2014 Jeffco Open Space Master Plan - Listening Log
Comments from 11/19/2013 Draft

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
11/21/13	**Karl Ford**		I understand that the Plan is deliberately vague on the potential locations of new acquisitions. I do support high priority given to potential conservation areas and areas of high biodiversity.	Thank you for your comments
		Maps	I did not see any maps of wildlife connectivity. That should also be a criterion for acquisition.	Please see maps 4a, 4b and 5 for areas of conservation focus; we use these in concert with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for aggregating landscape level data on general wildlife movement corridors.
		Climate Change	The Plan does not address climate change except one brief mention in regard to climate change. I think more should be done in this area to identify climate refugia, especially for rare or vulnerable species. This criterion should also be considered for new acquisitions. I have some experience and could help with this.	Kevin Trenberth, UCAR, speaker at the recent PLAN Jeffco seminar, noted water scarcity as an important notion to address as part of climate change planning. We'll be adding additional detail to this end on climate change in our plan.
			Jefferson County, as a gateway to the Rockies, and especially Golden, is a focus of outdoorsy people (Colorado Mountain Club, Colorado Trail Foundation, and other membership organizations. JCOS trails tend to be short excursions which suit many visitors. However, I think there would be interest in a north-south LONG (100+ mi.?) connecting trail through JCOS parks that could allow longer hikes, trail runs, mountain bike-rides, or backpacking with camping at strategic locations. This is not to be confused with the Colorado Front Range Trail which is more suited to road bikes and an suburban experience (at least in Jefferson County). Much of what I envision and many trail pieces are already in place - they just need to be connected. Specifically, there is the possibility of having a semi-wilderness or natural trail that begins at the north County boundary and goes to the south boundary - all on JCOS park or state or federal lands. I can easily see where private land blocks these connections, but JCOS easements or strategic acquisition or occasional linkages via roads could make this possible. I would be happy to discuss this idea with staff or managers and work to help make it happen.	Please see map 6 of 10 in the master plan (Trails) where we're showing potential connections or gaps in existing our existing network; please see the North Fork Trail in southern Jefferson County from Reynolds Park south to the Colorado Trail, which includes camping opportunities.
11/21/13	**Gary Sundberg**	On going Partnerships	On Page 4 you talk about “ongoing Partnerships”, this would be a great place to connect to the connection Strategies on page 22 and the OS Regional Management plans and maps. Put one in as and example.	Thank you for your comments. An example of Jeffco Open Space partnership efforts includes the on-going collaboration with the Jeffco Outdoors Foundation on the Jeffco Outdoors Map Series and the health messaging on the "flip side" of the map.
		Inconsistent Numbers	Several numbers that don’t seem to be consistent: a. Page 4 52,00 acres and page 10 41,000 b. Page 9 $37.22M, page 12 $29.9M c. p.12 $3.2m going to land acquisitions, p.15 $4.7 d. The desired emphasis number does not seem to jive with the survey allocation numbers on page 11	52,000 acres have been acquired with Jeffco Open Space funds, and 41,000 acres are managed by Jeffco Open Space; $27.22M is based on 2014 estimates and $29.9M is an *average* annual expenditure (the 10-year funding plan was adopted in 2011); We have an average of $4.7 Million per year, which is a combination of land acquisition and park and trails development projects, available over the next five years. Actual allocation is dependent upon opportunity; d. These were two separate survey questions asked of respondents in 2011.

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		Funding	On p. 9 is shows $100M in bonds being paid off. That is 62.5% of the total. That should free up about $8m annually for the next 5 years. What is the plan for that money?	Once the debt service on the $100M has been paid off in 2019, we will continue to pay the debt service on the final $60M, ending in 2024.
		Disconnected Statements	Starting on p. 13 , under "current conditions,…. for the next several page there seems to be a bunch of disconnected statement. I kept saying "ok, so what?". It's not until you get to the Challenges & Opportunities section starting on page 16 that you seems to try and relate one statement with a challenge. I think the Current conditions are the challenges and then you more directly relate the opportunities. On soft copy at least is was very hard going back and forth. Not sure if all the conditions were met with opportunity or not? (hope this makes sense to you?)	A graphic representation will be reviewed and incorporated in the Master Plan.
		Recycling at the Park	A couple of times under the strategies you list " Recycling" at the parks. I hope this is only for plant materials lie xmas trees but it does not say that.	In our Master Plan we have clarified the that these are materials that our patrons bring into our parks such as aluminum, glass, plastics and paper.
		Volunteers	Idea for volunteers. If you go on a Hike with CMC, or if you go to one of our ski areas, they frequently have a program of providing a "guide" to show you around. It might be interesting to see if anyone would be interested in signing up for a guide for some of our parks? You would have to get folks to sign up as park guide and then a way for folks to sign up but not much different from an activity at the nature Center. Just a thought.	Our intention over the next 5-years is to expand our programs. Some are currently offered through the Lookout Mountain Nature Center.
		Online Reservation	The sign up for large groups or to reserve picnic area should be on-line.	Progress is being made with a new central reservation system.
11/22/13	**Theresa Nash**	Lack of horse trailer parking	I am an equine owner living in Jefferson County who travels all over to enjoy the Opens Space parks in Jefferson county. My biggest concern is the lack of parking for horse trailers. I have a large trailer (over 30 feet) and find it difficult to find adequate parking unless I am at a trail head at the crack of dawn. And even then, often times there is not enough parking. I would like to see additional pull through horse trailer parking only added. Elk meadow is one park I love, but cannot enjoy if often due to the parking. If you happen to luck out and get a trailer parking spot, the cars are parked so that a person is not able to make the turn in the lot to use the space.	Thank you for your comments. At this time we are not looking to add additional equestrian parking at Elk Meadow Park. http://jeffco.us/parks/documents/parks-and-trails-documents/activity-guide-open-space/
11/22/13	**Duane Rowe**	Trail Connections	I reviewed the potential park/trail connections map, and it looks great. When can we start connecting some of these open space parks with multi-use trails?	Thank you for your comments. Jeffco Open Space is working on making these trail connections. Our first priority is fixing and repairing ours parks and trails effected by the September floods. We have the trail connection from White Ranch Park to Golden Gate Canyon State Park and Clear Creek Canyon as part of our strategies for the next 5-years.
11/23/13	**Joe Tempel**	Maps	I couldn't find where the plan recognized the existing Dakota Hogback/Dinosaur Ridge Colorado Natural Area? A map of potential natural areas was included. Maybe I just missed it.	Thank you for your comments. We have included the National Natural Landmark (NNL) site with the Scenic Resources, Map 3.
		Maps	I couldn't tell if you correctly showed the boundaries of Dinosaur Ridge on the east side of the Ridge. You show our Visitor Center. I couldn't tell if the eastern-most park boundaries started on the east side of Rooney Gulch north of Alameda Parkway; which it should. I couldn't find Dinosaur Ridge on the map either which extends from Colfax on the north to SH 8 on the bottom.	We will show roads in this area.

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		Education	On page 25 where you talk about education it would be great if you mentioned the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge who educate about 100,000 members of the public about the paleontological, geological and historic resources on Dinosaur Ridge every year.	We included reference to Friends at Dinosaur Ridge and other partners.
		Regional Management Plans	Has a Management Plan been completed for the Management District in which Dinosaur Ridge is in?	Lookout Region Regional Management Plan is scheduled for update in 2014.
11/25/13	**Bob Kropfli**	Trail Connections	I just had a chance to peruse the draft Jeffco OS master plan and was unable to find any reference, one way or the other, to my proposed connector trail from Jeffco to Boulder. Perhaps I was just unable to find it. Is it in there somewhere or has it been rejected?	Thank you for your comments. Jeffco Open Space did take into account your potential trail connector recommendations. On Map 6 of 10, Trails, Existing and Potential Connections, we show a Potential Connection or Gap in Existing Network with an arrow going north from Coal Creek Canyon Park. We will extend this arrow to show it going into Boulder County. That is our intention and we are happy to make that more clear. We are not showing any specific alignments with the Map. We are showing lines and circles to indicate generalized corridors that represent potential connections to existing trail segments or parks that Jeffco Open Space would like to develop given the right opportunity. We also show an arrow going from White Ranch Park to Highway 93. Is there something else you had in mind to better depict this, per your recommendations? We are collecting comments through Friday, December 20th so please let us know of any other comments or suggestions you have to improve upon what we are showing and describing.
11/25/13	**Dean Dalvit**		Thank you for the opportunity to review and respond to the JCOS Draft Master Plan. We participated in the public meetings, and are grateful that our feedback has been considered. As a local organization whose mission is to improve the local infrastructure in Evergreen, most notably our pedestrian connectivity in and throughout the downtown Evergreen district, we feel there are many components of your master plan that are in alignment with our mission. In fact, just recently, we've been awarded a GOCO planning grant for trails in the Downtown Evergreen district with our sponsoring partner, Jeffco Transportation and Engineering. JCOS will also play a support/advisory role on this effort, so we are already seeing JCOS live up to it's objectives of seeking opportunities with other agencies on cooperative trail projects. Because we also have a recurring revenue stream through our 1% voluntary Public Improvement Fee via our highly successful Evergreen Legacy Fund, we hope to be strong partners with JCOS in the future on trail projects in and throughout Evergreen, which will also serve to connect existing JCOS parks in a much safer and more meaningful way. After reviewing the master plan, we feel that JCOS has done an exemplary job in including public feedback and balancing the many, varied needs of the residents and visitors of the JCOS parks and trails systems. We are optimistic of the future of Open Space under JCOS' strong stewardship and look forward to working more with JCOS directly in the future. If you have any questions about DEED or what we are doing, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.	Thank you for your comments.

