



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, September 8, 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.

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Commissioners Present

Carrie Warren-Gully
Leslie Summey
Rhonda Fields

Others Present

Ron Carl
John Christofferson
Michelle Halstead
Cooney Sarracino
Callie Pecore
Philip Savino
Amy Baccei
Michele Frishman
Sandra Bottoms

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 *Property and Taxation (PAT) Software Modernization Update

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[AC Decision Support Framework](#)

The purpose of this study session was to update the BoCC on the current status of the Property and Taxation (PAT) Modernization and current expenditures.

Background of the request for the software and the approval of funding was presented.

Staff had a planned vendor and provided cost savings with a contract extension.

The timeframe for the software modernization was reviewed.

Commissioner asked about other counties that utilize the software.

Presentation concluded with a vote.

1:15 PM *Joint Project Request from City of Aurora for Triple Creek Trailhead Site Improvements

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[Funding Application](#)
[OSTAB Recommendation](#)
[AC Decision Support Framework](#)

The purpose of this study session was The City of Aurora and the High Line Canal Conservancy (Conservancy) presented a joint project request to support the design and construction of site improvements at the Triple Creek Trailhead in Aurora. Open Spaces supports the project and requests that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) award \$585,000 in High Line Canal Working Group funds to the City of Aurora.

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

Staff presented the request for the Triple Creek Trailhead joint project. The funding assistance will go towards phase two construction.

Statistics regarding the High Line Canal were discussed with a map of the trail system being displayed.

A map of the High Line Canal and Triple Creek Trail Connection was displayed.

The historic public engagement summary was presented. Community engagement assisted in establishing the master plan.

A rendering of the joint project was displayed and reviewed. Proposed improvements were listed.

Staff presented photos of the location.

The funding partners and timeline of the project were presented. The city of Aurora is assisting with \$585,000 and the request for Arapahoe County is for an additional \$585,000.

A rendering of the bike skills course was displayed. A rendering of the proposed play area was also displayed.

Commissioner asked about the final phase and funding for the second phase.

Staff presented the benefits of the trailhead and what it can provide for the community.

3-0 in favor to provide funding. Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Campbell absent and excused.

Commissioner asked staff about a new framework and evaluation.

1:45 PM *Joint Project Request for Bridge Replacement over Cherry Creek

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[OSTAB Recommendation](#)
[Dove Valley Metropolitan District letter](#)
[Funding Application](#)
[AC Decision Support Framework](#)

The purpose of this study session was Open Spaces staff presented a request to award \$135,000 to the Colorado Rapids Youth Soccer Club (Rapids), which is leading the replacement of a public pedestrian bridge over Cherry Creek at the Gates Soccer Complex. Open Spaces recommends providing the requested funding out of the \$1.5 million Dove Valley Working Group pledge, part of Open Spaces' Acquisition and Development Fund. We request that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approve the funding.

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

Background of the Dove Valley Working Group was presented. The requested bridge had been washed away in previous floods. The project location was reviewed.

A map of the Dove Valley Trails Initiative was displayed and reviewed.

History of bridge construction was presented. Photos of the flood damage and current crossing were displayed.

Staff discussed current challenges with the trail.

The bridge maintenance was presented. Colorado Rapids Youth Soccer Club will maintain the bridge, but if the arrangement with the city of Aurora expires, the Dove Valley Metro District will be responsible for the maintenance of the bridge.

The funding breakdown was reviewed. Arapahoe County Open Spaces, Parker Jordan Metro District, Colorado Rapids Youth Soccer Club, and Dove Valley Metro District are funding entities.

Commissioner asked for contributions for the project funding.

3-0 in favor of funding. Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Campbell absent and excused.

2:15 PM *Approval of Total Available Funding for 2026 Open Space Grants

Attachments: [Board Summary Report](#)
[2026 Grant Application Instructions](#)
[OSTAB Recommendation](#)

The purpose of this study session was Open Spaces staff presented recommendations for total funding allocation available for the 2026 Open Space Grants cycle and request approval of the funding by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). This will represent the total amount of funding available for eligible applicants to pursue as part of the 2026 grants cycle.

Staff presented the Open Space Grant Program process and funding.

A chart displaying the five-year grant cycle trends was displayed and reviewed.

Open Spaces provided their 2026 recommendation to have \$5.5 million in total funding for three grant categories. The categories would be Standard Grants, Small Grants, and Planning Grants.

Commissioner asked about the decline in standard grants.

3-0 in favor of total available funding for Open Space Grants. Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Campbell absent and excused.

2:30 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

The motion was made by Commissioner Warren-Gully and duly seconded by Commissioner Fields 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. Collective bargaining negotiations with AFSCME and FOP, and**
- 2. Negotiations with Aurora Economic Development Council regarding an incentive payment agreement for a food distribution and retail store.**

Further, that the Board go into executive session pursuant to section 24-6-402(4)(b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes to receive legal advice regarding:

- 1. Developments in the sale of the SAFER property, and**
- 2. An issue regarding the interpretation of “illegal DEI,” and**
- 3. Potential settlement of the Aboras notice of claim, and**
- 4. Potential settlement of the Chapman notice of claim, and**
- 5. A proposed airport grant from the FAA.**

The motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Campbell absent and excused.

The meeting was adjourned.

***Virtual/Streamed**