



JEFFERSON COUNTY
 2014 PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE
 OPERATIONS + DESIGN SUBGROUP

April 22, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Jefferson County Open Space Office

Ponderosa Room

700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 100

Golden, Colorado 80401

	Name	Title	Organization
1*	Jenna Ambacher, Facilitator		Jeffco Mediation Services
2	Bob Swainson, Lead		Interested Citizen
3	Karey Baker	Administrative Coordinator	Jefferson County Open Space
4*	Nancy York	Partnerships Coordinator	Jefferson County Open Space
5*	Gene Adamson		Interested Citizen
6	Dave Davenport	Outdoor Recreation Management Coordinator	Jefferson County Open Space
7	Lloyd Ackerman	Academy Firearms Coordinator	Jefferson County Sherriff's Dept.

* Did not attend

Safety

- Instilling “feeling” of safety in end users
- Structure needed for this – no just “free for all”
- This becomes thesis and is called out in each topic

Personnel

- Volunteers, Paid or Combo
- Full-time Manager
- Part-time help
- Educated and trained in firearms knowledge
- 5-6 staff minimal per day?

Overall Design

- Lanes
- Safety features
- Lead abatement
- Recovery

Training/Education

- Beginner
- Graduated training
- Card program
- Facility within buffer zone, class room area or parking in buffer zone

Future Expansion Possibilities

- Partnerships
 - LEO
 - Military
 - Training/operation/construction
 - Dual Facility
- Financially Self Sustaining
- Facility is focused on beginner, family and intermediate levels
- Shooter not on specific higher disciplines
- Event Competitions
- Not occupying all of range time
- Geared towards safety building and skill

Final Report Headings

The groups discussed the specific topics that they felt would be the most important for the report to the Commissioners. The topics are Safety, Personnel, Overall Design and Training and Education. The group felt that "safety" is a driving factor of all the topics and could possibly be the overall topic. Everything is really safety driven.

The group felt that the facility we design is meant to attract people that feel safe to shoot because it is structured opposed to shooting in the woods and you have an expectation from the shooters around you and a controlled environment sets that expectation. The environment drives the set up and design because they know they will be able to learn fire arms and there is safety with the structure. The personnel should be trained and should know the structure and the rules and regulations regarding the range. Staff/volunteers are educated in firearms and have the knowledge needed to help with training.

Dave asked if there needed to be any discussion regarding beginning to intermediate users. The group felt that if you identify your user and you have levels of user ability, like a card system, users have the ability to graduate and this also gives some people the opportunity to aspire to grow, but also the opportunity to remain back at the first level. This also gives the users a little more trust and freedom if you are at a different level.

Dave asked if there should be an educational component of the headings. Lloyd said it would be good to develop a program to give anyone the opportunity to advance. The group also felt it would be nice to have property/area that could be used as a class room. It would be nice to find a place where the academy could have an indoor training area for officer training. It doesn't mean that it has to be a dead space area.

Bob asked if anyone has looked at the land at the south end of the Soccer fields on the south end of Rooney Road because here is a soft slope for shooting to the north and west. Loyd said that it might

be an issue because of the kids on the soccer fields. The original police area was up there. Lloyd also thought about that site, but he didn't know how it will fall into play with the site committee rules and the expandability. The infrastructure is there as well as the road. There could be the possibility of 200 yard lanes up there.

Dave asked if the group should look at the ability to add more development for the range and the group felt that the facility should be build it to meet the needs for the future and the potential to expand. If the facility is built for what we want now by the time it is built it would be too small.

Dave asked the group if they felt that the headings were sufficient. We want to encompass everything that is important, but avoid getting too many

Bob stated that we should look at working with the LEO and military and Lloyd suggested the possibility of an indoor facility and law enforcement could be involved and there could be an opportunities there too.

Dave asked if the group should include anything about financial sustainability. The group felt that the shooting range could be self-sustaining and that private donations could be helpful. Lloyd stated that for the law enforcement shooting range that he is working with a man on bullet trapping and that it is an upfront cost, but it helps with the facility being self-sustaining.

The group felt that safety is the key topic that will tie into the other headings. Making people more conscious of what they are doing, the level of training for our volunteers, who should we have for running the facility volunteers, officers, retired officers, etc. Safety drives the project and helps the facility become a place where people want to go.

The group thought that there could be a mission statement that drives the development of the facility.. Safety is driven by personnel, overall design and training. This helps with the well being of everyone on the range and you will probably want a full time manager and a part time manager for weekends and part time help after that. If it is unsafe and unsuccessful it would be closed and he would be out of a job, but there are people out there that are interested in shooting ranges and guns that might want a full time job and retired people that would love to have a part time job at a facility.

People have an unrealistic expectation of what a firearm will do for them. Exposing them to what a real gun can do and how to handle them is important as opposed to movies and books. Counties that do have the public facilities right next to the police facility help bring in a more educated group of people and they learn how hard the officers work to train. Lloyd said that when he goes out to the Cherry Creek facility he does feel safe going out there because of how the facility is run. Someone makes assessment and screens the person when they come into the facility and that way they know their skill levels.

The group feels that it is really important to have confidence levels and to make it a desirable place to come and shoot. The group felt that staffing would probably be about 5-6 people on an average day. A manager to check people in, someone to assign lanes and someone to stand on either side of the facility is probably the staffing you would need on an average day. It also depends on the demand of the shooters that might be on the range on a certain day. You can only open up so many lanes if the staffing levels are not there.

The group feels that we are doing this because of safety and doing this for the beginning to intermediate user and not for all uses. The group doesn't feel that this facility can address all the

disciplines out there. Sash shooters are single action and Zoot shooters are dressed up and shoot older guns. We are not appealing to these groups.

We could look at the possibility of expanding for shoot gun users but not necessarily for other groups. If you bring in big competitions you will run away the average user. We might look at the possibility of smaller competitions that could make the range some money. Pistol competition can be run in a rifle range based on design. There could be the opportunity to offer training like bowling pin night, ladies night, young girls night, etc. very interactive, but very safe and directions to be followed.

The group felt that these activities could occupy a small part of the range and wouldn't affect the whole range. Advertising these types of events will bring people to the range.

The opportunity for a building for training and education use as the soft property and a parking lot area or staff lot could also be consider as a noise barrier. Extra hand gun range for law enforcement away from others would be really nice.