

ACCESS**Access - General:**

Keep open space for public hiking access. I detest closing open space to hikers for any reason. I do sometimes use the St. Vrain Greenway trail and am very anxious to see an addition made to the wonderful trail. **Easy access is also very important.**

Since it is PUBLIC money being spent to acquire the land, it should be for public use. When I see public land being used by a small group which **prevents access to the public (such as agriculture), that should not be a part of the open space.**

Response to question 5b, 12 a,b: If the land is being farmed or used as pasture, there need to be some restrictions, but I know that people in Boulder (County) voted for open space **thinking they would have some access only to find it closed to all but the rangers and their horses in at least one case.**

Access - Handicapped:

Hurry! This town is looking just like southern California in the southern areas. Please stop cementing pathways! Sidewalks are fine, but paths should be left packed dirt, or use the material Boulder uses in the mountains that gets stronger when water runs over it. It's used @ bridges where water erosion is a problem. **Packs to a good path that allows wheelchair access but low maintenance.**

Access - Horse:

As an avid horse person, **I would be very happy to have local access to good trails with no motorized vehicles that could scare and endanger our horses.** Our roads have become too dangerous and we would appreciate some equine friendly trails w/corrals, etc.

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. **If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves.** People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

Access - Limited:

Build the pathway eastward along the St. Vrain River to 287 then County Line Road. **Some area should be closed to public access in order to protect natural features, i.e., wildlife, plants, historic, archeological sites, but kept to a minimum.** Most areas should be dog free.

Open Space should be open to the public - in limited extent if necessary depending on ag activity. Uses such as hunting (waterfowl/goose) should be incorporated. Open Space should also provide **radial corridors to access the city via alternative transportation.**

Limited access to some areas is A-OK with us. Get the open space as it arises. We need to act now. Thank you for asking!

Open space serves many purposes: public use such as recreation and private use such as agriculture preservation. Although the public owns it, some by necessity needs to remain off limits. Compare to BLM land; we all own it, but to preserve wildlife and agriculture, **we do not have access to most of BLM land.**

In response to question # 5b: **limit access - not closed**

Access - Safe:

The streets leading to the St. Vrain Trail system - Sunset St, Hover, S. Pratt Pkwy and Main are too busy and sidewalks are woefully inadequate for **safe access** to the pathway!

Open space is necessary for the health of our community. Increase the ratio of open space to developed space. More bike paths that are interconnected and go somewhere, **we should be able to safely access all public facilities** i.e., library, etc. Union Reservoir, new recreation center and museum and all schools esp. high schools. I'd rather have teenagers on bikes rather than in cars. More skateparks, etc. Be proactive and provide them with positive recreational opportunities. Consider a bicycle park with everything from families on bikes to racers. And please, stop kowtowing to crybaby nimby's (Not In My Back Yard). Let's face it - with the runaway growth in Longmont, when you build a stadium or skatepark, it will be in someone's backyard.

Access to Specific Location:

Linkage between existing open space to create a wider, integrated network of parks and trails should be a priority, i.e., **non-road access from Union Reservoir all the way to McIntosh Lake should be a goal.** The St. Vrain corridor is the obvious trunk route for this connection.

Myself and the residents of Lake McIntosh are eager to find a solution to our "backyard" neighbors - the Cocklebur Country Club (See letter to Highland Ditch Company - attached). These individuals have the recreation rights to the lake, but there are no boundaries or limitations on the use of the lake. I and my neighbors on the lake perceive the current use as damaging to the environment and the quality of life. Please urge Council to consider seriously purchasing the lease this year from Highland Ditch Company. **This will allow limited activity and allow all residents of Longmont access to this natural resource.** (letter not attached)

We live off Mountain View Blvd between Hover Road and Airport Road. Because of increasing traffic, **we no longer feel safe crossing 17th to access McIntosh Lake.** It is also difficult to walk from Longmont Estates to Golden Ponds and the adjacent trail along the river. We would like McIntosh Lake to be accessible to all residents of Longmont. There should be a walking path around MacIntosh Lake.

Need a continuous path connecting Dry Creek Bike Path to the Willow Farm Park. Need paved **access** to Farm park from west (89th) to allow biking to park.

ACTIVITY

Activity - Opinions:

Prairie dogs are over-rated. Hunting doesn't mix with hikers and other related activities. Walkers shouldn't be restricted to trails. Horses either. Bikes, yes.

I see open space activities as **quiet - not encroaching upon others who may be going there for respite, peace & quiet.** Also activities that would not disturb wildlife or damage natural properties.

The experts should determine what “low impact recreation” is, and then poll the citizens for their preferences from those determined selections. Perhaps frisbee golf is a more “popular” choice than other activities, such as paintball, tubing, radio control recreation, but that doesn’t mean it is less exclusive or that it impacts the natural areas and wildlife habitats less. Please don’t use open space to duplicate or expand Parks’ services. Rather keep open space areas purely for truly low impact and “quiet” activities (hiking, bird-watching, fishing, wildlife viewing, etc.) as well as for preserving agricultural areas.

Agriculture areas should only be protected by zoning laws! Knowing Longmont City having **leash laws** was one value that enticed us to move to Longmont but I see it abused everyday in a neighborhood open space park with people walking, jogging, biking and completely ignoring their dogs as they do their dirty work or run at somebody else walking, rollerblading or riding bikes scaring the wits out of them and not picking up their messes.

The effects of activity on a natural habitat and wildlife has more to do with the intensity/density of use rather than the specific activity.

I think that all open space should be open to the public in some form. Not all open space can be used by everyone but everyone should be able to use some open space, i.e., not everyone rollerblades, some of us like to hunt.

Activity - Types:

In response to question # 13: We would love to see an **archery range** here in Longmont so that we don’t have to drive to Westminster to the archery range!

In response to question # 13 (**Art**): This would have to be better defined.

In response to question # 13: **cross country skiing** - appropriate

In response to question #13 (Special Events): **educational or art type**

We desperately need land along the St. Vrain River east and west of town for **biking, hiking, fishing**, etc. From Lyons to I25 and beyond. No more ballparks like Sandstone, please. Also more water for a decent flow in the St. Vrain River to support a fish population.

In regard to the trail systems, I truly believe it would cut down on traffic and make a safer place for kids to **bike, rollerblade**, etc. I also believe it would promote healthy lifestyles and a happier community. I moved here from Boulder and I miss their trails.

In response to question # 13 (Biking-Road): no - **get bikers off roads**

Open space is necessary for the health of our community. Increase the ratio of open space to developed space. **More bike paths** that are interconnected and go somewhere, we should be able to safely access all public facilities i.e., library, etc. Union Reservoir, new recreation center and museum and all schools esp. high schools. I’d rather have teenagers on bikes rather than in cars. **More skateparks**, etc. Be proactive and provide them with **positive recreational opportunities**. Consider a **bicycle park with everything from families on bikes to racers**. And please, stop kowtowing to crybaby nimby’s (Not In My Back Yard). Let’s face it - with the runaway growth in Longmont, when you build a stadium or skatepark, it will be in someone’s backyard.

I strongly support linking **bike trails** to major areas of business (mall, grocery, etc.). Also bike trails from residential area to the Willow Creek Farm Park.) I also support more trails to and from the neighborhoods to the St. Vrain Greenway bike trail.

In response to question # 2: When **camping out** mainly and do you have trail maps to give out?

In response to question # 7: Trail & **fishing** for the central & east side residents. Open Space has catered to hiking, jogging, etc. and has done nothing for any kind of **hunting**. Open space has also taken away places that used to be used for this activity.

If **frisbee golf** is picked, it needs to be a frisbee golf only course for safety reasons. Loomiller is a nice course, but people are always standing in the way because they don't understand what is happening! Thanks!

Frisbee Golf is great fun and exercise.

We can use more recreation areas for alternative activities - **frisbee golf** - !

Disc golf is an excellent low impact sport for all ages. Also Loumiller park in Longmont is starting to become over-crowded as disc golf popularity increases. Charley

Please appropriate funds for **frisbee golf**. Longmont needs a quality **18-hole course**.

Frisbee Golf Course in Longmont well maintained and challenging. Good use of park space and open lands, low impact to environment.

In response to question # 13: **We have more than enough golfing opportunities in this town.**

Tear down the "Berlin Wall" of the rich and famous - Hwy 66 - develop north of highway 66 or the average Longmonter - not just for those (i.e., Hover Rd & Yellowstone) only who can buy anything. How about another **golf course** for example or an **ice skating rink**?

Keep open space for public **hiking** access. I detest closing open space to hikers for any reason. I do sometimes use the St. Vrain Greenway trail and am very anxious to see an addition made to the wonderful trail. Easy access is also very important.

There are many trails closed to mountain biking. If all trails were open to all activities the congestion on each trail would be reduced. Also I have been told by walkers/hikers MTG causes much **erosion problems** but from personal experience I know that **horses cause much more erosion**.

As an avid horse person, I would be very happy to have local access to good trails with no motorized vehicles that could scare and endanger our horses. Our roads have become too dangerous and we would appreciate some **equine friendly trails w/corrals**, etc.

I think it is appropriate for open space to offset its maintenance costs through some sort of **income producing activity** such as agriculture, gravel mining or recreational activities.

In response to question #13: **bird observation** - birdhouses. **Plant life study areas**. Exercise info as you walk.

We would like to see the land along 17th Avenue and County Road 1 acquired for a **mixed-use development**. It would be a prime **agricultural/bird refuge** site bordering Union Reservoir and Jim Hamm Park. It is approximately 104 acres and could serve as a buffer zone against Weld County and preserve existing new corridors into our city.

I very much would love to see our "Riverwalk" through town be developed into an **outdoor/entertainment recreational area**. However, this will displace many homeless squatters who sleep on the banks of the St. Vrain River. Longmont needs to work on shelter for the homeless within Longmont before forcing these people out. They are also a part of us, our society.

