

# PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Meeting Agenda March 12, 2025 6:00 PM

Location: Leeper Center Community Room
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- A. Roll Call
- B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (time limit of 3 minutes per person).
- C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
  - a. February 12, 2025
- D. BOARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
  - a. Guest Speaker: Alexis Kennedy
    - i. Community Garden Feasibility Study
  - b. Events
    - i. St. Paddy's Day
      - Shamrock .5k Fun Run
      - Parade
      - Centennial Event
    - ii. Arbor Day
    - iii. Kids to Park Day

- iv. 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- v. Town Events
- c. Dock Ceremony
  - i. Schedule
- d. WCP Memorial
  - i. Update
- e. Park Tours
  - i. Schedule Dates
- f. PROST Master Plan and Community Center Feasibility Study
  - i. Updates
- g. Outreach and Marketing
  - i. Build List
- h. Library Shade
- i. Future Calendar
- E. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces and Trails)
  - a. Town Staff
    - i. Parks
    - ii. Recreation
    - iii. Open Spaces
    - iv. Trails
  - b. Board of Trustee Liaison
  - c. PROST Board Members
    - i. Park Updates

**ADJOURNMENT** 



#### PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Meeting Notes February 19, 2025

Location: Leeper Center Community Room

#### **PROST Meeting Notes and Agenda**

**Date**: February 19, 2025 **Time**: 6:05pm - 7:47pm

Attendees: John Evans, Lorilyn Bockelman, Sarah Braun, Joe Burke, Jessi Roper, Billy Cooksey, Eric

Henschel (all in person); Aaron McConnell (virtual)

Absent: Rebekah Dailey

#### A. Roll Call

• Completed.

#### **B. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

No public comments.

#### C. Consideration of Minutes

- December 11, 2024:
  - Motion to approve by Jessi.
    - Seconded by Sarah.
  - Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

## D. Board Review and Discussion/Action Items

- 1. Guest Speaker: Alexis Kennedy (absent from today's meeting)
  - Community Garden Feasibility Study:
    - Alexis will present in March.

#### 2. WCP Memorial

- Update:
  - Discussion about the space and potential for additional space at the back.
  - Everyone is asked to review the space and provide feedback.

#### Naming - Action:

- Motion to name the Veteran's area as "Veteran's Gardens at Wellington Community Park" by Lorilyn Bockelman was unanimously approved.
- Billy will follow up with the Board of Trustees (BOT) for naming approval.

#### 3. PROST Master Plan and Community Center Feasibility Study

#### Updates:

- Six proposals were received; five were validated.
- The group deliberated and decided to move forward with second interviews for several finalists.
- The project is expected to take 12-18 months, possibility of Master Plan and Feasibility to be created simultaneously.
- Once offer extended and accepted; involvement from PROST and town will be required. Considering individual and team meetings, stakeholder meetings, ton halls and many outreach opportunities.
- John and Aaron to keep PROST updated.

#### 4. St. Paddy's Day Festival and Parade

#### Update, Fun Run, Planning:

- Scheduled for March 15, with various activities including a .5/.7K Fun Run, parade, and potential beer garden.
- Proceeds from the Fun Run will go towards the WCP Veteran's Garden.
- Volunteer coordination by Billy and TOW.
  - John, Jessi, Robert, Eric available to support
  - Sarah and Joe not available day of; Lorilyn at coffee shop
  - Lorilyn suggested photo booth- connect with Halloween vendor
- Event promotion is critical- everyone to share through social media outlets.
- Road closures and event details discussed.
- Promotion and volunteer support needed.

# 5. Arbor Day

#### Planning and Volunteers:

- Scheduled for April 26 at Harvest Park.
- Activities include tree planting and promoting the Master Plan.

- Coordination with the Library and other partners.
- Proclamation by Board of Trustee Billy
- PROST should have Booth for promotion
  - o Will the Maps be ready?

