

AGENDA
LOVELAND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
500 EAST THIRD STREET
LOVELAND, COLORADO

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STUDY SESSION 6:30 P.M. - STUDY SESSION AGENDA

1. **PARKS AND RECREATION** (presenter: Keven Aggers, 60 min)
RECREATION FACILITIES FEASIBILITY STUDY - UPDATE
As a result of community outreach and needs analysis presented in the recent update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, staff retained the consulting firm GreenPlay, LLC to aid in the completion of a Recreation Facilities Feasibility Study. The study will include a needs assessment and review of current local market conditions; evaluation and review of City recognized sites; preliminary conceptual plan(s) including space allocation and program components; capital cost estimates with funding options; pro-forma budget and business plan; and options for indoor and/or outdoor leisure aquatics features and facilities. Staff and the consultants will present an update of preliminary findings and concepts for council comments and ideas.

2. **PARKS AND RECREATION OPEN LANDS** (presenters: Debbie Eley and Jeremy Call; 45 min)
BIG THOMPSON RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT
Staff from Logan Simpson Design will present the draft plan "[*A Bigger Vision for the Big T: A Recreation and Conservation Assessment*](#)," including recommendations regarding priority projects and opportunities to address the impacts of the 2013 flood on recreation amenities and conservation areas.

3. **LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY** (presenters: Mark Miller; 60 min)
PRESENTATION ON THE STATUS OF THE LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY (LFRA) MATURATION PROJECT
This is an information only item. The City Council approved an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Loveland and the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District that created the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority as a separate legal entity, effective January 1, 2012. The five member board that governs the Authority has representation from both the City (two City Council members and the City Manager) and the Rural District (two board members). The Fire Chief will provide an update to City Council on the status of the Fire Authority maturation process, which includes the employee and asset conversion. The presentation will review the process that was used to create the entity, the reasons the governance model was selected, and the progress toward evolving as a separate entity.

ADJOURN



AGENDA ITEM: 1
MEETING DATE: 5/26/2015
TO: City Council
FROM: Elizabeth Anderson, Parks and Recreation Director
PRESENTER: Keven Aggers, Recreation Division Manager

TITLE:
Recreation Facilities Feasibility Study – Update

RECOMMENDED CITY COUNCIL ACTION:
Information Only

SUMMARY:

As a result of community outreach and needs analysis presented in the recent update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, staff retained the consulting firm GreenPlay, LLC to aid in the completion of a Recreation Facilities Feasibility Study. The study will include a needs assessment and review of current local market conditions; evaluation and review of City recognized sites; preliminary conceptual plan(s) including space allocation and program components; capital cost estimates with funding options; pro-forma budget and business plan; and options for indoor and/or outdoor leisure aquatics features and facilities. Staff and the consultants will present an update of preliminary findings and concepts for council comments and ideas.

BUDGET IMPACT:

- Positive
- Negative
- Neutral or negligible

This is an information item only.

BACKGROUND:

In 2008, in response to overcrowding at the Chilson Recreation Center, the Parks and Recreation Commission and City staff completed an in-house project to recognize options for expanding Recreation Center based facilities. The result of this extensive process was a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission to expand facilities in two ways 1) Construct a new recreation facility in the northwest quadrant of the community and once that project was complete, 2) renovate the existing Chilson Center to respond to deferred maintenance and changes in activity and equipment trends. Unfortunately, a slow-down in the local/regional economy and the national financial crisis caused a reprioritization of options resulting in the Chilson Center renovation project moving forward as the first phase completed in late 2010. While this renovation has served the community well, the issue of additional facilities to meet growing community needs and demands continues.

In 2014, the update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan included a strong public engagement process to ensure that plan recommendations would reflect community needs and priorities. Results of this extensive outreach revealed that Loveland residents are highly satisfied with the quality of services provided, but indicated that the most needed facilities in the future are more trails and bike paths, accessible open lands, and community scaled facilities such as an additional recreation center. A reaffirmation of community needs and desires was a major goal of the feasibility study with additional outreach including on-line surveys, stakeholder meetings, and open public forums recently completed. Preliminary results are as follows:

1. The NW quadrant of the city appears to be the location of choice for new facilities.
2. Residents and facility users have repeatedly noted that many activities and areas at Chilson, including fitness classes, cardio and weight equipment, swimming pools, and gymnasiums are overcrowded.
3. Significant recreation program trends include:
 - a. Fitness and exercise
 - b. Leisure aquatics
 - c. Multi-generational use; all ages and addressing baby-boomer pressures
 - d. Wellness - mind, body and spirit programs
 - e. Connectivity between indoor and outdoor facilities
4. Based on information gathered from public outreach, the top five desired new facilities in order are:
 - a. indoor aquatics (leisure pool)
 - b. exercise and fitness programs (cardio, circuit, free weights, classes)
 - c. outdoor aquatics (leisure and/or competitive)
 - d. locker rooms and support space
 - e. gymnasium space (basketball, volleyball, pickleball)
5. Respondents favor a mix of tax dollars and some user fees to fund construction and operation of new facilities.

The Recreation Facilities Feasibility Study is moving towards a July 2015 completion date with the following tasks ongoing:

- Finalize local and regional market information
- Identify and analyze three possible sites for future facilities expansion
- Complete a high level review of activities and spaces on which to base conceptual designs for cost estimating and operating pro-forma
- Recognize and review funding options and align a schedule with the 10-year Capital Plan
- Complete the study and present findings and recommendations to the City Council

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:



LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

Slide Show Presentation



Recreation Facilities Feasibility

City Council Update
May 26, 2015

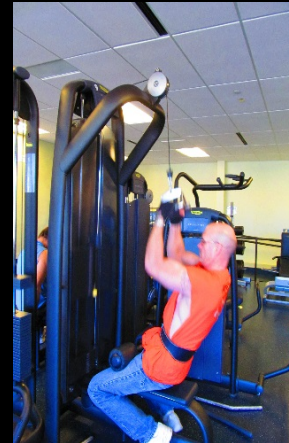


What is driving the need for additional recreation facilities?



Current Conditions

- ✓ Chilson Center averaged over 1,300 visits per day in 2014
- ✓ Citizens cite shortage of equipment, inadequate class room space, overused gymnasiums, busy aquatics areas, congested locker rooms, and general overcrowding
- ✓ Fitness class attendance has been growing by double digits the last three years
- ✓ Little to no room for new activities with concern that existing facilities won't be able to sustain service levels as the community grows



2014 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Citizen Outreach

- Citizens overall were satisfied by Loveland's levels of parks, recreation, golf, and open lands
- Citizen Priorities for the future included:
 - ✓ An Additional Recreation Center
 - ✓ Indoor and Outdoor Aquatics
 - ✓ Connectivity Between Facilities



2015 Recreation Facilities Feasibility Outreach

- Included focus groups, stakeholders, public meeting (April 22), booth at Earth Day event, and online interaction through MindMixer site
- Data collection focused on use pressures @ Chilson, current program desires and trends, and desired components of a new recreation facility using list from the 2014 Master Plan
- Also asked for opinions on possible funding sources for new facilities



