
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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38th and Kipling Park Design Development Moving Forward in 2010
Funding Partnership with Jefferson County Open Space

WHEAT RIDGE, CO – In 2009, the Wheat Ridge City Council approved a master plan for the future park site at 38th and Kipling. With the support of Jefferson County Open Space funds, construction of Phase I and II are underway. The City's share of Open space funds, distributed through Jefferson County, is earmarked for the park development over a three year period. Additionally, in both 2009 and 2010, Wheat Ridge received two \$275,000 Joint Venture grants totaling \$550,000 from Jefferson County that directly benefits the park project. The City also received a Great Outdoors Colorado Grant in the amount of \$200,000. The total cost of the park development for Phase I and II only is estimated at \$1,967,000 and \$750,000 of the cost is funded through grants.

Phase I and II will be constructed back to back and will include installing utilities, storm drainage and site preparation. Additionally, construction of the parking lot, interior walkways, lighting and electrical, signage, benches and picnic tables, playgrounds and play area surfacing will also be completed. Construction for Phase I and II of the park will be completed by Golden Triangle Construction. Construction is underway, weather permitting, and is planned to be completed by the summer. "The initial construction activity that citizens will see includes placement of perimeter fencing and grading of the park area as part of the overall site preparation," said Joyce Manwaring, Director of Parks and Recreation. "Undergrounding of the utilities along the Kipling corridor has been completed."

Phase III design development will begin in January of 2011. This phase includes the skate park, climbing wall, additional shade shelters and restrooms, trees, landscaping, and construction of two gateway structures and the maze. "We hope to secure grant funding to support the construction of Phase III to begin design development otherwise construction will begin in the spring of 2011," added Manwaring.

"We are fortunate to receive funding from Jefferson County Open Space for this park development," said Mayor Jerry DiTullio. "I am pleased that in my position as Mayor, I was able to facilitate and move this project forward over the past four years. With the state of the economy in 2009, we were not sure if we would be able to move forward with the park development. Fortunately, with grant dollars we are able stimulate our local and regional economy and as well as begin to see a key location along the Kipling corridor undergo a positive transformation that will benefit the entire community."

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In addition to receiving grant funding to support the park development, the Mayor's Office in partnership with the Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission and Wheat Ridge Foundation, is bringing a 17-foot stainless steel sculpture by local artist Kevin Robb to the 38th and Kipling park. Placement of the sculpture is planned for the west side of the park.

"The community is very excited about this sculpture," said Mayor Jerry DiTullio. "To date \$10,685 in private donations has been raised and we need your support in raising additional funds. In early 2009, Samuel, Son & Co., Inc., a local stainless steel supplier, made an in-kind donation of steel valued at \$10,000 for the project."

Citizens interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the Mayor's Art Initiative can do so by making a check payable to the Wheat Ridge Foundation. Please note "Public Art Campaign" on the check. All donations can be mailed to: Wheat Ridge Foundation, Attn: Mayor's Office, 7500 W. 29th Ave. Wheat Ridge, CO 80033. For more information about the Mayor's Art Initiative please contact Janice Smothers, Assistant to the Mayor, at 303-235-2815 or E-mail: jsmothers@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

For construction updates and additional information on the 38th and Kipling park project, visit the City Web site, click on Departments, Parks and Recreation and Project Updates.

For more information about the future regional park at 38th and Kipling, please contact Joyce Manwaring, Director of Parks and Recreation at 303-231-1307 or E-mail: jmanwaring@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

For media inquiries, please contact Heather Geyer, Assistant to the City Manager, at 303-235-2826 or E-mail: hgeyer@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

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