

PARKS COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting Minutes

Sept 4, 2025

City Hall Executive Conference Room 141

Present: Erin Trimble (Vice Chair), Pete Gassner, Jeannie Cote-Lashonse, Eve Ponder, Brad Porterfield, Shawna Hicks
Council Liaison: Shannon Wedding
Absent: Shannon Wedding, Alan Ewert (Chair)
RAPRD Ex Officio: Katie Hammer (Absent)
Youth Ex Officio: Alison Aguilar
Staff Present: Special Projects and Natural Resource Manager Maria Ramirez, Arborist Avery McChristian, Recorder Brenda Pelly, Public Works Operations Manager Josh Wedding.

CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Co-Chair Erin Trimble called the meeting to order at 3:34PM. A quorum was established.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Maria announced that part of the Parks Committee role is involvement in the water conservation program. A survey will be sent to the committee members to rate the aesthetics of the water-wise projects.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- August 7, 2025, minutes. Add the fuels reduction plan discussion to the minutes. Brad Motioned to approve the minutes, Jeannie 2nd the motion. Unanimously approved.

DISCUSSIONS/ ACTION ITEMS

- Follow-up of the Joint Council meeting.
 - The mayor asked what the committee thought would be potential opportunities to connect with the council and to help with the growth of the city. Requested that the Chair and Co-chair meet quarterly with the council.
 - Members said connectivity between the park systems, fire wise planning, increased enforcement in the parks. Other comments were, off leash dogs, how we invest our money, and the Master Plan completion. Many of these ideas will be joint efforts with other committees.
 - Erin said it was helpful to hear the mayor remind us that we have spent a lot of time, money and planning for the development of Quartz Park & Dry Canyon project. As we have been trying to decide on our next community park, our community is more than just the Dry Canyon and that recommending our next community park as Elkhorn would be the direction that they would be most supportive of.
 - Brad asked about the Elkhorn Park process, and when it would start.
 - Maria stated that the current CIP for that property wouldn't start until FY 2028. The land is in the urban reserve boundary, and the property needs to be included into the Urban growth boundary and then annexed into the city limits. After all the development and concepts are determined and approved, breaking ground on the park may be during FY 31-32.
 - Each member spoke of their experience. They all agreed that it was helpful and were hopeful that there will be continued meetings to discuss topics we are working on.
 - When asked about the delay of approving the Parks Master Plan. Maria said that it seems it's regarding the level of edits the council is requesting, then we can work towards completing the plan.

UPDATES

- Maintenance & Operations updates – Dusty reported the following,
- Prepping to wind down irrigation season, blowing out sprinklers, closing the bathrooms in mid-late October dependent on weather, freezing temps.
 - Re-seeding the burnt area in the canyon this fall.
 - Spray pad last day of operation Sept 7, 2025.
 - Cameras in the parks, updated cameras in centennial park, new cameras in spruce park, varnish park. Cameras will be installed at the skate park and pickleball courts next.
 - Pump track maintenance ongoing, fixing cracks in asphalt & crack sealing.
 - Irrigation repairs at new Dry Canyon construction site, Highland Ave ADA repairs. All new construction areas.
 - New pour-in-place fall protection at Hope Playground starting should be completed by the end of the month. Eliminating the seams, that is where the most damage occurred.
 - Brad asked if there is a possibility of youth helping with restoration of burnt areas. Dusty asked him to reach out to him with ideas.

ADDITIONAL MEMBER & CITIZEN COMMENTS:

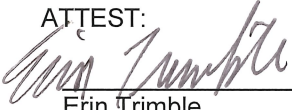
UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS:

- October – CIP Project overview
- November – Final CIP Discussion
- December – Arbor Day Planning

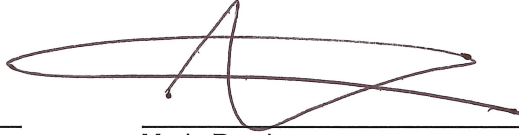
ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 4:45PM.

APPROVED by and SIGNED by me this 6 day of November, 2025.

ATTEST:



Erin Trimble
Parks Committee Co-Chair



Maria Ramirez
Special Projects and Natural Resource Program Manager