In the City of Longmont we have over 4k kids playing **soccer**. The city fields are terrible. We are the only town in the front range that hasn't created a soccer complex. Soccer is played in Longmont by more kids than any other sport combined. We should be using open space \$\$ to develop quality fields for this fast moving sport.

We need more open areas inside the current city boundaries. Houses are too close together!! For a city of this size, we are lacking in parks. **We need more space for family picnics and recreation.**

I think the city needs more parks like Centennial Park that **offer a lot of space and use options**. Not just baseball, soccer, or golf or other single use space. This type of space best serves the needs of the surrounding community.

In response to question #13: I think another **public swimming pool** should be built.

I think a **rifle/pistol range** should be created as an activity on open space land. We would use a trap range, too. Thank-you for this opportunity to give our thoughts.

In response to question # 13: **sunbathing** - appropriate

Longmont is so beautiful and is located in such a magnificent area. Please - stop the housing development and preserve the wetlands and farm areas. **Motorized vehicles hasten the decline of natural areas**. Keep Longmont what it has been for so long - a lovely farming community - not another suburb!

I think a priority should be to buy land to connect trails i.e., to St. Vrain trail & Golden Ponds where people could **walk, jog or bike through the city**.

Trail connections would encourage **walking or biking** throughout our town.

In response to question # 2: I would use it for **walking**. Please tell me where I can get a map of the trails.

I would certainly like to know your definition of "**weapons**" and why would it be considered an activity?

Best open space: **active agriculture**. Need space for **shooting range**, users including sporting and law enforcement. **Driving range** mentioned could have many more valid uses including **RC vehicles** and many more.

It would be nice to have a **shooting range** - lots of people would use it.

Would very much like to see a **controlled shooting range** open to the public. Indoor or outdoor, both pistol and rifle would be nice. Noise can be completely controlled with an indoor range if that should be a concern.

AG/FARM

Our original pioneers of open space - agriculture!

Genetically modified crops should not be permitted to be grown on city agricultural open space.

Open Space is just that - open for use (specifics may be needed) to all. We (taxpayers) buy it - we use it - City buys ag land and then uses it for a City Nursery to grow trees/bushed/plants for use in parks and for sale of surplus to citizens. Also on **city-owned ag land - grow a pumpkin patch for kids in Fall, a xmas tree farm for citizens who can't afford much, a xeriscape nursery to support low-income housing & parks & open space. Do not lease ag land to commercial entities which would restrict use by citizens. Ag land could grow varied products then open it up at harvest time to citizen gleaning for personal or charitable use.**

Response to question 5b, 12 a,b: **If the land is being farmed or used as pasture, there need to be some restrictions**, but I know that people in Boulder (County) voted for open space thinking they would have some access only to find it closed to all but the rangers and their horses in at least one case.

Best open space: active agriculture. Need space for shooting range, users including sporting and law enforcement. Driving range mentioned could have many more valid uses including RC vehicles and many more.

We need to preserve our agricultural heritage, but it seems like all we care about now is giving in to developers. I don't feel little pathways through a densely populated subdivision as open space.

Genetically engineered crops should be banned from Open Space land. For example, AMO's such as starlink corn, roundup ready soybeans should be banned. Preservation of wildlife habitat should be top priority and should not be lumped together with preservation of agricultural land - they are 2 different things! "Conservation of natural resources" has a negative connotation for me, because it implies something that will eventually be consumed (This is how the terminology has been used by the Forest Service and logging industry, so I rate this low, because I do not support this approach to "conservation").

In response to question # 5c: **but not at the cost of family farms**

I come from a Colorado Homesteading family in Weld County and it breaks my heart to see so much of our very valuable and productive farmland being gobbled up for every purpose under the sun, but for farming! **Farming is the main industry that built our state** as well as feeds our nation's population and the world! **Let's protect agriculture and the farmers who work so hard, but are paid so little for their efforts and livelihoods!**

I would like to see Longmont surrounding by open space (farms, greenbelts, etc.) so it remains a free-standing community with a unique history and its own identity.

I think it is appropriate for open space to offset its maintenance costs through some sort of income producing activity such as agriculture, gravel mining or recreational activities.

If city buys land farming can be only on annual lease w/limit to 3-5 years.

We need to ensure the safety of our wildlife for the future. **We need to preserve farmland** so we don't wake up one day and remember where our produce came from, but now its too late.

We need to control growth and **preserve the agricultural areas in west Longmont**. By buying open space in west Longmont, we will preserve the views, keep wildlife and upgrade the standard of living.

City owned land could prevent growth which could be good. Does City collect taxes on its own land? If no money would be lost to the city. Dogs should not be allowed off leash on public property. We don't need anymore of these prairie palaces. **Soon all our farmland will be gone for the vanity of wealthy people.**

We are open space agriculture. We like and need the area around us to keep down complaints. Farmers, although we provide the food you eat, are sometimes given a hard time by people wanting to live in the "country" without knowing what that means. An "idealistic country life" isn't realistic for animal growers.

Land should be purchased for specific reasons mostly as a buffer, **farming** and gravel mining is ok. Recreation purchase is just that. But mixing use doesn't always work. And saving pesky disease carrying rodents is not a purpose for open space. Just the opposite.

Agriculture areas should only be protected by zoning laws! Knowing Longmont City having leash laws was one value that enticed us to move to Longmont but I see it abused everyday in a neighborhood open space park with people walking, jogging, biking and completely ignoring their dogs as they do their dirty work or run at somebody else walking, rollerblading or riding bikes scaring the wits out of them and not picking up their messes.

Instead of government owning open space, **some land should be zoned to protect agriculture** and prevent development. New construction should be higher density, lower cost housing. We do not need more \$500,000 homes.

Longmont is so beautiful and is located in such a magnificent area. Please - stop the housing development and **preserve the wetlands and farm areas**. Motorized vehicles hasten the decline of natural areas. Keep Longmont what it has been for so long - a lovely farming community - not another suburb!

Agricultural use is good but I would like preferences given to community-supported agriculture (CSA) and organic farming. Genetically engineered crops should not be allowed, particularly corn since it cross-pollinates and pollutes organic corn.

Preserving farmland should be the highest priority. Where else would we get our food? We all have to eat. Help the local farmers stay in business. Me, I'm not a farmer. I'm city born and raised.

The land belongs to the people and should be used by the people. We need a variety for various uses. We also need parks for kids to play organized activities although schools should be used for this. **Some land should be leased back to agriculture if its irrigated land.** Try to connect properties for biking and horse trails that go many miles. Perhaps alternate days - MWF for bikes and T TH S for horses. Be creative!!

Highly recommend leasing of agricultural open space to hunters for winter goose hunting in areas where this activity could be safely conducted. Many of these areas were safely hunted prior to city purchase. This could raise \$2000-3000 per 100-150 acre field. Many Longmont residents consider hunting a legitimate recreational activity. This would also help alleviate Longmont's goose overcrowding problem in the winter.

The explosion of development in area B is of big concern to me. **I fear all of the open farmland will be developed before it can be preserved.** The loss of farmland in the 9 years I have lived in Longmont is alarming. Not only is the development excessive but the allowed density is just unconscionable. Houses are built much too close together, too close to roads, etc. One house/35 acres would have been nice! Why weren't developers like McStain required to 4-lane the roads they impacted i.e., Airport Road?

Somewhere in your mind you must know that #1 food is not grown/raised in the back room of supermarkets. #2 it really does require land and water to feed people. #3 Concrete and blacktop/asphalt does not absorb water. #4. Developers and their political backers (town/city fathers) don't give a tinker's dam about any of the above. Their super greed is "God Almighty" and surprise - many of them are not even Coloradoan's. #5 Down with crowded developments.

In response to question # 4: You already lost it forever when **you let a farm become Rider Ridge and Ridge Creek Development.**

In response to question # 7: Sorry - I can't choose just one! G - the only panoramic views & **Farmland** really left. A - this area makes Longmont unique - great things are lost to houses & developments.

BIKE

Longmont is saturated with homes - we should have purchased open space years ago. Longmont needs more lakes; gravel mining should be reclaimed as lakes for wildlife of low-impact recreation. **Longmont bike paths are the shortest I've ever seen. They should encircle the entire city of Longmont without stopping to cross a road.**

In response to question # 2: **I'm not aware of a bike trail that is more than 2 miles long.** It takes more effort to get to the trail than I enjoy riding the trail!

Prairie dogs are over-rated. Hunting doesn't mix with hikers and other related activities. Walkers shouldn't be restricted to trails. Horses either. **Bikes, yes.**

In response to question # 13 (Biking-Road): **no - get bikers off roads**

There are many trails closed to mountain biking. If all trails were open to all activities the congestion on each trail would be reduced. Also I have been told by walkers/hikers **MTG causes much erosion problems** but from personal experience I know that horses cause much more erosion.

On streets with lines for bicycles, there is often too much debris to ride safely - stones, glass, etc. Perhaps these sections could benefit from extra street sweeping as there aren't very many sections anyway. The improved alleys are a plus for neighborhood walkers.

I would love to bicycle commute to work if the connecting trails (anything off street) existed. Please don't purchase open space then allow only million dollar homes to benefit from views, etc. Open Space purchases should contribute to the revitalization of east Longmont.

A bike path like Boulder has would be nice to have to be able to get around town safely on a bike.

Open space is necessary for the health of our community. Increase the ratio of open space to developed space. More bike paths that are interconnected and go somewhere, we should be able to safely access all public facilities i.e., library, etc. Union Reservoir, new recreation center and museum and all schools esp. high schools. I'd rather have teenagers on bikes rather than in cars. More skateparks, etc. Be proactive and provide them with positive recreational opportunities. **Consider a bicycle park with everything from families on bikes to racers.** And please, stop kowtowing to crybaby nimby's (Not In My Back Yard). Let's face it - with the runaway growth in Longmont, when you build a stadium or skatepark, it will be in someone's backyard.