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11/26/13	**Shelly Means**	Trail Connections	Does the proposed master plan have any proposal to connect to the Park Cty. plan? It would be wonderful if there was a connection between the counties. Also, the trail map in The Flume refers to the Buffalo Creek Trail System. I know there are trails in the area of Pine Grove and Buffalo Creek but is there a formal 'Buffalo Creek Trail System'? I'm not totally clear about adding items to the proposed master plan. However, if it is appropriate and would encourage future plans, I would like to encourage Jefferson Cty. Open Space to pursue expansive trail connections with Park County. In a much earlier e-mail, I sent a comment about Jefferson Cty. Open Space trying to buy land from Crystal Lake (if it is still for sale or DONATION) to expand Pine Valley Open Space. It would be wonderful if this area is connected by trail somehow to Pine Valley Open Space. I know all of this a very long term process and thank-you for all your effort.	Thank you for your comments. Regarding the Bailey Trails, located in Park County, we know that there is a desire to make some expansive trail connections. We will show one of our potential trail arrows connecting to the west from Pine Valley Ranch Park, however, I don't believe there have been any specific conversations about these connections. We are always happy to pursue partnerships and are in process of working closely with Clear Creek County on a trail connection in Clear Creek Canyon and received a joint grant for this project. In response to the last part of your email regarding the Buffalo Creek Trail system, yes, there is a formal trail system. The trails are managed by the US Forest Service through partnerships with volunteer groups like the Evergreen Trail Blazers and Colorado Mountain Bike Association (COMBA). A map of the trail system can be found here: http://frmbp.org/maps.html.
12/3/13	**Curt Olson**	Expenditures	Spend less on infrastructure like bathrooms, picnic facilities and cultivate a new ethic among park users of "you packed it in, you pack it out." This will be important as you increase land holdings because it will take more effort to maintain what you have. Will the budget increase in tandem with expansion? If not, something has to give.	Thank you for your comments. There is flexibility between land acquisition and park and trail development expenditures. Once we complete the bond debt payments for land acquisitions in 2024, more money will be available. The Leave No Trace ethic that we incorporate in our Share & Care philosophy is very important to us. We are the closest outdoor recreation experience of mountains and foothills to the Denver Metro area and put great effort into amenities that users desire in a "front country" outdoor experience.
		Kids in Parks	Don't try to be everything to everyone. The parks exist. It is up to parents to get their kids to put down their phones and out the door and on the trail.	At Jeffco Open Space we believe in being part of the solution work to be proactive and foster the next generation of land stewards.
		Partnerships	Crown Hill is nice. It's in my neighborhood but it's an urban park. Try to strike a long-term agreement with Lakewood or Wheat Ridge on how it should be managed and transfer it to them, if they'll take it.	Lakewood and Wheat Ridge both contributed to the purchase of the park many years ago, seeing it as a resource for the jurisditions that surround such a special park. Lakewood continues to maintain the horse area.
		User Conflict	User conflict. Like Centennial Cone, create more bike-only or hike-only trails in high-use parks like Lair. I mountain bike and think the rules need to be better enforced.	This is a challenge for all public land managers and JCOS and we continue to explore management strategies to address it.
		Partnerships	I don't know who owns what on Lookout Mountain but begin the process of bringing the agencies together and transforming the hill from the last driveway on the bottom of the climb to Bill's Grave into an official recreation area. Once that is done, ban cars/trucks/motorcycles during one time frame (6a -2p) on at least one day a weekend and the same for bikes on the other day. Run this from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Tickets for violators.	Lookout Mountain Road is a County road. Jeffco Open Space has trails and properties that we manage in and around the road, but not the road itself. This road also has a national designation as a scenic byway known as the Lariat Loop.

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12/6/13	**Mark Spurgeon**	Trail Connections	I reviewed the 2013 Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) Draft Master Plan, very comprehensive and well done. I am submitting for comment a request for consideration of a trail alignment from the Reynolds to Lower N. Fork Trail to Section 2 of the Colorado Trail as a component of "Trail Strategies" for JCOS in the next five years. I have along with the Colorado Trailblazers and support from the South Platte Enhancement Board contributed volunteer resources during the 2013 season on the Reynolds to Lower N. Fork Trail. This is a great non-motorized multi-use trail with its Lower North Fork termination in close proximity to the Colorado Trail. This trail has the potential to be a very active component of a "Regional Trail System" as an "out and back" route either from Reynolds Park or South Platte, CO. The proposed attached trail alignment received from JCOS staff would effectively create a loop that could be staged from not only Reynolds Park and South Platte, CO, but also from trail heads within Buffalo Creek Recreation Area (BCRA) including Pine Valley Ranch. This additional proposed alignment would serve to disperse trail users, reducing conflict, on the Reynolds Trail and minimize users from ascending/descending on S. Foxton Road and County Road 96 along-side motorized traffic to create their own loop.	Thank you for your comments. Jeffco Open Space hopes to complete this with the help of partners and volunteer organizations after the flood recovery efforts have been addressed, which is a pressing priority for our organization.
12/6/13	**Wayne Forman**	Accomplishments	Include the 2011 County-wide survey as one of the accomplishments from the last 5 years,	Please see Page 7 of the plan.
		History	Include an appendix, the historical accomplishments that are contained in the "tree" diagrams in the 2008 MP. I believe it is important to retain those historical references and carry them through future master plans.	Graphic design elements will be incorporated into the Master Plan document.
12/6/13	**Chuck Hedin**	Fossils	Designate areas for fossil hunters.	Thank you for your comments. Jeffco Open Space's Rules and Regulations do not allow collection of any natural resources. This is in keeping with the Leave No Trace principles which are fundamental to our beliefs.
		Scout Troops	Invite scout troops to select sections of Open Space where they can utilize their skills within allowable guidelines.	Through our Special Permit process, many scout troops have used Jeffco Open Space parks and continue to. It's a wonderful way to foster the next generation of land stewards.
		Archery Ranges	Introduce a couple of new archery ranges in some locations.	We are currently doing what we can to explore opportunities with partners.
		Community Rock Garden	Maybe include a community rock garden with donations by any resident to enhance connection to Open Space environments.	These opportunities might be better explored through our partners.
		Farm	I suppose a small farm would be asking to much but kids could have place to visit and learn about living off the land.	These opportunities might be better explored through our partners.
		Native Plants	Introduce native plants in some locations.	Our Natural Resources staff introduce native plants and vegetation when necessary. The Lookout Mountain Nature Center has a native plant sale every year. We are very supportive of the introducing native plants on our Parks.

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12/6/13	**Scott Budny**	Wildfire Mitigation	In reviewing this plan I am greatly concerned that I could not find anything substantive to conduct wildfire mitigation activity on these heavy forested properties. As a citizen of Jeffco I want to see wildfire mitigation given a high level of importance in the plan. I much prefer mechanical mitigation versus prescribed burn which I consider highly dangerous.	Thank you for your comments. Our Natural Resource section works to mitigate wildfire potential on our properties across the system. In fact, many grants from the State Forest Service over the years have aided us in leveraging our resources, something we are committed to continue doing. In 2014, work plans are being developed to tackle areas of high wildfire potential and mitigage through thinning, not prescribed burn. As for other topics you mention, please review staff responses to them in this listening log.
12/7/13	**Judy Childers**		I would like to make some comments on the JCOS Master plan. It is a well thought out instrument to guide Jefferson County Open Space in its challenge of future population increases to the area and its impact on wildlife. There are even more challenges such as user conflicts (hiker vs biker), "Nature deficit" in children, deterioration of the trails …particularly from bike overuse, and the accumulation of dog poop on trails. Not to mention wildfires. Of utmost importance is land acquisition and preservation of property and trails. I have faith that the JCOS will continue to be the great outdoor attraction that it is. You have super employees that listen also. I love the Open Space Parks and that's why I live in Jefferson County.	Thank you for your comments.
12/7/13	**Gil McCormick**	Expenditures	I was looking through the master plan and trying to find the slide that shows what is spent in trails. There was a slide at the PLAN Jeffco meeting showing a pie diagram of expenses.	Thank you for your comments. Please see the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan in the Appendix.
12/8/13	**Lynn Johnson**		I just read through your plan and the documents. Congratulations, this looks really good. It makes us very proud to live and to work in Jefferson County. Thank you.	Thank you for your comments.
12/12/13	**Barbara Moore**	Partnerships	Many people see a great opportunity for a nature based experience on open space. This five acre space would be used regionally to educate people about health, preservation, conservation, and restoration of natural landscapes. The ongoing partnership would be a five acre educational urban suburban farm site. As you know Boulder has one of the most outstanding programs in USA utilizing open space for restoration of agriculture. I am working on advancing careers in agriculture, food and natural resources for jr high and high school students. This site would be an agritourism educational site for hundreds of Jefferson County students. Funds could be obtained from SARE, USDA small farms grants and NIFA. Jackie Hough of Jeffco Extension is interested in the 4 H group working on a larger scale.	Thank you for your comments; we understand that you do not have a specific 5-acre site identified at this time. We continue to engage in conversations with partners on this topic.
12/12/13	**Preston Driggers**		Over all the plan looks good and I especially like and support funding for land acquisition as Colorado volcanoes have long been dormant and have quit producing new land. I continue to be "old school" in support land acquisition, outdoor wildlife corridors, trails and appreciate the beauty in walking or hiking in natural settings.	Thank you for your comments.

