



ADAMS COUNTY

COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Charles "Chaz" Tedesco - District #2
Erik Hansen - District #3
Steve O'Dorisio - District #4
Mary Hodge - District #5

**STUDY SESSION AGENDA
TUESDAY
April 11, 2017**

ALL TIMES LISTED ON THIS AGENDA ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

11:00 A.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Eliza Schultz
	ITEM:	Legislative Working Group
11:45 A.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Terri Lutt / Charles DuScha
	ITEM:	Healthcare Fundamentals and Cost of Care
1:45 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Shannon McDowell / Renee Petersen
	ITEM:	2017 Open Space Grant Awards
2:15 P.M.	ATTENDEE(S):	Todd Leopold
	ITEM:	Administrative Item Review

(AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS OF PUBLIC BUSINESS WHICH MAY ARISE)



STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM

DATE:	4/11/17
SUBJECT:	Legislative Working Group (LWG) – General Assembly Legislative Review
FROM:	Legislative Liaison
AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:	Intergovernmental Relations Office, County Manager's Office
ATTENDEES:	Eliza Schultz, Jeanne Shreve, LWG
PURPOSE OF ITEM:	Brief BoCC on previous week's General Assembly legislation of relevance to the County, and obtain County stances on said legislation
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	Review, discussion, and obtain County stances on legislation

BACKGROUND:

The First Regular Session of the Seventy-first Colorado General Assembly convened on January 11, 2017. These Study Sessions will review, with the BoCC, the pertinent legislation introduced the previous week in order for the BoCC to take official County positions on each piece of relevant legislation.

AGENCIES, DEPARTMENTS OR OTHER OFFICES INVOLVED:

Intergovernmental Relations Office, Legislative Working Group, County Manager's Office

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please check if there is no fiscal impact . If there is fiscal impact, please fully complete the section below.

Fund: _____

Cost Center: _____

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Revenue:			
Additional Revenue not included in Current Budget:			
Total Revenues:			_____

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Operating Expenditure:			
Add'l Operating Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Current Budgeted Capital Expenditure:			
Add'l Capital Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Total Expenditures:			_____

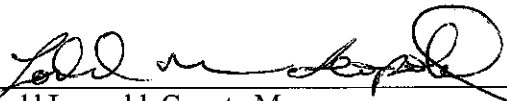
New FTEs requested: YES NO

Future Amendment Needed: YES NO

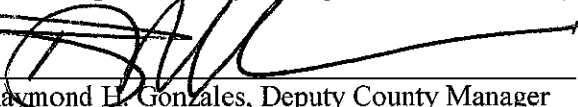
Additional Note:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

APPROVAL OF FISCAL IMPACT:

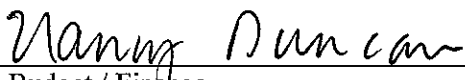


Todd Leopold, County Manager



Raymond H. Gonzales, Deputy County Manager

Bryan Ostler, Interim Deputy County Manager



Nancy Duncan
Budget / Finance



STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM

DATE: April 11, 2017
SUBJECT: 1) Information Session – Healthcare Fundamentals 2) Information Session – AC Health Plans – Cost and Impact to Budget
FROM: Charles DuScha, Terri Lutt, Bryan Ostler, Pauline Hohn, Hays Companies
AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Human Resources
ATTENDEES: Charles DuScha, Terri Lutt, Bryan Ostler, Pauline Hohn, Hays Companies
PURPOSE OF ITEM: (1) Informational session to increase understanding of healthcare and factors that impact the cost of healthcare. (2) Informational session regarding our health plans, our costs, our philosophy as well as providing benchmark data and a health plan financial report.
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Informational purposes only

BACKGROUND:

This study session is a result of the discussions that took place in 2016 during renewal of our benefits plan. At that time, we agreed we would have more than one discussion in 2017 regarding our benefits structure and our overall benefits strategic plan.

This is the first of three sessions before we meet with you regarding benefit renewal for 2018. The session today will be informational only. Our next meeting will be a focused discussion regarding benefits strategy and the last session will be to finalize our long-term benefits strategy.

Our healthcare plans and the associated costs continue to change. Each year we face new challenges and opportunities to meet the healthcare needs of our employees while keeping our plans affordable and sustainable. The intent of this informational session to increase our understanding of the factors that impact cost.

AGENCIES, DEPARTMENTS OR OTHER OFFICES INVOLVED:

Human Resources, County Manager's Office, Hays Companies

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:

PowerPoint – Healthcare Fundamentals

PowerPoint – AC Health Plans—Cost and Impact to Budget

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please check if there is no fiscal impact . If there is fiscal impact, please fully complete the section below.

Fund:

Cost Center:

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Revenue:			
Additional Revenue not included in Current Budget:			
Total Revenues:			<hr/>

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Operating Expenditure:			
Add'l Operating Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Current Budgeted Capital Expenditure:			
Add'l Capital Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Total Expenditures:			<hr/>

New FTEs requested: YES NO

Future Amendment Needed: YES NO

Additional Note:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

APPROVAL OF FISCAL IMPACT:



Todd Leopold, County Manager



Nancy Dunbar
Budget / Finance

Raymond H. Gonzales, Deputy County Manager



Bryan Ostler, Interim Deputy County Manager



Healthcare Fundamentals and the Cost of Care

Study Session

April 11, 2017



Intent

Provide informational session to increase understanding of:

- Healthcare
- Factors that impact cost

Healthcare Fundamentals

What makes up the healthcare system?

- Utilizers
 - Participants
 - Employees and dependents
- Payers of Care
 - Health insurance plans
 - Employers
 - Medicare/Medicaid

Healthcare Fundamentals (cont'd)

What makes up the healthcare system? (cont'd)

- Providers
 - Physicians
 - Hospitals
 - Pharmacies

The Cost of Care

What impacts the cost of care?

- Care delivery models
 - Closed model (HMO)
 - Open access model (EPO/PPO)
- Health system mergers/acquisitions
 - Physician employment
- Urgent care vs emergency care
- Free standing ER vs hospital ER

The Cost of Care (cont'd)

What impacts the cost of care? (cont'd)

- Claims experience
 - Catastrophic claims
 - High utilization
 - Increased focus on behavioral health
 - Drugs (Specialty Pharmacy)

The Cost of Care (cont'd)

What impacts the cost of care? (cont'd)

- Mandated health benefits
 - Colorado State Law
 - Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Expectations

Each component impacts cost

Future Healthcare Landscape

- Economic upswing
- Technology
- Large scale mergers/acquisitions
- Hospital operating expenses

Future Cost

Forces expected to contribute to future spending

- Medical inflation
- Specialty medications
- Major cyber security breaches
- Aging population and retirees

Potential Moderating Forces

- Health plan designs
- Virtual care/telemedicine
- Retail clinics
- Employer onsite clinics
- Health advisors

Questions/Comments

????



Adams County's Health Plans – Cost and Impact to Budget

Study Session

April 11, 2017



Agenda

Our plans

Our costs

Our philosophy

Current strategies

Benchmark data

Health plan financial report

Our Plans

United Healthcare and Kaiser Permanente



Fully Insured vs. Self-Funded Health Plan

Fully Insured Kaiser Permanente

- Adams County pays full monthly premium to Kaiser
- Premium remains the same each month regardless of claims experience
 - “Good” vs “Bad” claims

Self-funded United Healthcare

- Adams County & employees contribute monthly to a claims account, or a “bucket” of money held by Adams County
- Adams County pays monthly administration fees to UHC
 - ASO Fees
- UHC draws money from our bank account to pay claims as they are incurred
 - “Good” vs “Bad” claims

Fully Insured vs. Self-Funded, continued

Fully Insured Kaiser Permanente

- Medical claims payment
- Rx claims payment
- Available facilities and providers
- Authorization of treatment

Self-funded United Healthcare

- Medical claims payment
- Rx claims payment
- Available facilities and providers
- Authorization of treatment
- “Stoploss” insurance

Kaiser Permanente Plan

- Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)
 - You can only go to doctors or hospitals included in the HMO list (excluding emergencies)
 - If you seek care outside of the HMO, you will pay in full for the cost
- Fully Insured
 - Premium (rate) is set prior to the plan year, and the County pays the same each month regardless of claims experience for that year
- Experience Rated
 - KP uses the prior experience of Adams County, blended with their book of business, to set the premium rate

