 16' x 30' picnic pavilion that will be used for informal neighborhood picnics and can also be reserved for formal gatherings.

Multi-Use Field

A 70' x 140' irrigated, multi-use field will also be developed that will be used for pick-up sports activities and other social events.

Portable Restroom Facility Pad

A concrete pad will be installed for a portable restroom that will be available from May through October. The restroom will be used by both park and trail users.

Volleyball Court

A grass volleyball court will be constructed on the northern section of the trailhead.

Budget

The project budget is \$149,000. The County has provided \$75,000 from regional park fees and \$4,000 from operational funds. The remainder of the needed funding was provided by a \$20,000 grant from the El Pomar Foundation and a \$50,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado. Please see the attached budget for estimated expenditures.

Development Timeline

September 12 -	Park Board reviews / endorses master plan
September 21 -	Master plan presented to Board of County Commissioners (work session)
Early October -	Board of County Commissioners approves master plan Ground breaking ceremony
October -	Equipment ordered
November -	Site preparation begins
Winter/Spring -	Construction
May, 2007 -	Grand opening