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Health	However, I do understand the "new school" concerns with the need for population engagement given the changing demographics and the increasing focus on good health and need for better life style management of our Metro residents. In this light, the latter concerns need to have better expression in the Master Plan. Trails do represent the "First Mile to Better Health" or "Better Community Health" or "Personal Enjoyment and Good Health." [I do recognize that many people do not want to do something for health reasons per se, as few of us want to admit to health problems, so some better "theme" might be required.] In this regard, however, Jeffco Open Space Department should develop "New School " positive partnerships that may entail statements and actions of joint efforts; seed funds; matching grants; and cross exchange of personnel to support this goal. This goal may include specific projects with cities to connect residential areas to local trail networks via paved or unpaved urban trails, sidewalks, etc. It may include working with one or more non-profits to create bilingual pamphlets identifying why trail walking can be fun and what it can do for one's well being and identify the closest point of entry from their particular neighborhoods to the local trail network. This goal may include small grants to develop "Trail Discovery" APP's that can stimulate interest and identify what might be seen at different places along particular trails. Some trails can be designated as "Lifestyle Trails" where current non-trail users can feel safe in walking on these. It may mean unding public transportation for two or more "Trail Days" a year to get people to experience outdoor trails. It may mean working with a community groups to identify one or more neighborhood volunteers as "trail masters" who are willing and excited to assist youth and adults to walk or hike local trails. Working with "new school" programs may require retooling one or more existing staff members or hiring a person who can successful bridge these two "schools" of thought. This too would be part of an improved master plan designed to look ahead. As an "old school" type I would be concerned about over use of trails, yet for long-term sustainability of the open space program, I recognize the requirement to bring in those who may not, at this time, appreciate what a wonderful resource we have in our open space lands. Building sustainability now into the master program is a way to demonstrate adaption to future changes.	Please see The Nature-Health Connection Strategies section of the plan.
12/14/13	**PLAN Jeffco**		We appreciate the work that you, your staff and the OSAC subcommittee had put into revising the Master Plan. It is much improved, I am sure that you are not surprised that we have several comments and recommendations for further improvement. They are as follows:	Thank you for your comments.
		Value	The value of a county-wide open space program to the citizens of Jefferson County and to the metro area should be discussed in this plan. These include but are not limited to enhancing the quality of life, economic benefits to the cities, county and home owners, health benefits, and psychological and recreational benefits. The PLAN Jeffco report on the economic benefits is a good source document to use.	Thank you for your comments.

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		Public Enjoyment	Page 6, “Completed 28 Public Enjoyment Projects including:” What does “public enjoyment mean in this context? This is confusing and it may be best to delete the words “public enjoyment”.	This has been changed to "Completed 28 Park Improvement Projects including:"
		Dollar Allocation	Page 11, Paragraph below the graph-The text says that “Assigning either conservation or recreation purpose to the dollar allocations, one finds that conservation purposes would be allocated at $50 and recreation purposes allocated at $48 dollars.” Placing this language in this paragraph appears to negate the previous statement about the survey that that showed an overwhelming response of 68% for land acquisition.	The sentence is a general indication of responses to conservation purposes ($50) and to recreation purposes ($48) from the 2011 Citizen Survey. The exact question and results are noted in the chart above this sentence.
			The $50 value is achieved by summing the first three “buy” items and the balance are recreation items. We do not believe that buying land to preserve historic and archeological sites is a recreational use. We also do not believe that buying land for regional trails would solely be for recreational purposes. This may be true when buying a 50 foot trail corridor easement. But it is not true for a corridor 500 or more feet in width.	The $50 value is achieved by summing the following questions from the Dollar Allocation question: the first, third, 5th, and eigth questions. We agree that buying land to preserve historic and archeological sites is a conservation purpose.
		Desired Emphasis	We recommend that the last three sentences of this paragraph not be included because of the confusion that it creates and because it is adequately covered by the “Desired Emphasis” chart on page 14.	We deleted the last 2 sentences.
			Page 12, Paragraph before the pie chart. Because there are so many of the priority lands that have not been conserved, we recommend adding the following language to the last sentence: “unanticipated additional revenue should be used to acquire priority open space lands.” This is important because Jeffco citizens have told us that this is the most important goal of the Open Space Program as shown by the study discussed on page 11 and by the results of the questions that were asked of those who attended the November 16th PLAN Jeffco conference.	Thank you for your comments.
		Nonprofit Grants	Page 12. Jeffco Open Space Nonprofit Organization Grants-The list of entities who can receive grants should be enlarged to include land trusts and non profits such as Dinosaur Ridge.	Thank you for your comments.
		Community Involvement	Page 15. Community Involvement-The the last sentence appears to say that community involvement with OSAC is to be thru personal contacts and not also by attending and testifying at the monthly OSAC meetings. We suggest that you move “Open Space Advisory Committee” after “correspondence” to correct that impression.	We agree and have made this change.
		Funding	Page 15. Jeffco Open Space Funding-We suggest the first sentence be revised to state the following: “All the $160 Million in Bond Funds have been spent to preserve nearly 20,000 acres of land and the bonds are being paid off with the open space tax revenues”. The current wording implies that none of the bond debt has been paid and now is the time to start to pay off the bonds.	We agree and have made this change.

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		Climate Change	Page 16. Forest Health, Weed and Pest Management-The current draft lists climate change as a natural phenomenon. To avoid this issue, we suggest that “climate change” be mentioned after “drought”.	We added "climate change" after drought.
		Forest Health, Weed and Pest Management	Page 16. Forest Health, Weed and Pest Management- Additionally, there is no discussion in the plan on what is being done on Open Space lands to deal with noxious weeds, wildfire risk, etc. What is planned to be achieved in the next 5 years should be described in the Land Stewardship Strategies section, including not selling any hay from Open Space lands that are not certified as free of noxious weeds. How these problems have been dealt with in the past also should be described.	Thank you for your comments.
		Nature Deficit Disorder	Page 17. “Nature Deficit Disorder”, eighth line-The word “education” should be changed to “educational institutions”.	Thank you for your comments.
		Community Involvement	Page 17. Greater Community Involvement, second line-The word “public” should be inserted before “forums”.	We agree and have made this change.
		Partnerships	Page 18. Growing and Creating Partnerships-This section mentions many potential partnerships. However, the action part of this plan, the Strategies, is devoid of what is planned to be accomplished to take advantage of these potential partners. We recommend that language be inserted in the Land Stewardship Strategy section that calls for developing and implementing a 5 year plan for cooperative efforts with the listed entities to enhance opportunities for cooperative land acquisition and management efforts. Denver Mt. Parks and Malt are two entities that come to mind that could be valuable partners and should be part of your cooperative efforts.	Thank you for your comments.
		Acquisition Approaches	Page 18. Acquisition Approaches-Please add option agreements and right of first refusal to the list of methods.	We agree and have made this change.
		Acquisition Process	Page 18, Acquisition Process, line 9-Delete “at”.	We agree and have made this change.
		Congruence with other Plans	Page 19. Congruence with other Plans-Is there a reason that the plans of Denver Mountain Parks are not included here? Since it is listed as one of the partnership entities Denver Mountain Parks should be listed in this section.	This Acquisition Criteria is not meant to be a listing and 6.b) notes, "State, local city and district plans"
		Land Preservation	Page 20, 5-Year Goals, 1. Land Preservation-We understand that the current acreage of Open Space land is 52,817 acres and that would mean the goal should be 54,517 acres. Please revise.	We agree and have made this change.