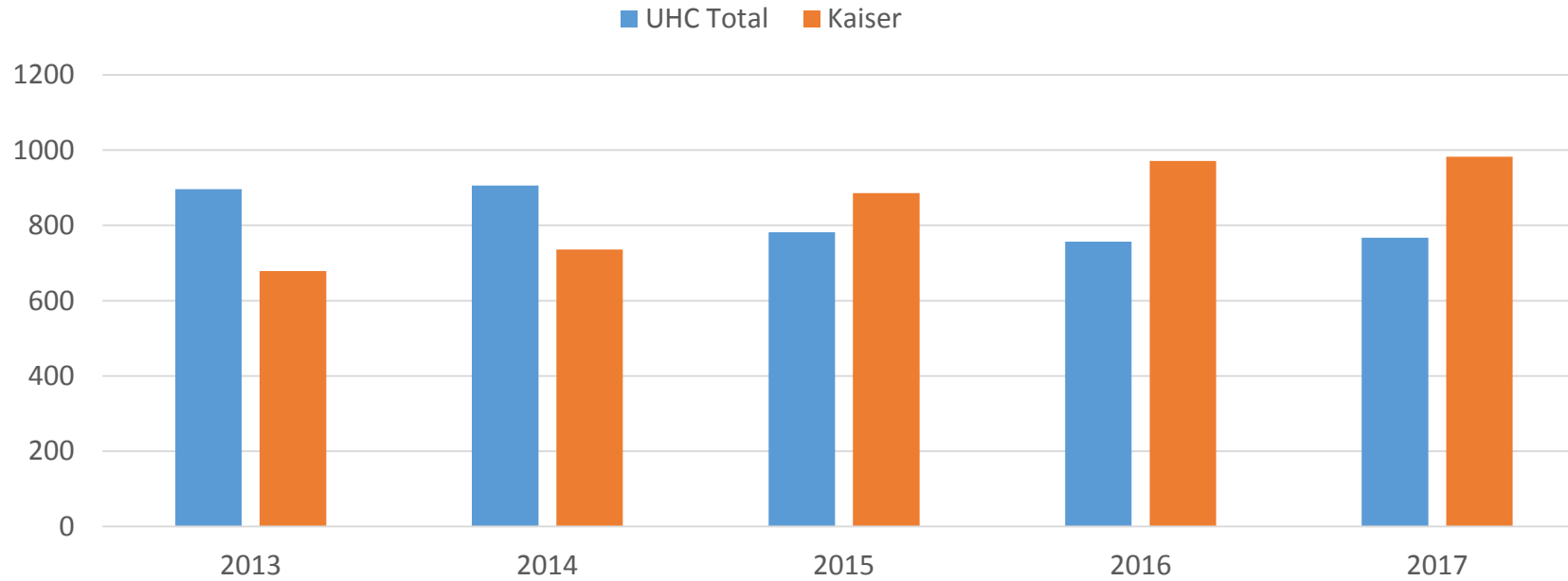
United Healthcare Plan

- **Exclusive Panel Option (EPO)**
 - Plan features a network of preferred physicians, hospitals, and facilities
 - Limited to using only network providers
- **Point of Service (POS) Plan**
 - Plan features a network of preferred physicians, hospitals, and facilities
 - Can seek care from a non-preferred provider at a higher out of pocket cost
- **Self-Funded**
 - County pays UHC a per employee per month fee to administer the plan and pay claims
 - Referred to as an “ASO” or “Administrative Services Only” arrangement
 - Plan cost is based on the claims experience as it is incurred
- **Stoploss Insurance**
 - Adams County purchases Stoploss insurance to protect against the cost of catastrophic claims over \$250,000
- **Budget Rates**
 - An expected claims rate is calculated using prior claims experience information.
 - The claims rate is added to the cost for ASO and Stoploss insurance to arrive at a budget rate

Adverse Selection & Split Risk Pool

- Adverse selection = Healthy vs. Sick in each plan
- Split Risk Pool = offering of multiple plan and/or carrier options
 - Price/Plan design differential creates selection
 - Selection creates Adverse selection
 - Adverse selection creates more Price/Plan design differential due to experience/utilization
- Adams County = Kaiser and United Healthcare plan offerings
 - United Healthcare plan adversely selected against historically
 - Kaiser plan lower out of pocket cost (2016 and prior)/richer plan design
- Kaiser HMO staff model
 - Closed HMO staff model
 - Limited provider selection

Health Plan Enrollment



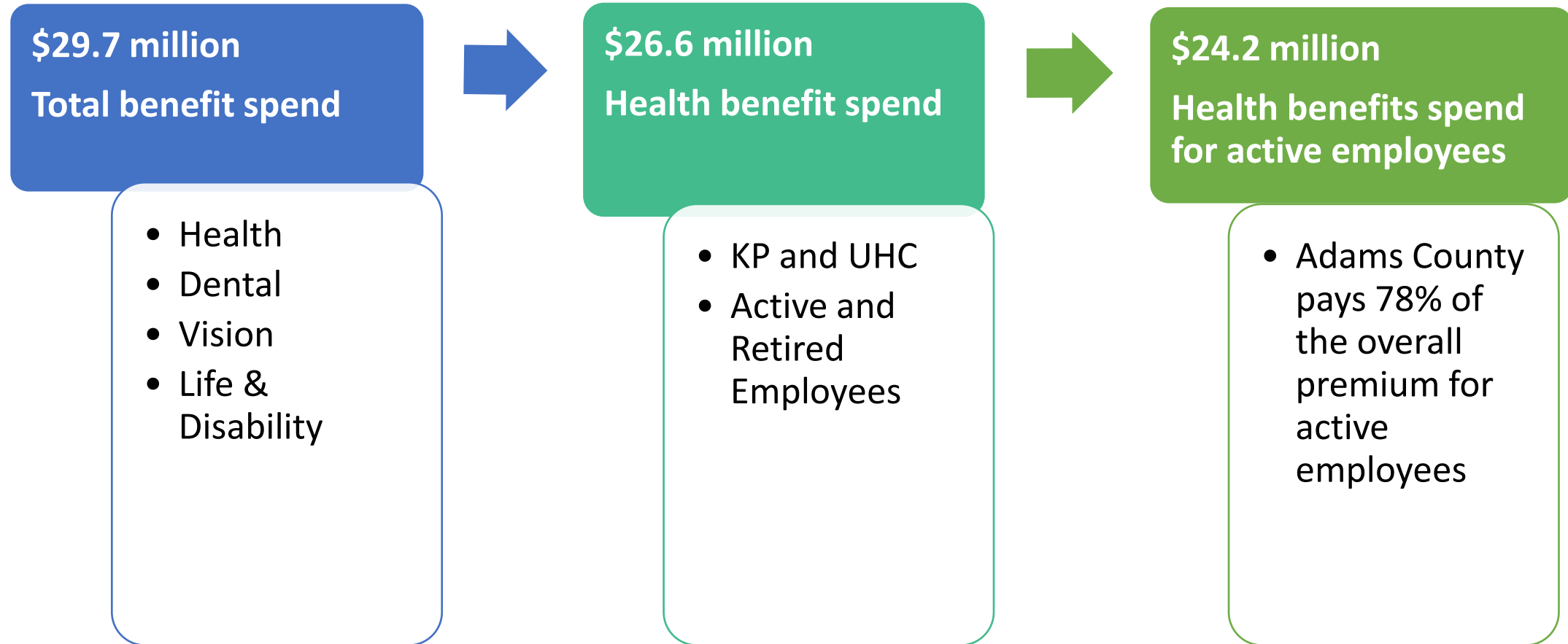
	2013 Year-End	2014 Year-End	2015 Year-End	2016 Year-End	2017 YTD
UHC EPO	824	828	713	673	688
UHC POS	72	78	69	84	79
UHC TOTAL	896	906	782	757	767
Kaiser	679	736	886	971	983

Our Costs

Kaiser Permanente and United Healthcare



Benefits Program Total Cost



Total spend amounts are shared by Adams County and Employee Contributions

Increasing health plan costs

- Increasing health costs driven by
 - Catastrophic claims
 - High utilization
 - Urgent Care vs. Emergency Room
 - Increased focus on behavioral health
 - Mandated health benefits
 - Specialty Rx
 - Aging population

Our Philosophy



ADAMS COUNTY
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Adams County Philosophy

