

# Jones Park Public Meeting Community Input

The first community meeting for a new **Jones Park Master Plan** was held on **Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** at Bear Creek Nature Center.

At this meeting, the public was asked the following questions:

- 1. What makes Jones Park special and unique?**
- 2. What works well today in Jones Park?**
- 3. What can be improved in Jones Park?**
- 4. What are the stories, assets and qualities of Jones Park that should be highlighted through wayfinding and interpretation?**

A summary of the public's input can be found on the following slides.

# Public Input: What Makes Jones Park Unique and Special

- It's quite and wild
- Options for multi-use recreation
- Historic place with unique (historic) amenities
- Greenback Cutthroat Trout
- Motorcycle access is allowed (only such park in County)
- Low numbers of visitors
- Ability to bike to a remote/serene place
- Variety and color of foliage in the fall
- Trail hub (many regional trails come together in Jones Park)
- Beauty
- "Used to be" the best mountain bike trail in Colorado Springs
- More isolated most parks in the area

## Public Input: What Works Well Today

- Jones Park's beauty and remoteness
- Rustic and wilderness appeal
- Rich history
- Good balance of recreation and preservation
- Greenback Cutthroat Trout habitat and protection
- Less crowded than most parks
- Park is a hub for many regional trails
- Beauty and natural ecology
- Restoration and stewardship has been successful
- Beautiful views, scenery and fall foliage
- Public process bringing together many organization to help manage trout, park has been very successful
- Multi-user (including motorcycle) access

# Public Input: What Can Be Improved

- New Trails are not as good as original trails
- Destination enhancements needed
- Forestry health and fuels management
- Manage shooting in adjacent lands
- More trails are desired outside of Bear Creek Watershed
- Trails with ‘Soul’
- Trails that filter use by design, rather than by a park rule
- Better signage (wayfinding and interpretive)
- Directional trails
- Non-directional trails
- Multiuse trails rather than enforced single use
- Keep closed trails closed
- ‘Build’ not ‘Bulldoze’ trails

## Public Input: Wayfinding and Interpretation

- Highlight the history and culture of Jones Park
- More information will add to experience in Jones Park
- Celebrate and explain about the Greenback Cutthroat Trout
- Explain the recreational, tourist, and commercial history of Jones Park
- More information on names and landmarks of the area
- Be sure that signs are appropriate to the setting
- Include directional and user information for trails
- Talk about restoration efforts
- Highlight important figures, like Kathy Lee Bates, who had a role in the history of Jones Park
- Be aware of who uses Jones Park when planning wayfinding and interpretation
- Interpret trail history and trail design
- Older history of Utes should be included

## Public Input: Additional Comments

- Focus on quality of trails (and other new amenities) over quantity
- Manage expectations of users-important for people to know that design and planning options are more limited in Jones Parks
- Long-term maintenance and funding is important
- Desire for trails with ‘personality’ and ‘soul’
- What are the opportunities for collaborative maintenance efforts by different user groups?
- Greenback Cutthroat Trout are very special and should be celebrated
- Concern for the idea of separate use trails
- Collaboration is/has been a great asset in the planning of Jones Park
- Is Jones Park an appropriate place for all users (young children given as example)
- Continued restoration, maintenance, and stewardship is important