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		Land Preservation Strategies	Page 20. Land Preservation Strategies-Essential language that was in the previous draft of the first goal was to be moved to this section and unfortunately, it is missing from this strategy. There was agreement by Open Space Staff and the OSAC subcommittee that a “plan would be developed and implemented” to achieve the land preservation goal. It is very important that this language be included in the strategy so that an well thought out plan is developed and implemented that would take advantage of the many acquisition approaches available and would have staff actively seek out donations, grants, conservation easements, willing sellers, and partnerships with federal, state, local entities and land trusts. in order to preserve as many of the priority areas as possible. This plan should include actions to take before and after the first bonds are paid off and thus would cover more than the next 5 years. We recommend that OSAC be involved in the development of the plan and that it receive regular updates on progress toward achieving the actions described in the plan.	Thank you for your comments.
		Trail Strategies	Page 21. Trail Strategies-Delete the bullet before “”Co-op” since that line is a continuation of the previous bullet.	We agree and have made this change.
		Trail Conflicts	On page 15 there is a recognition of the continuing problem of trail conflicts among different user groups. However, there is no action prescribed to deal with these conflicts in the strategies. Consistent with the discussion at the OSAC special meeting a few months ago, action should be taken to establish a group like the former Trails Use Task Force which had been very successful in dealing with these issues. User buy-in is needed to resolve these conflicts and this is best achieved by having representatives of the user groups work together on these conflicts. Therefore, we strongly recommend that this strategy include a statement that such a multiuser group will be established under the Trails Co-op, as was agreed to at the OSAC meeting.	We believe the Visitor Stewardship Strategies, specifically the "Share and Care" individual stewardship program addresses this concern.
		Visitor Stewardship Strategies	Page 22. Vistor Stewardship Stategies-The terms, “Leave No Trace” and “Ring That Bell” should be defined. Many members of the public will not know what they mean.	We agree and have included these terms in the Glossary.
		Nature-Health Connection Strategies	Page 22. The Nature-Health Connection Strategies-The first two bullets are discussing the same thing and should be combined.	We agree and have made this change.
		Regional Management Plans	Page 23. Open Space Regional Management Plans-This section should state that the regional plans will be consistent with the master plan and that there will be public involvement in developing these plans. These plans should also address how the noxious weeds that are on Open Space land will be controlled and that no hay will be sold from Open Space lands that are not certified as free of noxious weeds.	There is indication that there will be community involvement with the Regional Management Plan updates.

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
			Page 24. First paragraph-Please insert “involvement” in the 5th line after “community”.	We agree and have made this change.
		5-Year CIP	Page 24. 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan, last sentence. The language after “Acquisitions” should be deleted. This plan should not call for any re-allocation of acquisition funds for development. During the 5 years of this master plan no additional funds allocated for acquisitions should be re-allocated for additional development projects. Over 7 million dollars has already been taken out of the acquisition budget for the Clear Creek Trail. We agree that the trail is a worthwhile project, however, a portion of the acquisition funds has already been re-allocated for 3 years to complete this section of the trail. That should not be repeated during the term of this plan. There are not enough funds available to preserve the priority lands as it is and that part of the budget should not take another hit. Revising the language, as we strongly request, is entirely consistent with the desires of Jeffco citizens as shown by their overwhelming support for 68% of open space funds to be used to buy land as discussed on page 11. Not surprisingly, the responses to the questions PLAN Jeffco asked of those that attended the recent PLAN Jeffco conference were the same as those in Open Space’s scientific poll. The vast majority said that open space managers should focus on acquiring more open space lands. Therefore, if any additional funds become available that were not anticipated, these funds should be used to conserve lands.	Thank you for your comments.
		Green	Additionally the word “green” is used two times in the second paragraph. The definition of “green” should be included in the Glossary.	We have included "Green" in the Glossary
		Bond Funds	Page 26. The definition of Bond Funds is not needed since it is explained very well in the previous sections.	Since a reader of the Master Plan may only read a portion of the Plan we have intentionally repeated certain items.
		Enabling Resolution	Page 27. Enabling Resolution-The first sentence should be revised to include the fact that the resolutions “limit the use of the open space tax funds”.	We agree and have made a similar change.
		Natural Areas Plan	Page 28. “Natural Areas Plan” is included in the glossary even though this term is not used in the plan. We suggest deleting that term and revising the next definition to “Colorado Natural Heritage Program Studies in 1993 and 2012.”	We have deleted the reference to the "Natural Areas Plan" and "Natural Heritage Inventory Sites". There is another definition for the "Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) with an indication of when this recent study was conducted.
			Page 29. Open Space-The word “and” should be inserted in the first line after “acquire”.	We agree and have made this change.
		Trails Co-op	Page 30, Trails Co-op (formerly Trail Use Task Force.)-This is inaccurate. The Co-op is very different from the Trails Use Task Force and it is not a successor to that group. Please delete the reference to the Trails Use Task Force.	We have deleted the reference to the Trail Use Task Force.
		Threatened and Endangered Species	Page 30. Endangered Species Act-The first and last sentences are correct. The second sentence is not accurate and is missing some words. We suggest that the second sentence be deleted as it is not needed.	We have removed the second sentence.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
12/15/13	**League of Women Voters of Jefferson County**		The League of Women Voters of Jefferson County is pleased that the November 19, 2013, draft of the JCOS Master Plan addresses many of the concerns raised in our September 4, 2013, letter. The tenor of this draft is more in line with the League's position that the first priority for the use of Open Space funds should be acquisition. The maps included will show the critical areas that qualify for conservation. The Plan recognizes the need for additional lands to meet future population needs as well as to preserve the character of Jefferson County.	Thank you for your comments.
		Preservation and Stewardship	We sincerely appreciate the November emphasis on the preservation and stewardship of open space lands. Recreation is placed in its proper perspective. The Public Parks and Open Space Provider Continuum follows the League's priorities for the use of Jeffco Open Space lands.	Thank you for your comments.
		Regional Management Plans	We support the move to regional management plans with opportunities for public input. Considering the extensive Open Space land holdings, management plans are essential and of increasing interest to the users of open space. We look forward to reviewing the plans as they are being updated. A great communications effort will be required to make the public aware of these plans and to support public involvement in plan reviews and updates.	Thank you for your comments.
		League of Women Voters of Jefferson County	The official name of the League is "League of Women Voters of Jefferson County". Please use it in the History and Glossary sections.	We have updated this information in the Plan.
		Vision and Mission	The Vision and Mission statements of this draft more clearly match the League priorities for the Open Space Program. They are, however, buried in the text. We would prefer that they be introduced earlier and more prominently along with the JCOSMP Purpose, perhaps between the "History" and "Parks and Trails" sections.	Our intent is to have some graphic treatment of the Vision and Mission statements so they are more prominent in the Master Plan
			Page 6. "Completed 28 Public Enjoyment Projects". The term "enjoyment" does not seem to describe the projects listed. Are they not "development" or "capital improvement" projects?	This verbiage has been changed in the Plan to "Park Improvements."
			Page 21. "Trail Standards". Delete "5" as the line seems to be a continuation of the previous bullet.	This correction has been made.
		Open Space Sales Tax	It should be made clear that while the Open Space Program is a county-wide program, this plan is principally for the unincorporated Jefferson County portion of the Open Space Program (Jeffco Open Space). The cities receive their allocation on a monthly basis and are responsible for using the funds within the bounds of the 1972 and 1980 resolutions.	Thank you for your comment.
		Communications & Community Involvement Strategies	The League is pleased to see "Communications and Community Involvement Strategies" included within the 5-year Goals. Many of the goals include "developing and implementing standards". Public involvement should be sought for developing these standards, regional management plans and future master plan updates. User concerns must always be addressed.	Thank you for your comment.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
			We appreciate the availability of the Draft Open Space Plan and the time to review and comment on it. We thank the Open Space staff for their expertise, time and commitment to the program, a program of which we are very proud.	Thank you for your comments.
12/16/13	**Carole Lomond**		I appreciate all that has gone into this exploration for the future. And, I am a bit suspicious about the "consolidation". Open Space Parks are Open Space Parks that citizens have gladly supported since 1972.	Thank you for your comments
		Open Space Sales Tax	There have been past attempts to use the half cent sales tax for other services in the past. Citizens are suspicious about future attempts to do the same. There is a huge difference between Open Space Parks and Fairgrounds, Weed & Pest, and State Extension services. Open Space Parks are PARKS. The others are NOT PARKS. For 40 years, JeffCo citizens have enjoyed OPEN SPACE PARKS and do not associate parks with the other services. I am out and about all over Jefferson County and hear people wondering "Is this a cover up to use Open Space sales tax for other services?"	Our enabling resolution is explicit with the purpose of the funds derived from sales tax to be expended for open space purposes only.
		Apex Park	One other obvious recommendation is to keep bikers from destroying historically significant parks. There has never been such huge flood destruction to Apex Trail until it became a bikers paradise. Bikers can fund their own paradise, like ski areas and motor clubs do. Apex was a significant toll road in the early 1860s before any other possibility up from Golden. We should protect it from serious destruction. There are also a few other trails that need protection.	The floods of September of 2013 saw resulted in incredible destruction across Colorado's Front Range, Apex Park, being no exception. Our entire staff is devoted to flood recovery as an organizational priority into 2014.
		Grants	The Tax Allocation should clearly state how much is given as GRANTS.... Is the 30% for cities in the form of grants? Are Colorado Lottery funds used for Fairgrounds, Weed & Pest, and State extension services? Therefore, any OPEN SPACE TAX REVENUE is used only for grants????	Both the Jeffco Open Space Budget and the Jeffco Open Space Local Park and Recreation Grants sections of the Master Plan respond to these questions.
		Nature Deficit Disorder	Yes, there is a "nature deficit Disorder" with our digital kids. We need to support more opportunities for children to discover nature and the outdoors through the Foundation, and possibly with OS Revenue GRANTS. Again, we must be careful to not allow OS Tax revenues to spill over into fairgrounds, weed & pest, and State extension service. But funding for the JeffCo Nature Center, Hiwan Museum, Baehrden Lodge, and Boettcher Mansion seems appropriate since they are located within Open Space Parks.	We couldn't agree more on the need to foster the next generation of land stewards on our parks and connect children and family to nature. Many of our Master Plan strategies are targeted with this in mind.
		Denver Mountain Parks	I support more cooperation with neighboring jurisdictions, provided they pay their fair share of expenses. Denver has been extremely stingy caring for the Mountain Parks since the 1950s, and we need to be careful to not take care of them. Denver City Council needs to wake up and take responsibility!	We continue to collaborate on a regular basis with our public land agencies, such as Denver Mountain Parks that provide such wonderful amenities to Denver metro area residents.
		Parks	The plan is jam packed with professional language. It all sounds good. But, donot lump everything into "PARKS." Citizens have gladly paid a half cent for every dollar spent for 40 years to support their **OPEN SPACE PARKS**. JeffCo Board of County Commissioners are responsible for funding the Fairgrounds, Weed and Pest, and CSU Extension.	Thank you for your comments.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Wildfire Mitigation	The future Open Space plan must include extensive wildfire mitigation.	Our Natural Resource section works to mitigate wildfire potential on our properties across the system. In fact, many grants from the State Forest Service over the years have aided us in leveraging our resources, something we are committed to continue doing. In 2014, work plans are being developed to tackle areas of high wildfire potential and mitigage through thinning.
12/17/13	**Heather Germaine**		Thank you so much for sending this email to notify me about the revision to the Open Space Master Plan and inviting comment. It was great to see the vision and directions of focus for JeffCo Open Space for the coming years. It was also good to understand the difference between the Master Plan and the Regional Management Plans.	Thank you for your comments.
12/18/13	**Cindy Bohlin**	Expenditures	South Table, I just don't understand the expenditure to create wide trails with a pebbled surface. What a waste of money. To get to the trails on top you climb rustic, rocky, single track trails and then at the top it is like walking in the city on a sidewalk. It makes no sense to me. Anyone looking for a bike path type atmosphere won't venture up to the top. But then those who want a semi-rugged trail are so disappointed once they are on top. Just don't understand the logic in this set-up. I'm so disappointed that the top of the mountain trails now have such an over-planned feel now.	Our experience has been that the aggregate surface on the trails on the top of South Table is a more environmentally sensitive and sustainable trail surface than using the existing soils. The recreational use that occurred on the mesa top prior to our management had resulted in a network of almost 20 miles of social trails being established. These social trails in some situations crisscrossed across the mesa top fragmenting the landscape with a negative impact on the wildlife in the area. In other situations the social trails became remarkable incised and multiple trails resulted in immediate proximity to each other. The aggregate surface better defines the trails we feel are appropriate to use and we are beginning to see a reduction in the proliferation social trails throughout the mesa.
		Expenditures	North Table. I have never seen a person using the climbing area that is formalized at the top of the mountain. Who wants to climb there when just around the bend are unorganized, rugged climbing areas.	I think the area you are referring to on North Table is the old quarry as Mesa Top trail gets to the mesa top. This area in the climbing guidelines that are published is referred to as “The Sea Cliffs in the North Quarry” and has multiple bolted routes. The intention in formalizing this area was to provide for a safer interface between the non-climbing recreation use and the climbers. With the development of the multi-use trail system on North Table we thought it appropriate to advise the non-climbing community that they were entering a climbing area and of certain protocols or etiquettes that they should be aware of.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Involvement	I plan to get more involved with what is happening with Jeffco's Open Space budget. Maybe my involvement will help me to understand some of the planning ideas the organization has. I'd like to feel that Jeffco is enhancing the outdoor experience rather than making me feel like I need to escape further into the mountains to find the outdoors.	We welcome your involvement. Both North and South Table mountains are incredibly popular parks and provide recreational opportunities for tens of thousands of people. It certainly is not our intention to compromise anyone's recreational experience but to manage these Open Spaces in a way that benefits the citizens of Jefferson County in a positive way. I would be more than happy to meet with you and discuss what we do at Open Space, maybe we could coordinate a hike on one of the mesas if you would like? (email from Kim Frederick to Cindy Bohlin on 12/20/13)
12/18/13	**Adam Feerst**	Strategic Plan	The Plan raises as many questions as it answers. While in some places it is very specific - e.g., 25 miles of additional trails, 39,350 volunteer hours, create five additional regional maps - in other areas it is very vague - e.g., no listing of what those 25 miles are (beyond the 8mi from White Ranch to Golden Gate, and 4mi in Clear Creek), Community Involvement Strategy (which Mike Dungan said was purposely left vague). I understand that this is a strategic plan, and that such plans generally do not get into specific detail. However, such plans often do include specific goals and targets, and where those are lacking in this document are some of the areas that are most concerning, that have been most lacking from Open Space (OS).	Thank you for your comments. As this plan is intended to be an overarching document to guide our projects in the next 5 years, the management and operating plans that will grow out of the targeted goals we have idenfified means a great deal of work among staff in the coming months/years. Thank you for recognizing that this level of detail is not appropriate in a master plan of this nature.
		Trail User Conflicts	Trail use conflicts is mentioned as a problem on page 14, but not addressed anywhere else in the document. The TUF used to be a method of identifying and addressing such conflicts. Since its demise, there no longer seems to be a systematic way for OS to meet with user groups or for user groups to meet with each other, both as a way for better understanding each other's needs and issues, and as a way to mutually come up with ideas to proactively reduce conflicts.	Staff continues to work toward addressing trail user conflict in a host of ways apart from mention in the Master Plan. The Trails Co-op is one of the tools in place.
		Trail Strategies	a. The five-year goal mentions increasing the trails by 25 miles. This section specifies 8mi for Golden Gate and 4 for Clear Creek. Are the other 13-miles already designated? If so, I'd like to see what they are. If not, I (Denver Trail Runners) would like input in prioritizing them. And, since priorities for the following five years will be made during this period, I'd like DTR to be involved in those discussions. This includes both new and changes to current trails in existing parks, new parks, and connections as shown on Map 6.	The North Fork Trail connecting Reynolds Park to the Colorado Trail has been included in the Trails Strategies section of the plan. South Table Mountain trail work planning is underway as well. The process is ongoing to vet and prioritize additional trail mileage in our system by both staff and stakeholders. Specific details continue to be developed on this important goal.