- The County has long sought to be an employer of choice in a competitive market by effectively meeting the needs of its Employees.
- Key components
 - Choice of healthcare provider
 - Affordable contributions
 - Comprehensive benefits
 - Competitive plan design
 - Sustainable

Current Strategies



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Adams County Strategy

- Preventive Healthcare
- Consumer Engagement
- Cost Containment
- Risk Mitigation

Mitigating the impact on cost

- Plan Design
- Premium Alignment
- Wellness Program
- Onsite Clinic

Adams County “Consumer” Behavior

Consumer Behavior = 1) Choice 2) Utilization

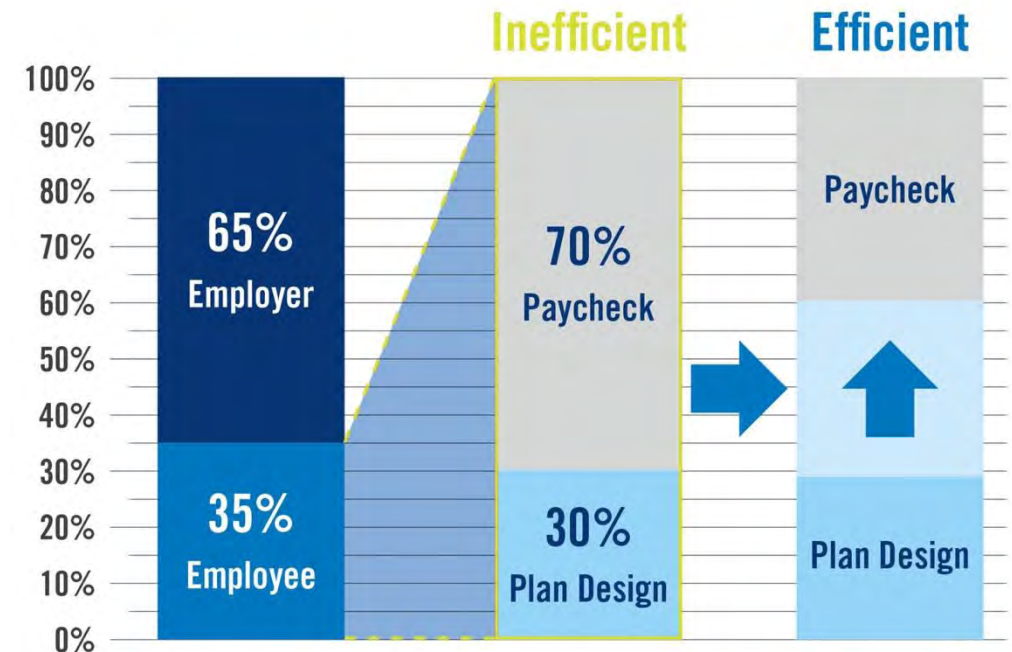
- What’s the Employee Experience?
- Adams County annual **employee only** contribution 2016
 - Kaiser = \$1,043
 - United Healthcare EPO = \$1,116

Good Risk

- Healthy individuals value Premiums over Plan Design
 - 80-90 percent of population

Bad Risk

- Unhealthy individuals value Plan Design over Premiums
 - 10-20 percent of population
- Unfavorable plan design (higher Maximum Out-of-Pocket) encourages “bad risk” to go elsewhere



Benchmarks

Comparative Data



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Benchmark Overview

Average Values*	Benchmark HMO	Adams County HMO-Kaiser	Benchmark PPO	Adams County EPO -UHC
Single/Family Deductible	\$360/\$870	No Deductible	\$1,200/\$2,600	\$500/\$1,000
Average PCP	\$30	\$15	\$20	\$30
Average Specialist	\$35	\$25	\$30	\$40 (Premium) \$80 (UHC)
Coinsurance	8%	0%	14%	5%
Single/Family Maximum OOP	\$4,000/\$8,000	\$2,000/\$4,500	\$4,000/\$8,000	\$4,500/\$9,000
Single Contribution	\$224.65	\$86.89	\$76.31	\$86.89
Family Contribution	\$442.80	\$428.80	\$418.71	\$428.80

*Average of state-wide County and City values.

Health Plan Financials



ADAMS COUNTY
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UHC Health Plan Financial Report

Year*	Average Enrollment Med/Rx	Administration PEPM	Gross Medical/Rx Claims PEPM	Net Medical/Rx Claims PEPM	Total Plan Cost PEPM	Budget	Plan Cost vs. Budget
2017	833	\$130.18	\$1,106.21	\$1,106.21	\$1,236.39	\$1,305.55	94.7%
% Change	0%	6%	-7%	-2%	-1%	7%	
2016	831	\$122.67	\$1,193.41	\$1,129.16	\$1,251.83	\$1,223.08	102.4%
% Change	-6%	10%	3%	7%	7%	12%	
2015	881	\$111.66	\$1,155.61	\$1,057.02	\$1,168.68	\$1,093.44	106.9%
% Change	-11%	9%	-2%	-2%	-1%	4%	
2014	990	\$102.81	\$1,181.60	\$1,081.79	\$1,184.60	\$1,051.22	112.7%

*2017 illustrates February YTD claims data. Prior data illustrates complete plan years.

Next Study Session

Strategic Planning

- Discuss 3-5 year strategy
- Discovery questions
 - What are key organizational strategies for BOCC over next several years?
 - What are the most significant challenges facing Adams County?
 - Is it important to offer a choice in health plan and benefit design?



STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM

DATE: April 11, 2017
SUBJECT: Spring 2017 Open Space Sales Tax grant award recommendations
FROM: Nathan Mosley, Parks and Open Space Director, Shannon McDowell, and Renee Petersen
AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Parks and Open Space
ATTENDEES: Nathan Mosley, Shannon McDowell, Renee Petersen, Open Space Advisory Board members
PURPOSE OF ITEM: Present the Open Space Advisory Board's recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners to understand whether there is concurrence prior to presenting awards in public hearing.
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of County Commissioners accepts the Open Space Advisory Board's recommendations for funding

BACKGROUND:

On February 1, 2017, the Open Space Program received seventeen grant applications, including five passive grant applications, eight active grant applications, and four mini-grant applications. The total amount requested was \$7,198,886 which included \$4,966,661 for passive projects, \$2,216,400 for active projects, and \$15,825 for mini-grants. The total amount available for distribution was \$6,340,683.45.

The Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) recommended full funding of all of the four mini-grant applications, full funding for one passive application and seven active applications, partial funding for three passive applications and one active application, and zero funding for one passive application. If the Board of County Commissioners follows the OSAB's recommendations, the fund will carry a zero balance to the next grant cycle. The recommended funding will slightly increase the level of overall active funding from 27.14% to 27.19%.

Detailed information about each grant and the OSAB's recommendations are below. The projects are listed according to their ranking, with mini-grants listed first.

Mini Grant: Park, Trail and Open Space Map Update- City of Thornton

Project Summary: This project will help fund an update to the Guide to Parks, Open Space and Trails map for the City of Thornton. The current guide has not been updated since September 2013, and therefore, there are several new open space parcels, trail connections and extensions, RTD FasTrack stations, and public parks to identify. The map will focus on the entire City of Thornton.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 50% of the total project costs, up to \$2,500

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$2,500

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments: None

Mini Grant: Clear Creek Valley Park Fishing/Habitat Improvement Project- Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District (Sponsored by City of Federal Heights)

Project Summary: This project includes funding in order to stock the two ponds with fish as additional food sources for bass consumption and adult fish species for breeding and harvesting. The project also includes underwater artificial fish habitat structures and educational signage along the shoreline. Clear Creek Valley Park is located at 5900 Tennyson Street.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 62.5% of the total project costs, up to \$5,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$5,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments: None

Mini Grant: Lake Appreciation Day 2017- Barr Lake State Park (Sponsored by Adams County)

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to bring public awareness to water quality and land management issues through the participation of 250 volunteers performing shoreline cleanup, eradicating noxious weeds, and staining boardwalks. The event is followed by lunch and educational activities for the volunteers. Barr Lake State Park is located at 13401 Piccadilly Rd.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 28.3% of the total project costs, up to \$3,325

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$3,325

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments: None

Mini Grant: Signage & Wayfinding Program- Adams County

Project Summary: This project will help fund the design, purchase and installation of directional signage and other wayfinding facilities throughout the regional trails of Adams County. The signage will be placed throughout the County along the regional trail system.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 20% of the total project costs, up to \$5,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$5,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments: None

Dehumidification Revival- Bennett Park & Recreation District (Sponsored by Town of Bennett)

Project Summary: This project includes the replacement of the dehumidifier in the aquatic facility. The current HVAC dehumidifier has failed and must be replaced in a timely manner, so that the humidity does not cause additional damage to the facility. Bennett Park & Recreation District is located at 455 South 1st Street.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 59.8% of the total project costs, up to \$180,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$180,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- There are safety issues for people using the pool area. The high humidity also appears to be having a corrosive effect on doors, and other parts of the building structure.
- I commend the Bennett P&R District and the Town of Bennett for working together to develop their master plans concurrently.
- The District's maintenance reserve should be built up.

