

**Regular Meeting of the**

**Montrose Recreation District (MRD) Growth Committee**

**Thursday, April 6, 11:30 am**

**Montrose Community Recreation Center**

**16350 Woodgate Road**

**Montrose CO 81401**

**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Justin Mashburn, Christina Files, Miguel Lopez, Liz Gracesun, Amy Warthen, Debby Zarkis, Mari Steinbach, Jeremy Master

1. **Status/Update**
   1. **Overview of draft reports/staff visioning and strategies.** 
      1. Mari provided a review of what was discussed at the last Growth Committee including; Reports done by PROS Consulting, vision and mission discussed by Board and staff, and the next 5 big things.
2. **Review Reports**
   1. **Demographics and trends**
   2. **Montrose Survey Comparisons**
   3. **Inventory Assessment – LOS inventory**
   4. **Park System Assessment Operations Review**
   5. **Recreation System Assessment/Agency Benchmarks**
   6. **Equity Mapping;** the maps were reviewed with the committee.
      1. Baseball fields: This map shows where parks and facilities are located and what areas in Montrose they serve. Parks or areas that are missing are: Sunset Mesa and Centennial Middle School baseball fields. Mari will talk to PROS as to why these areas are not reflected on the baseball map.
      2. The basketball courts mapping is missing Centennial Middle School courts. It was pointed out that only City and MRD-maintained parks are reflected in the mapping.
      3. The indoor aquatic space is covered based on the equity map.
      4. Multi-Purpose rectangular fields – the mapping shows that this area is covered by existing fields.
      5. Outdoor pool – this space meets the need based on the equity map however it does not take the quality of the facility into consideration.
      6. Pickleball courts – need is covered based on map
      7. Picnic shelters – there are gaps in the northeast and southeast ends of Montrose. Missing is Fox Park.
      8. Playgrounds – the mapping shows that needs are being met.
      9. Regional Park needs are met.
      10. State Parks, needs are met.
      11. Specialty Parks/Public Facilities, needs are met
      12. Splash pads – needs are covered. The Committee discussed the voiced desire by the community for a new, public, free splash pad. It was also discussed that there would be no revenue to pay for maintenance or installation if the splash pad was free.
      13. Tennis courts – the needs are being met by current courts. Again, quality is not considered in need.
      14. Neighborhood parks – gaps in Northeast and South sections of Montrose. Only parks maintained by the City are on this map. It was suggested by a committee member that the MRD could offer to go into an urban park and add equipment to meet the needs of certain areas.
      15. Community parks – there are several gaps. The definitions of the different kinds of parks were discussed based on the LOS Service Standards.
      16. The City of Montrose map of needs from their Master Plan was reviewed. The committee discussed working with the city to develop both Master Plans and how to meet the needs for parks in the community.
3. **Review Site and Facility Assessment Opportunities – were there additions?**
   * 1. The 26 acres at the CRC is an opportunity to expand services.
     2. Phase III of the CRC development can be implemented.
     3. Holly Park – can have a multi-use path in this area. Shade for the playground was suggested.
     4. Field House – improve connection to bike trails. Is difficult to cross Rio Grande on bike or on foot. Repurpose the outdoor pool area. Other opportunities were listed. The committee suggested new signage on the road. Also suggested was the remodeling of the tennis courts. There is also property at the FH that is not being used that could be developed for more services. Improving the inside of the FH was recommended as an opportunity. It was discussed that the city could be involved in creating a connecting trail.
     5. Ute/McNeil Field Complex – several opportunities were listed on the Site Assessment. The committee suggested extending the trail by the river to the railroad bridge. (Riverwalk development).
     6. Cerise Park – only opportunity listed was “continue to maintain fields for long-term use”. Cerise is not owned by the MRD yet the Assessment states that it is. PROS will be informed of this error.
4. **Review Public Engagement plan and revise as needed –** it was suggested that articles/ads in the Montrose Daily Press, discussing the Master Plan, be used as a form of communication. It was also suggested that the communication plan be updated to include a community meeting at the conclusion of the planning process. It was also suggested to get City and County staff, MRD staff and MRD Board together at the conclusion of the Master Planning process, and that this be done before the plan is officially adopted by the MRD Board. It was discussed that the MRF also be included in the communication plan. The committee expressed that the CIP needs to be taken into consideration while at the same time continuing to engage the community as to what our priorities should be.
5. **Review staff Visioning and Strategies session**
   1. **Overview of the process** – two sessions were held, one with staff and one with the Board.
   2. **Outcomes –** there were similar outcomes between staff and Board
      1. **Proposed Vision –** The MRD strives to be a leader in providing exceptional parks and recreation experiences
      2. **Proposed mission** – FUNdamentally improving lives by building community in fun, engaging ways, and by providing excellent parks and recreation facilities, activities and services.
      3. **Proposed values –** 
         1. Customer centric – community focused
         2. Inclusive
         3. Innovative
         4. Stewardship
         5. Others; fun, excellence, connected/connection, collaboration
      4. **Big Moves** – five distinct areas came to light
         1. Develop, maintain and sustain a full capital improvement program with funding mechanisms for long term investments in the parks and facilities to accomplish at a minimum;
            1. Flex Rec
            2. Destination water park
            3. Phase III CRC/Regional Park
            4. Update Ute/McNeil,
            5. Field House
         2. Develop, maintain and sustain a multi-jurisdictional cooperative to develop strong trails and connections
         3. Expand programs/fill gaps identified through data-driven assessments.
            1. Inclusion
            2. Diverse programming delivery

(Regional leader in inclusive/inclusion services, increase participation and involvement, community events, program analysis/inventory – full program mix)

* + - 1. Focus on MRD employees, attracting/retaining highly qualified and professional staff
      2. Attain CAPRA accreditation.
         1. Develop policies and procedures

1. **Prep for final vision, mission, values and 5 big moves with help of staff and board**
2. **Determine next meeting date –** after MRD admin meet with PROS should have a draft of values, mission and 5 big moves. The next meeting date will be determined after this meeting.
3. **Review specific outcomes from today’s meeting**
   1. Drafts on mission, vision and values and 5 big moves
   2. Update on CIP status
   3. Update on Mari’s meeting with City

**Next meeting**

**May 2022 (Day to be determined)**

**Montrose Community Recreation Center**

**16350 Woodgate Road**

**Montrose, CO 81401**