A bikepath from Longmont to Boulder would be great (in a safe distance from the Diagonal) for commuting. Bikepath to Lyons maybe. There should be a mixture of open space for low impact recreation and some for protection of wildlife. I think purchase of open space is very important.

Put bike paths along irrigation ditches, right of ways, county links too.

We need bikepaths on Nelson Road from 63rd on Nelson to fairgrounds, for safety of our children riding bikes on roadways.

I think we should have as much open space as we can afford and take care of - it is the only way to have "tramping around areas". All will be houses for the rich if we don't. Dogs off leash should have at least on big area - like Boulder Valley Ranch - it's wonderful! **Limit bicycles - they overtake a place - go so fast - a person can't relax with them flying by every minute.** Have some areas - no dogs too.

I strongly support **linking bike trails to major areas of business (mall, grocery, etc.). Also bike trails from residential area to the Willow Creek Farm Park.)** I also support **more trails to and from the neighborhoods to the St. Vrain Greenway bike trail.**

Need to extend bike path along St. Vrain east to new ballfields. St. Vrain bike path should be center of wheel for extending paths out to other parts of city. Always provide dirt option on side shoulder of paved bike path.

Longmont bike paths are the shortest I've ever seen. They should encircle the entire city of Longmont without stopping to cross a road.

BOULDER

Lets stop wasting funds for things like the two months used ballpark on Hwy 119 called Redstone (Sandstone). What a waste - 10 months of wasted maintenance. Develop hiking trails - stop buying land just to be hiked. **Stupid Boulder.** We can't continue to have property we can't afford & maintain.

We would like to see more open space outside of town with dirt trails in large natural areas as opposed to park areas in town with paved trails. There is not enough open space that allows dogs to run off leash, and I'm not talking about dog parks. **It would be nice to have areas similar to those owned b the city of Boulder where dogs and people can walk in only** The best thing Longmont has done is preserve Button Rock. I love that area!

Hurry! This town is looking just like southern California in the southern areas. Please stop cementing pathways! Sidewalks are fine, but paths should be left packed dirt, or **use the material Boulder uses in the mountains that gets stronger when water runs over it.** It's used @ bridges where water erosion is a problem. Packs to a good path that allows wheelchair access but low maintenance.

I think the environmentalist and the "Boulder" crowd have much too much influence on what we do with our open space.

In regard to the trail systems, I truly believe it would cut down on traffic and make a safer place for kids to bike, rollerblade, etc. I also believe it would promote healthy lifestyles and a happier community. I moved here from **Boulder and I miss their trails.**

I live in Boulder but thank God for our forefathers and our open space. I drive to Longmont often and am always horrified at its growth and sprawl. I love agriculture, horses and open space (natural world) and you are fast losing those resources. If I can help, please let me know. P.S. I subscribe to the paper.

Boulder County (to my knowledge) does not allow hunting in open space. I hope Longmont does not follow this policy. Hunting is very important to me and since I have 7 kids, I don't have the money for paying to hunt. If I have to be taxed for open space, I should be at least able to bird hunt on Longmont Open Space.

I am very excited about the possibilities of joint acquisitions with Boulder County and the City of Boulder. This should help free up funds to purchase more buffer lands in Weld Co. and allow more purchases for trail connections. I am very pleased with your efforts in this area. Thank-you, Dan! I am also very impressed with your efforts to include the citizens.

No one wants to see Longmont disappear into a solid corridor with Boulder & Berthoud. It's important to put a stop to the kind of growth we have seen in the past in Colorado as well as seen in coastal states. Let not the coastal states be our example - let us change the greedy minds of builders and developers. Open space is very important. Thank-you.

IGA's should be used to assure agreement of surrounding cities for buffer zones, location & use. Too much money is being spent by Boulder County on open space for the amount of use by the public.

Most of the land near Longmont now is very expensive! The City of Longmont is about 10 years too late! Most of the land that is now developed would have been appropriate for open space. **Thank goodness Boulder County has taken the initiative over the last 20 years.** The best remaining land for acquisition now would be land near rivers/streams & land between us and the mountains. Small narrow strips of land will appear only as "parks" in the future. Tracts of land bought must be large enough to be open space. Hurry, or this land will be forever gone!

Many people in Longmont especially the mayor and real estate interests, ridicule the City of Boulder and Boulder County for their efforts to preserve open space. **Longmont should learn from these 2 entities that open space is a critical component in the creation of a "great" city.** If I wanted to live in a city like Aurora that sold out to developers, I would have moved there. Open space is one of the reasons I like living in Boulder County and hopefully Longmont.

We believe that the city is a little late in purchasing open space land and have little hope that this will change with our new city leaders. All they seem to see is the \$ signs. **Thank God for Boulder County Open Space.** In keeping with this attitude, please accept this survey, a little late.

Boulder County already has too much open space and that isn't being used very wisely. Build schools & improve infrastructure with the money instead.

Find a way to have open space without making the **country club of Boulder** even more extensive than it is.

DOGS & HORSES

I have no problem with **dogs on a leash**, but **some wildlife areas are not appropriate for dogs**.

I think we should have as much open space as we can afford and take care of - it is the only way to have "tramping around areas". All will be houses for the rich if we don't. **Dogs off leash should have at least on big area** - like Boulder Valley Ranch - it's wonderful! Limit bicycles - they overtake a place - go so fast - a person can't relax with them flying by every minute. **Have some areas - no dogs too.**

I would like more scenic places to walk my dogs - off leash. Preferably with creek/river they (dogs) can play in.

In response to question # 13(horse): **if they clean up like you have to w/dogs**

In response to question # 13 (dogs): **No! No! Owners break rules!**

As an avid horse person, **I would be very happy to have local access to good trails with no motorized vehicles that could scare and endanger our horses.** Our roads have become too dangerous and we would appreciate some equine friendly trails w/corrals, etc.

We would like to see more open space outside of town with dirt trails in large natural areas as opposed to park areas in town with paved trails. There is not enough open space that allows dogs to run off leash, and I'm not talking about dog parks. It would be nice to have areas similar to those owned b the city of Boulder where **dogs and people can walk in only** The best thing Longmont has done is preserve Button Rock. I love that area!

More open space as Longmont grows would be great. **Swim areas for dogs!** Would be nice.

Build the pathway eastward along the St. Vrain River to 287 then County Line Road. Some area should be closed to public access in order to protect natural features, i.e., wildlife, plants, historic, archeological sites, but kept to a minimum. **Most areas should be dog free.**

Why does Loveland have so much open space including lengthy trails - we have so little!? Perhaps you (the city) could **enforce the leash law!** Perhaps you (the city) could encourage (perhaps print) guidelines of common courtesy.

Agriculture areas should only be protected by zoning laws! Knowing Longmont City having leash laws was one value that enticed us to move to Longmont but I see it abused everyday in a neighborhood open space park with people walking, jogging, biking and completely ignoring their **dogs** as they do their dirty work or run at somebody else walking, rollerblading or riding bikes scaring the wits out of them and not picking up their messes.

Please allow dogs off leash on open space. Dogs must be under voice control! The dog parks are inadequate!

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves. **People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs,** and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

Need areas where you can park - then walk to recreation / **dogs allowed to hike off leash.**

I believe dogs should be allowed off lead in open spaces unless there are obvious reasons not to allow dogs off lead such as - **dogs would pose a REAL threat to wildlife or wildlife would pose a real threat to the dogs.**

City owned land could prevent growth which could be good. Does City collect taxes on its own land? If no money would be lost to the city. **Dogs should not be allowed off leash on public property.** We don't need anymore of these prairie palaces. Soon all our farmland will be gone for the vanity of wealthy people.

Prairie dogs are over-rated. Hunting doesn't mix with hikers and other related activities. Walkers **shouldn't be restricted to trails.** Horses either. Bikes, yes.

There are many trails closed to mountain biking. If all trails were open to all activities the congestion on each trail would be reduced. Also I have been told by walkers/hikers MTG causes much erosion problems but from personal experience I know that **horses cause much more erosion.**

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. **If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves.** People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

More off leash dog areas are needed.

How about a dog-horse-people-kids-on-bikes space? This is how its being used now. Native grasses could be planted.

Open space has to be used by the public, some areas for hiking & biking; most areas **for horse riding** and hunting to manage the wildlife. Also to prevent sickness and starvation of deer & elk (wasting disease.) Wake up Boulder County!!!

FINANCIAL ISSUES

The opinion survey locator map is very hard to read. Clean up sites along St. Vrain Greenway - i.e., high fence around auto junkyard on Sunset, trees to camouflage Golden's constant mining around Rogers Grove. **Spend \$ on this instead of all the artsy little amenities.**

Highly **recommend leasing of agricultural open space to hunters** for winter goose hunting in areas where this activity could be safely conducted. Many of these areas were safely hunted prior to city purchase. This

could raise \$2000-3000 per 100-150 acre field. Many Longmont residents consider hunting a legitimate recreational activity. This would also help alleviate Longmont's goose overcrowding problem in the winter.

Lets **stop wasting funds** for things like the two months used ballpark on Hwy 119 called Redstone (Sandstone). What a waste - 10 months of wasted maintenance. Develop hiking trails - stop buying land just to be hiked. Stupid Boulder. We can't continue to have property we can't afford & maintain.

We would **support increase in funding for open space acquisition.**

Open space is a very important part of our quality of life. We need to preserve key and vital areas. Development needs to help pay for this in a big way. As we also need some growth. **Those profiting from growth should pay biggest part of this. Also, I'm inclined to see a use fee on areas that are newly acquired.**

In response to question # 6: **Doesn't the lottery help out some?**

Try asking for donations instead of taxation and see what people really think about buying open space for rodent protection, or to create a way to restrict hunting. That may well be good for the overall animal populations.

