



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Carrie Warren-Gully, District 1
Jessica Campbell, District 2
Jeff Baker, Chair Pro Tem, District 3
Leslie Summey, Chair, District 4
Rhonda Fields, District 5

Arapahoe County

Board of County Commissioners Study Session

Meeting Minute Summaries

Monday, July 7, 2025
9:00 AM

Administration Building
5334 S. Prince St.
Littleton, CO 80120
West Hearing Room

The Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners typically holds weekly study sessions on Monday and Tuesday. Study sessions (except for executive sessions) are open to the public and agendas are available online at arapahoe.legistar.com. Meetings marked with an asterisk () can be attended virtually via arapahoe.legistar.com while non-asteriked (*) sessions are open to in-person attendance only. The members of the Board of County Commissioners may choose to attend study sessions virtually.*

The Board of County Commissioners may go into executive session during or at the conclusion of a study session or administrative meeting as necessary to receive legal advice or discuss other confidential matters, and if they do so, the public will be excluded from that portion of the meeting. The Board may alter the times of the meetings throughout the day, as well as cancel or reschedule noticed meetings. Contact the Commissioners' Office at 303 795 4630 or kdavis2@arapahoegov.com with questions about the agenda.

Arapahoe County is committed to making its public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special accommodations, please contact the Commissioners' Office at 303 795 4630 or Relay Colorado 711 at least 3 days in advance to make arrangements.

Commissioners Present

Carrie Warren-Gully
Jeff Baker
Jessica Campbell
Leslie Summey
Rhonda Fields

Others Present

Ron Carl
John Christofferson
Michelle Halstead
Cooney Sarracino
Callie Pecore
Sandra Bottoms
Roger Harvey
Ed Bowditch
Nico Johnson

9:00 AM Calendar and Board Updates
Michelle Halstead, Director, Commissioners' Office

11:30 AM E-Team Chair Update

Katherine Smith, Community Resources Director, E-Team Chair

Karl Herrmann, Chief Deputy, Clerk and Recorder's Office, E-Team Vice Chair

12:00 PM BREAK

STUDY SESSION TOPICS

1:00 PM *2025 Open Space Grant Award Recommendations

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[2025 OS Grants Ranking + Funding Recommendations](#)
[OSTAB Recommendation - 2025 Grant Awards](#)

The purpose of this study session was for the Open Spaces staff to present recommendations regarding the 2025 Open Space grant awards and request consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) of eight standard grant proposals, two small grant proposals, and one planning grant proposal totaling \$4,825,280 as presented on the attached 2025 Open Space Grants ranking sheet.

A PowerPoint presentation was presented, a copy of which has been retained for the record.

Background of the Open Spaces Grant Program was presented. The grant cycle was reviewed with the amount recommended and allocated.

Commissioner Warren-Gully arrived at 1:05 PM.

Different types of grants were presented. Staff presented eight standard grant proposals, two small grant proposals, and one planning grant.

Staff discussed each grant recommendation. The standard grants included \$600,000 for Cornerstone Park Improvements, \$500,000 for Centennial Park Trail Enhancements, \$600,000 for Milliken Park Improvements, \$600,000 for Powers Park Improvements, \$600,000 for Side Creek Park Renovation, \$510,000 for Carson Park Restroom Construction, and \$600,000 for Utah Park Tennis Courts and Lighting Replacement.

The small grants include \$24,800 for Lyons Park Trees and Trains and \$65,480 for Comanche Crossing Museum Safety and Security.

The planning grant is \$125,000 for Ridgeview Park Redevelopment Project.

Staff presented an additional project for consideration in the amount of \$600,000 for Jackass Hill Park. Concerns were discussed about other agencies that voted to oppose the project.

A summary of the total funding recommendations was reviewed.

A map showing the proposed distribution of grants was displayed.

Staff presented recommendations for BOCC consideration. Evaluation team recommendation was to fund all eleven proposed grants, and OSTAB recommendation was to fund ten proposed grants excluding Jackass Hill project.

5-0 in favor to proceed with evaluation team recommendations.

1:30 PM *Draft Bijou Basin Master Plan Update

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[Presentation](#)
[Draft Bijou Basin Master Plan](#)

The purpose of this study session was for staff to present the draft Bijou Basin Open Space Master Plan to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). This is an informational item. Staff anticipates requesting BOCC approval and adoption of the master plan in the Fall 2025.

A PowerPoint presentation was presented, a copy of which has been retained for the record.