Recreation Facilities Feasibility Study Surveys and Public Meetings

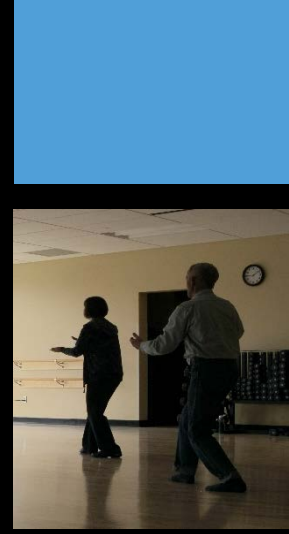
Top Five Desired Amenities Identified:

1. Indoor Aquatics
2. Exercise and Fitness Programs
3. Outdoor Aquatics
4. Locker Rooms and Support Space
5. Multi-purpose Gymnasium Space



Next Steps

- ✓ Finalize local market information
- ✓ Identify and analyze three possible sites
- ✓ Recognize activities and spaces as the basis for a high level design program
- ✓ Complete facility construction estimates with pro forma operating cost and revenue projections
- ✓ Discuss and review funding options
- ✓ Complete the study and present findings to the City Council





PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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(970) 962-2727 • FAX (970) 962-2903 • TDD (970) 962-2620

www.cityofloveland.org

AGENDA ITEM: 2
MEETING DATE: 5/26/2015
TO: City Council
FROM: Debbie Eley, Parks & Recreation Open Lands
PRESENTER: Jeremy Call, Logan Simpson Design

TITLE:

Big Thompson Recreation and Conservation Assessment

RECOMMENDED CITY COUNCIL ACTION:

Discuss and provide feedback on the draft plan.

SUMMARY:

Staff from Logan Simpson Design will present the draft plan “*A Bigger Vision for the Big T: A Recreation and Conservation Assessment*,” including recommendations regarding priority projects and opportunities to address the impacts of the 2013 flood on recreation amenities and conservation areas.

BUDGET IMPACT:

- Positive
- Negative
- Neutral or negligible

This is an information item only.

BACKGROUND:

The *Big Thompson Recreation and Conservation Assessment* is a partnership between the City of Loveland and Larimer County, with additional funding provided by a Great Outdoors Colorado Flood Recovery Grant. The flood destroyed nearly all of the federal, state, county, and city recreation facilities along the main stem and North Fork of the Big Thompson. The materials presented include information about pre- and post-flood conditions of recreation facilities; identification, feasibility, and prioritization of potential recreation and conservation project areas based on existing conditions and public feedback; and a recommended Action Plan for partnerships among stakeholders to “build back better than before.” This plan analyzes the possibilities, coordinates with other planning efforts and creates a clear plan of action to implement a vision for land protection and recreational access in the canyon. Council will have an opportunity to discuss and provide feedback on the draft plan.

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:

William D. Cahill

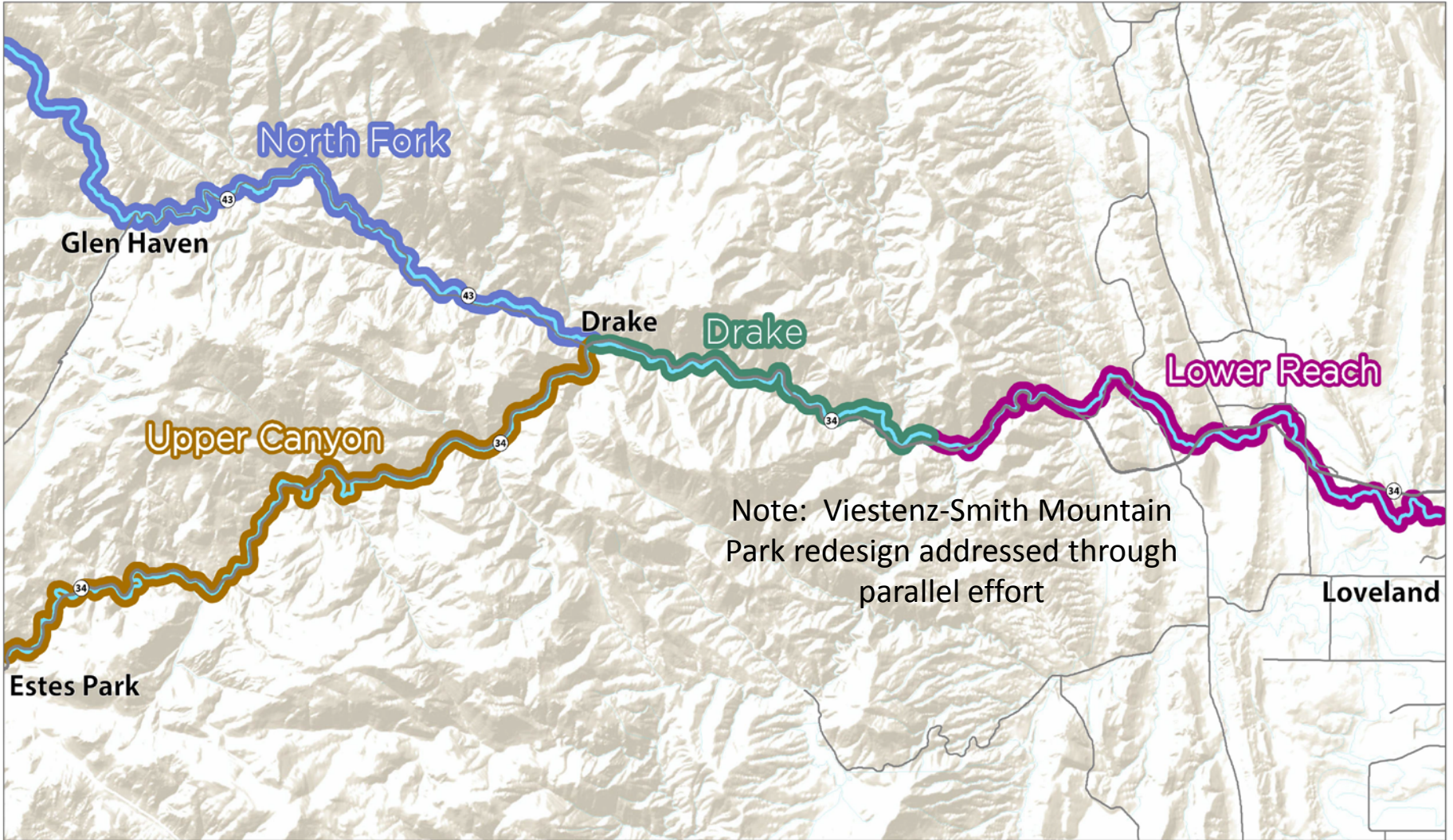
LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

1. PowerPoint Presentation Slides
2. "A Bigger Vision For The Big T: A Recreation and Conservation Assessment" Draft Plan http://www.larimer.org/bigthompsonplan/Draft_Full_Plan.pdf

A Bigger Vision for the Big T: A Recreation & Conservation Assessment

City Council Study Session

May 26, 2015



Big Thompson Recreation & Conservation Assessment



Project Timeline

Analysis of Existing Protected Land
and Recreation Infrastructure

October- December 2014

Evaluate the Feasibility of Recreation
and Conservation Opportunities

Public Meeting #1, January - March 2015

Present Draft Vision Plan

Public Meeting #2, April- May 2015

Final Vision and Assessment

June 2015

Loveland's Interests in the Big T

- Loveland Water and Power Utilities
- Loveland Fire Rescue Authority
- Improving Infrastructure Resiliency to Flooding
- Recreational Opportunities for Residents
- Tourism Industry / Economic Impact
 - 2 million visitors per year
- Environmental Stewardship / Conservation
- Unique Assets and Opportunities