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Night Usage	Implementation of night usage on a trial basis at a few locations. A serious (i.e., not prejudiced against) analysis of allowing long term and wider (not the whole system, but more parks) night usage, which would include both a review of the local trial as well as looking at other similar systems that allow night usage (e.g., Portland's Forest City Park with 40+ miles of trails). The 2011 OS survey, both the statistically valid and the open survey, as well as the one I and Kyle Henley presented earlier that year, all clearly show a significant demand for night usage. Wayne Forman stated that 91% (from the survey) said that the current hours are adequate. I'd turn that around and say that almost 10% is significant, larger than many of the other uses OS caters too (e.g., equestrian). The Open survey showed even a higher demand for additional hours, 41%. And, if the question were worded differently – something like, "Would you support night time usage in some of the Open Space parks?" – the results would've been much different. Night usage is consistent with the survey's plan's notes about people wanting to get outdoors to reduce stress yet having limited time, by making the parks open to people after work during the darker months, and after it cools off during the warmer months.	Jeffco Open Space continues the challenging task of balancing protection of the natural resource (wildlife, etc.) with recreation and staff resources. Given the survey results and review of this request a decision was made to not pursue night usage at this time.
		Communications & Community Involvement Strategies	I'd like to see more detail (for reasons stated above). In addition, I'd like to add/modify the following: a. Re-engagement with and regular interaction with user, community, and industry (e.g., bike, running, outdoor stores) groups. This may include regular meetings with individual groups, but should also include opportunities for multi-group meetings. b. Major user/community groups should be involved in the design of the form of engagement to ensure that it will be beneficial and practical to them. c. Any future surveys should include a broader, open, public survey (as in 2011), and/or a statistically valid survey of OS users who are not Jeffco residents. We spend money in the county and contribute to the sales tax that funds OS. d. "The best way to reach them" is changing rapidly as technology and media change. What was valid in 2011 (from the survey) may not be valid today, and is unlikely to be valid by the end of this plans life, 2018.	Staff will work hard to further define the details of a communication/community involvement strategy in collaboration with large, formal user and advocacy organizations as well as less formal groups of park users. We value an open, transparent conversation; we have common ground from which to continue our collaboration.
		Greater Community Involvement	(page 17): Input should come from users outside of Jeffco too. Additional ways to get other people involved should include holding meetings and open forums on weekend (and perhaps weekday too) days. For example, with three young kids, it's easier for me to come to a Saturday or Sunday meeting than one on a weeknight, when I need to help getting the kids to bed.	Thank you for this important recognition of the diversity of users and the demanding schedules of all of those with whom we want to communicate. We held multiple public meetings for this Master Plan effort and they were located throughout the County and on different days of the week. Brainstorming collectively on a toolbox of communication mechanisms is part of our job and we take it very seriously.
		Volunteerism	Reach out to major user groups to sponsor trail work days.	Our Volunteer Coordinator and Trails Crew regularly engage large user groups as well as smaller user groups in volunteer trail days. Our social media is also proving to be very effective. This is an important piece of the Land Ethic held by Jeffco Open Space.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Regional Plans	Addition to viewing and having input on each individually, I'd like to see a way to look at and comment on things system wide to make sure that there's a balance of park management methods and different types of usage available across all of OS.	Three of the Regional Management Plans will be updated every year and in 2014 we anticipate the Canyons, Lookout and Mesa Regions will be updated and this process will include community involvement.
12/18/13	**Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association; Ken-Caryl Ranch Metropolitan District**	Surveys	The document is well written and coincides very closely with significant portions of this communities' development of a blueprint for the future; our own KCR 2020. Of particular note is the strong connection to your citizens' survey results. Our own recent citizen survey (helping guide the 2020 plan) overwhelming supported open space resources as a key element of the character of both this community and Jefferson County as a whole. It is clear that these County residents value open space as a key quality of life indicator and strongly support the protection and stewardship of these natural resources.	Thank you for your comments.
		Natural Resources	The identification of key natural resources and priorities as illustrated in the plan maps was helpful. As you are aware many of the significant natural resources identified are contained within our community on both private and public lands. We believe there is value in working together to both protect and care for these resources.	We agree that we need to continue to partner for the protection of the resources.
		Planning Goal	We believe the plan would benefit from an additional goal focusing on planning. While there are references to same within the body of the document, calling out a specific goal/strategy on this would assist all in strategically leveraging support and resources (private and public) towards realizing the plans' stated purposes. This community desires to have an open and regular dialogue with Jefferson County Open Space on long term planning matters of mutual benefit such as land protection and stewardship of natural resources.	We believe that planning and collaboration is a focus in many of the Goals and Strategies, for example: 1(b), 1(d), 1(e), 2c, 2(d), 2(h), 3(e), 3(g), 4(a), 4(b), just to name a few. We look forward to an open and regular dialogue on long term planning matters of mutual benefit.
			Regarding action strategies we call your attention to the following suggestions: #2. Add "work with both private landowners and public land managers to protect and steward significant natural resources".	2(h) has been added under the Land Stewardship Strategies to note this language.
			#5 Add "collaborate with private landowners that provide outdoor recreation opportunities in helping meet the overall recreation needs of County residents".	There is a 5(g) that addresses this, "Collaborate with cities, districts and nonprofits that provide park and recreation services."
		Conservation Study Area	Regarding Conservation Study Areas we request the Deer Creek area boundary be amended to include the KC Ranch. It would seem to be of mutual benefit to include KCR's mostly contiguous open space resources into a study area. We applaud a landscape level approach to generate more partnerships and funding for future projects.	We agree and have expanded the Deer Creek area boundaries for the Conservation Study Areas.
			The KCR community includes approximately 5,000 acres of signficant parks and open space lands. These lands are a mix of public and privately funded open space paid for and maintained by County residents. These same lands are managed jointly by both the KCR Master Association and KCR Metropolitan District. We appreicate your consideration of these requests and look forward to opportunities to building upon our relationship. We appreciate the collaboration to date with Jefferson County and in particular the leadership within the Open Space department. Through your planning efforts and our community's development master plan the time is right to collaborate on a more formal planning level to benefit our community and County residents as a whole.	Thank you for your comments.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
12/20/13	**Cara Snyder**	Process	What is the approval process? When will the plan go before the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) and the Board of County Commissioners? I see no information online at the Master Plan web site regarding what the process will be.	A review of staff's recommendation willl occur at the January 9, 2014 Open Space Advisory Committee meeting. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will be briefed on January 28th and a final decision will be made at a BCC meeting in early to mid February, 2014
		Public Comments	At least one (1) member of the public who provided multiple comments on the master plan in the past several months was not included in the email outreach regarding the final draft of the plan. Please develop a better way to track citizen involvement and email addresses for future public involvement efforts.	It is unfortunate that we missed someone since many hands were involved in collecting names and contact information. Some handwriting proved illegible with emails that were provided.
			Thank you to staff and OSAC for their extra efforts to produce this final draft, which is much improved over previous versions.	Thank you for your comments.
			Thank you for using language throughout the plan that indicates an interest in acquiring more land.	Thank you for your comments.
		Implementation/Action Plan	I brought this topic to the staff and OSAC's attention previously, but wanted to mention this again for the public record. I believe the plan has a better chance of being implemented if at least some action steps are publicly identified and agreed-upon. I hope this is included in the next master plan. In the meantime, I look forward to reading the annual report each year to see what progress has been made. I also look forward to seeing an invitation to the public to participate in the teams working on each goal.	Staff will be pursuing each of the goals and will include the public on specific strategies within each. There will also be public involvement with updates to 3 Regional Management Plans. We also look forward to the annual report and anticipate it reaching a large audience.
		Longer Term Plan	Longer term master planning effort. In the future, I would like Jefferson County to do a comprehensive 15-20 year open space master plan with extensive public involvement. I understand that staff and OSAC do not agree with me that this type of planning effort is important and I look forward to discussing this more in the next several years. I think it is simply too easy to get off course when doing a series of short-term planning efforts with no overarching umbrella / long term vision for the program. All of the open space programs that I reviewed complete plans with 15-20 year timeframes and I believe it is because this type of planning works well and keeps the programs on-course. I am still not clear what the rationale is for not doing this type of planning in Jefferson County.	We continue to find that a 5-year strategic Master Plan meets the needs of our organization. A 10-year funding plan was a critical component in our budget efforts and as we continue to develop different types of plans and tools we will continue to review the appropriate period of time for each.
		Transparency	I still have concerns about transparency at JCOS, and ideally would like to see the master plan have a goal related to this topic.	We believe the Communications and Community Involvement; Develop and employ a Communications and Community Involvement Plan Goal addresses this.
		Financial Goals and Strategies	P. 10 – Please clarify the acreage location in the paragraph under "Financial Goals and Strategies." I assume this paragraph refers to lands/acre amounts in unincorporated Jeffco. I assume that the 52,000 acre total previously mentioned includes acreage within the municipalities.	This has been changed to the 41,000 acres of land owned or managed by Jeffco Open Space. The 52,817 acres of land includes approx. 1/5 dedicated to cities or districts that provide park and recreation services and open space purposes within those jurisdictional service areas.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
			P. 11 – Arbitrary survey interpretation: I find the language starting with “Assigning either conservation or recreation purpose to the dollar allocations” to be an arbitrary interpretation by staff and not appropriate. Please delete this language. It appears that staff wants to emphasize recreation, but please don’t manipulate unclear data to do this. Please see further comments on this topic below.	The sentence is a general indication of responses to conservation purposes ($50) and to recreation purposes ($48) from the 2011 Citizen Survey. The exact question and results are noted in the chart above this sentence.
		Desired Emphasis	“Desired Emphasis” data is not clear. The “Desired Emphasis” question from the 2011 Citizen Survey is NOT clear enough to be used as a basis for policy decisions. Note that this graph is actually on p. 22 (not p. 23) of the 2011 survey. We cannot tell from this question whether respondents were thinking about future land acquisitions or activities on current open space lands or both. Also, none of the terms were defined in the survey, so we don’t know what “preservation/protection” and “outdoor recreation” mean. I assume that since trails are the primary outdoor recreation option in Jeffco Open Space, most respondents were thinking that “outdoor recreation” meant trails, while I believe that JCOS staff defines outdoor recreation much more broadly.	Thank you for your comments.
			Please define “outdoor recreation” both in this master plan and in any future surveys.	We have added, outdoor recreation, to the Glossary
		Future Survey	Please add clearer survey questions to the next survey in 2016 and conduct other outreach so that we can understand better how Jeffco citizens feel about recreation versus conservation.	Thank you for your comments.
		Future Survey	Please allow respondents (in future surveys) to choose among types of outdoor recreation, so that we know if respondents are interested in opportunities other than trails.	Thank you for your comments.
		Larimer County's Plug Into Nature Analysis	Please conduct an in-depth effort (much more than just a survey) to really try to figure out what types of recreation residents of Jeffco would prefer, similar to the Larimer County pilot program “Plug in to Nature.” Note that the residents of Larimer County primarily indicated a desire for more wild nature, closer to home. I would like to see a commitment from JCOS to finding out what works in Jefferson County to effectively connect children and families to nature. Please conduct comprehensive analysis and public outreach to determine how to best overcome barriers to connect Jefferson County children and families to nature. Before investing taxpayer dollars, JeffCo should provide proof of any method’s effectiveness. Methods that impact habitat should not be considered, or should at least be brought to the public for approval before the concept is developed. The Larimer County Plug in to Nature Replication Guide is available at the following link and has ideas on how to conduct effective outreach on this topic and has ideas on what can easily and cheaply be done, including items that could be included in a master plan: http://www.larimer.org/plugintonature/documents.htm.	We are familiar with Larimer County's Plug into Nature analysis to determine effective ways to combat Nature Deficit Disorder in Larimer County, funded by GOCO and stemming from their 2010 Strategic Plan.

