

**South Suburban**
PARKS AND RECREATION**Agenda Item Details**

Meeting	May 23, 2017 - SPECIAL Study Session with Littleton City Council
Category	2. Other discussion and direction or presentation items for Study Session
Subject	B. South Platte Park Management Plan and First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement
Access	Public
Type	Discussion

Public Content

Initiated by

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Skot Latona, Manager of South Platte Park

Executive summary

The South Platte Park Management Plan was updated in 2016 with a presentation at a joint meeting between the South Suburban Board of Directors and the Littleton City Council on 10-25-16. The First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement was also presented at that meeting.

Public input was accepted on both documents between 11-8-16 to 12-18-16.

Tonight's presentation is the final update to the South Platte Park Management Plan and the First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement. Provided the South Suburban Park and Recreation Board of Directors and the Littleton City Council are in agreement that the South Platte Park Management Plan and First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement are acceptable, each agency will adopt these documents at their next formal meetings.

DiscussionDetails

The South Platte Park Master Plan was developed in 1982 and updated in 1988. The first management plan was approved in 1996 and updated in 1999 and 2009. The plan calls for updates every five to ten years. A draft of the update plan and first amendment to the agreement were presented on 10-25-16 with a formal presentation to the South Suburban Park and Recreation Board of Directors and the Littleton City Council. The management plan was posted online, and hard copies were made available to the public at Carson Nature Center. A public meeting was held at the Carson Nature Center on 12-15-16, and comments were received through 12-18-16. Approximately two dozen comments were received.

The changes proposed in this draft included:

- Better delineation of the properties managed, compiling the easements and updating figures.
- Expanding the collecting policy to put limits on mineral collection and crayfish trapping.
- Expanding the water section to address water rights.
- Expanding the wildlife section to provide more detail.

- Clarifying the park and trail hours.
- Allowing the future widening of the Greenway trail to 12 feet.
- Updating the signage plan to allow modern materials and branding while remaining in context.
- Clarified swimming and wading rules to allow tubing and fly-fishing.
- Introduce limits on motorized, remote control devices.

What has not changed was the concept of South Platte Park maintaining a core habitat area and use-intensity zones, prioritizing a natural area experience over organized or intensive recreation, the trail or facility standards, or the access points for future potential border developments.

Most of the comments were in support of current policies, requesting minor clarifications, or addressed editorial issues. A few comments led to changes including adding more detail to the “experience” expectations for the use intensity zones on page 15. Appendix 2 (Goals and Objectives) was updated so that what were formerly processes under each goal have been rewritten to contain more specific objectives towards achievement of the goal; goals remain unchanged. From those objectives, staff will begin to track more key indicators of habitat health and user input to establish a baseline towards future management recommendations.

For the First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement between the City of Littleton and South Suburban Park and Recreation District, the changes included:

- Applying the initial Master Plan acceptance process to all major park projects or plan updates.
- Removing language about the ownership of equipment that has since been retired.
- Clarifying purchasing and joint ownership.
- Updating liability requirements based on the limitations of judgments established by the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act.
- Transferring the physical management of a water gauge used for jointly-held rights to onsite staff with South Suburban.

No comments were received on this document, so it is presented unchanged, and it is ready for final approval at the next regular meeting of both Littleton City Council and South Suburban Park and Recreation Board of Directors.

Next steps

The South Suburban Park and Recreation Board of Directors and the Littleton City Council will formally adopt these documents at their next formal meeting.

Financial Details

None.

Legal counsel review

Legal counsel reviewed the First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement.

Staff recommendation

Staff recommends formal acceptance of the South Platte Park Management Plan and the First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement between the City of Littleton and South Suburban Park and Recreation District.

Attachments list

South Platte Park Management Plan

First Amendment to the South Platte Park Agreement

Comments received from the public input process

AJ SL/

[South Platte Park Management Plan final draft 05-23-2017.pdf \(8,077 KB\)](#)

[FIRST AMENDMENT TO SOUTH PLATTE PARK AGREEMENT 091816.docx \(26 KB\)](#)

[Comments received from the public input process.docx \(25 KB\)](#)

Administrative Content

Executive Content
