



PARKS & RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE

AGENDA

WORK SESSION

Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 2 PM | Youth Board Room, City Hall

1. Call meeting to order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Deferred to Feb.
3. Public Comment - Limit to three minutes per person
4. Continued Business: Parks and Trails Plan Work Session



7. Committee Comments or Concerns:
8. Announcement of the next meeting
February 9th at 4 PM
9. Adjournment

Parks and Recreation Committee

Members

Amanda Bohrer | John Molendyke | John Skibsrud

Public Opinion Survey Results

Question 1: How often do you or your household use Deer Lodge parks and trails?

Options	Respondents	Response Percent
1-5 visits per year	15	24.2%
6-10 visits per year	9	14.5%
11-20 visits per year	7	11.3%
21-50 visits per year	12	19.4%
50+ visits per year	19	30.6%
No response	0	0

Question 2: What types of amenities and improvements are most needed in Deer Lodge area parks and trails?

Options	Respondents	Response Percent
Shelters and seating	20	32.3%
Restrooms	30	48.4%
Pet friendliness	25	40.3%
Maintenance	31	50%
Accessibility for wheelchairs	14	22.6%
Softball/baseball fields	10	16.1%
More/improved playgrounds or specialized play areas	27	43.6%
More/improved trails	30	48.4%
Better lighting for safety	32	51.6%
Parking	5	8.1%
Other	9	14.5%
No response	1	1.6%

Responses to "Other" will be included in the summary for Question 5.

*Maintenance
Dog
Horses on trails.*

Question 5: Other Comments

- A restroom halfway through would be nice as well as a few more poo bag boxes. Perhaps another garbage can or two to drop the bags into :). A dog park area would be awesome too :).
- "We need a dog park so people do not let their dogs just run on the trails
- Don't wait 20 years to get things done
- Need an archery range, one that the city would mow and keep in good shape, but ran by volunteers, we could do fund raising to replace targets as needed, then sell memberships to access a separate area to shoot 3d targets.
- A fenced dog park would be great for the East Arrowstone park so they can run and enjoy the big field and not worry about cars. Also it would be nice if the Yellowstone trail North of town could connect with Deer Lodge or Grant Kohrs. I think more people would use the trails if they can get on them in Deer lodge instead of driving to Rock Creek.
- It would be wonderful if the existing parks could be improved to provide more opportunities for kids. Missoula, Helena, and Butte all have amazing parks with updated equipment like zip lines and splash pads. Maintenance is also an issue. JC park gets so overgrown around the playground equipment that I've considered bringing my own mower to fix it, but I didn't know if that is allowed. Westside park is looking much better, but it doesn't offer much. All ballfields and courts need help, too.
- I greatly appreciate all the efforts to improve our home!!
- I honestly worry about allowing the public free reign to Grant Kohrs Historic site especially after dark.
- Thank you for doing this!
- When we moved back to Deer Lodge last winter the only trail I knew anything about was Arrow and I thought it was really small. Imagine my surprise to find out how long it is! It would be wonderful if it also went north along the river, as well. I recently heard about a trail that is planned for the old Milwaukee rail bed from Deer Lodge to Garrison. YAY! That could be a great bike trail.
- Equine use should be allowed on trails wherever feasible. It's part of the history of the valley. People currently ride at Grant Kohrs & it's a good location to use in early spring before the snow leaves the mountains
- We are in rural Montana. Trails should be open to responsible animal access. We should even have equine use as an option on some trails, especially those that are in remote areas or outside the city limits. We have a local Back Country Horseman group that volunteers tons of time to trail improvements. If horses are allowed on trails they could volunteer for things like hauling out litter or hauling in supplies for trail improvements. Thank you for your efforts to improve our community !
- Make some trails equine friendly!
- So happy to see continued commitments to trails and a healthy community!
- First of all, the City needs to prioritize basic maintenance to their existing parks and trails and ensure they are safe for children and receive adequate mowing and watering.

