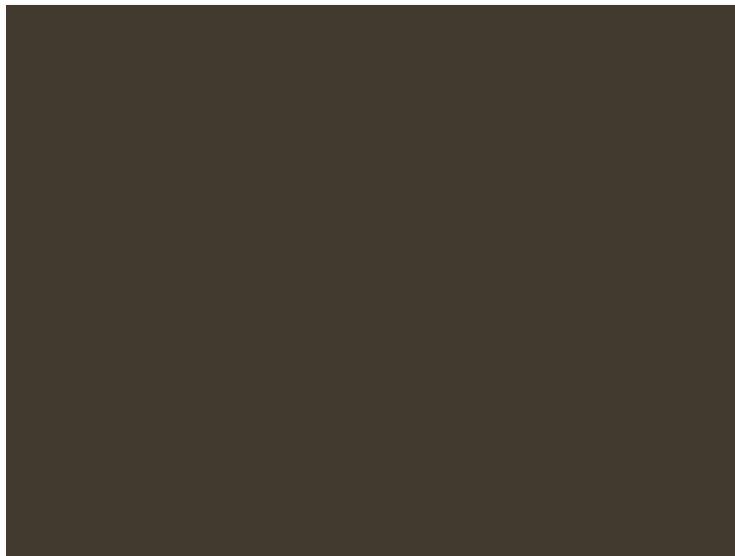


RECOMMENDED
AREAS OF FOCUS



RECOMMENDED AREAS OF FOCUS



Partnerships

Currently, District residents heavily rely on adjacent communities and alternative providers for recreation programs and facilities. The District has already begun through this planning process to strengthen its relationships with the many managing agencies, facility managers, and recreation program providers in the region. However, these efforts should continue following the completion of the Master Plan, so as to streamline planning efforts and promote existing recreation opportunities to residents. Additionally, encouraging collaboration among groups will maximize the use of the District's resources, allow for leverage of funding, ease the burden of any one group, and may increase resident participation in recreation and wellness activities.

Increased Access to Recreation Programs

Based on the analysis of alternative providers and recreation programming, it is evident that District residents have access to a wide variety and number of programs provided at the CCCIA Hall, as well as through adjacent municipalities, such as Arvada, Golden, Gilpin County, Boulder and Nederland. However, a large number of these programs and services are on average a 30 minute drive from the Canyon. In addition to lacking ease of access, this distance may hinder participation for those with limited automobile access or driving capabilities, often the youth and older adults in the community. The District has the opportunity to work with these alternative providers to promote and increase access to existing services. This can be accomplished at little cost to the District and through a number of methods, such as through increased promotion, discounted rates and transportation options.

Traditional and Alternative Funding

CCCPRD is in a unique situation given the fact that the District was approved to operate without a mill levy. Therefore, the District is operating without a dedicated funding source. Based on the data gathered through the Public Input Process and the Community Survey it is evident that the District is in need of significant capital funds, as well as a dedicated

funding source for operations and maintenance in order to provide for the creation of desired facilities and programs. Consequently, in the short term, the District's current use of grants and alternative funding is critical to gaining support and establishing credibility with residents. This credibility is necessary to gaining a majority resident vote for the passage of a mill levy. This election will need to be prefaced with a strong communications strategy on exactly what residents will get for their tax dollars. However, even with the passage of a mill levy it will be important that the District continue to seek out grants and alternative funding in order to secure the capital funds necessary to meet the needs of the community.

Trails and Trail Connections

The data collected through the Community Survey illustrates Canyon residents' high use of and demand for trails and trail access. Therefore, the District should work with partnering agencies, land managers and land owners in order to increase access to existing public lands, as well as the creation of additional trail connections. Preferred attributes for trails indicated were: 3+ miles in length (one way - 41% of survey respondents), natural terrain (75% of respondents), and moderate difficulty level (i.e. medium grade, some hills) (78% of respondents). The creation of trails is a means of increasing the level of service to the Canyon without significant costs to residents, as much of this work can be accomplished through volunteer efforts, low cost materials and little maintenance.

Recreation Facilities

It is evident based on the findings of the Needs Assessment that a strong majority of the community feels that there is a need to create additional community-based (over neighborhood-based) recreation facilities and services for residents that fit within the context of the rural, mountain characteristics of the Canyon. Some of the priority desired recreation amenities and opportunities identified include a community gathering space, trails, playground, picnic area, and fitness facilities. These identified needs fall in line with residents' request to make any new recreation facilities simple, green, self-sustaining and low maintenance.