- The Bennett swimming pool is used by many members of the community. Without a dehumidifier the structure is being destroyed by rust and mold.
- The damage being caused by the problem and the usefulness of the community pool for the residents, especially the kids, places this project at the highest priority.
- Tremendous show of support and you can really see that this pool makes an impact in the community!

Park Property Acquisition- City of Northglenn

Project Summary: The City of Northglenn plans to acquire 3.43 acres for the rare opportunity to expand their park system. The new park will serve the adjacent neighborhood with an active-use space, and enhance the city's future justice center campus with an additional public amenity. The parcel is located at 421 West 112th Avenue.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 60% of the total project costs, up to \$252,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$252,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- The area will make an excellent park for local residents and others when it comes time for Northglenn to develop its justice center campus.
- There are lots of unknowns as far as users at this time.
- The construction of a park on this property will provide needed space and recreation for the community.
- This is a rare opportunity to purchase land.
- I am concerned of the location near the busy highway.
- I want to see this funded. Acquiring property for the purpose of preserving space for outdoor use should be rewarded.

Norfolk Glen Park Renovation- City of Aurora

Project Summary: This project includes renovations to the Norfolk Glen Park located along the High Line Canal trail. Improvements include ADA accessibility, a new playground, new concrete paths, site furnishings, landscape improvements, updates to the irrigation system and park signage. Norfolk Glen Park is located at 15800 East 17th Place.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 50% of the total project costs, up to \$150,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$150,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- The makeover and updating of the park given its location near the High Line Canal trail system will be a great asset to long distance walkers, runners, and bikers, as well as nearby residents who can recreate at the park or hop onto the High Line Canal.
- Updating of the park and helping it be accessible to park users will be a great asset to local residents and any people traveling long distances via the High Line Canal and Sand Creek trails. I encourage as much as possible and where possible, soft surface trails be constructed alongside concrete trails, which will offer a more choices for walkers, runners, bike riders, wheel chair users to have access to trail surfaces that work best for them.
- The community built a shelter at the park using volunteer labor and material. The park is next to the High Line Canal. The current equipment is outdated and not ADA compliant. New equipment would provide the community along with the High Line Canal users a park that is an enrichment.
- I like the connection with the High Line Canal trail.
- This park needs ADA accessibility badly, so this project is a high priority.
- This is ranked ahead of the other park renovation projects as it been submitted twice now. It is very important to the neighborhood.

Twin Lakes Park Renovation- Adams County

Project Summary: This project includes renovations to the Twin Lakes Park. Improvements include repair to the banks of the lake, new trails, irrigation system, picnic shelters, drainage improvements and replacement of the playground. Twin Lakes Park is located at 200 West 70th Avenue.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 45.5% of the total project costs, up to \$925,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$925,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- It is unclear whether there is something within this project that needs to meet ADA requirements.
- I commend the use of soft-surfaced trails. If possible I recommend soft-surfaced trails for walkers and runners to be established next to hard surface trails in the Clear Creek Trail regional system. Are any of the Ditch companies willing and able to help finance part of the culvert that had to be removed, since Ditch companies use this access point, too?
- Twin Lakes Park connects to trails. The parking lot is used by bikers who are using the trail and often also use the park. The lake shores are eroding and in need of restoration.
- Saving cottonwoods is important while minimizing mosquitoes.
- I think the safety concerns for residents, especially in regards to the restrooms and lighting put this at a high priority. Additionally the high usage of the park demonstrates the need and usefulness of the project.
- This is a popular park and area providing access to the great trail system, but is definitely in need of repairs.

Outdoor Aquatics Improvements- City of Northglenn

Project Summary: The City of Northglenn is requesting funding for the renovation of the Kiwanis outdoor pool and bath house. The project includes complete replacement of the bath house, improvements to the site amenities and the addition of a splash pad. The Kiwanis pool is located at 550 Garland Street.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 50% of the total project costs, up to \$800,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$800,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- If enough funding is available, I recommend a family change area be included.
- I hope, if the new pool and splash pad are built that the pool drainage be connected to the sanitation sewer system.
- Many encouraging letters support the need for a new and accessible bathhouse that functions well for the patrons.
- This is the only outdoor pool in Northglenn and was not funded last grant session, so it should be funded.
- This is the only outdoor swimming pool in Northglenn. The current bathhouse is not ADA compliant. The upgrades would improve the quality of the facilities.
- ADA compliance is important and provides the potential for cost reduction for users. The facility provides a much needed form of recreation for surrounding residents.
- This is a great project that provides necessary improvements to a facility relied upon by the nearby community and families. It is an area icon and the residents and city deserve a place they can be proud of.

Riverdale Ball Field Complex Phase I- City of Thornton

Project Summary: The City of Thornton is seeking funding for the first phase of construction at the Riverdale Ball Field Complex to include four lighted ball fields, parking and a large playground. The grant elements of this phase are the trails, a trail connection to the South Platte River Trail, lighting, shade shelters, gathering plaza, irrigation, restrooms and native landscaping. The Riverdale Ball Field Complex is located at 9830 Riverdale Road.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 19% of the total project costs, up to \$2,229,504

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Partial funding, 19.7% up to \$2,133,589.45

OSAB Vote: Motion for partial funding passed 5-2, Rudden and Hickel dissenting

OSAB Comments:

- The ADA accommodations for this project were not specified.
- I understand the necessity of increasing ball fields to accommodate the number of teams using existing fields. This is a good way to promote responsibility, physical fitness and team spirit.
- This is the second time this request has come to the OSAB. The project is within an area of Thornton that can greatly benefit from a community park. The Park can buffer some of the South Platte River Heritage Corridor, too.
- Thornton's application for GOCO funds was denied, unfortunately.
- I think this is a very worthy and well thought out community park for both passive and active recreational users. The trail connections for walking, running, and biking allow good access to regional trails in a variety of directions.
- Without the funding information I am unable to determine what components are active match.
- The ball fields are needed to provide recreation for the overflow of users.
- This project is another necessary element of a rapidly expanding city. Staff's comment about the ball fields and park acting as the community connectors, as the city has no formal downtown, really resonated with me.

Clear Creek Valley Park Phase II- Passive- Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District (Sponsored by City of Arvada)

Project Summary: This project includes funding for construction and landscaping on the east side of the park. The project will include demolition of old structures, site grading, parking lot and infrastructure construction, irrigation and landscaping improvements, additional sidewalks and a pedestrian bridge. Clear Creek Valley Park is located at 5900 Tennyson Street.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 61.8% of the total project costs, up to \$1,122,157

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Partial funding, 63% up to \$954,369

OSAB Vote: Motion for partial funding passed 5-2, Hickel and Rudden dissenting

OSAB Comments:

- I support the overall phase of this park. However I think the bike pump trail and dirt trail is incongruent with a passive area with ponds where birds and other wildlife may prefer to gather and use a habitat area, if I understand the layout correctly. Also walkers may prefer a relatively quiet space to walk and be away from noise.
- I think this park will be greatly enjoyed by people in the area and by others who may come by bike or car. I hope, too, there will be parts of the park that can be used for quiet walks, good wildlife viewing, and fishing.
- This park will provide the community with a variety of recreation opportunities.
- Building and asbestos removal is important.
- Of course this is a worthy project, but I would like to see some of the other grants funded ahead of this one.

Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan- City of Commerce City

Project Summary: This project will create a master plan for the Veterans Memorial Park, which was built in 1971. Since then the recreation center was added in 1988, the Veterans Memorial was added in 1988, and three adjacent properties have been acquired to expand the park site. Veterans Memorial Park is located at 6015 Forest Drive.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 45.5% of the total project costs, up to \$50,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$50,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 6-1, Rudden dissenting

OSAB Comments:

- It is exciting some funding will come from GOCO's INSPIRE funds for a nature playground.
- A master plan helps with outreach to the community for input in the park planning.
- I hope as part of the park planning, there can be consultation with native plant and wildlife experts to offer input. For example, planning can help minimize bird collisions into building windows.
- The development of the additional land that was added to the park will create additional open space for park users.
- The GOCO grant supports the playground, not the master plan process.
- This is a good project, but as a master plan, I'd like to see the grant money go towards other projects and make a more immediate impact.

Bennett Elementary Pre K to 1 School Playground Renovation Project – Bennett School District (Sponsored by Town of Bennett)

Project Summary: This project includes renovations to the Pre-K to 1 elementary school playground, in order to address accessibility and safety concerns. The scope includes mobilization, demolition, grading, paving, striping, drainage, playground curbing, rubber surfacing, asphalt, new playground structures, shade structure, landscaping, field reseeding, a gateway structure, outdoor classroom, site furnishings and irrigation. Bennett Elementary School is located at 462 8th Street.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 60% of the total project costs, up to \$299,400

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$299,400

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 6-1, Rudden dissenting

OSAB Comments:

- The play area is unsafe and not age appropriate for Pre-K-1 children.
- I support this school playground because the District has worked with a variety of resource entities to build the playground plan. The playground would meet the physical movement needs for Pre-K-1 children during school sessions and for families outside school activities, which don't currently exist in or near the school for this age group.
- The cost of design was paid by Tri-County and not included in the source of funds.
- Perhaps a renewed appeal for a tax increase should be pursued.
- I would like to see community member support outside of parents.
- The Pre-K to 1 playground is in need of repair. In the current condition there is a concern for safety.
- Growth of the community requires this project support for younger kids' growth and learning as younger families are moving in.

Brighton Park Destination Playgrounds- City of Brighton

Project Summary: This project includes renovations to the two playgrounds located within Brighton Park. The play structures are 24 years old and do not meet current accessibility and safety guidelines. The project includes design and construction of the climbing apparatus, swings, slides, tunnels, shade structure, ramps, and rubberized surface. Brighton Park is located at 555 North 11th Avenue.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 60% of the total project costs, up to \$405,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Partial funding, 60% up to \$363,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for partial funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- I understand the need to update playground equipment after 24 years due to safety, wear & tear, and accessibility issues. I wonder about the value of 2 playgrounds in the same general park area. I can appreciate the need for a playground, picnic shelters for shade and multiple uses by families, which is situated near parking. If park users want themed playgrounds, I suggest the focus be on one playground and to make it special for a variety of ages.
- I think the playground near the recreation center has a chance of being more regionally attractive than the midland park. I suggest consideration be given to soft surface walking/running trail construction next to the concrete trail. Also, workout stations near the trail can be for older

children, youth, and adult to vary their workout sessions. Will the current recreation center be expanded? If so, how would the expansion affect the playgrounds?

- It seems if funding is obtained then there will be more community outreach. There is a general sense that the playgrounds are outdated and need updating.
- While I support updating these playground areas, I'm not sure 2 playgrounds in the same general park area make sense and the best use of dollars.
- The current playground equipment is outdated and in need of replacement.

Outdoor Community Space at Stargate Charter School- Stargate Charter School (Sponsored by Adams County)

Project Summary: This project includes an outdoor community space at the Stargate Charter School. Improvements include a nature trail with exercise stations and public art space, a greenhouse for use by the school and community, and property amenities such as benches, picnic tables, and bike racks. Stargate Charter School is located at 14530 Washington Street.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 48.1% of the total project costs, up to \$340,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Partial funding, 31.4% up to \$137,500

OSAB Vote: Motion for partial funding passed 6-1, Dunn dissenting

OSAB Comments:

- No mention is made of ADA requirements within the green house.
It seems to me several parts of the project depend upon another entity choosing to provide something that isn't definite, e.g. Shay Ditch trail and City of Thornton building a bridge to Big Dry Creek.
- I understand this is a new location and buildings for Stargate. It seems to me their planning may need refinement into what is absolutely needed now. The greenhouse and how it could be used need more planning and development with the entities cited in the grant description, e.g. CSU Extension services, master gardeners.
- There seems to be a vision of what is wanted on the school property. What isn't clear to me is what is actually doable.
- I think there needs to be more planning with the local municipality and County on what, when, and how trail connections will be done. How farming and fruit orchards will fit into the area, be tended to, and used in the community isn't clear to me.
- There may be bird life around the riparian areas. How this area develops will greatly affect existing wildlife by eliminating some habitats, creating unsafe areas due to more traffic, etc. There are no pronghorns or mule deer in the area.
- I recommend more refinement and breaking down some of the plans into more concrete phases of development. I also recommend much more planning with local entities on what trails will be done, when, etc. I recommend searching for as many grant sources as possible.
- I am not sure if outside public will use the space.
- I would support separating the trail application from the greenhouse project and submitting them as two separate grant requests.
- Stargate is a charter school for gifted and talented students. I question if this select group represents the community. About 3% of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch program where the general student population of the 5 star district have about 35% students that qualify for free or reduced lunch program.
- Trail build out is listed in the 5 year master plan.
- If funds are tight, I would suggest trail build out and delay of the other aspects.
- This project meets many of the tenants I find most important in a project – agricultural and environmental element, connected to trails, and provides an area of protected and useful space within a rapidly developing area, tons of community support including the support of Adams 12, city councilwoman, and Thornton mayor. Also, Stargate has been such a great steward of their resources and students that I want to see grant funding go towards such a fantastic school and student body.

Trupp Park Phase III- Skate & Bike Park- Town of Bennett

Project Summary: This grant request is for the restoration and expansion of the skate park at Trupp Park. Constructed in 2007, the skate park amenities have deteriorated and become unsafe for users. The project includes the removal of 2 concrete features and rails, repairs to the existing skate bowl, expansion of the concrete ramp leading to the skate bowl, 3 new steel fastener free riding surfaces, and the installation of a bicycle playground. Trupp Park is located at 105 West Palmer Street.

Type: Active

Grant Request: 50% of the total project costs, up to \$80,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: Full funding, \$80,000

OSAB Vote: Motion for full funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- I commend Town staff involving community people to help with the project.
- The skate area is in poor condition and not meeting the needs of the skaters. Graffiti covers the wall of the structure.
- There are safety reasons to complete the fence and concrete repairs.

Recreation Center Landscaping- City of Commerce City

Project Summary: This project includes funding support for the landscaping surrounding the new recreation center currently being constructed. The entryway will include more formal landscape with shrubs, grasses and perennials. The parking lot will be comprised of trees, while much of the area farther outside the building will be passive space with native seed. The landscaping will focus on xeric and native plants to minimize water requirements. The recreation center is located at 112th Avenue and Potomac Street.

Type: Passive

Grant Request: 50% of the total project costs, up to \$350,000

Previous Grant Request: Yes No

OSAB Recommendation: No funding, \$0

OSAB Vote: Motion for no funding passed 7-0

OSAB Comments:

- It is unclear how much land area needs landscaping.
- I have concerns about a trail connection via the O'Brien/Burlington Canal to Barr Lake State Park. Where the canal flows into Barr Lake is in the Wildlife Refuge area of the Park. I recommend trail connection work be focused more on links to the South Platte River and Front Range trail system, as well as to the Sand Creek trail system.
- I commend the use of native and xeric plants around the recreation center.
- The new Recreation Center in the north part of the City of Commerce City will be very welcomed. The City residents are taxing themselves to be able to raise money for parks and recreation centers.
- Commerce City would like landscaping to enrich their new recreation facility.
- Not as excited about this one. I'm not sure providing funding for parking lot landscaping is the highest and best use of grant funding.

AGENCIES, DEPARTMENTS OR OTHER OFFICES INVOLVED:

Open Space Advisory Board, Applicants

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:

Worksheet summarizing grant recommendations
OSAB meeting minutes from March 22, 2017

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please check if there is no fiscal impact . If there is fiscal impact, please fully complete the section below.