#### 6. National Kids to Parks Day

- Expansion to Multiple Parks: Proposal to expand events to potentially five parks, with the main event being a Fishing Derby at Wellville in partnership with Kiwanis.
- Community Engagement: Need for PROST members to engage with the community during events.
- Treasure/Scavenger Hunt: Suggested activities include a treasure/scavenger hunt across all parks and a summer reading program with park visits.
- Park Activities: Various activities such as "Find the gems" at Winnick Park, "Find the paws and bugs" at WCP, a Pirate Party at the Pirate Park, and movie nights.
- Promotional Ideas: Emphasis on promotional activities like pencil rubbing, taking photos, and tagging Parks & Rec on social media, with ideas for Larimer Park Pass and National Park Pass.

#### 7. Future Calendar

- Discussions about various events and activities, including the 4th of July, ADA Dock opening, and park tours.
- Emphasis on community engagement and fundraising for the Master Plan and Veteran's Garden.
- Park tours scheduled for March and April.
  - Eric/Billy will send out poll/dates
  - Park Tour Scheduling: Plan to schedule park tours in early April, potentially breaking them into two sessions.
  - Vision Input for Master Plan: Emphasis on gathering everyone's vision and input for each park to contribute to the Master Plan.
  - Obligation to Taxpayers: Acknowledgment of the responsibility to give the Master Plan the necessary attention due to taxpayer funding.
  - Individual and Small Group Tours: Suggestion for everyone to take their own tours and make recommendations, with smaller groups tackling parks separately.
  - Centralized Idea Repository: Creation of a centralized living document called "Parks" where everyone can contribute ideas for each park.

 Discussion around connected Town calendars: Chamber of Commerce, Main Street, PROST, Town of Wellington- how can we centralize?

# E. Announcements (Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces and Trails)

#### 1. Town Staff

- Parks:
  - Updates on park projects and improvements, including WCP, Library Park, and Wellville Ponds.

#### • Recreation:

• Various recreational activities and events planned.

#### Open Spaces:

• Collaboration with local and regional partners to expand open spaces.

#### • Trails:

- Efforts to connect trails with neighboring areas: Larimer County, LPO, City of Fort Collins all willing to collaborate to connect trails to Wellington
- Fort Collins is currently in progress with their Master Plan update

## 2. Board of Trustee Liaison (Rebekah absent)

• No specific updates mentioned.

#### 3. **PROST Board Members**

- Park Updates:
  - Updates on park projects and improvements.
  - Waiting on Safe Routes grant for bike station installs.

## Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

#### **Wellington Community Garden Feasibility Study**

#### DRAFT

January 2025

#### **Alexis Kennedy**

Herein are the findings of a community survey evaluating the feasibility of a community garden in the town of Wellington, Colorado. Summarized below are the initial goals of the survey, key findings, general recommendations for the future of the project, and details regarding the data collection. Included at the end of this report is a table summarizing the entirety of the survey results.

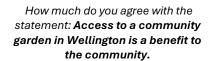
Firstly, I wish to acknowledge the support of several individuals and organizations that helped in the development and implementation of this survey as part of my Girl Scout Silver Award. I wish to thank Billy Cooksey, the Wellington Parks and Recreation Department, and the PROST advisory board. Additionally, community members who helped with the collection of surveys include: *teachers, Brownies*, etc.

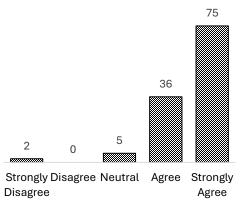
#### **Feasibility Study Goals**

The goal of the feasibility study was to investigate public interest and prior knowledge of community gardening in Wellington. Furthermore, the results of the study will support the Wellington Parks and Recreation department in the development and implementation of a community garden.