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Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Data	Please commit to paying close attention to any data gathered. For example, I am concerned that picnic tables were installed at Crown Hill Open Space in 2013, despite little evidence that park users wanted more picnic tables. In fact, in the only survey that addressed picnic tables directly at the park (conducted in 2007), 61% (a clear majority) of respondents rated this item as “neutral to not at all important or don’t know”, and 39% of respondents thought that availability of picnic tables was either “extremely important or important.” Since more picnic tables were constructed, this raises a red flag to me that staff may not be paying close attention to input from the public.	Thank you for your comments.
		Technology and QR Code	P. 15 – Technology and screen time issues: I continue to find it ironic that JCOS has already incorporated QR code technology into interpretive displays at some open space parks and apparently will continue to pursue this, while at the same time decrying the amount of time people/children spend looking at screens. I strongly prefer that open space lands be places where screens are NOT encouraged to be used. Since focusing less on high tech options would also save money, I would like to see a strong argument from JCOS regarding why QR and other high-tech options should be pursued.	Thank you for your comments.
			P. 21 – Thank you for adding public involvement language to goal #4.	You're welcome; we agreed this was important.
		Regional Management Plans	P. 23 – Open Space Regional Management Plans. This text makes it sound like JCOS has already created the Regional Management Plans. If this is true, please include links to all of those plans. If this is not true, please indicate the timing and provide links to the current individual park management plans that are in force until a Regional Management Plan is created. My goal is to have the public have access to all current park management plans easily – online and otherwise.	We worked with a consultant in 2013 to place all existing 28 Park Management Plans into 9 Regional Management Plans. Therefore the Regional Management Plans exist and have a consistent template, however, the substance of the information now needs to be updated for accuracy. This is the update process that will occur for 3 of the Regional Management Plans in 2014, which will involve the public.
		open space Definition	P. 29 – Definition of open space. This definition of open space is circular – it uses “open space” in the definition and does not convey the general meaning as the term is used. This sounds more like a legal definition, which should be identified as such, and a lay person’s definition should then also be provided. Since open space is such a critical concept for this program, please provide a thorough non-circular definition, so that lay people can understand just what “open space” means to JCOS and the residents of Jeffco. It would be best if this definition were to be developed with extensive public input, but that’s for another time…	There are 2 definitions: one for open space and another for Open Space. We have altered both these definitions to enhance clarity and understanding.
		Appendices	P. 34 – Appendices – OSAC policy. Please add the OSAC administrative policy to the appendices. (Part 2, Board Administration, Chapter 2, Establishment of Appointed Boards, Section 3)	The reference in the Appendices to the 1998 Jeffco Open Space Administrative Policy is inclusive of the one you reference.
		Resources (Web links)	P. 34 – Resources – OSAC web pages. Please add the OSAC web pages to this list – links to where the public can find information about the members of OSAC and OSAC meetings.	We have added the Open Space and Parks Website to the Resources (Web links).