Technical Advisory Committee

- City of Loveland Open Lands and Parks Divisions
- Larimer County Natural Resources,
Community Development, Engineering Departments
- Big Thompson River Restoration Coalition
- U.S. Forest Service
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado Department of Transportation

Project Vision

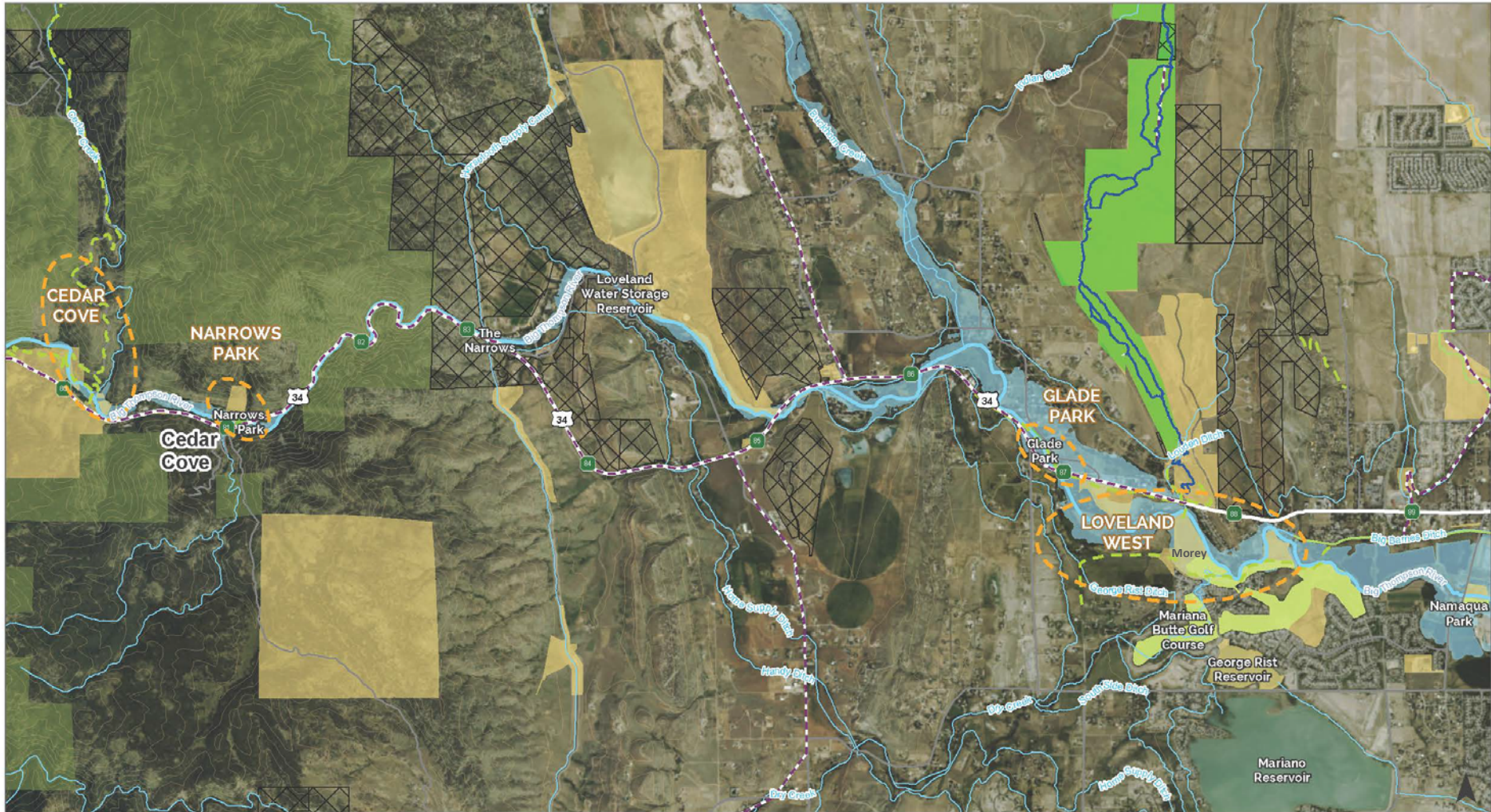
Builds on the 2014 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 2014 ULI Report, and *Create Loveland* input

“The Big Thompson River corridor will be a renowned resource that combines abundant wildlife and high quality scenery with access via public property to river-related recreation opportunities. Strategic recreation and conservation investments along the Big Thompson River and its tributaries will mitigate flooding impacts, strengthen tourism, improve and restore a resilient river ecosystem, and benefit the people who live in and visit the Big Thompson Canyon.”

Evaluation Criteria for Potential Open Land Projects

- Adjacency to existing public land
- Flood damage & risk
- Restoration potential (BTRRC Restoration Plan)
- Wildlife habitat value
- Recreation potential
- River access
- Disaster recovery or other funding possibilities

Areas of Potential Interest Loveland West to Cedar Cove



Public Parks and Recreation

- Loveland
- Larimer County
- USFS

Trails & Bike Routes

- USFS Trails
- Larimer County: Existing
- Larimer County: Master Plan
- City of Loveland: Existing
- City of Loveland: Proposed

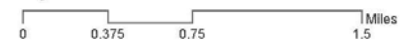
- Areas of Potential Interest
- Other Public Land (No Public Access)
- Conservation Easements (No Public Access)