I have a hard time understanding how we can control growth when it suits us but not when there's money to be made. My belief is that it would suit somebody just fine if all the **complainers who don't earn a living wage** would just disappear; on the other hand, **cheap labor is always welcome.**

Any revenues generated from open space use should be "earmarked" for open space maintenance and acquisition. Funds should not be deposited in the general fund.

Open space takes resources out of production, lower the tax base, and increases my taxes taking money out of my family's pocket. **Sell open space to the commercial public. Put it back on the tax rolls.**

More open space is crucial to improving the quality of life and the **property values** in and around Longmont.

I or we generally agree that properly maintaining current or readily available open space is more important than over-extending beyond budgetary or limited capabilities. Conservative use of functional areas is paramount.

I am very excited about the possibilities of **joint acquisitions** with Boulder County and the City of Boulder. This should help **free up funds to purchase more buffer lands** in Weld Co. and allow **more purchases for trail connections.** I am very pleased with your efforts in this area. Thank-you, Dan! I am also very impressed with your efforts to include the citizens.

I think it is appropriate for open space to **offset its maintenance costs through some sort of income producing activity** such as agriculture, gravel mining or recreational activities.

IGA's should be used to assure agreement of surrounding cities for buffer zones, location & use. Too much money is being spent by Boulder County on open space for the amount of use by the public. Longmont has too many houses being built. Lights, water and a few other things are raising. Low-income people can't afford all the bills. I think they should end all the house building and work on our streets. Keep the trees

trimmed, and side walks in good shape. Get rid of Bella's. Also keep the 100-year houses and other buildings where they are. I have been living here for 56 years and I liked the old Longmont.

We should **not be purchasing land at exorbitant profits** for some. If you want to exclude development, it could be accomplished by using zoning. Open space should be for people to use and enjoy, not just a tiny trail through hundreds of acres.

Open Space is a misuse of taxpayer's money with no benefit to the public. Our founding fathers would be appalled that government is the largest landowner in America. That is what they fought the Revolutionary War over. Get government off our backs, out of our pocket books and out of land ownership.

In response to question # 4: **drive up cost of real estate.**

Developers should be responsible for purchasing open space for the citizens. Closure of any open space area **MUST** have public input and review (yearly.)

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I'm glad the city is purchasing land along the St. Vrain River in both Boulder and Weld counties. **Please don't pay artificially inflated land prices for property with significant development constraints though!** Hopefully we will partner with the county(s) and apply for GOCO grants to expand our ability to acquire open space. Perhaps there are other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands, to **partner with for open space acquisition.** We could also try to work with Weld County to establish a transferable development rights program similar to the Boulder County program and allow development rights from either Weld or Boulder Counties to be transferred across county lines to designated receiving sites. Also, I know the Yeager farm is already annexed, but preserving a portion of the farm in the center of the community would be a nice amenity. Perhaps the farm could be purchased and then a portion sold for development to offset costs.

The open space committee sales and manipulates the public trust lands. In collusion with certain developers. This action removes taxable income to the counties. To date there are no wildlife management controls on open space properties. Respondiabile (responsible? Responsive?) management must be achieved through legal hunting methods. Hunting in Colo. Generates more income to our state than the ski industry.

In response to question # 5: regarding closing agricultural land to the public at all times - **why not just purchase development rights or a conservation easement rather than fee simple.**

Response to question 6: We have more than enough open space now. **Stop taking land off of the tax rolls**

We believe that the city is a little late in purchasing open space land and have little hope that this will change with our new city leaders. All they seem to see is the \$ signs. Thank God for Boulder County Open Space. In keeping with this attitude, please accept this survey, a little late.

Could city purchase water rights to increase flow in the St. Vrain to insure adequate habitat for fish and wildlife. As well as helping the river look like a river for more than the run-off months.

City owned land could prevent growth which could be good. **Does City collect taxes on its own land? If no money would be lost to the city.** Dogs should not be allowed off leash on public property. We don't need anymore of these prairie palaces. Soon all our farmland will be gone for the vanity of wealthy people.

The city has enough open space now. The county is still going crazy trying to buy up all the land it can without a thought as to its appropriateness or cost of maintenance. **Why not use any monies available to**

maintain and beautify current open space. I use the trails for walking. 90% of the time, they are empty with few exceptions. Where is the tax \$ to come from to replace that which previously was paid by owners of the land?

Boulder County already has too much open space and that isn't being used very wisely. **Build schools & improve infrastructure with the money instead.**

Willing sellers only. No eminent domain. Private property owners wishing to donate should not experience undue resistance from Planning Board, County Commissioners or City Council. **Purchase price should be based on market value of development rights not just SG land value.**

Don't put so much emphasis and use of tax dollars for open space. This is not what city government originated for.

Open space should be by donation only. No taxes should be spent for buying or maintaining space. Maintenance should be by volunteers only. Return taxes to taxpayers.
New buildings or development must pay a fee to acquire open space.

It is critical to preserve open space. Although it may appear costly, we will get back so much more than we spend if it is well-planned. The value of personal property will also naturally go up in a well-planned community. We can't all expect perfect mountain views from our homes, but it is possible to have a healthy balance for the whole community.

FORM & TRANSLATION

Survey, the way it's worded, is very **poor!** We have too much residential building.

The opinion survey locator map is very **hard to read.** Clean up sites along St. Vrain Greenway - i.e., high fence around auto junkyard on Sunset, trees to camouflage Golden's constant mining around Rogers Grove. Spend \$ on this instead of all the artsy little amenities.

Question #4 (w/ "10 being highest") may **skew** your results as I would have ranked using 1 being highest and only caught this direction by sheer luck. Other rated Q's likewise . . .

In response to question # 7: Why only one? **Can't we rank priorities here, too?**

The **numbering scheme** for questions 4, 6 & 11 is counter-intuitive and may prove to be a survey **design flaw.** When ranking priorities, I'm sure most people would assign the highest priority #1 and the least priority #10.

This is a very **inaccurate** survey - anyone can send in multiple surveys - not one person one vote.

Your questionnaire and your practices seem to **confuse open space and parks** (with lights, pavilions, etc.) inappropriately. Roosevelt Park was more passive; now is parking lots and concrete. Why don't developers of commerce have to contribute open space?

Print on map too small. Can't read to answer 7 & 8.

From reading this survey I believe **you have determined your agenda and the results you would like to achieve. Therefore your questions, parameters for rating and answer choices have been created to meet your agenda.** Question 5a **wording is** inflammatory and far from unbiased - the wording seems to direct an expected answer. Question 7 - poor map quality. Sections large and undefined. Question 13 - poorly defined category (activities) to evaluate.

This survey-while better than the trash pickup survey (which was a joke designed to validate current service and use as an excuse to say "Things are just fine") still **lacks the ability to get THE TAXPAYER'S TRUE THOUGHTS.** But, who gives a damn about them? "Why don't they just shut up and let the pros do their job?" This survey is an advance from normal city questionnaires ... period.

Map is blurry. Couldn't you come up with something clearer especially where I concerns two questions - 7 and 8?

Good Survey. It is essential to get water rights for parks and wildlife habitat.

This is a well-constructed survey.

In response to question # 13: **who came up with these categories?**

The rating scheme was confusing. You are asking us to evaluate priorities then reverse their "weight". Lots of folks may think that a 1 is top priority rather than a 10. You have doubled the work for the evaluator and you may get "false positives". Trails maps should be widely available and visible.

Please obtain more professional assistance in designing surveys - this one will be very difficult to obtain reliable data from and thus is a waste of my money.

Questions 11 and 5b are **not written very well.** Why not buy land and NOT mine it. Also, I don't see why 5b is not two questions since wildlife and agriculture are two very different issues.

The map on the back was very difficult to read.

This survey is poorly designed. Questions misleading or designed to obtain certain answers.

"Spanish Translation" not necessary. If you live in Longmont and have a right to make a comment then you should speak English. We make it too easy for the Mexicans. All other nationalities learn English. Why do we make it ok for Spanish language everywhere. It's an honor to live here (United States) so show appreciation by speaking the English language.

If I did not read English, I wouldn't understand this - **print in Spanish if you want Spanish to read it.**

When you write "for a Spanish translation..." **I would suggest you write it in Spanish.** Why didn't you print this sentence in Spanish? (references "For a Spanish translation ...")

Though I feel we too often cater to those who do not know English and in turn create their dependency on "special treatment" I question the offer below. **Shouldn't it be written in Spanish?**

Also, you should have made this version of the survey in English and Spanish.

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

The explosion of development in area B is of big concern to me. I fear all of the open farmland will be developed before it can be preserved. The loss of farmland in the 9 years I have lived in Longmont is alarming. Not only is the development excessive but the allowed density is just unconscionable. Houses are built much too close together, too close to roads, etc. One house/35 acres would have been nice! Why weren't developers like McStain required to 4-lane the roads they impacted i.e., Airport Road?

Longmont is saturated with homes - we should have purchased open space years ago. Longmont needs more lakes; gravel mining should be reclaimed as lakes for wildlife or low-impact recreation.

Somewhere in your mind you must know that #1 food is not grown/raised in the back room of supermarkets. #2 it really does require land and water to feed people. #3 Concrete and blacktop/asphalt does not absorb water. #4. Developers and their political backers (town/city fathers) don't give a tinker's dam about any of the above. Their super greed is "God Almighty" and surprise - many of them are not even Coloradoans. #5 Down with crowded developments.

In response to question # 7: Sorry - I can't choose just one! G - the only panoramic views & Farmland really left. A - this area makes Longmont unique - great things are lost to houses & developments.

I wish they would put a stop to the housing developments on the northeast side of town. Too many houses, not enough parks or schools for the population. I have lived in Longmont for 26 ½ years. In just the last 4 years I have wanted to move out because of the growth.