- New restored ball fields with better seating/stands
- Outdoor playground next to the ball fields
- Indoor recreation building
- Public restrooms
- Restrooms
- West Side Park
 - Seating and shade
 - Trees
- Hillcrest Cemetery
 - Public restrooms
- Outdoor Education Trail
 - Provide a track map
- Clark Fork River Park
 - Dog park and shelter
 - Labeled parking
 - Connect proposed and existing trails to Grant Kohrs. Love to walk and cross-country ski here!
- Arrowstone Park
 - Connect east and west side

City of Deer Lodge

Potential Funding Opportunities

Opportunity	Description	Requirements	Notes
Montana State Parks Recreational Trails Program (RTP) - Standard Grant - \$10,000 - \$69,999 - Big Grant - \$70,000 - \$100,000	Funding for the development, renovation, and maintenance of recreational trails and trailside facilities.	Next application date: February 1, 2021; application period open November 2020 Match: 20%	Deer Lodge is currently using this grant program for the Jaycee Park Trails project. The grant is open until construction is complete – planned for Spring/Summer 2021. Progress on the current project will be considered on any grant applications submitted while there is still an open grant in progress.
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Trail Stewardship Grant Program - Up to \$50,000	Funding for the development, renovation, and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized recreational trails and trailside facilities throughout Montana and in its communities.	Next application date: February 1, 2021; application period open November 2020 Match: 10%	
Montana State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF) - Up to \$250,000	Funding to help local communities provide open spaces and healthy recreation places for Montana families - ball fields, open space acquisitions, public parks, outdoor swimming pools, playgrounds, picnic facilities, walking trails.	Next application date: Must complete a pre-application to be eligible for application; application period began November 2020 and closes November 2021 – rolling application cycle Match: 50%	Deer Lodge is in the process of closing out this grant on the Westside Park Playground.
Montana State Parks Community Pond Program - Up to \$25,000	Enhance fishing opportunities in or near Montana communities by providing funding that may be used to construct or improve public fishing ponds.	Next application date: February 2021 Match: 30%	
MDT Transportation Alternatives Program - Typical grants range from \$200,000 - \$500,000	Funding for smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.	Next application date: Call for new TA applications opens February 2021 Match: 13.42% (cash)	TA funding was used for the ADA corner upgrades in Downtown Deer Lodge. That project should be complete by the time the new grant cycle is opened.
Montana Main Street - Generally capped at \$10,000	Coordination and technical assistance, focused on a comprehensive approach to restoring healthy community districts, and preserving the historic structures that contribute to Montana's unique sense of place. Funding can be used for planning or tangible brick-and-mortar projects that support downtown revitalization efforts.	Next application date: opened December 8, 2020 and remains open on a revolving basis Likely not a good source for trail funding but could potentially be used for wayfinding activities related to downtown portions of the project. Match: 1:5	Deer Lodge has a grant to provide signage at the north gateway utilizing this grant. That project is expected to be complete Spring 2021. Another grant for signage was submitted to the Montana Tourism Grant program in December, 2021.
People for Bikes Community Grants - Up to \$25,000	Provides funding for projects that build momentum for bicycling in communities across the United States. These projects include bike paths and trails, as well as mountain bike trails and bike parks. The program is funded by partners in the bicycle industry.	Next application date: Typically one or two grant cycles per year. Match: None required but won't consider requests in which funding would amount to 50% or more of the project budget.	
NPS Challenge Cost Share Program - Up to \$25,000	Funds projects that promote conservation and recreation, environmental stewardship, education, and engaging diverse youth participants in national parks, trails, heritage areas, and wild and scenic rivers.	Next application date: None set but anticipate May 2021 Match: 50%	
BF Goodrich Tires Outstanding Trails Grant - \$5,000	The mission of Outstanding Trails is to respect access, keep trails clean, and keep trails open.	Next application date: through August 1, 2021	Funds available through application by local trails groups.
USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program	Funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas including street improvements (sidewalks).	Next application date: Open cycle Match: generally no match but funding is a combination of loan and grant.	

Possible options for ball field improvements that would be most appropriately applied for by local community groups include:

- Safe Places to Play Grants
- Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTW) Grants
- Baseball Tomorrow Fund/Major League Baseball
- Scotts Field Refurbishment Program