#### **Key Findings**

- In total, 118 Wellington community members responded to the survey. Based on a local population estimate of 12,078 (U.S. Census Bureau data, July 2023), the survey responses represent approximately 1.0% of the population. Notably, the survey responses represent over 20 communities both in town and in the surrounding rural areas (a full list is available at the end of this report). The survey respondents also had good representation across a wide range of ages: 20.3% were 18-35, 50.8% were 35-50, 16.9% were 50-65, and 11.0% were 65+.
- A key finding was the overwhelmingly positive opinion of the survey respondents towards a Wellington community garden. Of those surveyed, a remarkable 94.1% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: Access to a community garden in Wellington is a benefit to the community.
- Of those surveyed, 17.8% currently have no access to gardening space. More striking, 60.0% of respondents have limited or no access to nonpotable water for gardening.
- Most respondents feel that gardening is of great personal value to them. 75.5% of survey respondents state that gardening is important or





- very important to them and 70.3% state that gardening is important to their overall wellbeing.
- Importantly, despite overwhelmingly positive opinion regarding the benefits of gardening, only 27.2% of respondents are familiar or very familiar with the concept of community gardening.
- When asked about potential garden locations, respondents were generally positive, showing only a slight preference for Viewpointe over Winick and Wellville. 72.9% of respondents stated satisfaction with a garden at Viewpointe, 66.9% of respondents stated satisfaction with a garden at Winick, and 58.5% of respondents stated satisfaction with a garden at Wellville.

#### **Major Conclusions and Recommendations**

Based on the results of the survey, the citizens of Wellington are largely in favor of a community garden. Not only do many community members currently lack access to space and/or water to garden, but they also see both personal and communal value in such a program. With this information, it is strongly recommended that the City of Wellington and the Parks and Recreation Department proceed with the development and implementation of a community garden.

Given that most of the survey respondents lack familiarity with community gardening, we can assume that this also applies to the majority of Wellington residents. Therefore, it is highly recommended that time, consideration, and effort be invested in the public education and communication surrounding the community garden. For example, a social media page/account could follow along with the building of the community garden to generate excitement and share important updates.

#### **Details Regarding Data Collection**

The survey questions were written collaboratively with the PROST advisory board during fall 2024. The length of the survey was designed to take approximately 4-6 minutes to complete, and the respondents were kept anonymous. Google Forms was selected as the survey platform. Surveys were collected between November 11, 2024, and January 8, 2025. In total, 118 respondents completed the survey. Wellington citizens were sought out on social media platforms, outside Ridley's grocery store, at the Wellington holiday parade, and through dissemination of fliers to grade school families. These methods of soliciting survey responses were selected to try and cover a wide range of demographics.

At the conclusion of the data collection, the survey results were analyzed using excel.

# **Feasibility Survey Results**

	Do not prefer to answer	18-35	35-50	50-65	65+	n
What is your age range?	1	24	60	20	13	118
	0.8%	20.3%	50.8%	17%	11%	
	Yes	No	Yes, but do not choose to garden	n		
Do you have access to garden at your residence?	78	21	19	118		
	66.1%	17.8%	16.1%			
	Full Access	Limited Access	No Access	n		
Do you have access to non-potable water for gardening?	47	15	56	118		
	39.8%	12.7%	47.5%			
	Very Insufficient	Insufficient	Neutral	Sufficient	Very Sufficient	n
How sufficient is your current storage space for gardening supplies?	9	14	27	53	15	118
	7.6%	11.9%	22.9%	45%	13%	
	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important	n
How important is access to gardening space to you?	5	4	20	52	37	118
	4.2%	3.4%	16.9%	44.1%	31.4%	

	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important	n
How important is gardening for your mental health, your wellbeing, and your physical health?	4	5	26	40	43	118
	3.4%	4.2%	22.0%	33.9%	36.4%	
	Not familiar at all	Somewhat familiar	Familiar	Very Familiar	n	
How familiar are you with community gardens and community gardening?	32	54	18	14	118	
	27.1%	45.8%	15.3%	11.9%		
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	n
How much do you agree with the statement: Access to a community garden in Wellington is a benefit to the community.	2	0	5	36	75	118
	1.7%	0.0%	4.2%	30.5%	63.6%	
	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	n
How satisfied would you be with a community garden in Viewpointe Community Park?	1	0	31	46	40	118
	0.8%	0.0%	26.3%	39.0%	33.9%	
	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	n
How satisfied would you be with a community garden in Winick Community Park?	3	1	35	49	30	118
		0.8%	29.7%	41.5%	25.4%	