Hurry! This town is looking just like southern California in the southern areas. Please stop cementing pathways! Sidewalks are fine, but paths should be left packed dirt, or use the material Boulder uses in the mountains that gets stronger when water runs over it. It's used @ bridges where water erosion is a problem. Packs to a good path that allows wheelchair access but low maintenance.

Open space is a very important part of our quality of life. We need to preserve key and vital areas. Development needs to help pay for this in a big way. As we also need some growth. Those profiting from growth should pay biggest part of this. Also, I'm inclined to see a use fee on areas that are newly acquired.

If I had my way, there would be no more new trails, no more new roads, no more new people moving here. Only affordable houses under \$250,000 built on ½ to 1 acre of land, and only a few of these. Let the rest of the land be open space and farmland. Let Colorado go back or forward (whichever) to the great state it used to be before Greed set in.

In response to question #4: Helps to keep real estate prices inflated.

More open space requirements are needed for new developments in addition to outright purchasing of undeveloped property. Expansion with new developments cause the greatest percentage reduction in the ratio between open space and developed properties.

I have a hard time understanding how we can control growth when it suits us but not when there's money to be made. My belief is that it would suit somebody just fine if all the complainers who don't earn a living wage would just disappear; on the other hand, cheap labor is always welcome.

CITY OF LONGMONT

Parks: Open Space & Trails

Public Survey, Fall 2001

Longmont is so beautiful and is located in such a magnificent area. Please - stop the housing development and preserve the wetlands and farm areas. Motorized vehicles hasten the decline of natural areas. Keep Longmont what it has been for so long - a lovely farming community - not another suburb!

Instead of government owning open space, some land should be zoned to protect agriculture and prevent development. New construction should be higher density, lower cost housing. We do not need more \$500,000 homes.

I live in Boulder but thank God for our forefathers and our open space. I drive to Longmont often and am always horrified at its growth and sprawl. I love agriculture, horses and open space (natural world) and you are fast losing those resources. If I can help, please let me know. P.S. I subscribe to the paper.

We need to control growth and preserve the agricultural areas in west Longmont. By buying open space in west Longmont, we will preserve the views, keep wildlife and upgrade the standard of living.

I have lived in Longmont my whole life and I DO NOT want to see anymore destruction of land inside or around Longmont! I miss the small town feeling Longmont used to have! No more destruction of existing property or destruction of open space PERIOD!

We think the city has done well with open space. But more is needed. We need to slow down growth a little. We are going to hurt ourselves with too fast growth and not having the tax structure to keep pace with the growth, schools, fire, wildlife. Thank you for the questionnaire.

We need more open areas inside the current city boundaries. Houses are too close together!! For a city of this size, we are lacking in parks. We need more space for family picnics and recreation.

In City land should be cleaned, cared for but not developed with concrete all over.

We do not need open space; just stop the damn development. Open Space is a means of rewarding the politicians and their friends by putting _____ (inflates?) the price for land. The county and _____ (city?) have no business _____ the two biggest landowners in ___ already. It is all done for political gain. Poison all of prairie dogs. Eliminate them.

Longmont must control growth, acquire open space, and improve traffic problems before we continue to expand large developments and more large ""ox"" stores - or all identity to be the wonderful place to live will be lost!! 9th & Hover has one of the most spectacular views from the city and hopefully part of it will be preserved so residents travelling N to S will always be able to enjoy Longs, Meeker and the front range. Too many huge & ugly commercial projects are being erected that destroy our western namesake. (longtime Longmont resident)

Longmont needs trails & open space & help for the prairie dogs more than houses, house, houses & more buildings. It breaks my heart to see our field, farms, etc. being torn up for more ugly developments.

I was born and raised in Longmont. It has sure changed in the last twenty years (for the worst). If you want to control growth do not sell Longmont water to other communities. If you limit water you can limit growth and all the other problems in this area.

Longmont has too many houses being built. Lights, water and a few other things are raising. Low-income people can't afford all the bills. I think they should end all the house building and work on our streets. Keep

the trees trimmed, and side walks in good shape. Get rid of Bella's. Also keep the 100-year houses and other buildings where they are. I have been living here for 56 years and I liked the old Longmont.

Most of the land near Longmont now is very expensive! The City of Longmont is about 10 years too late! Most of the land that is now developed would have been appropriate for open space. Thank goodness Boulder County has taken the initiative over the last 20 years. The best remaining land for acquisition now would be land near rivers/streams & land between us and the mountains. Small narrow strips of land will appear only as "parks" in the future. Tracts of land bought must be large enough to be open space. Hurry, or this land will be forever gone!

Longmont is growing and changing too fast - slow down!! Developers seem to control elections! Put a stop to them - the outskirts of Longmont looks like beehives!

We should not be purchasing land at exorbitant profits for some. If you want to exclude development, it could be accomplished by using zoning. Open space should be for people to use and enjoy, not just a tiny trail through hundreds of acres.

There can never be too much open space. Our city is out of control with growth. We must act now to save what we can from development. One needs only to look at the Salt Lake Valley to see what happens when open space takes a backseat to development.

Please help stop further development for businesses and residences.

Developers should be responsible for purchasing open space for the citizens. Closure of any open space area MUST have public input and review (yearly.)

I would love to bicycle commute to work if the connecting trails (anything off street) existed. Please don't purchase open space then allow only million dollar homes to benefit from views, etc. Open Space purchases should contribute to the revitalization of east Longmont.

All 4 members of our family are native Coloradoans. We have seen the front range "developed" within an inch of its life. We see open space acquisition and proper use as an essential element of preserving what we have left.

Buy up all you can; the developers will fill in every nook & cranny.

We need to preserve our agricultural heritage, but it seems like all we care about now is giving in to developers. I don't feel little pathways through a densely populated subdivision as open space.

We would really like to see any further development of commercial/business facilities put to a stop along 119 - Boulder to Niwot to Longmont. It's sad to see that quiet open space being interrupted by huge buildings and hotels. Thanks!

We need more open space for wildlife. Rapid development is creating an imbalance. We also need open space so people can enjoy the beauty surrounding us.

We need to stop the development of open areas around Longmont. The illusion of increased revenues will overcrowd our roads, schools and land. What was once a beautiful area west of Longmont is now an eyesore. This kind of tasteless, cheaply built housing will only become rundown suburbs built on once beautiful farmland. My quality of life has decreased rapidly in the last ten years due to unlimited development, pollution, traffic and too many people. Increase corporate taxes & watch them bail.

New buildings or development must pay a fee to acquire open space.

Having vacationed in Colorado prior to moving here, several times a year, having lived here for two years, it is a major disappointment to see developers coercing landowners to sell for their profit. Here in Longmont, if we don't want to mirror Westminster, Broomfield and other such towns, NOW is the time to act. If we do wish to congest life in general, let the public know; some of us shall move to another, slower-paced, quaint and friendly town. It's time to take pride in what we have, claim to have enough, and head to another town for restaurant row or such activity. One area of focus for revamping a rundown yet already developed areas is Main Street. From one end of town to the other. Not just beautification of the median and benches, but stop renewing to hideous looking, worthless businesses! Let them go elsewhere and we'll modernize what is there.

Try to get open space with every new development.

We cannot allow this kind of growth explosion. The roads are over-crowded; open space and farmland are virtually disappearing. If we don't slow it down and keep it under control, the front range will look like LA soon; from Ft. Collins to Colorado Springs.

Having previously lived in metropolitan areas across the United States, we see the urgency of preserving land for open space. Once it is gobbled up for development, it's gone forever!

Stop the growth - do not issue any more building permits for unspecified time. The mountains are becoming obscured. The traffic is horrendous, too much growth too quickly. Just say no!

HUNTING

Highly recommend leasing of agricultural open space to hunters for winter goose hunting in areas where this activity could be safely conducted. Many of these areas were safely hunted prior to city purchase. This could raise \$2000-3000 per 100-150 acre field. Many Longmont residents consider hunting a legitimate recreational activity. This would also help alleviate Longmont's goose overcrowding problem in the winter.

Prairie dogs are over-rated. Hunting doesn't mix with hikers and other related activities. Walkers shouldn't be restricted to trails. Horses either. Bikes, yes.

Try asking for donations instead of taxation and see what people really think about buying open space for rodent protection, or to create a way to restrict hunting. That may well be good for the overall animal populations.

Boulder County (to my knowledge) does not allow hunting in open space. I hope Longmont does not follow this policy. Hunting is very important to me and since I have 7 kids, I don't have the money for paying to hunt. If I have to be taxed for open space, I should be at least able to bird hunt on Longmont Open Space.

Open Space should be open to the public - in limited extent if necessary depending on ag activity. Uses such as hunting (waterfowl/goose) should be incorporated. Open Space should also provide radial corridors to access the city via alternative transportation.

The open space committee sales and manipulates the public trust lands. In collusion with certain developers. This action removes taxable income to the counties. To date there are no wildlife management

controls on open space properties. Respondiabile (responsible? Responsive?) management must be achieved through legal hunting methods. Hunting in Colo. Generates more income to our state than the ski industry. In response to question #2: wildlife management through hunting

Open Space has catered to hiking, jogging, etc. and has done nothing for any kind of hunting. Open space has also taken away places that used to be used for this activity.

I think that all open space should be open to the public in some form. Not all open space can be used by everyone but everyone should be able to use some open space, i.e., not everyone rollerblades, some of us like to hunt.

Open space has to be used by the public, some areas for hiking & biking; most areas for horse riding and hunting to manage the wildlife. Also to prevent sickness and starvation of deer & elk (wasting disease.) Wake up Boulder County!!!

LOCATION

I know this is really City Park & Rec's concern, but Longmont would be a better community if the Open Space on the SW corner of the pace and Mountain View intersection would become a city park with playgrounds, trees, picnic areas, an open space for neighborhood soccer and trail connections to Union Reservoir, Jim Hamm Recreation area and back west into Longmont! It will be a tragedy forever if this is lost to houses/business just like the incredible view on Pace from 3rd to 9th!

