



# Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, August 1, 2025 – 7:00am

651 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 101C

Meeting ID: 285 053 971 390 7

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## Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Approval
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Citizen Input
6. Board Member Committee Reports: Art Commission
7. Staff Reports
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Scheduling of Meetings – Tentatively Friday, September 5, 2025
11. Adjournment

**Our Mission: Provide services, experiences, and spaces that promote community, health, and wellbeing for all.**

*The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:00 am. For information on how to place an item on the agenda, email: [greta.steinmetz@greeleygov.com](mailto:greta.steinmetz@greeleygov.com) at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting date.*

**GREELEY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES – July 11, 2025**

**1. ROLL CALL**

The Greeley Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on Friday, July 11, 2025, at 7:01 am at the Greeley Recreation Center. Board members present: Greg McIntosh, Rand Morgan, Sharon Wright, Monica Ramirez, Ben Christiansen, and Savanna Bennett. City Council Liaison Deb DeBoutez. Staff joining: Diana Frick (Director), Jill Krantz (Deputy Director), Eric Bloomer (Parks), Daniel Lawrence (Recreation Division Manager), Karen Scopel (Natural Areas and Trails), Benjamin Alexander (Business Manager), and Greta Steinmetz (Office Manager).

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Eric Parish made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Benjamin Christiansen, and passed unanimously.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Savannah Bennet made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Benjamin Christiansen, and passed unanimously.

**4. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OVERVIEW** – Diana Frick gave an overview of the Comprehensive Master Plan. The plan started in September 2023; however, there was a leadership change, so it was paused. The plan has been completed since April 2025 and will present it to the City Council on August 26, 2025. Greeley’s growth, declining birthrates, and aging population impact recreation demands. The community engagement part of the project happened in the first six months. Challenges include staffing levels working on a short-term and long-term plan to help the department to ramp up levels. A list of projects and parks obligations were discussed.

**5. PUBLIC INPUT** – None

**6. BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS: ART COMMISSION** – The Wastewater Treatment Plant is going to put in a sculpture. Possibly 3D concrete panels will be installed in the pedestrian tunnel at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Court and Highway 34. The Tointon Gallery is hosting local artists exhibit running through July the 27<sup>th</sup> with a reception on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**7. STAFF REPORTS**

Eric Bloomer

- Delta Park’s grand opening will be September 10<sup>th</sup>. The playground will open soon.
- Lincoln Park will be utilized during the Arts Picnic on June 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>.
- Fall sports will start soon.

Daniel Lawrence

- There are two boxers at the Rodarte Center and one skater at the Ice Haus that have been recognized to attend the national event.
- The sheet of ice at the Ice Haus is going back in with updated logos.

- Anna Gimmestad’s occupancy for camps was cut back to 30 children from 60 by the State.
- The issues at Centennial pool are on-going and are on the Capital Improvement Plan.

Karen Scopel

- Wayfinding sign projects are being installed through a joint regional project.
- Working on two concept papers for upcoming grants.
- Applying for an annual grant to hire Weld County Youth Conservation Corp to help get some work completed.
- Regional partnership for all northeast Colorado to work together on bigger regional projects.

**8. OLD BUSINESS – None**

**9. NEW BUSINESS –**

- Survey on Twin Rivers Park is available.
- Parks and Recreation Proclamation for Parks and Recreation month will be presented on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Active Adult Car Show on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**10. UPCOMING AGENDAS – Development fees for parks and trails**

**11. NEXT MEETING – The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, August 1, 2025.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT – Rand Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 am, which was seconded by Savanna Bennett, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted:

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Greg McIntosh, Chair

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Greta Steinmetz, Office Manager

# PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

## STAFF REPORTS – August 1, 2025

### Justin Scharton – Natural Areas & Trails

#### June 2025 Counts

	Month Total	Daily Avg (Month) Trend (prior month)	YTD Daily Avg Trend (prior year)
Sheep Draw @ McCloskey TH (installed May 2018; NEW counter with bike detection installed Aug 2023)	6621	221 ↑13.1%	156 ↑37.8%
Triple Creek Spur @ Mountain Vista TH (re-installed Aug 18, 2020)	4701	157 ↑21.4%	103 ↑3.7%
Poudre Trail @ Island Grove (installed Aug 2020)	4965	163 ↓56.5%	142 ↑9.2%
Poudre Trail @ Rover Run (new counter w/bike detection installed 3/6/24)	9765	326 ↓27.9%	240 ↑102.0%
Poudre Trail @ PLC (installed Aug 2020)	8034	268 ↑74.1%	120 ↓5.5%
Poudre Trail @ Poudre East (Kodak TH)	10455	348 ↓19.4%	227 ↑13.7%
Missile Site TH (installed 3/22/24)	3503	117 ↑1.8%	70 ↑38.9%
Missile Site Car/Bus (installed 3/19/24)	1254	42 ↑1.8%	36 ↓17.0%

