



Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Summary Minutes

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

10:30 AM City & County Building, Room 391

Committee Members: Robb, Chair; Montero, Vice-Chair; Brown; Lehmann; López; Shepherd

Committee Staff: Debra Bartleson

Council Members Present: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd, Susman

Members Absent: None

Bill Requests

BR14-0280 Approves the naming of an unnamed park at 13th and Xenia Street to New Freedom Park in Council District 5.

Angela Casias and Jeff Green, Parks & Recreation; Tim Wohlgenant and Scott Dissel, Trust for Public Land

Angela Casias, Parks & Recreation (P&R), stated that a full public process was conducted for the naming of this park. The park naming process requires 300 signatures, and the effort led by The Trust for Public Land (TPL) obtained 342 signatures to move forward with the proposal. Scott Dissel, TPL, said the group began the process when the fundraising was completed. He noted that a naming competition was announced and fliers were distributed in the neighborhood to garner support and naming possibilities. They received many naming suggestions and the group and the neighborhood wanted a name that reflected the spirit of the community. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board approved the naming at its March 13, 2014 meeting.

Councilmember Shepherd asked how the name of New Freedom Park came about. Councilmember Susman explained that many refugees live in that area.

She noted that the refugee community has a very power presence; they have created a garden there and the residents work together to improve the neighborhood. It seemed fitting that this name represents this community's story, said Councilwoman Susman.

Councilmember Brown asked more about TPL and their work. Mr. Dissel said the organization is located at 13th and Xenia, and they are considered a National Land Conservation organization with goals to protect and create parks and natural spaces. They work to enhance communities within urban areas. Mr. Dissel said many times their work involves brownfield properties; land that does not have life but is in need of rehabilitation and reuse. TPL does not hold land and they are not long-term owners of land.

Scott Gilmore, P & R, said this property is designated park land. The park encompasses two acres of land and Westerly Creek runs through it. It has a playground, garden, and artificial turf.

A motion offered by Councilmember Susman, duly seconded by Councilmember Lehmann, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Susman, Brown, Lehmann, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Lopez(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0375 Designates 16.4 acres of land as Veterans Park located at 2100 E. Iowa Avenue in Council District 6.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

Scott Gilmore, P & R, reported that this third round of proposed designations will encompass approximately 164 acres of park land. He noted that The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and Mr. Brad Cameron from INC are great partners in getting this process completed and identifying parks for designation. After this round of designations, 82% of park land in Denver will be designated. He explained that City Park Golf and Denison Park are fixes in order to complete those park designations. There will be two more rounds of park designations representing various parks throughout the City. Mr. Gilmore said that not all areas are easy to designate because of utility lines, and other barriers. (See attachments.)

Councilmember Susman noted that many parks in Lowry are owned and maintained by the Lowry Redevelopment Authority and that is why there aren't many park designations there.

Highlights for each park include:

- 1) Bayaud and Crescent Parks are located in District 5. Crescent Park is in Lowry.

2) Cuatro Vientos Park is the newest park in the City and is under construction and is located in District 3. The ground breaking is either in July or August. This land was a former run down bar and mobile home park and the area was condemned.

3) Denison Park is located at Quebec and 11th. Denver Water gave this additional land to the City to enhance the entire park area.

4) Hampden Heights Park is located in District 4 and all the area is being designated, but there will still be access to utilities (power lines).

5) Lowry Sports Complex was just obtained from the LRA, so the park is being designated.

6) Swansea Neighborhood Park is located in District 9, and P&R have done a lot of improvements in the trail and park area.

7) Unnamed Park at 51st & Broadway (I-25) is located near Globeville and the Stapleton Recreation Center. The City does not own the land under the recreation center, so P & R cannot designate the park entirely. The designation does not change how the City manages the area; the City is just protecting the land as a park use. Mr. Gilmore said he would check to see if the City owns the recreation center.

8) Veterans Park is located in District 6 and Denver Public Schools (DPS) own portions of the land. Mr. Gilmore said it is possible that the City could negotiate an intergovernmental agreement with DPS to designate the entire park area. The City maintains the smaller park area on this site and there are no more private gardens allowed on this property. Councilmember Brown stated that this park is near South High School and the District 3 Police Station.

Mr. Gilmore indicated there will be two more rounds of park designations this year. He is hoping to submit the next round within two months, and later the fifth round. (See attachments). Fourth round will encompass a total of 83 acres of park land, and the fifth round approximately 28 acres. Centennial Park, located downtown and part of the package of fifth round designation, is a great partnership between the City and a private sport club who volunteer to maintain the gardens and area.

The designation proposals require a public comment. The following individual signed up to speak.

1) Brad Cameron: Stated that the group worked in partnership on these proposals and he supports the designations.

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)

ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0376 Designates 7 acres of land as Bayaud Park located at 7700 E. Bayaud Avenue in Council District 5.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0377 Designates 0.5 acres of land at City Park (Golf Course Addition) located at 2500 York Street in Council District 8.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0378 Designates 7.2 acres of land as Crescent Park located at 782 N. Roslyn Street in Council District 5.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0379 Designates 1.2 acres of land as Cuatro Vientos/Four Winds Park located at 3800 W. Alameda Avenue in Council District 3.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0380 Designates 32.5 acres of land as Hampden Heights Park located at 3301 S. Clinton Street in Council District 4.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0381 Designates 95.2 acres of land as Lowry Sports Complex Park located at 8200 E. Sports Boulevard in Council District 5.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0382 Designates 3.3 acres of land as Swansea Neighborhood Park located at 3200 E. 52nd Avenue in Council District 9.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0383 Designates 0.7 acres of land as Unnamed 51st & Broadway Park located at 5090 Broadway in Council District 9.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

BR14-0384 Designates 0.4 acres of land as Denison Park Addition located at 1105 N. Quebec Street in Council District 5.
Scott Gilmore, Parks & Recreation

A motion offered by Councilmember Lehmann, duly seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Brown, Lehmann, Lopez, Montero, Robb, Shepherd(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Susman(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)