- Contours (100 Foot)
- Flood Plain
- Recreation Sites

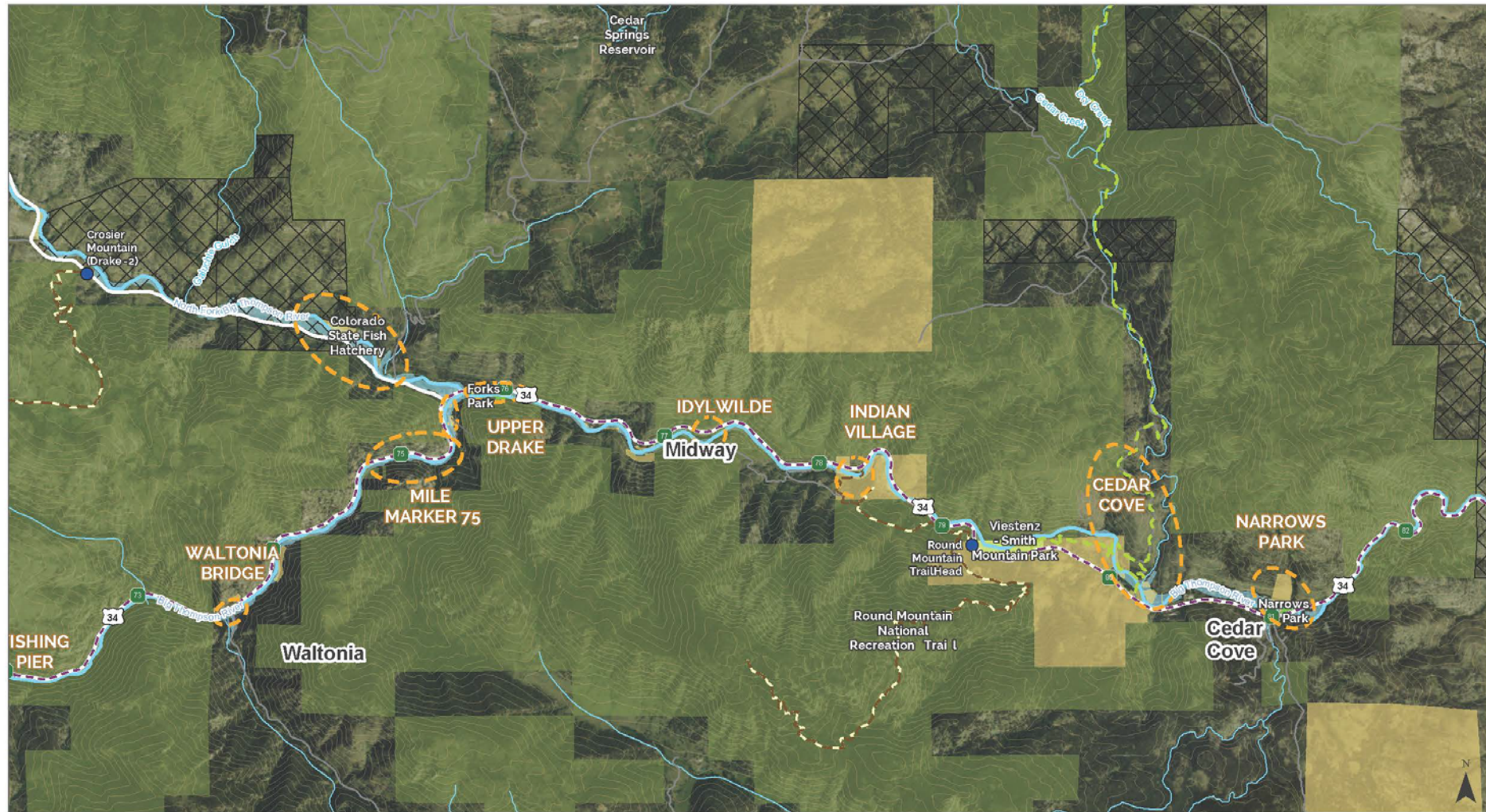


Big Thompson Recreation & Conservation Assessment

Lower Canyon
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5/8/2015



Areas of Potential Interest Drake to Cedar Cove / Viestenz-Smith Park



Public Parks and Recreation

- Loveland
- Larimer County
- USFS

Trails & Bike Routes

- USFS Trails
- Larimer County: Existing
- Larimer County: Master Plan
- City of Loveland: Existing
- City of Loveland: Proposed

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- Recreation Sites



Big Thompson Recreation & Conservation Assessment

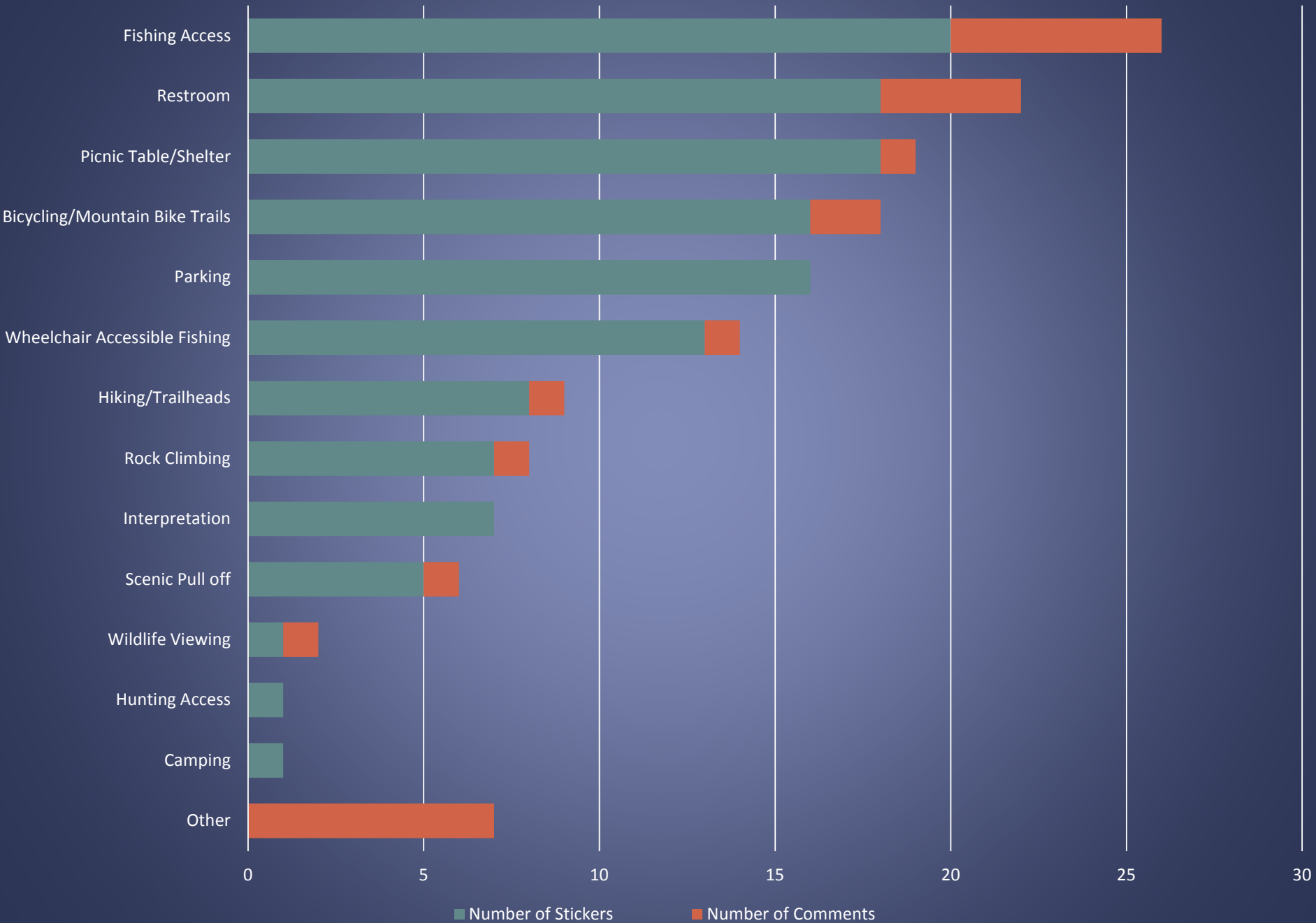
Drake
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Public feedback themes – Recreation

- Importance of **restoring** previously existing recreation sites
- Improve access to the river for **fishing**, including safe pull-off locations
- Install **road biking** lanes along US 34 along with improving mountain biking on US Forest Service trails
- Support for **respecting private property**
- Maintain highway **safety**
- Need for public **restrooms** along the corridor
- **Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park** was frequently mentioned as a top priority for rebuild. The **Glade Park** vicinity was also identified as an important location.
- Desire for sustainable **trail systems** connecting the Big Thompson River to Round Mountain Trail and Recreational Loop Trail systems, along with improving the existing trails throughout the canyon.