Fund: 28

Cost Center: 6202

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Revenue:			
Additional Revenue not included in Current Budget:			
Total Revenues:			

	Object Account	Subledger	Amount
Current Budgeted Operating Expenditure:	8810		6,340,683.45
Add'l Operating Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Current Budgeted Capital Expenditure:			
Add'l Capital Expenditure not included in Current Budget:			
Total Expenditures:			<u>6,340,683.45</u>

New FTEs requested: YES NO

Future Amendment Needed: YES NO

Additional Note:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

APPROVAL OF FISCAL IMPACT:

Todd Leopold, County Manager

Budget / Finance

Raymond H. Gonzales, Deputy County Manager

Bryan Ostler, Interim Deputy County Manager

Adams County Open Space Grant Program - Spring 2017

Ranking	Score	Applicant	Project Name	Active Request	Passive Request	Funding Recommendation	% of Funding (as requested)	% of Funding (as recommended)
Mini		City of Thornton	Park, Trail & Open Space Map Update		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	50.0%	50.0%
Mini		Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District	CCV Park Fishing/Habitat Improvement Project		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	62.5%	62.5%
Mini		Barr Lake State Park	Lake Appreciation Day 2017		\$ 3,325.00	\$ 3,325.00	28.3%	28.3%
Mini		Adams County	Signage & Wayfinding Program		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	20.0%	20.0%
1	26	Bennett Park and Rec District	Dehumidification Revival	\$ 180,000.00		\$ 180,000.00	59.8%	59.8%
2	28	City of Northglenn	Park Property Acquisition	\$ 252,000.00		\$ 252,000.00	60.0%	60.0%
3	31	City of Aurora	Norfolk Glen Park Renovation	\$ 150,000.00		\$ 150,000.00	50.0%	50.0%
4	32	Adams County	Twin Lakes Park Renovation		\$ 925,000.00	\$ 925,000.00	45.5%	45.5%
5	38	City of Northglenn	Outdoor Aquatics Improvements	\$ 800,000.00		\$ 800,000.00	50.0%	50.0%
6	38	City of Thornton	Riverdale Ball Field Complex Phase I		\$ 2,229,504.00	\$ 2,133,589.45	19.0%	19.7%
7	38	Hyland Hills Park & Rec. District	Clear Creek Valley Park Phase II Passive		\$ 1,122,157.00	\$ 954,369.00	61.8%	63.0%
8	61	City of Commerce City	Veterans Mem. Park Master Plan	\$ 50,000.00		\$ 50,000.00	45.5%	45.5%
9	63	Bennett School District	Bennett Elementary Pre K to 1 School Playground Renovation Project	\$ 299,400.00		\$ 299,400.00	60.0%	60.0%
10	65	City of Brighton	Brighton Park Destination Playgrounds	\$ 405,000.00		\$ 363,000.00	60.0%	60.0%
11	70	Stargate Charter School	Outdoor Community Space		\$ 340,000.00	\$ 137,500.00	48.1%	31.4%
12	73	Town of Bennett	Trupp Park Phase III - Skate & Bike Park	\$ 80,000.00		\$ 80,000.00	50.0%	50.0%
13	74	City of Commerce City	Recreation Center Landscaping		\$ 350,000.00	\$ -	50.0%	0.0%
Total				\$ 2,216,400.00	\$ 4,982,486.00			
Total \$ Available		\$ -	Total Funding Recommended	\$ 6,340,683.45		Total Requested	\$ 7,198,886.00	
Total Active Available		\$ 3,122,587.88	Grant Fund Balance (before recommendations)	\$ 6,340,683.45		Funds Remaining if Funded in Full	\$ (858,202.55)	
				Active %	Passive %			
Recommended + Previous Funded				27.19%	72.81%			

Adams County Open Space Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Adams County Regional Park

OSAB Members in Attendance:

Christy Dowling

Gloria Rudden

Ed Hickel

Karen Dunn

Ann Merkel

Drew Morris

Rachel Glass

Parks & Open Space Staff in Attendance:

Nathan Mosley

Shannon McDowell

Renee Petersen

County Attorney in Attendance:

Doug Edelstein

Introductions

Ms. Merkel called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Open Space Advisory Board members and County staff introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 22, 2017

A motion was made by Ms. Rudden and seconded by Mr. Hickel to ***Approve the minutes*** for the February 22, 2017 meeting. The motion passed 5-0, Ms. Dowling and Ms. Glass abstaining.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2017

A motion was made by Mr. Hickel and seconded by Ms. Dunn to ***Approve the minutes*** for the February 25, 2017 meeting. The motion passed 5-0, Ms. Dowling and Ms. Merkel abstaining.

Update on Fund Balance

Ms. Merkel addressed the applicants to remind them of the new process and changes to be implemented during the funding recommendation meeting. She also welcomed the applicants to share any feedback following the meeting. Ms. Petersen and Ms. McDowell distributed the summary and project budgets to the OSAB and the applicants.

Ms. McDowell informed the Board that there is \$6,340,683.45 available to award in the current grant cycle. She also informed the OSAB that based on the current rankings, projects one through nine could be funded in full and project ten could be partially funded with the available fund balance.

Review of Grant Applications in Rank Order

City of Thornton- Park, Trail, and Open Space Map Update mini grant- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

Hyland Hills- CCV Park Fishing/Habitat Improvement Project mini grant- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

Barr Lake State Park- Lake Appreciation Day 2017 mini grant- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

Adams County- Signage and Wayfinding Program mini grant- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

Bennett Park and Recreation District- Dehumidification Revival project- There were no questions from the OSAB. Mr. Morris mentioned that he had this project in his top five and was in support of funding. Ms. Dowling apologized for not being in attendance for the site tour and presentation meetings. She did want to note that there is a strong community effort to improve the facility and she commends the staff for that. Mr. Morris stated that with the overwhelming community attendance at the presentation meeting it was obvious that the pool makes an impact in the community.

City of Northglenn – Park Property Acquisition- Mr. Morris stated this project was also in his top five ranking. He felt the board should reward Northglenn’s effort to purchase and improve the space for outdoor use. There were no questions from the OSAB.

City of Aurora – Norfolk Glen Park Renovation- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

Adams County – Twin Lakes Park Renovation- Mr. Morris stated this project was ranked sixth and he felt this park renovation was the most compelling in comparison to the other park renovation projects in the current grant cycle. Ms. Dowling asked the applicant if the ditch company would help with the funding for the bridge improvements. Mr. Aaron Clark stated that they had not asked the ditch company for support but feel that would not be an option.

City of Northglenn – Outdoor Aquatics Improvements- Ms. Dowling asked if the renovations included a family change area, and if there would be a connection to the sanitary sewer system. Ms. Amanda Peterson replied yes to both questions. Mr. Morris stated this project was ranked fourth and he was in support of the project to receive funding as a repeat application.

City of Thornton – Riverdale Ball Field Complex Phase 1 Construction- Mr. Morris mentioned that staffs comment about using the fields as a community gathering place as Thornton does not have a formal downtown, was very meaningful. Ms. Dowling asked how not receiving GOCO funds would affect the project and if they intended to reapply. Ms. Schulte stated that GOCO requires that the project not be started in order to apply. Therefore, with the next application due in November, it would depend on how far along they were with the project to determine if that was an option for the trail lighting. Without that funding, the elements that would be affected had not been determined at this point. Ms.

Merkel asked how many times an applicant could reapply to GOCO. Ms. Schulte was not aware of the limitation to reapply.

Hyland Hills – Clear Creek Valley Park Phase II Passive- Ms. Rudden commented that this project has taken 14 years and was so pleased to be attending the grand opening the following day. Ms. Merkel wanted to comment that she felt there was no other park quite like that one in the area. Ms. Dowling asked about the bike track and how it would affect that passive area of the park. Mr. Terry Barnhart explained that they design a dirt track for bikes, located south of the central pond, but feel it would be a compatible use for that area. Ms. Dunn asked if there were any decisions on the paddleboard option. Mr. Barnhart stated they were still checking into that, but felt it would be possible.

City of Commerce City – Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan- Ms. Dowling asked about the GOCO funding and how it would be applied to the project. Ms. Traci Ferguson replied that as part of the GOCO Inspire grant, they received a small amount of funding towards the nature playground planned for the site.