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Resources (Web links)	P. 34 – Resources – JCOS annual report. Please create a page for the annual report with some introductory language, and indicate the approximate date that the first annual report will be produced.	We have added the Annual Report, current year, to the Resources (Web links).
12/20/13	**Esther Kettering Dennis Carruth Jeff Keller M.L. Richardson**		Thank you for the opportunity to review and to provide comments regarding the referenced documents. The Jefferson County Open Space Program is an incredible asset for all of Jefferson County, with its over 55,000 acres (which includes conservation easements) generously spread out from the North to the South and from the East to the West of the County.Following are some comments and questions for consideration. These were generated by a number of stewards of private property including those who have signed this letter. The comments are numbered, more for ease of reference than specific order of priority as each of these comments are important.	Thank you for your comments and for coordinating them with several key individuals in the economic development community.
		Balance of Interests	BALANCE OF INTERESTS It would be very helpful to have representation from the economic development sector which could be accomplished by appointing at least 2 such representatives as city representatives, the County representatives, or the at large representatives on the Open Space Advisory Committee (“OSAC”). This would help to bring about a balance between open space and the need for economic development to help create jobs and sustain a healthy economy which also supports generation of the sales tax taht finances Open Space.	Anyone interested in an appointment to the Jefferson County Open Space Advisory Committee may submit their name to the Board of County Commissioners, specifically the Clerk to the Board.
		Landowner Options	LANDOWNER OPTIONS The opportunity for a landowner to "opt out" of considertation for acquistion by open space and the fact that open space purchases land only from a willing seller needs to be added in the first paragraph under "Framework for Land Acquisition" on page 18.	This language has been added.
		Biodiversity	BIODIVERSITY TERM A definition of "Biodiversity" needs to be added to the Glossary. A footnote identifying the Colorado Nature Heritage Program study and the date of the study needs to be included in both the Glossary and on Maps 4a and 4b to assist someone in locating that information.	We will add, biodiversity, to the Glossary. The CNHP study was contracted in 2010, went through 2011 and was completed in 2012. This is noted in the Glossary and Maps 4a and 4b will continue to note 2012.
		Natural Resources	NATURAL RESOURCES The importance of additional natural resources and assets which are needed by the general public for the future, such as water and commercial mineral deposits needs to be recognized and represented.	In the Framework For Land Acquistion, the section titled Acquisition Approaches and Tools notes that Jeffco Open Space can acquire land, water and mineral rights for preservation in a variety of different ways.
		Data	DATA Add a data table to both Map 1 (Open Spaces and Parks Private and Public) and Map 2 (Open Spaces and Parks Private and Public (without Pike National Forest). This data table would identify the number of acres in open space, both public and private, both fee simple and those held in conservation.	Just as the Master Plan is meant to be visionary in nature, the maps too are meant to be more illustrative and not to the level of detail of a data table. Since this document is somewhat static for 5 years we will instead have maps updated through the website that can reflect this kind of detail.
		Balance Sheet/Income Statement	BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME STATEMENT Include the Balance Sheet and Income Statement for Open Space, for at least the past 5 years.	A 5-year Income Statement has been provided on page 11 showing revenues, expenditures and total fund balance.

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		Natural Areas Plan	NATURAL AREAS PLAN Include a copy of the "Natural Areas Plan", referenced on page 28 of the Glossary, in the plan as an Appendix.	We deleted this reference to a Natural Areas Plan in the Glossary. It had been a relevant term in the 2008 Master Plan.
		References	LINKS TO REFERENCES Advise when the various links and graphics, referenced, but still in draft form, will be available for review.	These will be available upon adoption of the 2014 Master Plan.
			We appreciate that Jefferson County Open Space offers a variety of outdoor experiences ranging from walking around easily accessible parks to climbing mountain peaks (for the very physically fit) to ice skating, to fishing to mountain biking and other uses. It's no wonder that one of the first acquisitions of this program, Crown Hill, is still one of, if not the single most utilized park in the system, with its proximity to a large population, flat and easily accessible trails and available parking. We are truly fortunate to have so many assets both in our entities such as GOCO (lottery fund), Conservation Trust funds (Federal government to the states) and private entities as well. The opportunity to manage all of these lands on behalf of and for the benefit of the owners of these lands, the public, over the next 5 years presents challenges as the number of acres of ownership continues to grow. The word "balance" is used several times throughout the draft and relates to various concepts and competing interests, some of which are more compatible than others. These are the highlights of our comments and questions. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to a continued dialogue with Open Space.	Thank you for your comments.
12/20/13	**Kathleen Davey**	Listening Log	The "Listening Log" has a vast amount of valuable input and is well worth the read. I hope that Jefferson County staff with take serious heed to the comments. I would like to add that I am in agreement with much that was stated on pages 24-27 which speaks to public involvement, early on before development begins. Secondly, I am in *100% agreement with pages 58-65* which outlines an *Equestrian's Perspective and Economic Contribution to Jefferson County.* This well written article was submitted by Julie Chaney.	Thank you for your comments and your volunteer work.
12/20/13	**Erika Jerme**		Thank you for the opportunity to review the JCOS Master Plan. Overall, I am very impressed; I just have a few comments below. I think there is a great opportunity for JCOS and JCPH to work together to get kids especially outdoors and active. I have really enjoyed working with Will Lebzelter on our community health improvement plan, and look forward to continuing to collaborate with the Open Space crew!	Thank you for your comments.
		Acquisition Criteria	p. 13 / Acquisition criteria – p. 19, I think there is an opportunity here to mention linkages to public transportation and bike/walking trails – particularly given our aging population, increasing transit connectivity to our open spaces will ensure that more residents have access to them. I would also like to see connectivity with transit and bike/ped trails as a consideration in land acquisition. The West and Gold Lines bring opportunities to increase open space use by those who have not been able to access it in the past; anything we can do to increase access to our open spaces will enhance residents' appreciation of nature while also supporting health.	Our focus is on regional connections to public park and open space areas.