Public Recreation Priorities, February 2015



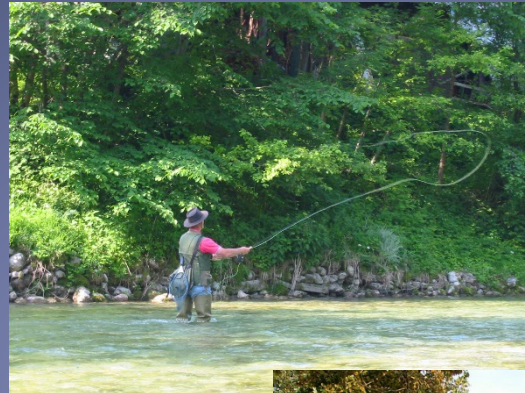
Public feedback themes – Conservation

- Identified conservation opportunities focused on fisheries and restoration of a **healthy river ecosystem**.
- Other comments highlighted the importance of restoring vegetation and **protecting floodplains from encroachment** through the use of conservation easements and other protection strategies.

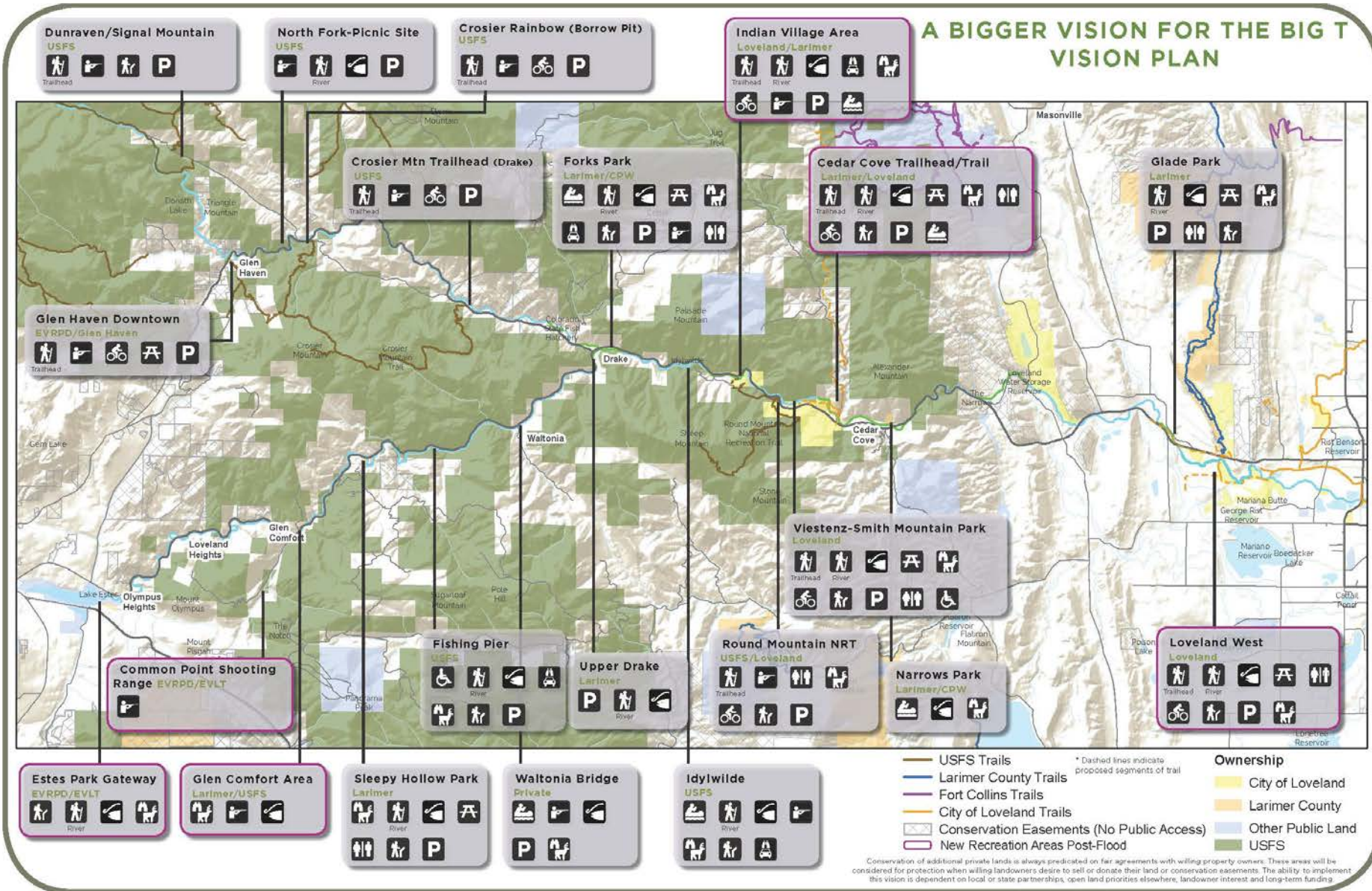
Potential Recreation Opportunities

Loveland West

Cedar Cove / Indian Village Areas



Draft Vision Map - Public Feedback

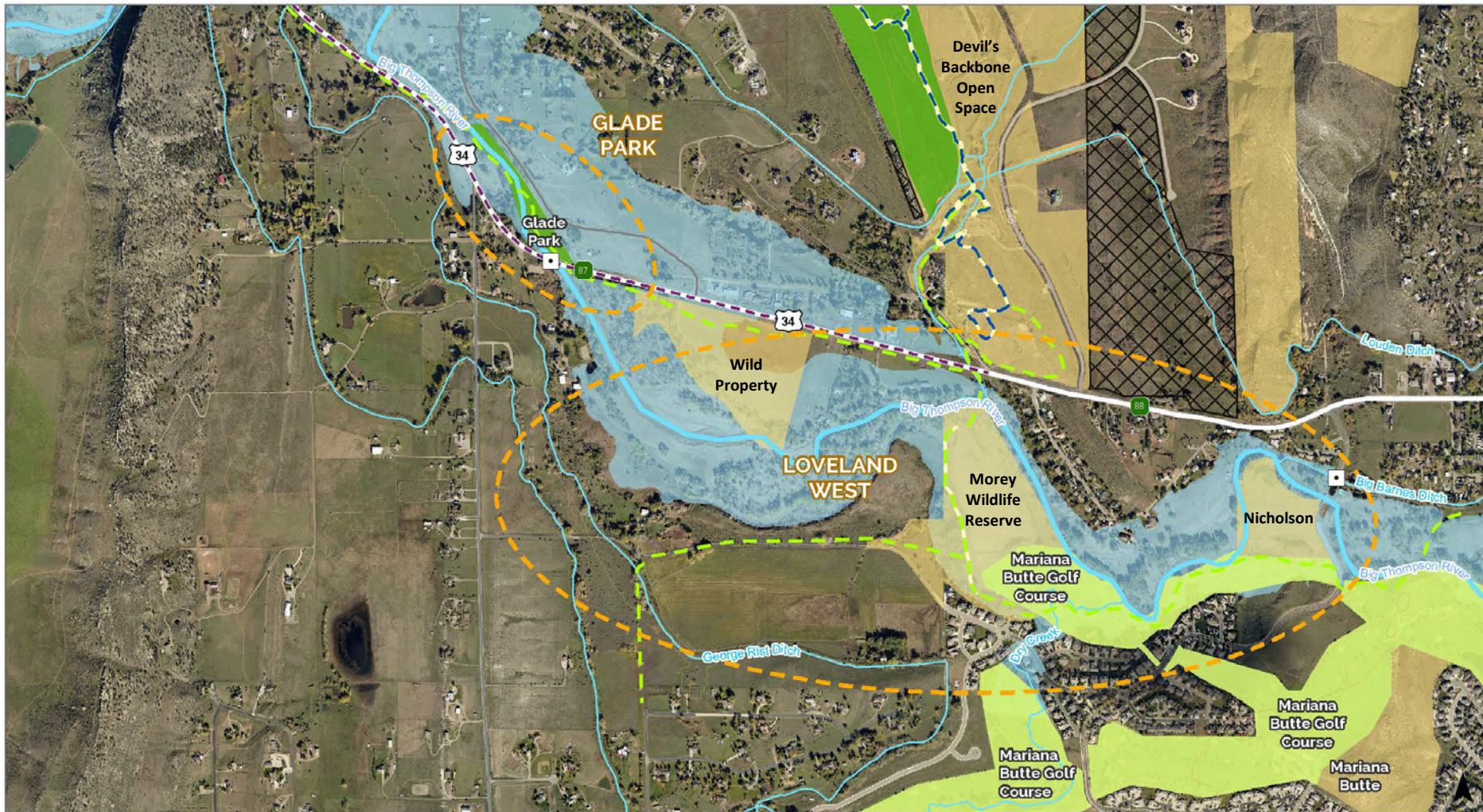


Potential Recreation Opportunities - Public Feedback

Priority Projects

	Name	Existed Pre-Flood?	Manager	Potential Uses and Facilities														
				Kayaking/ Canoeing	Trailheads (hiking)	Hiking along river	Fishing access	Accessible recreation (fishing pier)	Hunting access to USFS Lands	Picnic tables/ shelter	Scenic pull-offs	Wildlife Viewing	Bicycling / Mountain Biking Trails	Interpretation	Parking spaces	Restrooms	Regulatory Signage	
Lower Canyon	Loveland West	Y	Loveland															
	Glade Park	Y	Larimer															
	Narrows Park	Y	Larimer / CPW															
Drake	Cedar Cove and Trailhead/Trail	N	Larimer/Loveland															
	Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park	Y	Loveland															
	Round Mountain National Recreational Trail	Y	USFS/Loveland															
	Indian Village Area	N	Loveland/Larimer															
	Idylwilde	Y	USFS															
	Forks Park	Y	Larimer/ CPW															
	Upper Drake	Y	Larimer															
Upper Canyon	Waltonia Bridge	Y	CDOT/Larimer															
	Fishing Pier (1.5 miles west of Waltonia)	Y	USFS															
	Sleepy Hollow Park	Y	Larimer															
	Glen Comfort Area	N	Larimer/USFS															
	Common Point Shooting Range	Y	EVRPD															
	Estes Park Gateway	N	EVRPD/EVLT															
North Fork	Glen Haven Downtown Crosier Mountain Trailhead	Y	EVRPD/Glen Haven															
	Crosier Mountain Trail/Trailhead (near Drake Rt 43)	Y	USFS															
	Crosier Rainbow (Borrow pit) Trail/Trailhead	Y	USFS															
	North Fork- Lower Picnic Site	Y	USFS															
	Dunraven Trailhead/Signal Mountain Bulwark Ridge	Y	USFS															

Loveland West



Public Parks and Recreation

- Loveland
- Larimer County
- USFS

Trails

- USFS Trails
- Larimer County: Master Plan
- Larimer County Proposed
- City of Loveland: Existing
- City of Loveland: Proposed

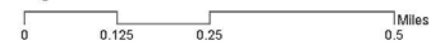
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- Recreation Sites
- Contours (100 Foot)
- Flood Plain



Big Thompson Recreation & Conservation Assessment

Loveland
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Cedar Cove / Viestenz-Smith Park



Public Parks and Recreation

- Loveland
- Larimer County
- USFS

Trails

- USFS Trails
- Larimer County: Master Plan
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- City of Loveland: Existing
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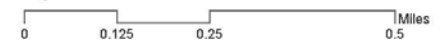
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Big Thompson Recreation & Conservation Assessment

Cedar Cove
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4/15/2015



Power of Partnerships

Loveland has full support of other agencies to increase management efficiencies and funding potential

Project	Lead Agency: Role	Supporting Agency: Role
