

PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED AS OF April 2, 2014

Here is additional information that will be provided to members of the public expressing concern about the Jeffco Public Shooting Range Working Group efforts at this point:

The Board of County Commissioners asked Tom Hoby, Director of Open Space and Parks, to investigate the feasibility of a public shooting range in Jefferson County. The Commissioners assigned this task to Mr. Hoby because they felt that the Open Space group had the greatest expertise in outdoor recreation and because they had confidence in our ability to objectively evaluate this type of facility and process public input. It is not a foregone conclusion that there will be a public shooting range in Jeffco or that if one is developed that it will be on Open Space land. The current process is to evaluate the feasibility of a shooting range including needs, locations, costs to develop and operate, environmental concerns and many other considerations.

This project has also engaged a public involvement process. We formed a Working Group to study this issue that is comprised of various interests and areas of expertise. All of these meetings are being professionally facilitated by Jeffco Mediation Services and are open to the public to monitor and make comments. This group will issue a report to the Commissioners this July. To follow the Public Shooting Range Working Group activities please see their agenda, documents and notes at www.jeffco.us/parks/documents under the heading Public Shooting Range Working Group.

From: Thea Rock
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 3:21 PM
To: 'Jane Cole'
Subject: RE: Possible Gun Range.

Hello Jane.

We received your comments regarding the working group exploring a possible public shooting range in Jefferson County. I've forwarded your email on to the members of the working group and the coordinator, Nancy York. If you would like to follow the discussions, please see the associated documents that are posted on the website under the heading of Jeffco Public Shooting Range Working Group

Jeffco.us/parks/documents

Thea Rock
Communications Manager
Jeffco Open Space
303-271-5902 direct
720-556-3354 mobile

jeffco.us/parks
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From: Jane Cole [mailto:jldcole@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 5:54 PM
To: Thea Rock
Subject: Possible Gun Range.

100% opposed to the idea of a gun range. This is not the conservation that voters voted for. It has NO validity for Open Space. I don't know about Parks & Rec but No for Open Space.

I do hope that this is NOT the direction that Jeffco Open Space is wanting to trend.

Sincerely, Jane Cole

From: Thea Rock
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 3:24 PM
To: 'Area Appraisals'
Cc: osadvisorycommittee; lauriewalterslangle@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Shooting RAnge Proposal

Hello Evelyn,

We received your comments regarding the working group exploring a possible public shooting range in Jefferson County. I've forwarded your email on to the members of the working group and the coordinator, Nancy York. If you would like to follow the discussions, please see the associated documents that are posted on the website under the heading of Jeffco Public Shooting Range Working Group

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From: Area Appraisals [mailto:giveahoot7@outlook.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 2:07 PM
To: Thea Rock; osadvisorycommittee; lauriewalterslangley@gmail.com
Subject: Shooting RANge Proposal

To the Members of the Jefferson County Open Space Advisory Committee:

I'd like to register my disagreement with the proposed Shooting Range on JCOS property. I believe that JCOS was established to preserve our open space, conserve native species and habitat and promote the quiet enjoyment of these spaces.

1. A shooting range will detract from the quiet enjoyment of Open Space.
2. It will increase environmental pollution, as well as noise and traffic. The chemicals present in ammunition, such as lead and gunpowder ingredients, would end up on the land, in the air, in the runoff and in streams and ponds. While these chemicals, even in smaller amounts, have poisoned water fowl and amphibians, if they are concentrated in one area, such as a shooting range, it is likely they will produce regrettable and unnecessary pollution.
3. It will be very difficult to prevent undesirable behaviors at and near the range. Hikers and wildlife may be in danger when overzealous shooters testing out their skills take aim at passing squirrels or flying geese. The cost of patrolling would be very high.
4. Shot can travel very far through trees. Hikers, unaware of the dangers, can be shot. We do not want hunting in JCOS. There are many other places that hunters can go.
5. Private shooting ranges exist. These ranges pay taxes and other expenses. It is unfair to place them in competition with a public-sponsored, non-tax-paying enterprise. JCOS will use our funds, so desperately needed for preserving habitat and wildlife, to pay for personnel, buildings, roads and associated expenses, while competing with private companies that must pay all their own costs.
6. We should try to prevent commercial development of Open Space and fragmentation of habitat through road and building construction. A building for the shooters would require development of water and sewer utilities, as well as trash collection and removal; then snow plowing. Soon there will be requests for heating and air conditioning of the shooters' building and food and drink concessions.
7. Construction is not and should not be part of the mission of JCOS. Allowing a shooting range will change the purpose of JCOS so that people with other commercial interests will fight to carve out their domains. These may include motorized off-road vehicle enthusiasts, such as ATV lovers. It is not the purpose of JCOS to satisfy the desires of all people.

Thank you very much for your kind attention to my view.

Evelyn Simpson,
Resident of Jefferson County, CO