#### POUDRE PONDS REPAIR PROJECT



*View to the west of the completed Poudre Ponds river restoration project.*

After seven months and several unanticipated curveballs in the project, the Poudre Ponds section of the Poudre River Trail reopened in early July to the celebration of trail users who can now ride and walk the full Greeley section of the trail with no closures. The project has taken two years to design, permit, and construct, and is a great example of river restoration that combines multiple goals stakeholders, and can serve as a template for future projects in the lower Poudre corridor.

After decades of patchwork repairs along the southern riverbank, NAT and Water & Sewer partnered to complete a permanent repair that would clean up debris and dumped trash in the bank, provide a well-designed repair to the riverbank that did not impact other structures in the floodway, create ecological uplift with native seeding

and planting and provide a refreshed and improved experience for Poudre Trail users. Final cost of the project will likely total \$1.5 million, or \$2,143 per linear foot. This cost per foot is in line with recent projects which came in in the \$1,500 - \$2,500 In ft range.

Final touches will be completed on the project over the next few weeks, including replacement of damaged concrete trail sections and re-seeding.

#### NARROWS SECTION TRAIL REPAIR PROJECT

With the Poudre Ponds project completed, NAT moves its focus to the repair of the Narrows section of the Poudre River Trail. This section of the regional trail is a

user favorite, as users walk or ride down the trail that is squeezed between the sandstone bluffs on the south and the river to the north, as a green canopy envelopes the trail with mature trees arching over top.



*View to the east of the completed Poudre Ponds river restoration project.*

Though this section is a community gem, it's not in a sustainable condition and is slowly sinking into the river. After an initial assessment last year, NAT contracted with Otak to begin design for the permanent repair of this section. While the design process continues throughout 2025, the project team will also be monitoring the movement of existing trail to track the slow subsidence into the river. While still early in the design phase, the project team has been able to successfully model a 12' wide trail for this repair with a vegetated bench on the riverside where vegetation can again grow to recreate the green arch users love so much. This will be completed without creating a rise in the floodway, a regulatory threshold most projects in the floodway need to meet. NAT will provide updates as design proceeds into the fall and winter of 2025.

#### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

NAT regularly participates in the City's development review process, reviewing and commenting on planned development projects throughout the city in the Community Development department's process. NAT reviews anywhere from one to several projects a month, working to protect high value wildlife habitat and connect the City's trail system as the community grows. A recent notable project NAT reviewed is the Cascadia project, which is in the Planned Unit Development (PUD) phase. NAT provided comments for the project and have met with the development team to discuss NAT priorities. NAT provided feedback on the biologist's reports, advocated for regional trail connections for the project, and provided ideas to balance a high-quality resident and visitor experience with the protection of Areas of Ecological Significance (AES), namely the arroyos in the project area.

#### RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE

As the peak of summer arrived in July, restoration and maintenance priorities began to shift in the NAT system. More heat and less rain begin to slow the grass growth, which is a welcome respite for the crew, but that is also just about the time when the weeds like kochia and Russian thistle ramp up their growth along the trail. Maintenance activities shifted in July to finish the full second trailside mow service in the system and prioritize "special" mows that target specific weed species before they can go to seed. This mechanical management is part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) system that NAT implements to manage the undesirable weeds.

In addition, staff has been focusing on restoration priorities as well, including List A weed species management. List A species are identified by the State as species that have the highest priority for extermination, due to their ability to spread and relatively small populations. Greeley has two list A species that NAT is legally obligated to manage annually – purple loosestrife and hairy willow herb. The crew completed removal in two priority properties this year, which have had dramatic drops in populations over the past several years due to a successful IPM by NAT.

#### OUTREACH

In July, NAT hired an outreach intern to further the division's outreach efforts in the community. The position will allow more presence in the community at events and additional capacity for partnerships with the Communications and Engagement department to share NAT's message.

NAT has also been closely connected to the City's new website launch. Staff has been involved in editor training and has helped shaped the new NAT page to share the unique information NAT has to share with the community.

#### Social Media Stats | June 2025

Total number of posts	5
Total reach	19,027
Total comments/shares	35