In response to question # 1: Key from Golden Ponds to Union Reservoir East & Longmont to Union.

In response to question # 7: Sorry - I can't choose just one! G - the only panoramic views & Farmland really left. A - this area makes Longmont unique - great things are lost to houses & developments.

We would like to see more open space outside of town with dirt trails in large natural areas as opposed to park areas in town with paved trails. There is not enough open space that allows dogs to run off leash, and I'm not talking about dog parks. It would be nice to have areas similar to those owned b the city of Boulder where dogs and people can walk in only The best thing Longmont has done is preserve Button Rock. I love that area!

In response to question #6a: include spoke to 287 highway

Build the pathway eastward along the St. Vrain River to 287 then County Line Road. Some area should be closed to public access in order to protect natural features, i.e., wildlife, plants, historic, archeological sites, but kept to a minimum. Most areas should be dog free.

Make walking trail around McIntosh or/and other lakes.

Linkage between existing open space to create a wider, integrated network of parks and trails should be a priority, i.e., non-road access from Union Reservoir all the way to McIntosh Lake should be a goal. The St. Vrain corridor is the obvious trunk route for this connection.

In response to question # 3: There are no trails in NW Longmont unless you count Garden Park.

I believe that the city should purchase land sooner rather than later. I think that the primary purpose of the project should be to retain the natural lay of the land.

No prairie dogs on open space - they destroy it. Path along Diagonal to Boulder - useful.

Tear down the "Berlin Wall" of the rich and famous - Hwy 66 - develop north of highway 66 or the average Longmonter - not just for those (i.e., Hover Rd & Yellowstone) only who can buy anything. How about another golf course for example or an ice skating rink?

We desperately need land along the St. Vrain River east and west of town for biking, hiking, fishing, etc. From Lyons to I25 and beyond. No more ballparks like Sandstone, please. Also more water for a decent flow in the St. Vrain River to support a fish population.

I would really like to see the continuation of a trail system that connects Longmont and the surrounding communities increasing the pleasure and recreational activities of the most amount of Coloradoans. Thank you.

I think it would be great to have a walking/biking trail system all along the St. Vrain River.

Balance is important. Parks - Parks - Parks low impact and finished parks on east side of town. Cut trails through 17th to 19th & 17th - 21st. Open space is critical to Longmont's future success.

I would also like to see open space acquisition in area A - and better bike trails through town. I would ride my bike for errands in town more if it were easier to cross major roads like Hover for example. I am extremely opposed to Wal-Mart building a super center anywhere near downtown - we don't need it! Thanks for the chance to state an opinion.

We need more open areas inside the current city boundaries. Houses are too close together!! For a city of this size, we are lacking in parks. We need more space for family picnics and recreation.

In response to question # 1: I would use the trails more often if they were more extensive. For example, the trail from Golden Ponds going east ends at Pratt Pkwy. I, for years, have wanted it to extend to east of town.

I'd like to see our trails connected - Golden Ponds to Pella Crossing. A trail developed that would provide a connection from Union Reservoir to the foothills, along scenic areas for all types of recreation.

Longmont must control growth, acquire open space, and improve traffic problems before we continue to expand large developments and more large "ox" stores - or all identity to be the wonderful place to live will be lost!! 9th & Hover has one of the most spectacular views from the city and hopefully part of it will be preserved so residents travelling N to S will always be able to enjoy Longs, Meeker and the front range. Too many huge & ugly commercial projects are being erected that destroy our western namesake. (longtime Longmont resident)

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves. People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

I think a priority should be to buy land to connect trails i.e., to St. Vrain trail & Golden Ponds where people could walk, jog or bike through the city.

There are many trails and paths in Longmont that go nowhere. #1 priority should be to connect paths. Paths should connect all parts of the city, need paths to Jim Hamm Nature Park, Union Res, etc.

The Rough 'n Ready ditch would be a beautiful natural corridor for a bike path from Lyons to Terry Lake. There is lots of wildlife along this area lots of big trees, even a beaver or two.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I'm glad the city is purchasing land along the St. Vrain River in both Boulder and Weld counties. Please don't pay artificially inflated land prices for property with significant development constraints though! Hopefully we will partner with the county(s) and apply for GOCO grants to expand our ability to acquire open space. Perhaps there are other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands, to partner with for open space acquisition. We could also try to work with Weld County to establish a transferable development rights program similar to the Boulder County program and allow development rights from either Weld or Boulder Counties to be transferred across county lines to designated receiving sites. Also, I know the Yeager farm is already annexed, but preserving a portion of the farm in the center of the community would be a nice amenity. Perhaps the farm could be purchased and then a portion sold for development to offset costs.

A trail system along the St. Vrain from Lyons to Longmont should be a high priority.

Need a continuous path connecting Dry Creek Bike Path to the Willow Farm Park. Need paved access to Farm park from west (89th) to allow biking to park.

In response to question # 7: Trail & fishing for the central & east side residents.

A bike path like Boulder has would be nice to have to be able to get around town safely on a bike.

I have a problem with reclaiming small areas of open space and then surrounding them with up-scale developments. As an environmental lawyer commented - this is not true open space - this is like a zoo.

We would really like to see any further development of commercial/business facilities put to a stop along 119 - Boulder to Niwot to Longmont. It's sad to see that quiet open space being interrupted by huge buildings and hotels. Thanks!

We would like to see the land along 17th Avenue and County Road 1 acquired for a mixed-use development. It would be a prime agricultural/bird refuge site bordering Union Reservoir and Jim Hamm Park. It is approximately 104 acres and could serve as a buffer zone against Weld County and preserve existing new corridors into our city.

Go for land like the Baan and Yeager farms!

I would like a bike path from Longmont to Boulder and maybe to Lyons. Trails that could be used for commuting and longer recreational bike rides. I strongly agree with the purchase of open space!

A bikepath from Longmont to Boulder would be great (in a safe distance from the Diagonal) for commuting. Bikepath to Lyons maybe. There should be a mixture of open space for low impact recreation and some for protection of wildlife. I think purchase of open space is very important.

If possible, please prevent the development of the land west of Airport Road and between St. Vrain River and Route 66. This area is one of Longmont's last clear views of the Front Range peaks. Thank you.

In response to question 7: should have included a ranking as was done for all other questions. Our ranking in order of importance would be: E G B H A C F D. Limiting question 7 will only skew your results in the direction of existing population densities.

Put bike paths along irrigation ditches, right of ways, county links too.

Our town has enough beautiful parks/open space within the city limits. Concentrate on surrounding the edge of the town with open space and leave inside the city for homes and commercial development - so that citizens can walk to businesses and not go more than 5 miles outside of center of town to get "out" of the city. This prevents sprawl. Development within the city is a good thing. Don't keep annexing "historic" is not always valuable. Allow it to be developed. If people want wilderness experience, go to the National Forest. This is a town. Our backyards and parks provide enough space. And prairie dogs are rats - a nuisance.

It is imperative to begin the acquisition process. I am most concerned about areas C, A & B in that order. Maintaining a land base in its natural state is very important to me. We cannot easily reclaim what is developed. While this river corridor is important, the outlying areas are equally vulnerable and we cannot count on Boulder County to make these purchases.

Please try to purchase Yeager Farm for open space.

We live off Mountain View Blvd between Hover Road and Airport Road. Because of increasing traffic, we no longer feel safe crossing 17th to access McIntosh Lake. It is also difficult to walk from Longmont Estates to Golden Ponds and the adjacent trail along the river. We would like McIntosh Lake to be accessible to all residents of Longmont. There should be a walking path around MacIntosh Lake.

We need bikepaths on Nelson Road from 63rd on Nelson to fairgrounds, for safety of our children riding bikes on roadways.

Myself and the residents of Lake McIntosh are eager to find a solution to our "backyard"neighbors - the Cockleburr Country Club (See letter to Highland Ditch Company - attached). These individuals have the recreation rights to the lake, but there are no boundaries or limitations on the use of the lake. I and my neighbors on the lake perceive the current use as damaging to the environment and the quality of life. Please urge Council to consider seriously purchasing the lease this year from Highland Ditch Company. This will allow limited activity and allow all residents of Longmont access to this natural resource. (letter not attached)

Longmont needs to put in at least one bike, walk, etc. path that goes along the St. Vrain River at least to the new ballfields. Also to develop trails and open space around the new ball fields.

I strongly support linking bike trails to major areas of business (mall, grocery, etc.). Also bike trails from residential area to the Willow Creek Farm Park.) I also support more trails to and from the neighborhoods to the St. Vrain Greenway bike trail.

Need to extend bike path along St. Vrain east to new ballfields. St. Vrain bike path should be center of wheel for extending paths out to other parts of city. Always provide dirt option on side shoulder of paved bike path.

I like the trail system in Longmont, but it is inadequate. We need more trails. We also need safe trails that connect to the main St. Vrain Greenway trail. You shouldn't have to drive your car to get to the trail system.

Weld County is not showing interest in buffers or open space or wildlife issues. Let's buy up important areas in Weld County. This will enhance Longmont. Also, property near 17th & Hover where radio towers are has an exceptional view and best grove of cottonwoods on Oligarcy Ditch. How about a dog-horse-people-kids-on-bikes space? This is how its being used now. Native grasses could be planted.

Consideration may want to be given to having a meeting with volunteer non-profit-recreational groups to ascertain their needs prior to selecting areas for purchase. Also the city P & R have been using Lottery funds to develop St. Vrain Greenway. Consideration may want to be given to developing a north/south greenway going through the city that will include bike paths and walking paths.