Bennett School District – Bennett Elementary Pre K to 1 School Playground Renovation Project- Ms. Glass commented on the high need and increased demand by the community. Ms. Dowling asked about the Tri County funding and why it was not listed as matching funds. Ms. McDowell explained that the design assistance was not applied as it was received prior to the allowable time frame. Ms. Petersen also mentioned that the funding was leveraged on the previous playground project at the school.

City of Brighton – Brighton Park Destination Playgrounds- Ms. Dowling was concerned that the smaller playground is not as highly utilized and would recommend focus be made on the larger playground area. Mr. Gary Wardle explained that both sites have picnic shelters, restrooms and are both highly utilized. There would be a cost savings to them to replace them at the same time. Mr. Hickel noted that as they were getting lower on the ranking, how they feel about partial funding. Mr. Wardle explained that they would make use of any funding received and determine how to adjust the project as necessary.

Stargate Charter School – Outdoor Community Space at Stargate Charter School- Mr. Morris mentioned that this project was in his top five priorities. He felt the project contained many major elements, including agricultural and environmental, trails and within a rapidly developing area. The school had a #1 ranked middle school, and he did not understand why the board would not be in support of the project. Ms. Dunn noted that in comparison to a traditional public school the ratio of free and reduced lunch was much lower and in order to attend must meet the eligibility requirements. Ms. Teresa Thompson- Walsh explained that they are also affected by the negative funding, in addition to paying a mortgage. The student population of Stargate is at risk for suicide, underachieving, and dropping out of school. She also noted that their match would only be eligible for one more year, and was frustrated by such a low ranking as they met all of the application criteria. Mr. Josh Cochran explained that one reason they have less students on the free and reduced program was that without offering bus service, that population has limited access to the site. Mr. Morris asked if that factor should even be considered when they recommend funding for a project. Ms. Dowling asked if any of their students were on individualized plans. Ms. Thompson- Walsh stated they do have students on IEP programs and with sensory

disadvantage. Ms. Dowling commented that the state education system is grossly underserved. Ms. Dowling asked for clarification on the trail connection with Thornton. Mr. Cochran explained that they just completed platting for that area and it would include the trail connections to the site. Ms. Dowling asked about the assistance for greenhouse training. Mr. Cochran said their vision included showing the kids that farm to table option and being a destination for field trips to involve the community as well. Ms. Dowling recommended they check into the Local District Plan that the county recently implemented. Mr. Hickel stated that all of the projects are terrific, but was not in favor of funding a greenhouse in addition to the staff salary. Ms. McDowell thought that Hyland Hills had included funding for a greenhouse at Clear Creek Valley Park. Ms. Thompson-Walsh noted that they also itemized the grant components and were willing to remove any items the board was not willing to fund with the current application. Ms. Merkel reminded the board that there was a place in the agenda to consider changing any of the rankings. Ms. Thompson-Walsh noted that they were happy to reapply if necessary, but could not guarantee a future sponsor for their application. Ms. Rudden also stated that prior to the meeting they had no knowledge of the cost of each component in the project. Mr. Morris felt the low ranking was very surprising and that the only reasoning at this point was based on the student's intelligence level which he felt was irrelevant.

Town of Bennett – Trupp Park Phase III – Skate & Bike Park- There were no questions or discussion from the OSAB.

City of Commerce City – Recreation Center Landscaping- Mr. Morris explained that he was not very excited to fund landscaping in the parking area. Ms. Dowling explained she was concerned about the connectivity of the O'Brian Canal ending in the wildlife refuge area. Ms. Traci Ferguson explained they have been in contact with Barr Lake and would ensure it was completed in the best interest of the area.

Applicant Comments

Ms. Teresa Thompson-Walsh restated how the aspects of the Stargate project were in line with the parameters of the Open Space Sales Tax and they hoped to receive funding support for their grant request.

Confirm Ranking

Mr. Hickel questioned why they were considering the ranking and if that would determine what applications would be funded. Ms. Merkel explained that they could look at the rankings and use that strategy if they chose to use that method in determining what projects to fund. Mr. Morris proposed no funding for the Commerce City projects and partial funding for Hyland Hills in order to meet the budget available. Ms. Glass agreed that her rankings were in line with that proposal. Ms. Dunn was not in agreement and would like to see Hyland Hills receive full funding based on all it has to offer the community. Ms. Rudden stated that based on the changes this grant cycle there would be hurt feelings regardless, but they should follow the rankings and fund accordingly. Ms. Dunn asked why the Hyland Hills project should be partially funded and not the Thornton ball fields? Mr. Morris replied that as the representative for Thornton, he would like to see that project funded. Ms. Dowling felt partial funding should be considered for Hyland Hills. She also is concerned about the magnitude of a greenhouse

project for the Stargate School and was unsure if that would be successful. She also felt that the concept they are considering is already an option in Adams County for residents that want to pursue that. Ms. Merkel asked if there was consensus to change any of the rankings at that time. Ms. Glass felt that the ranking should not be modified but they should still consider partial funding for some projects.

Break

The OSAB took a break to review the budget requests individually prior to discussing them in the meeting.

Provisional Funding Discussion

Ms. Merkel explained that this portion of the meeting was for informal recommendations for funding and that no motions would be made at this time.

City of Thornton- Park, Trail, and Open Space Map Update mini grant- no discussion

Hyland Hills- CCV Park Fishing/Habitat Improvement Project mini grant- no discussion

Barr Lake State Park- Lake Appreciation Day 2017 mini grant- no discussion

Adams County- Signage and Wayfinding Program mini grant- no discussion

Bennett Park and Recreation District- Dehumidification Revival project- no discussion

City of Northglenn – Park Property Acquisition- no discussion

City of Aurora – Norfolk Glen Park Renovation- no discussion

Adams County – Twin Lakes Park Renovation- no discussion

City of Northglenn – Outdoor Aquatics Improvements- no discussion

City of Thornton – Riverdale Ball Field Complex Phase 1 Construction- no discussion

Hyland Hills – Clear Creek Valley Park Phase II Passive- Mr. Morris proposed to fund the project for \$679,779.45. This along with no funding for Commerce City would allow the Stargate project to receive funding. Ms. Dowling explained that the Commerce City Master Plan project had matching funds from GOCO and therefore should be funded. She would be in favor of reducing the award for the Brighton Park project. Ms. Dunn stated that Hyland Hills was only requesting 15% of the total funds available and felt it was unfair to reduce their award, and therefore would prefer to partially fund the Thornton project. Mr. Morris questioned what would be lost from both projects with only partial funding. Ms. Paula Schulte shared that it would not be her decision on what is done to reduce the project cost without full funding, but she would suspect that the trail would not have lighting, the trail surface would not be concrete, and less landscaping. Mr. Terry Barnhart shared that with partial funding they are somewhat flexible and would prefer a grant in the \$900,000 range to be realistic with the improvements he needs to accomplish. Mr. Morris felt the trail lighting could be added to the site at a future date for

the ball field project. Ms. Dowling would prefer Stargate receive funding for the trail, but not for the greenhouse. She also felt the smaller playground could be removed from the Brighton project. Ms. McDowell wanted to point out that if they chose to partially fund an application they would want to ensure the percentage requested was still within the required limit and consider the funds leveraged from the applicants as they may want to use those funds on a future application if they are not funded in full. Mr. Hickel explained that he was not in favor of funding a project partially. Ms. Rudden agreed that they should not be the one to choose what should be cut from a project. Mr. Morris explained that the ranking is just a starting point, but not a requirement of how they award funding. Ms. Rudden explained that by not requesting amended budgets they should not decide what to remove from the projects. Ms. Dunn felt they should fund according to ranking until they run out of funding. Ms. Glass disagreed as she ranked the project as a whole, but feels there are certain components of some projects she is not in favor of funding. Mr. Morris felt there were inconsistencies in the rankings for park renovation projects that they had not discussed. Ms. Merkel explained that they ranked the projects individually and they all prioritize certain projects differently, which would account for the ranking. Ms. McDowell explained that based on the response from Hyland Hills, they would accept \$954,369. Ms. Merkel explained that they would leave that amount in for the time being and proceed with the next project.

City of Commerce City – Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan- Ms. Dowling would suggest funding the project based on the GOCO grant as match.

Bennett School District – Bennett Elementary Pre K to 1 School Playground Renovation Project- Ms. Dunn explained that the playground was in great need of renovation.

