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MEETING RECORD

To: Kurt Carlson, Team
From: Ashley Allis, Design Workshop
Date: February 8, 2017
Project Name: Adams County Regional Park and Fairgrounds Master Plan
Project #: 5629
Subject: Summary of Focus Groups
Meeting Date: February 2, 2017

Meeting Telephone Conference Call

Following are the key take-aways of the above mentioned meetings.

Group 1: Natural Resources / Parks & Open Space / Trails

- Lakes are an asset to the park for wildlife watching, fishing, and some potential for low impact recreation.
- Regional trail connections and future extensions make the park centralized for visitors as a trailhead and/or destination.
- Future ideas include connection to a mountain bike park, various types of trails (single track, multi-use, equestrian), arboretum
- Environmental restoration is a goal within the park and river corridor – stormwater management, riparian area enhancement, habitat enhancement, water quality, flood control
- Consider buffers between uses such as golf course
- Educational programs and/or interpretive learning experiences are appropriate here (natural environment, demonstration gardens, agricultural heritage, Adams County Museum, art)
- Camping in the form of tent camping for kids would be supported

Group 2: Partner Agencies

- Appreciates park's centralized location, staff, and versatility that can occur at site.
- Many long-standing events use the site and like the value they get from it. Serve the historical/long-standing clients as much as possible.
- Would like to see more camping facilities for events, a new indoor building for animal events, a welcoming gateway
- Traffic is an issue, and reimagining the park's "front door" was discussed to alleviate traffic. More emergency access points are warranted.

- A resurgence of the amphitheater is desired, but successful events need to be held first, including ease in access and parking. Right-sizing the venue and events is important so as not to try and compete out of the venue's capacity or out of Adams County's character.
- Consider partners in sustainability and land management
- Think about the fair for a diversity of users now and into the future – multi-national, Adams County residents, get volunteers back in.
- Consider how the facility can facilitate public health through food/beverage choices, connection to food sources, sun safety and more.

Group 3: Events

- Appreciates park's location, proximity to lodging, the park/natural setting
- Many events are accommodated here, including quinceneras, craft sale, fair and much more.
- A comparison with the facilities and performance of neighboring counties was held, including Weld, Jefferson and Arapahoe. Concessions, security, facility sizes, camping, access, parking management and operations were discussed.
- Groups that don't necessarily pay for facilities are subject to being bumped for rental users. Would like dedicated spaces.
 - 4-H: kitchen, stage, breakout rooms, arena lighting
 - Harley Troyer: Indoor arena, affordability, proximity of barns, arenas, indoor arena, kitchen, commissary, bathrooms, and RV hookups

Group 4: Agricultural Groups

- Connection to agricultural heritage is important, through food preservation, connections to other facilities, festivals, CSU Extension and more.
- An indoor arena should cater to a lot of user groups and have a dirt floor. A warm-up facility is desired, grandstands on one side, vendors on other side and a phased approach can be used.

Overall Themes:

1. Agriculture plays an important role here, and will continue to do so.
2. Regional connections such as trails and water (ponds, river) link the site to a greater system
3. Take care of the citizens first – this is a county facility for the community, don't worry about getting too big, but work toward the "right" size.
4. The amphitheater is a desired asset, but underutilized. What is the right size programming to serve this community?
5. The site plays an important role in educating the public and Adams County citizens. Continue to make relevant connections to learning opportunities.
6. Traffic is a serious issue.

7. Camping piques some interest – be it more event RV spaces or more primitive tent camping for children's groups.
8. User groups miss the indoor arena and desire a facility to replace it.