Loveland West	<p>City of Loveland: Acquisition, Design/Development, Trail Connection to Devils Backbone OS and Glade (1/2), Management</p>	<p>Larimer County: Acquisition Funding, Trail Connection to Devils Backbone OS and Glade (1/2) CPW: Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Restoration FEMA: Acquisition and Restoration Funding CDOT: ROW for Trail Connection to Devils Backbone OS and Glade</p>
Glade Park	<p>Larimer County: Design/Development, Management Or City of Loveland: Design/Development, Management</p>	<p>City of Loveland: Management (cost-share if Larimer County lead) CPW: Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Restoration CDOT: ROW for Trail Connection to Loveland Hogbacks FEMA: Acquisition Funding</p>
Cedar Cove and Trailhead/Trail	<p>Larimer County: Acquisition, Design/Development, Management Or City of Loveland: Acquisition, Design/Development, Management</p>	<p>City of Loveland: Trail Connection to VSMP, Trail Connection to Bobcat Ridge NA (capital) Larimer County: Acquisition partner USFS: Trail Connection to VSMP, Trail Connection to Bobcat Ridge NA (permitting, management) Fort Collins: Trail Connection to Bobcat Ridge NA (capital) CPW: Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Restoration FEMA: Acquisition Funding CDOT: Access Improvements</p>
Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park	<p>City of Loveland</p>	<p>Additional details presented in master plan currently in progress.</p>
Round Mountain National Recreational Trail	<p>City of Loveland: Design/Development for Facility Upgrades, Trailhead Management</p>	<p>USFS: Interpretation, Facility Upgrade Funding, Trail System Management</p>
Indian Village Area	<p>City of Loveland: Acquisition, Design/Development, Trail Connection to VSMP (capital) Or Larimer County: Acquisition, Design/Development, Management</p>	<p>USFS: Trail Connection to VSMP (permitting, management) FEMA: Acquisition Funding CPW: Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Restoration CDOT: Access Improvement</p>

Project Website/Survey:

www.larimer.org/bigthompsonplan

Feedback?

- How does the long-term vision align with Council's vision?
- Recognizing that resources are limited, what are Council's short-term priorities?



AGENDA ITEM: 3
MEETING DATE: 5/26/2015
TO: City Council
FROM: Mark Miller, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority
PRESENTER: Mark Miller, Fire Chief

TITLE:
Presentation on the Status of the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA) Maturation Project

RECOMMENDED CITY COUNCIL ACTION:
Information Only

SUMMARY:
This is an information only item. The City Council approved an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Loveland and the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District that created the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority as a separate legal entity, effective January 1, 2012. The five member board that governs the Authority has representation from both the City (two City Council members and the City Manager) and the Rural District (two board members). The Fire Chief will provide an update to City Council on the status of the Fire Authority maturation process, which includes the employee and asset conversion. The presentation will review the process that was used to create the entity, the reasons the governance model was selected, and the progress toward evolving as a separate entity.

BUDGET IMPACT:
 Positive
 Negative
 Neutral or negligible
This is an information item only.