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	n
How satisfied would you be with a community garden in Wellville Community Park?	4	5	40	44	25	118
	3.4%	4.2%	33.9%	37.3%	21.2%	
	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neither important nor unimportant	Important	Very Important	n
How important is the location and distance of a community garden to you?	4	6	30	54	24	118
	3.4%	5.1%	25.4%	45.8%	20.3%	
	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neither important nor unimportant	Important	Very Important	n
How important is accessibility to a secure shed for storage for gardening supplies in the community garden?	5	1	17	68	27	118
	4.2%	0.8%	14.4%	57.6%	22.9%	

# List of Wellington Communities Represented by Survey Respondents

Community	Number of Respondents		
Sage Meadows	18		
Buffalo Creek	14		
Old Town and Downtown	13		
Viewpoint	10		
Wellington Pointe	8		
The Meadows	8		
Mountain View	7		
Harvest View	7		
Park Meadows	5		
The Knolls	4		
Wellington Downs	3		
Other	16		
No Response	5		

Dates	Special Event	Location			
Friday, February 7	Night Beyond Limits	Boys & Girls Club			
Saturday, March 15	St. Paddy's Parade and Festival	Downtown			
Saturday, April 26	Arbor Day	Harvest Park			
Saturday, May 17	Kids to Parks Day	Viewpointe: Flag Football Harvest Park: Soccer Wellville Park: Fishing Derby			
Tuesday, June 3	Once Upon Field Day	Library Park			
Saturday, June 7	Movie in the Park Theme:	WCP: get people after brewfest			
Friday, July 4	July 4th Celebration	Downtown and WCP			
Friday, July 18	Movie in the Park Theme: Back to School	Centennial: In conjunction with Safe Routes to Schools			
Friday, August 8	Movie in the Park Theme:	Centennial: In conjunction with Market on Main			
Friday, August 22	Movie in the Park Theme:	Viewpointe			
Friday, September 5	Movie in the Park Theme:	Wellville: on the dock			
Friday, September 19	Movie in the Park Theme: Pirates	Winnick in conjunction with PROST			

Centennial Winnick
Viewpointe



10 a.m. - Shamrock Fun Run 11 a.m. - Community Parade 11 a.m.

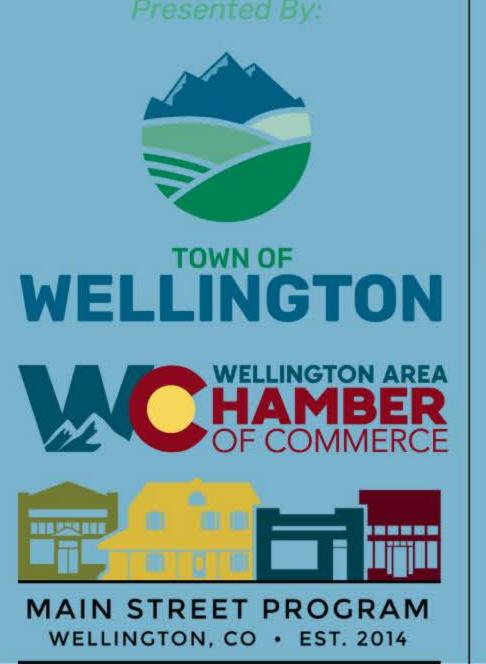
- Vendor Festival &
- 3 p.m. Community Celebration







Full event details











# NATIONAL KIDS TO PARKS DAY







April 19, 2024 Regular Meeting	Items	May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting	Items	June 5th, Special Meeting	Items
Agenda	4th of July	Agenda	4th of July		
Agenda	Kids to Park	Agenda	Vetrans Funding		
Agenda	Master Plan	Agenda	Open Spaces and Trails		
Agenda	Update To BOT				
Agenda	Grants				
Agenda	Fundraising/Vetr ans Garden				
Agenda	HOLD: Cody Bird - Sage II Filing				
Agenda	Park Maps				