City of Brighton – Brighton Park Destination Playgrounds- Ms. Dowling stated that she felt they should fund the project for \$363,000, and reduce the award by the amount listed in the budget for the Midland site. Ms. Glass was in agreement with the reduced award.

Stargate Charter School – Outdoor Community Space at Stargate Charter School- Ms. Dunn recommend they discuss the greenhouse and asked what was available at this point. Ms. McDowell shared that based on a partial award for Hyland Hills, \$121,585.45 is available. Ms. Dunn asked if that was with full funding for Thornton. Ms. McDowell stated that was correct. Ms. Dowling would like to support funding for the trail, but not the greenhouse. Ms. Glass explained that would be approximately \$202,000 without the greenhouse. Ms. McDowell asked that the OSAB explain what about the greenhouse was concerning. Ms. Dowling explained that she felt it was too ambitious and that there are other resources available. She is supportive of the learning experience but she would like to see them do additional research and gain additional training in that field prior to starting the greenhouse. If they remove the greenhouse and staff training, the grant request would be \$137,500. Ms. McDowell explained that they would then exceed the funding balance by \$15,000. Mr. Morris asked why they were not as concerned when Hyland Hills included a greenhouse in their grant. He also felt that contributing to the salaries should not be an issue if they supported the goal of the project. To be fair, they should examine all of the projects in that manner if these were issues. Ms. Dowling stated that with Hyland Hills there was a very experienced farmer on site to aid in that part of the project. Ms. Merkel mentioned that they could

consider funding the project for \$137,500 and the applicant may submit a future application with additional information to support the greenhouse component. Ms. Rudden stated that the Thornton request was very high and could be reduced as well. Ms. Glass stated that they also had two more projects to consider.

Town of Bennett – Trupp Park Phase III – Skate & Bike Park- Mr. Hickel stated he felt the project should be funded. Mr. Morris stated that he was in favor of funding all of the park renovations, including this one. Ms. Rudden and Ms. Dunn would like to consider reducing the Thornton project by \$95,500 and fund Town of Bennett.

City of Commerce City – Recreation Center Landscaping- The OSAB agreed that with the limited funding, this project would not be a priority in this grant cycle.

Grant Funding Recommendations

City of Thornton – Park, Trail, and Open Space Map Update

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Ms. Dunn to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$2,500. The motion passed unanimously.

Hyland Hills – CCV Park Fishing/Habitat Improvement Project

A motion was made by Ms. Rudden and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$5,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Barr Lake State Park – Lake Appreciation Day 2017

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Ms. Rudden to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$3,325. The motion passed unanimously.

Adams County – Signage and Wayfinding Program

A motion was made by Ms. Dunn and seconded by Ms. Rudden to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$5,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Bennett Park and Rec District – Dehumidification Revival

A motion was made by Ms. Rudden and seconded by Ms. Glass to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$180,000. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Northglenn – Park Property Acquisition

A motion was made by Mr. Hickel and seconded by Ms. Rudden to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$252,000. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Aurora – Norfolk Glen Park Renovation

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Mr. Hickel to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$150,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Adams County – Twin Lakes Park Renovation

A motion was made by Mr. Hickel and seconded by Ms. Rudden to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$925,000. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Northglenn – Outdoor Aquatics Improvements

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Mr. Morris to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$800,000. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Thornton – Riverdale Ball Field Complex Phase 1 Construction

A motion was made by Ms. Dunn and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$2,133,589.45. The motion passed 5-2, Mr. Hickel and Ms. Rudden dissenting.

Hyland Hills – Clear Creek Valley Park Phase II Passive

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$954,369. The motion passed 5-2, Mr. Hickel and Ms. Rudden dissenting.

City of Commerce City – Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Mr. Hickel to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$50,000. The motion passed 6-1, Ms. Rudden dissenting.

Bennett School District – Bennett Elementary Pre K to 1 School Playground Renovation Project

A motion was made by Ms. Glass and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$299,400. The motion passed 6-1, Ms. Rudden dissenting.

City of Brighton – Brighton Park Destination Playgrounds

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Ms. Glass to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$363,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Stargate Charter School – Outdoor Community Space at Stargate Charter School

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$137,500. The motion passed 6-1, Ms. Dunn dissenting.

Town of Bennett – Trupp Park Phase III – Skate & Bike Park

A motion was made by Ms. Glass and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the request** in the amount of \$80,000. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Commerce City – Recreation Center Landscaping

A motion was made by Mr. Hickel and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Deny the request** for funding as there were no available funds remaining. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion.

Public Comment

The applicants expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the recommendations for funding that were made. Ms. Merkel thanked the applicants for their patience with the new process and hard work in creating the applications.

Matters from the Parks Staff

Mr. Mosley addressed the OSAB regarding the Adams County, Clay Street Community Trail project, which was awarded in May 2012. Adams County would like the OSAB's approval to reallocate approximately \$500,000 remaining on the project. They would like to use the remaining funds towards improvements at Gateway Park, as an entrance plaza for the new train station in addition to 5 new medians along Federal Blvd. Mr. Morris asked for a formal request of the modification. Ms. McDowell located a rendering of the improvements planned for Gateway Park as well as a map of the site. A motion was made by Ms. Rudden and seconded by Ms. Dowling to **Approve the modification** for the Adams County, Clay Street Community Trail project. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Petersen shared the upcoming schedule planned for the grant awards, with a study session expected on April 11th and the awards during public hearing expected for May 2nd. She also asked the OSAB if they experienced any difficulties completing the electronic file of the score cards, knowing that Mr. Hickel and Mr. Morris were not able to utilize the electronic file. Ms. McDowell mentioned that we may be able to convert those files to a Word document. The OSAB was in favor of paper copies and Word files. Ms. Rudden felt that many of the questions on the score cards do not apply to every application, and she would prefer to have an N/A option. She also stated that the question regarding the matching funds being no more than 70% is very confusing. The OSAB agreed that it should read differently.

Matters from the Board

The OSAB wanted to discuss the changes made and their opinions of how the process went that evening. Ms. Rudden explained that she felt they should consider how many citizens the project would serve with each application. She was also concerned that prior to this grant cycle the applicants could submit revised budgets and explain what items they could cut to reduce the grant requests. Instead, they were not considering the applicants position and were awarding partial funding without that information which she was not in favor of. Ms. Dowling wondered if it was visually frustrating to review the funding requests or if it was pure frustration over not having the budget information from the start

of the grant cycle. Ms. Rudden responded that in every aspect of her life, the cost is always an important factor and felt it was critical to have that information to score the applications. Ms. Dowling felt the discussion was more interactive, possibly with the revised seating arrangement. She did feel disadvantaged by missing the site tour and presentation meeting, but did appreciate the dialogue. She recommended possibly considering the OSAB sitting in the center of the applicants so that they may be able to hear the discussion better. Ms. Rudden felt they did not treat the projects equally as they did not ask each applicant to explain what could be cut from their budgets and only chose a select few to request that information. Ms. McDowell explained that when she started in her position, there was very little interaction with the applicants during the recommendation meeting. She felt they were frustrated with that process as they could not explain anything to the OSAB. The process has come a long way and has greatly improved to include the applicants opinion and is a much more transparent process. Mr. Morris felt it was a great system and it forced him to rank the projects, which was very helpful. Mr. Hickel stated he did not mind the change and that it was just as difficult to determine which projects to cut or not fund, and would not be opposed to keeping the process the same if the applicants were happy with it. Ms. Dunn was not in favor of the process, and felt it was unfair which applicants they chose to ask for reduced budgets. Ms. Merkel agreed that the dialogue was very beneficial, but they may need to speak up so that the applicants could hear that conversation. Ms. McDowell thought we could try to use the current format for the presentation meeting and change the setting for the recommendation meeting with applicants on both sides. Ms. Rudden questioned why they rank the projects at all if they end up funding based on their conversations at the meeting. Mr. Morris felt the rankings were a starting point to the discussion. Ms. Merkel agreed with Ms. Dunn that they should consider looking at each project to ask if they can reduce their requests in future grant cycles. Ms. Glass felt that it was their responsibility to make the decision on what they would choose not to fund. Mr. Mosley appreciated how the OSAB went through each project to determine the funding strategy and make the bottom line work prior to the formal votes. Mr. Hickel asked for the revised summary sheet at the study session.

A motion was made by Ms. Dowling and seconded by Ms. Rudden to ***Adjourn the meeting***. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.