With regard to maintaining open space and undeveloped buffers between cities, Longmont has help from Boulder County in areas A.B.C.E and G. In stark contrast are areas east and southeast of Longmont. Only the city of Longmont and Boulder County will be able to prevent the emergent mega city (Erie, Frederick, Firestone, Dacono, Del Camino) from destroying the existing buffers. It would be foolish to rely on these cities or Weld County to preserve meaningful areas of open space on Longmont's eastern and southeastern borders.

MINING

We're really against mining. Mining for gravel pollutes our air; damages our roads more and faster than car traffic and makes the land ugly and unnatural. People have a physical, mental and spiritual need for open space. Otherwise they tend to become less balanced and more stressed. Stress can lead to unhealthy people, more crime, more anxiety, disrespect for self and others, more conflicts, etc. That's not an ideal lifestyle for anyone.

Longmont is saturated with homes - we should have purchased open space years ago. Longmont needs more lakes; gravel mining should be reclaimed as lakes for wildlife of low-impact recreation. Longmont bike paths are the shortest I've ever seen. They should encircle the entire city of Longmont without stopping to cross a road.

Longmont is saturated with homes - we should have purchased open space years ago. Longmont needs more lakes; gravel mining should be reclaimed as lakes for wildlife of low-impact recreation. Longmont bike paths are the shortest I've ever seen. They should encircle the entire city of Longmont without stopping to cross a road.

Land should be purchased for specific reasons mostly as a buffer, farming and gravel mining is ok. Recreation purchase is just that. But mixing use doesn't always work. And saving pesky disease carrying rodents is not a purpose for open space. Just the opposite.

I think it is appropriate for open space to offset its maintenance costs through some sort of income producing activity such as agriculture, gravel mining or recreational activities.

Turn Main Street into a mall like Pearl St. in Boulder and Denver's 16th Street. Go for a buffer zone outside boundaries to protect suburban crawl. Stop permits for surface mining. Stop building 3 story commercial sites west of Hover Road in SW Longmont that block our views of Twin Peaks & Longs Peak.

Questions 11 and 5b are not written very well. Why not buy land and NOT mine it. Also, I don't see why 5b is not two questions since wildlife and agriculture are two very different issues.

In response to question #11: How long does mining take?

Mining should be weighed against value of natural ecosystem - don't destroy something of value. Even "low impact" human use needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

POLITICAL THOUGHTS - COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT

Somewhere in your mind you must know that #1 food is not grown/raised in the back room of supermarkets. #2 it really does require land and water to feed people. #3 Concrete and blacktop/asphalt does not absorb water. #4. Developers and their political backers (town/city fathers) don't give a tinker's dam about any of the above. Their super greed is "God Almighty" and surprise - many of them are not even Coloradoan's. #5 Down with crowded developments.

I am answering based on what has been purchased or is already in the works. I actually don't like the idea of open space, because it never seems to be for the "people" - it's for the government.

When viewing the vast governmental ownership of the county, any city open space should be limited to parks & recreation within the current city limits. Pressure should be applied to the county to open all their lands for public use and this would eliminate the need for any future open space acquisition.

The land belongs to the people and should be used by the people. We need a variety for various uses. We also need parks for kids to play organized activities although schools should be used for this. Some land should be leased back to agriculture if its irrigated land. Try to connect properties for biking and horse trails that go many miles. Perhaps alternate days - MWF for bikes and T TH S for horses. Be creative!!

Tear down the "Berlin Wall" of the rich and famous - Hwy 66 - develop north of highway 66 or the average Longmonter - not just for those (i.e., Hover Rd & Yellowstone) only who can buy anything. How about another golf course for example or an ice skating rink?

It seems like city and county government wants us to pay for open space and many times we have NO say in how it is used. It would be better if we could have some say in how it is used.

Instead of government owning open space, some land should be zoned to protect agriculture and prevent development. New construction should be higher density, lower cost housing. We do not need more \$500,000 homes.

In response to question # 7: None, the government owns enough!

I don't think the government of any level should be in the business of buying land! In communist countries is where the government owns everything.

Open space takes resources out of production, lower the tax base, and increases my taxes taking money out of my family's pocket. Sell open space to the commercial public. Put it back on the tax rolls.

We do not need open space; just stop the damn development. Open Space is a means of rewarding the politicians and their friends by putting _____ (inflates?) the price for land. The county and _____ (city?) have no business _____ the two biggest landowners in ____ already. It is all done for political gain. Poison all of prairie dogs. Eliminate them.

Is hard for me to answer these questions as I believe government at all branches owns too much of Colo. Now. Private ownership of property was a real concern of our forefathers and we are losing more of that everyday. Too much take-over of private property by government. Amended vision: "Preserving our heritage BY PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY."

Many people in Longmont especially the mayor and real estate interests, ridicule the City of Boulder and Boulder County for their efforts to preserve open space. Longmont should learn from these 2 entities that open space is a critical component in the creation of a "great" city. If I wanted to live in a city like Aurora that sold out to developers, I would have moved there. Open space is one of the reasons I like living in Boulder County and hopefully Longmont.

Open Space is a misuse of taxpayer's money with no benefit to the public. Our founding fathers would be appalled that government is the largest landowner in America. That is what they fought the Revolutionary War over. Get government off our backs, out of our pocket books and out of land ownership.

The Parks Dept. uses this type of survey to justify their own opinion of what should happen in Longmont. Time after time I have observed meetings steered by Park staff to their own end. The City of Longmont has the attitude that they are too big and too powerful to listen to the community, both private and business. You don't serve the public interest, only your own narrow views.

The open space committee sales and manipulates the public trust lands. In collusion with certain developers. This action removes taxable income to the counties. To date there are no wildlife management controls on open space properties. Respondiabile (responsible? Responsive?) management must be achieved through legal hunting methods. Hunting in Colo. Generates more income to our state than the ski industry.

We believe that the city is a little late in purchasing open space land and have little hope that this will change with our new city leaders. All they seem to see is the \$ signs. Thank God for Boulder County Open Space. In keeping with this attitude, please accept this survey, a little late.

Response to question 4: A1 reason is political power.

Open space should be by donation only. No taxes should be spent for buying or maintaining space. Maintenance should be by volunteers only. Return taxes to taxpayers.

Don't put so much emphasis and use of tax dollars for open space. This is not what city government originated for.

Willing sellors only. No eminent domain. Private property owners wishing to donate should not experience undue resistance from Planning Board, County Commissioners or City Council. Purchase price should be based on market value of development rights not just SG land value.

PRAIRIE DOGS

In response to question # 11: Depends on how much destruction caused to say prairie dog habitat because habitat is so decreased now.

Re: Prairie Dogs - I don't think using City open space as a "mitigation" site for prairie dog relocation is appropriate. Developers should be required to purchase additional sites for prairie dog relocation. Prairie dogs will likely find their way into City open space on their own.

In response to question #5a: Prairie dogs should be called prairie rats and people would not be so concerned about their relocation.

Prairie dogs are over-rated. Hunting doesn't mix with hikers and other related activities. Walkers shouldn't be restricted to trails. Horses either. Bikes, yes.

Try asking for donations instead of taxation and see what people really think about buying open space for rodent protection, or to create a way to restrict hunting. That may well be good for the overall animal populations.

No prairie dogs on open space - they destroy it. Path along Diagonal to Boulder - useful.

Open Space should NOT be purchased for the specific reason of protecting or creating a habitat for prairie dogs.

I believe in planned open space and protecting the views as much as possible. Prairie dogs ruin the land they inhabit and disease carriers. They are rodents. Traffic needs more main arteries with turn signals especially 10 AM and 3-7 PM.

When prairie dogs were at 100% occupancy there were only about what 10% people?? The "dogs" are adorable but they multiply like rodents and carry plague. So - to give them more room. STOP this uncontrolled rapid growth and new housing developments and we wouldn't have to worry about them.

Land should be purchased for specific reasons mostly as a buffer, farming and gravel mining is ok. Recreation purchase is just that. But mixing use doesn't always work. And saving pesky disease carrying rodents is not a purpose for open space. Just the opposite.

Send the prairie dogs (rats) to Boulder or let them live in the yards of their supporters.

Prairie dogs in public open space areas only if their populations can be controlled. They may be keystone species for short grass prairie environment not 21 century urban environmental. Agricultural active such as pasturing would be advisable if it were the best way to preserve open space.

Prairie dogs are rodents and easily adapt to surroundings that change. See all the prairie dogs living along Ken Pratt Blvd. Near Sunset. I've seen a bald eagle hunting them on Nelson Road between Sunset and the Diagonal.

In all fairness, the negative "facts" should have been included in this survey regarding prairie dogs; ex. After they kill the grass, the dogs will move then the dirt will blow and flood, the dogs carry diseases, the

holes cause sprained ankles or broken legs. After learning that the government owns 42% of Colo. Land, I was shocked. That "fact" should be mentioned also. Have we gone "nuts" on this open land mission?

We do not need open space; just stop the damn development. Open Space is a means of rewarding the politicians and their friends by putting _____(inflates?) the price for land. The county and _____(city?) have no business _____ the two biggest landowners in ___ already. It is all done for political gain. Poison all of prairie dogs. Eliminate them.

Longmont needs trails & open space & help for the prairie dogs more than houses, house, houses & more buildings. It breaks my heart to see our field, farms, etc. being torn up for more ugly developments.

Open Space is good for the community. I am voting no on the GOCO because of the stupid laws that protect prairie dogs - they are rodents and are carriers of the plague and also ruin our open space land we have. There used to be dinosaurs here - they no longer exist. We all get along fine without them. Same should apply to prairie dogs.

In response to question # 5a: Planning & development should work around existing prairie dog locations.

In response to question # 5a: relocation of prairie dogs is a ridiculous waste of resources!!!

Open Space - yes. Preserve prairie dogs!!

Response to question 5a: Kill 'em all.

Response to question 5a: Put them on current open space.