BACKGROUND:
In July of 2009, the Fire Chief presented to the City Council a request for a continuance of the current contract between the City and the Rural District. Council granted the request for the renewal, but directed the Fire Chief to:

1. Evaluate other governance options, including a fire authority or fire district model, in order to improve operations and administration for Loveland Fire and Rescue.
2. Evaluate the financial equity of the current contract for the City and the Rural District, particularly focusing on the financial support being offered by both parties.

3. Provide additional information related to the problems associated with the Johnstown-2534 Area for the City and the Rural District.

Three committees were formed over the course of two and half years to look at the options.

- The first committee evaluated governance models and recommended the authority model.
- The second committee conducted the feasibility study for the implementation of the authority model.
- The third committee developed the mechanics of authority model implementation that resulted in the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Loveland and the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District.

Advantages of a Fire Authority

The advantages of the Fire Authority include:

- the establishment of a fair and equitable revenue allocation formula,
- long-term stability for fire rescue service delivery in the greater Loveland community,
- proper and equitable governing representation for both the City and Rural District,
- the creation of an effective partnership between the City and Rural District,
- the ability to develop a shared vision for future,
- the ability to develop, implement and manage a departmental plan for improvement in the form of a strategic plan, and
- the efficient and effective implementation based on “cost-avoidance” and good financial stewardship through operating two agencies collaboratively as single organization

Achievements

Both governing partners agreed upon the vision and goals for the Authority and approved those in a strategic plan (including its financial plan). This plan advances the organization vision for the protection of life and property around three strategic goals:

- Deploy an effective emergency response to minimize damage and loss.
- Minimize and mitigate the risks of an emergency occurrence in the community.
- Deliver cost effective services.

The implementation of the strategic plan was organized in a four phased approach to align with the expected affordability of the initiatives. 50% of the 28 initiatives identified in that plan have been achieved within three years of an eight to ten year plan. The most important overall achievement was improving the service and the firefighter safety by consistently responding with three person companies (up from two person companies, but shy of the four person companies in the National Fire Protection Standards).

At the time the strategic plan was developed Loveland Fire Rescue was benchmarked against six other regional organizations with similar in service delivery and response area. The key dimensions that were deemed to be most comparable were cost per capita and firefighters per thousand population. At that time, LFRA was 29% below the weighted average (eliminating the high and low and calculating the average of the remaining organizations) on those dimensions. At the close of 2014, LFRA was 15% below the weighted average for cost per capita and 22% below weighted average for firefighters per 1,000 population.

The agreement included a more equitable contribution from the Rural District at 18% of the net expenditures, up from the 12% they were contributing through the contract and pension contributions.

Page 5 of the strategic plan has a table of the funded initiatives. The table to the right highlights the achievement of everything in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the plan.

The strategic and financial plan has allowed for exploring funding opportunities for the items identified as needs that

where not yet funded in the financial plan (page 93-94). The Type 6 engine, Training firefighter, Plans Reviewer, Training Facility Expansion, and some of the technology improvements have been addressed. Grants were submitted for the Reserve Coordinator and the Type 3 engine that were not awarded. This leaves only the aircraft rescue and firefighting program manager and the land for the southeast station that have not been addressed. When a strong vision and implementation plan are combined with extraordinary people, extraordinary things happen in a cost effective manner.

Strategic Plan Achievements

<i>Page 5 in the Strategic Plan</i>	2012/13	2014	2015
Phase I 2012-2013			
Add 6 FT firefighters for Engine 6 & Truck 6	✓		
Add funding for part-time paid F/F program	✓		
Add Public Safety Admin Director position	✓		
Add 1 Lieutenant position to CSD	April 2013 Suppl.		
Expand Station 6	✓		
Purchase new fire engine	✓		
Phase II 2014 - 2015			
Add 6 FT positions for new Heavy Rescue Squad 2 (3 Lieutenants and 3 Engineers)		✓	
Construct new Station 2	land purchased Dec 2012; architect selected	✓	
Purchase new Heavy Rescue Squad	Specs and contract Jan 2012	✓	
Replace Aerial Tower		✓	
Refurbish 2000 Smeal Aerial Ladder (Reserve)			✓

What is left to bring the Fire Authority to full maturation?

- Conversion of fire rescue personnel to employees of the authority (2015)
- Establish a Large Capital Replacement Fund for Fire Apparatus (2016)
- Convert City and Rural District Facilities and Real Property to the Authority (2016)
- Changing budget and ownership of apparatus and facilities of Big Thompson Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (2016)
- Evaluate the revenue allocation formula of City/Rural (82% - 18%) (2016)
- Negotiate the funding allocation for the cost of a new fire station 10 west of town (2017)
- Revising the intergovernmental agreement to reflect Fire Authority of the future (2017)

There is considerable work to be completed. The Authority Board hired Dino Ross and Emily Powell of Ireland Stapleton, a very qualified and experience firm, to guide the effort. Mr. Ross and Ms. Powell have been personally involved in a wide variety of governance model conversions and have already proven to be a valuable assets. These attorneys are coordinating a project working group with the following members: the Fire Chief, the Administrative Director, three Captains (one from each shift), the City Manager, the HR Director, the Rural District attorney, the Assistant City Attorney assigned to LFRA, and the LFRA Board Chairperson. The project plan has been established specifically for the conversion of the fire rescue employees, with an expected October 31, 2015 completion target. The project is a complex because of the number of benefit providers and the legal environment within the industry.

The LFRA Board made it clear that while the Fire Authority should achieve greater independence, it should do so in a way that the employee's benefits remain virtually the same. Julia Holland has been extremely successful at working with the City's benefit broker to identify an option where a multiple employer provider could be created to deliver the existing benefit package to the City of Loveland and the LFRA employees. This agreement could also address future benefit needs when the City has a majority interest in an organization. There are a wide variety of other issues to be addressed where the City of Loveland is the current sponsor organization, like pensions, worker's compensation and heart and circulatory trust benefits with the State.

The communications strategy is an important element of the work plan. It is critical that all governing partners and employees have a full understanding of the process and the impact of the process. This session is intended to ensure that the City Council is fully aware or the project status.

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:



LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

Presentation slides

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority

Fire Authority Update/Review
Transition to Phased Maturation
City Council Study Session
May 26, 2015



Introductions...

- LFRA Board members:
 - Chairman Jeff Swanty (Rural Board Representative)
 - Co-Chairman - Mayor Cecil Gutierrez
 - Councilor John Fogle
 - City Manager Bill Cahill
 - Dave Legits (Rural Board President)
 - *Legal representation – Tree Ablao & Moses Garcia*

Also in attendance:

Fire and Rescue Advisory Commission members

Rural Board Members

Outside Legal Representation



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority - Update

Tonight's presentation will focus on:

- Brief history of Fire Authority implementation
- Review - Why the Authority Model?
- Partnership between City & Rural District
- Next steps/priorities for Full Maturation



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority - Update

- Brief Fire Authority History:

- 3-Year Project 2009 - 2012 (Council directed)

Three committees were established to:

1. Examine governance models
 2. Conduct feasibility study
 3. Developed details as to HOW, and draft IGA and By-Laws
- Became a Fire Authority January 1, 2012