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Our Health	p. 14 Thank you for including this section! I think adding data around childhood physical activity and obesity rates here is very important. Only 39% of Jeffco children ages 5-14 met the physical activity guidelines in 2009. We are working to promote physical activity among children and hope to collaborate with Jeffco Open Space to get more kids active and outdoors.	We agree and have added this statistic on Jeffco children.
		Enhancing and Expanding Trail Experiences And Safety	p. 17 Making trails smoke-free would also enhance trail experiences and safety.	This has been added as something that can be studied.
		5-Year Goal 8, The Nature - Health Connection	p. 20 I don't understand the connection between developing additional maps and promoting health	The Nature-Health Connection (Goal 8) has a measurable outcome of producing 5 more regional Jeffco Outdoors maps. These will help illustrate the location and diversity of publicly accessible outdoor recreation and amenities close to home. There are many additional Strategies to further this Nature-Health Connection goal.
		Under Visitor Stewardship Strategies	p. 22 "Create **smoker**-free environments at all Jeffco Open Space Parks" should be "**smoke**-free" – just excluding smoke, not people! JCPH strongly supports the adoption of a robust smoke-free policy by Open Space, and we feel that it will significantly enhance the experience of park visitors by protecting them from direct and second-hand smoke. After all, people go to open spaces for fresh air, and most probably do not want to breathe in second-hand smoke on their hike!	The word "smoker" was preferred since smoke could indicate smoke from things other than tobacco, such as campfires.
12/20/13	**Jane Cole**	Founding Mandate and Mission	As the Master Plan is continuing to be developed, I want to reiterate my belief that Open Space continues to need strong support for its founding mandate and mission. That is, to purchase and preserve open space. There are many competing interests for our lands. Remaining true to the vision of the volunteers and citizens that created the Open Space program should continue to be the Plan.	Thank you for your comments.
12/20/13	**Molly Hanson, Jefferscon County Public Health**		Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the 2013 Jeffco Open Space (JCOS) Master Plan process. Due to the increase in obesity and chronic disease rates, Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) promotes the incorporation of health in planning documents with employers, health care systems, local governments and other partners to support sustainable approaches to health. Jefferson County Public Health applauds JCOS for prioritizing health in your current planning process.	Thank you for your comments.
			1. <u>Population Growth and Demographics in Current Conditions, Changes and Trends</u>	
		Population Growth and Demographics	This information on the unique composition of Jefferson County residents is critical for making evidence-based decisions about open space acquisition, maintenance, and programming. We are particularly pleased to see the inclusion of data on Jeffco's aging population and increasing Hispanic/Latino population, as well as the discussion on increasing accessibility of open space parks and programs for "the vast majority of Jeffco residents."	Thank you for your comments.
			2. <u>Our Health in Current Conditions, Changes and Trends</u>	

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Our Health	We are pleased to see health remain a priority for JCOS in the coming years. Interdisciplinary partnerships are one of the most effective ways to address the challenges we face; the inclusion of Jefferson County Public Health and the Community Health Assessment (2013) is a good step forward.	Thank you for your comments.
			3. Create Smoke Free Environments in Visitor Stewardship Strategies	
		Smoke Free Environments	We are proud to see that the current draft of the plan includes the decision to create a smoke free environments policy. We strongly support the creation of a robust smoke-free policy in order to protect the health of open space users from direct and second hand smoke. We appreciate the healthy use of public facilities, as well as the responsible stewardship of natural resources.	Thank you for your comments.
			We recommend the inclusion of the following items in the next draft of the plan:	
			Data on Childhood Obesity in Our Health	
		Childhood Obesity	One of the most troubling health indicators in Colorado is the steep increase in childhood obesity. We are glad to see discussion in the plan about childhood screen-time, and data on adult obesity, but in order to show a true commitment to ensuring another generation of physically active land stewards, it is critical to include data on obesity in those less than 18 years of age.	We added the statistic, Only 39% of Jeffco children ages 5-14 met the physical activity guidelines in 2009, as requested in a comment above.

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Acquisition Criteria	Acquisition Criteria Removed Since the 10/14/13 Draft*Previous drafts included acquisition criteria for which we were very much in support. We would like to see the reinstatement of the following criteria:* "Community and neighborhood trail access to outdoor recreation and public transportation." Acquiring property because it increases accessibility to open space through a variety of transportation modes ensures that a broad base of users can enjoy the benefits of open space. With the introduction of light rail stations to Jefferson County, there is a distinct opportunity to channel open space users from these permanent, high-volume locations. We think that acquiring land that makes open space accessible via public transportation is valuable for the health of our community. "Properties which support outdoor recreation and physical activity recommendation from studies and plans such as Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and the Jeffco Public (Community) Health Improvement Plan (2014-2018)." Regardless of whether they were recommended by an external partner or by internal identification, the acquisition of property specifically because it supports outdoor recreation and physical activity is in keeping with JCOS's stewardship principle of *Healthy Lifestyles* ."Buffers and separation of developed communities." The use of open space as a buffer around and between developments is an appropriate function of open space that aligns with the "greenbelt and agricultural buffer zones" language in the original Jefferson County resolution allowing for the open space sales tax. Even though JCOS has not used this as an acquisition criteria in the past, it is still an important tool that can support healthy community	The Nature-Based Experiences Acquisition Criteria include the following, d) Community and neighborhood access to nature-based experiences, outdoor recreation, open space and parklands. Our current focus is on regional connections to public park and open space areas.
			Bullet #3 of The Nature-Health Connection Strategies	
		Nature-Health Connection Strategies	We suggest including the following: "Partner with Jeffco Public Health and use the Healthy People Healthy Places Community Health Assessment (2013) *and Community Health Improvement Plan (2014-2018)* for Jefferson County to promote healthy lifestyles." The Community Health Assessment is a compilation of health-related data, separate from the Community Health Improvement Plan, which is an implementable set of strategies for improving health across the county.	This reference to the Community Health Improvement Plan (2014-2018) has been included in this Strategy.
			Thank you again for the opportunity to offer recommendations on the Open Space plan.	Thank you for your comments and participation in this Master Plan process.
12/21/13	**Keith Dunbar (Kirkland, WA)**		I lived in Evergreen CO for some 15 years and have been a long-time supporter of the program.	Thank you for your comments.
		Once Bonds are Retired	1. As bonds are retired, urge the placement of the majority of funds that are "freed up" into future land acquisition programs. Funding for land purchases (both fee title and conservation easements) should be a larger percentage of annual expenditures in the program budget.	These will be considerations for the next 5-year Master Plan (2019).

Date	Name	Topic	Comment	Action
		Acquisition	2. Consider purchase of the former Anna Erickson Ranch along North Turkey Creek Road west of US Highway 285 just east of the Marshdale area. It has outstanding rock reatures, and wonderful scenic vistas and would be excellent open space for hiking and horse use. It also could provide links to other protected areas.	Thank you for your comments.
		Front Range Mountain Backdrop	3. It's important to continue to acquire both conservation easements and fee title (where appropriate) on ranch lands and other open lands along US 93 between Golden and the Boulder County line in order to maintain the open character of this very important corridor. It's important to protect the scenic backdrop of the first uplift of the Rocky Mountains which occur all along the hogback areas of Jefferson County. In addition to the scenic beauty, these areas have lots of geological and biological significance as a transition zone between the high plains to the east and the forested Rocky Mountain front to the west. Thanks and continue the good work of the program!	We agree and have this area labeled on our maps as the Front Range Mountain Backdrop/Foreground. Please see Map 3, Scenic Resources
12/30/13	**Advisory Subcommittee**	Mission Statement		Mission Statement: To acquire property rights for the preservation of open space and parklands, protect natural and park resources, and provide for healthy nature-based experiences.
		Preserve and Preservation		Alter definitions for both Preserve and Preservation
		Organization Chart		Change Jeffco Open Space Foundation to Jeffco Ourdoors Foundation
		Dollar Allocation		Deleted last sentence regarding this Dollar Allocation survey question assessment.
		Chart for Current Conditions, Changes & Trends, Challenges & Opportunities, and Goals		Reassess and include specific Goals and Strategies for each category
		Strategies		Altered the Land Preervation Strategies
				Altered the Land Stewardship Strategy 2(b)
				Altered the Communications and Community Involvement Strategy 4(b)
				Added either partnership, partner or collaborate to all Strategies
		Annual Monitoring and Reporting		Added Section 8, Annual Monitoring and Reporting to indicate how this will occur annually for the 5-year Master Plan.

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