A map of the Bijou Basin Open Space was displayed. Staff presented the history and purchase of the property. The new acquisition of property in the basin purchased by Arapahoe County was reviewed.

Background of the project and goals of the master plan was presented.

Maps of the recreation inventory and conservation in Eastern Arapahoe County were displayed and reviewed. The agricultural use and the types of vegetation were presented along with maps displayed.

Staff presented their effort for public outreach and engagement. The key takeaways from outreach were to protect natural resources and wildlife, respect local agricultural and rural communities, and celebrate landscape through passive recreation.

The master plan design concept recommendations were presented. The proposed trailhead and on-trail amenities and programming were listed.

Commissioners asked about the proposed concept and programming.

Recommendations for the site access, trails, amenities, and programming were presented. Maps of the proposed trails were displayed.

A rendering of the proposed trail was displayed. Renderings of the proposed trails, accessible overlook, and amenities were displayed and reviewed.

Staff presented the estimated costs which would total \$4,300,000.

The next steps were presented.

Commissioner asked staff about other parties' interest in the land.

Presentation concluded without a vote.

2:15 PM *2025 Legislative Session Debrief and 2026 Look Ahead

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[Presentation](#)
[2025 End of Session Report](#)
[2025 Bill Summaries](#)
[2025 Legislative Issues Guide](#)
[CCI 2026 Legislative Priorities Memo](#)
[CCI 2026 Proposals](#)

The purpose of this study session was to review key points from the 2025 legislative session and the proposed direction for the remainder of the year. The Board will also consider what, if any, legislative items the Board wants to advance through the CCI process and if there are priorities that should be considered independent of CCI.

A PowerPoint presentation was presented, a copy of which has been retained for the record.

Staff presented 2025 key takeaways from the past legislative session. Categories for the takeaways included the budget, transportation, worker's rights, voters & elections, gun control, and federal action & reaction.

The total bills introduced and those tracked by the BOCC were reviewed. Charts measuring the outcomes were displayed.

The county priorities were listed, and the success of those priorities were reviewed.

Staff presented what the BOCC can anticipate going forward for the rest of the year. Federal impacts to Colorado were discussed.

CCI proposals were reviewed from the BOCC, Public Works, and the Treasurer. Proposals consist of assistance for domestic violence victims and housing assistance. Discussion was held regarding the best approach to introducing the interests to Congress.

Commissioners agree to have staff time dedicated to find partner interest.

Staff presented proposals for protection for victims from political violence. Victims would consist of candidates and elected officials.

Commissioner raised concerns of requirements and resources that can be strained from the federal reconciliation bill.

5-0 in favor to move political violence to CCI.

Proposals from Public Works for a road maintenance fee were reviewed. Discussion was held surrounding the fee and implementation. Staff did not recommend this to proceed.

Proposals for limiting unrelated roommates in a single residence were presented. Staff did not recommend this to proceed. Discussion was held regarding concerns that can be raised with legislation for housing.

Proposal for transportation network buildout reimbursement was presented. Staff presented the reimbursement process that is being proposed.

BOCC agrees to dedicate staff time to look into buildout reimbursement.

Proposals from the Treasurer for unfair auction practices were presented. Staff recommended this go through another pathway and not through CCI.

Proposal for elected official salary changes were presented. Staff discussed constitutional issues that can arise but believe it would not apply. Discussion was held as to the salaries of elected officials.

Presentation concluded without a vote.

3:00 PM *Executive Session

Executive Session and County Attorney Administrative Meeting [Section 24-6-402(4)(b)C.R.S.](As required by law, specific agenda topics will be announced in open meeting prior to the commencement of the closed and confidential portion of this session)

Ron Carl, County Attorney

Administrative item: Staff presented to the BOCC that there was clarification for signature authority regarding a bill of sale. The item was no longer needed on consent agenda.

Staff presented lowering the vender fee for the open space sales tax.

5-0 in favor to move forward.

The motion was made by Commissioner Baker and duly seconded by Commissioner Campbell that the Board go into executive session pursuant to sections 24-6-402(4)(b)&(e) of the Colorado Revised Statutes to develop strategy and instruct negotiators, and receive legal advice, regarding:

- 1. The High Line Canal Conservancy Bench Sponsorship Program, and**
- 2. A Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the District Attorney for the**

18th Judicial District.

And, also, to go into executive session pursuant to section 24-6-402(4)(b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes to receive legal advice regarding settlement of the Hernandez notice of claim.

The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned.

***Virtual/Streamed**