Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



1) What is the Open Space, Parks, Recreation and Trails (OSPRT) Master Plan?

The Open Space, Parks, Recreation and Trails (OSPRT) Master Plan is intended to serve as a road map to translate community input into measurable achievements such as acquiring and developing additional open space and park land or developing parks and trails. The Plan is meant to be reviewed and amended to remain current with changing conditions within and outside Broomfield.

The plan includes an analysis of Broomfield's current and future needs for open space, parks, recreation, and trails facilities and outlines specific implementation strategies that will assist in achieving the community's goals to protect and preserve Broomfield's natural resources.

2) What are "open lands" in Broomfield?

Within the City and County of Broomfield, open lands are defined as public and private lands acquired or preserved in the public interest. They serve a variety of functions including conserving and protecting natural, cultural, historic or scenic resources, providing opportunities for recreation, shaping the pattern of growth and development, and preserving agricultural resources. The term "open lands" is an umbrella concept that encompasses three subsidiary designations: park/recreation areas, open space, and other open lands.

3) What are the objectives of the Master Plan?

Create Connected Public Spaces

An interconnected open lands system – parks and open space linked by contiguous parcels and trails and allowing children to walk or bike from home to school to play – has emerged as a recurring theme for Broomfield residents.

• Establish a Strong Community Image and Identity

This goal speaks directly to the qualities of the places that are the "heart and soul" of Broomfield. The qualities that residents value provide

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direction regarding the types of properties that should be acquired in the future, and the care with which they should be enhanced and/or developed.

Maintain Sound Stewardship of Open Lands

This goal addresses several values that residents hold dear: preservation of significant natural resources, accommodating human use in a manner that preserves the underlying resource, and using materials and technologies that are environmentally responsible and sustainable.

Develop a Proactive Approach to Meeting Future Needs

This goal is designed to ensure that facilities and programs are developed proactively, in advance of population growth, rather than simply reacting. It also addresses the need to accommodate yet unknown future recreational and open lands desires and preferences within the community.

Ensure Equitable Distribution

This goal is intended to ensure that all areas of the city and county have comparable access to open space, parks, trails, and recreation facilities and programs.

4) How often are OSPRT Master Plans updated?

OSPRT Master Plans are updated periodically updated to reflect current trends and needs. Community input was gathered in 2002 to inform the adoption of the 2005 Master Plan. Currently, a new series of community engagement activities are underway to collect community feedback to refresh the current Master Plan.

5) How will community input be used to update the Master Plan?

Step 1: Qualitative comments *(community conversations)* and quantitative data *(community survey results)* will be collected and evaluated.

Step 2: Community feedback will be used to inform a technical analysis of the current and future open land needs of Broomfield.

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Step 3: The technical analysis along with community feedback will be presented to the City and County of Broomfield (CCOB) committees: *Open Space and Trails Advisory Committee (OSTAC)* and *Parks, Recreation and Senior Services Advisory Committee (PRSSAC)* to prepare recommendations for Broomfield City Council consideration. The committee members have been appointed by the City Council to work on these topics. Their meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

Step 4: Community input and the results of the technical analysis will be presented to the City Council as they consider updates to the current Master Plan.

6) What is the timeline for the Master Plan Refresh??

The planning process is now underway and is estimated to wrap-up around the end of 2023.

7) How are OSPRT improvements funded?

In 1994, a one-quarter cent sales and use tax rate was passed by Broomfield voters, instituting the city's first dedicated revenue source for open space and park acquisition. 80% of these sales and use tax revenues are earmarked for open space acquisition and 20% are earmarked for park land acquisition and development.

In 2001, Broomfield voters approved the elimination of the "sunset" provision of the sales and use tax, allowing it to continue in perpetuity unless altered by voters. Voters also approved allowing the sales and use tax dollars to be used for acquisition, protection, and long-term maintenance of open space, natural areas, wildlife habitat and trails and 20% to be spent for parks and park development.

8) How is the city promoting and gathering community feedback?

The city will be hosting a combination of focus group discussions, information booths at community events, conversations with diverse populations, and using newsletters and social media platforms to encourage residents to complete the

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community survey, which will be offered in four languages other than English (Spanish, Vietnamese, Hmong and Chinese).

Updates on progress will be available throughout the process on a variety of platforms including the BroomfieldVoice.com project page, B in the Loop newsletters, and on social media platforms.

9) How can I stay engaged?

Take the community survey by clicking this <u>link</u>. Stay up to date with the project's progress through <u>B in the Loop newsletters</u> and updates on <u>BroomfieldVoice.com/osprtmasterplan</u>. Don't have internet access? Call us at 303.223.6590 with any questions or comments.