Why doesn't the Hospital Park connect to the Indian Creek Campground

CITY OF DEER LODGE TRAILS & SIDEWALKS



Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historical Site

County Fairgrounds

Jaycee Park

Outdoor Education Center

Cottonwood City Park

Arrowstone Park

Clark Fork River Park

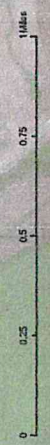
Trask Park

West Side Park

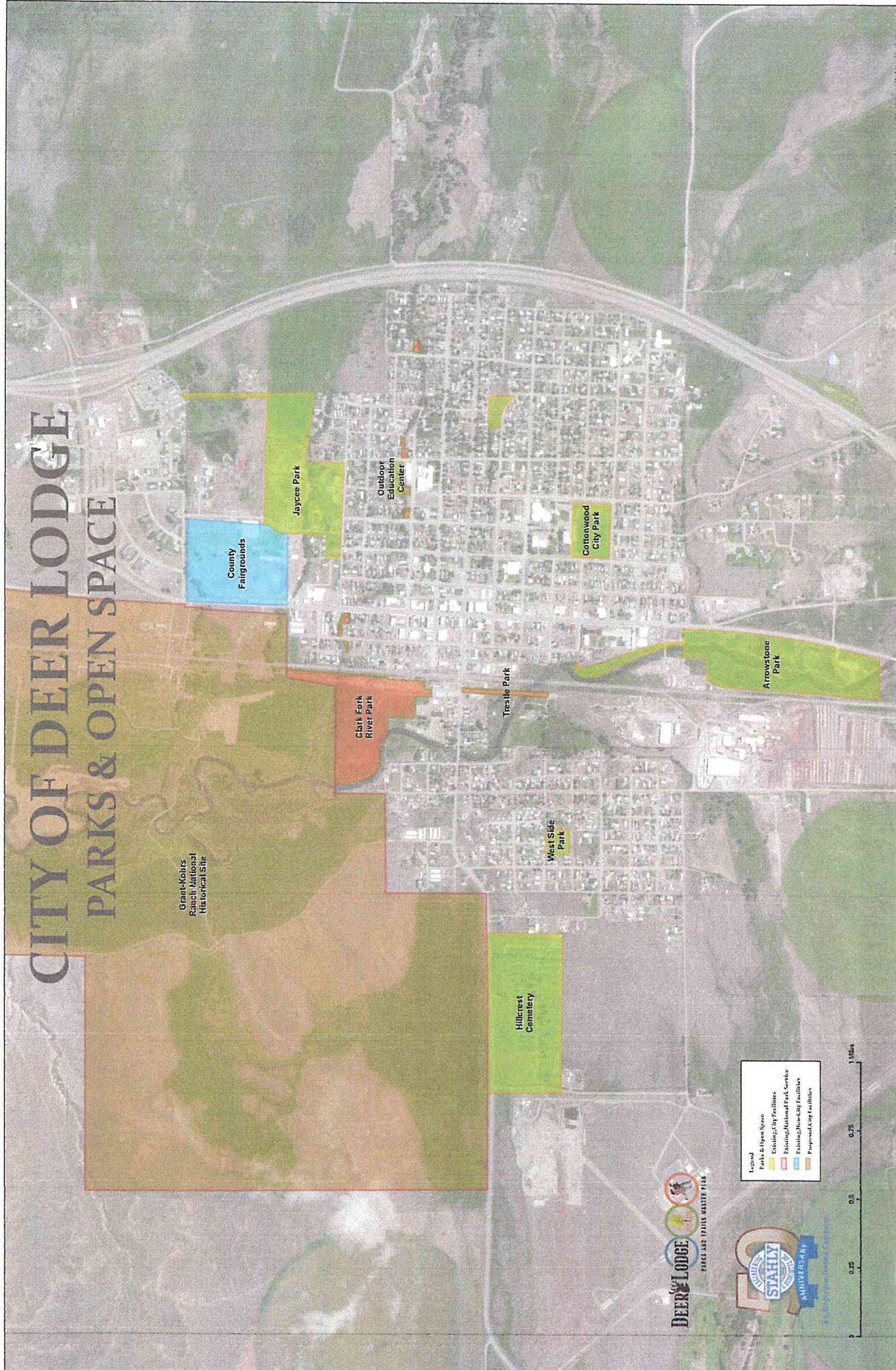
Hillcrest Cemetery



Legend	
Trail	---
Existing	---
Proposed	---
Park	---
Park & Open Space	---
Existing City Facilities	---
Existing National Park Service	---
Existing County Facilities	---
Proposed City Facilities	---



CITY OF DEER LODGE PARKS & OPEN SPACE



Grand-Kohls
Ranch National
Historical Site

County
Fairgrounds

Jaycee Park

Outdoor
Education
Center

Cottonwood
City Park

Arrowsome
Park

Hillcrest
Cemetery

West Side
Park

Clark Fork
River Park

Treble Park



Proposed Parks & Open Space	Existing City Facilities
Existing National Park Service	Existing Non-City Facilities
Proposed City Facilities	