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority - Update

- Loveland Fire Authority Review Committee (2009 – 2012):
 - Janet Bailey – Former FRAC Chairperson
 - Moses Garcia Asst. City Attorney
 - Mayor Cecil Gutierrez
 - Larry Heckle – Former City Council
 - Randy Mirowski – Former Fire Chief
 - Dave Legits – Loveland Rural Fire Protection District President
 - Jeff Swanty (Current LFRA Board Chair)
 - Renee Wheeler – Public Safety Administrative Director
 - Don Williams – Former Loveland City Manager
 - Greg White – Loveland Rural Attorney/Secretary
 - Division Chief Ned Sparks
 - Captain Craig Willard

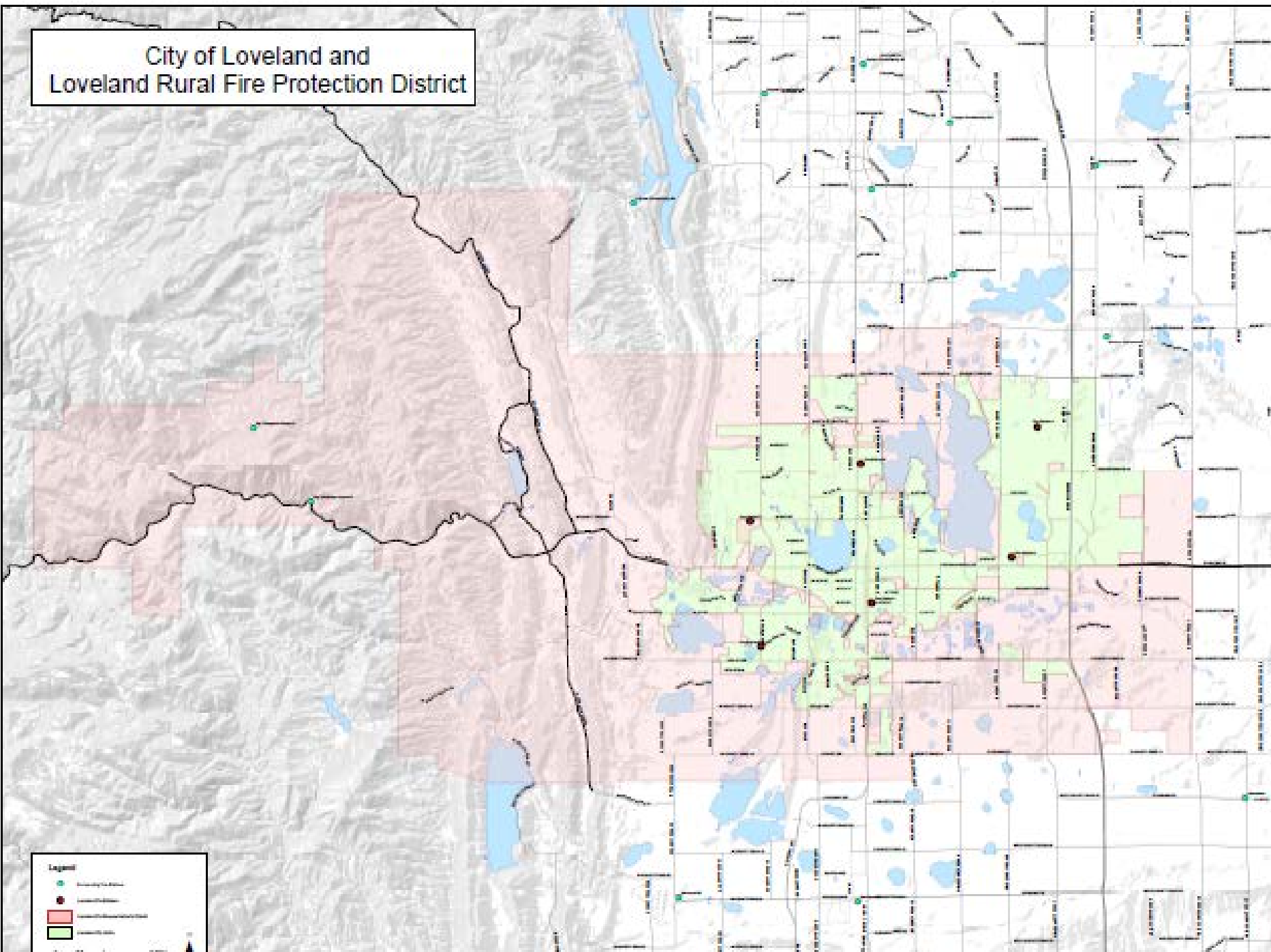


Advantages of a Fire Authority

- At this point, it may be beneficial to briefly review for you the benefits of the fire authority:
 - * A fair and equitable revenue allocation formula
 - * Long-term future stability
 - * Input and control over services with proper governing representation of both City and Rural
 - * The ability to develop a shared vision
 - * The ability to develop and manage an effective strategic and operational department plan
 - * Enhancement of citizen service
 - * Improving relationships/ *develop a true partnership with Rural District*



City of Loveland and Loveland Rural Fire Protection District



Legend

- Fire Station
- Fire Protection District Office
- Fire Protection District
- City of Loveland

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Advantages of Fire Authority

It is the area of the “partnership” that I want to comment on briefly...

We have witnessed the results of 3 ½ years of work under the current model - A significant improvement in overall service to the community - working together as partners has kept us on a path of Good to Great...



What have we accomplished to date, under the LFRA Model?

- Strategic Plan – 50% of 28 objectives have been met as outlined in the LFRA Strategic Plan
- Increased staffing
- Additional apparatus - Tower 6, new Eng., Rescue 2, Type 6 wildland unit
- Relocation of Fire Station 2
- Expansion of station 6
- Leadership Initiatives
- Good to Great – Enduring Greatness...
- All of these (and others) have had measured success; including a significantly improved Insurance Service Office rating (ISO).



LFRA Board Direction...

- The LFRA Board has given direction to the workgroup to continue with the next steps of maturing LFRA.

The workgroup consists of:

- Bill Cahill -City Manager
- Julia Holland – HR Director
- Greg White – Rural District Attorney
- Dino Ross/Emily Powell - outside legal representation
- Tree Ablao – Asst. City Attorney
- Three LFRA Fire Captains
- Renee Wheeler – LFRA Administrative Director
- Mark Miller, Fire Chief



Next Steps – Goals for Maturation of LFRA

- ❖ Conversion of fire employees to employees of the Authority – Oct. 2015; Approximate cost \$4200
 - ❖ Could be additional costs for Workers Comp and Property and Liability coverage
- ❖ Large Capital replacement fund for Fire Apparatus – 2016
- ❖ Facilities and Real property transitioning to LFRA – 2016-2017
- ❖ Transition budget and ownership of Big Thompson Canyon apparatus and equipment to LFRA – 2016-2017
- ❖ Reviewing Revenue Allocation Formula of LFRA (City – 82%/Rural 18%) – 2017
- ❖ Cost and fund sharing agreement for fire station 10 – 2017
- ❖ Revising IGA to reflect LFRA of the future



Challenges for Authority

- Revenue:

- CEF funding methodology
- Possible elimination of sales tax on food
- Rural District revenue – mill levy increase election (11/2016)
- Station 10/11 land acquisition - funding



Wrap-Up...



In tonight's presentation we have provided:

- A brief history of the Fire Authority implementation
- Advantages of the Authority
- Next steps – Strategies/Priorities/Challenges to bring it to full maturation.
- Comments about the partnership between City & Rural District
- Time for questions...



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Fire Authority Update

What we need from Council –
Continued support...

*We will provide periodic updates as transition to
full maturation occurs.*