Our town has enough beautiful parks/open space within the city limits. Concentrate on surrounding the edge of the town with open space and leave inside the city for homes and commercial development - so that citizens can walk to businesses and not go more than 5 miles outside of center of town to get "out" of the city. This prevents sprawl. Development within the city is a good thing. Don't keep annexing "historic" is not always valuable. Allow it to be developed. If people want wilderness experience, go to the National Forest. This is a town. Our backyards and parks provide enough space. And prairie dogs are rats - a nuisance.

Open space would best be looked at in its place with a total usage comprehensive plan. It is purchased with public dollars and should be used for the public recreational needs with moderation and conservation. I do not agree with purchasing land for wildlife habitat or prairie dogs within the city as so much of our state is already set aside for this purpose and handled by others with the appropriate skills.

Kill prairie dogs instead of relocating them to destroy land and grass in other areas!!! Prairie dogs destroy grass that cows and horses can eat. And damage ground. Relocate prairie dogs to every open space board member's property. Do any of them have livestock or children it could affect! Let their children walk in prairie dog colonies and hope there is no plague!

Please take into account the high cost of maintaining a property after being purchased. If irrigated there is the ditch system to be maintained or replaced. Wildlife areas often need grass planting and weed control. Prairie dog colonies need at least 5 years from the time grass is planted until it can sustain very many animals. Ask horse rescue about prairie dogs and grass establishment.

Prairie dogs are important to the natural world and are a keystone species and should be protected. Land should be set aside for them.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

I attended the first meeting and was told by the facilitator not to put any green paper IN town because the property would be too expensive. I thought that was inappropriate.

The public open space meeting held on 10/24/01 was very disappointing. Although a superb turn-out, the meeting space and facility is inadequate. I could not hear the speakers - they were too soft spoken and needed a microphone. The audience questions were not repeated as requested and therefore not heard. Poorly, poorly run meeting.

Please use a microphone system at these meetings. People in the back cannot hear. The speakers were hardly audible. Thank-you.

I am very disappointed in Wed. PM's meeting. We could not hear the speakers at all. There were private conversations going on throughout the room and some people were eating and talking in the kitchen. 2 mid age men sitting w/Steve Strong were very disrespectful and making grade school comments throughout the evening. The whole experience left me feeling very saddened for our open space program. All I noticed was chaos and unorganization.

Not to be too cynical, but I hope that these meetings and public forums - I've been to both so far - really make a difference and we do have a say. I'd hate to see a small "advisory committee" vs the general public make those decisions. And I know that money is a limiting if not THE limiting factor, but I hope I see these decisions and this open space in my lifetime and I can enjoy and utilize the trails in the next 1-5 to 10 years.

QUALITY OF LIFE

We're really against mining. Mining for gravel pollutes our air; damages our roads more and faster than car traffic and makes the land ugly and unnatural. People have a physical, mental and spiritual need for open space. Otherwise they tend to become less balanced and more stressed. Stress can lead to unhealthy people, more crime, more anxiety, disrespect for self and others, more conflicts, etc. That's not an ideal lifestyle for anyone.

I feel that open space is VITAL to the health and well being of the city. Quality of life is important and I'm willing to pay for it.

My wife and I are not able to use the open spaces due to our age and health. We see the open space as a good means to reduce density and traffic. It also will reduce noise if noise-making activities are restricted. Please: no concerts. (J.H.Rogers)

Open space is a very important part of our quality of life. We need to preserve key and vital areas. Development needs to help pay for this in a big way. As we also need some growth. Those profiting from growth should pay biggest part of this. Also, I'm inclined to see a use fee on areas that are newly acquired.

In regard to the trail systems, I truly believe it would cut down on traffic and make a safer place for kids to bike, rollerblade, etc. I also believe it would promote healthy lifestyles and a happier community. I moved here from Boulder and I miss their trails.

We need to protect our open spaces for all of the following generations to come. The beauty of this state needs to be preserved at any cost. It is also a health issue. Trees provide oxygen and cleaner air. People

need places to go to view nature and gain a sense of peace and well-being; a place without a lot of loud noise. Noise pollution is a health risk as much as air pollution.

Open Space and buffering is very high priority of a quality of life in this community. My family and I are happy and grateful for your efforts.

The most important issue regarding open space to my husband and I is to buy land for open space to create a buffer from development of other communities!! We appreciate being able to participate in this survey.

We need to control growth and preserve the agricultural areas in west Longmont. By buying open space in west Longmont, we will preserve the views, keep wildlife and upgrade the standard of living.

It's important to protect the integrity of Longmont by preserving and improving open spaces. Longmont's attractiveness also diminishes by allowing "trashy" establishments such as pawn shops, tattoo parlors, strip bars and "super" walmarts. Specialty shops and return to nature could truly help this city.

More open space is crucial to improving the quality of life and the property values in and around Longmont.

Open Space is good for the community. I am voting no on the GOCO because of the stupid laws that protect prairie dogs - they are rodents and are carriers of the plague and also ruin our open space land we have. There used to be dinosaurs here - they no longer exist. We all get along fine without them. Same should apply to prairie dogs.

To preserve Longmont's quality and preserve the lands which surround the area. Open Space should remain the highest priority of citizens, community leaders, etc. We should set an example for the rest of Colorado and encourage other communities to do likewise.

Many people in Longmont especially the mayor and real estate interests, ridicule the City of Boulder and Boulder County for their efforts to preserve open space. Longmont should learn from these 2 entities that open space is a critical component in the creation of a "great" city. If I wanted to live in a city like Aurora that sold out to developers, I would have moved there. Open space is one of the reasons I like living in Boulder County and hopefully Longmont.

Open Space are no more adequate in Longmont. Cement and buildings are growing and the quality of life (decreasing due to traffic, pollution, noise, etc.) Longmont is not doing enough to preserve its history and identity.

I would love to bicycle commute to work if the connecting trails (anything off street) existed. Please don't purchase open space then allow only million dollar homes to benefit from views, etc. Open Space purchases should contribute to the revitalization of east Longmont.

Open space is necessary for the health of our community. Increase the ratio of open space to developed space. More bike paths that are interconnected and go somewhere, we should be able to safely access all public facilities i.e., library, etc. Union Reservoir, new recreation center and museum and all schools esp. high schools. I'd rather have teenagers on bikes rather than in cars. More skateparks, etc. Be proactive and provide them with positive recreational opportunities. Consider a bicycle park with everything from families on bikes to racers. And please, stop kowtowing to crybaby nimby's (Not In My Back Yard). Let's face it - with the runaway growth in Longmont, when you build a stadium or skatepark, it will be in someone's backyard.

Open space is so very important to the beauty of Longmont. Open space means just open land and also developed open space (i.e., established trails.) We need both! Some of us find beauty in simply an open field that is undeveloped.

SUGGESTIONS & MISC.

Hurry! This town is looking just like southern California in the southern areas. Please stop cementing pathways! Sidewalks are fine, but paths should be left packed dirt, or use the material Boulder uses in the mountains that gets stronger when water runs over it. It's used @ bridges where water erosion is a problem. Packs to a good path that allows wheelchair access but low maintenance.

In response to question # 4e: Historical Society should do this.

The land belongs to the people and should be used by the people. We need a variety for various uses. We also need parks for kids to play organized activities although schools should be used for this. Some land should be leased back to agriculture if its irrigated land. Try to connect properties for biking and horse trails that go many miles. Perhaps alternate days - MWF for bikes and T TH S for horses. Be creative!!

In response to question # 1: better parking availability.

I believe in planned open space and protecting the views as much as possible. Prairie dogs ruin the land they inhabit and disease carriers. They are rodents. Traffic needs more main arteries with turn signals especially 10 AM and 3-7 PM.

Use crushed rock as much as possible for trails; avoid concrete - it is more expensive, higher maintenance, less versatile, produces more injuries in runners and walkers.

In response to question # 1: sidewalk type surfaces have no give. I like the old hardened dirt trails like in some of the parks.

It would be helpful to have a map of Longmont's bike paths and open space along with its uses.

If city buys land farming can be only on annual lease w/limit to 3-5 years.

In response to question # 2: I would use it for walking. Please tell me where I can get a map of the trails.

I think it is appropriate for open space to offset its maintenance costs through some sort of income producing activity such as agriculture, gravel mining or recreational activities.

Need areas where you can park - then walk to recreation / dogs allowed to hike off leash.

Turn Main Street into a mall like Pearl St. in Boulder and Denver's 16th Street. Go for a buffer zone outside boundaries to protect suburban crawl. Stop permits for surface mining. Stop building 3 story commercial sites west of Hover Road in SW Longmont that block our views of Twin Peaks & Longs Peak.

On streets with lines for bicycles, there is often too much debris to ride safely - stones, glass, etc. Perhaps these sections could benefit from extra street sweeping as there aren't very many sections anyway. The improved alleys are a plus for neighborhood walkers.

Is there a map available of existing trails?

I think the open spaces should be kept as natural as possible. No huge lighting, no concession stands, no commercialization of the areas. Just leave it alone. Is there a map of the trail system somewhere?

St. Vrain School District youth should be involved in using the space and in helping care for areas as a learning experience. Develop a love for outdoors and respect for it. Better than buses taking youth to commercial pumpkin farms, etc. Areas designated for kite flying. Open space is needed for public to use as lawns get smaller!

The Rough 'n Ready ditch would be a beautiful natural corridor for a bike path from Lyons to Terry Lake. There is lots of wildlife along this area lots of big trees, even a beaver or two.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I'm glad the city is purchasing land along the St. Vrain River in both Boulder and Weld counties. Please don't pay artificially inflated land prices for property with significant development constraints though! Hopefully we will partner with the county(s) and apply for GOCO grants to expand our ability to acquire open space. Perhaps there are other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands, to partner with for open space acquisition. We could also try to work with Weld County to establish a transferable development rights program similar to the Boulder County program and allow development rights from either Weld or Boulder Counties to be transferred across county lines to designated receiving sites. Also, I know the Yeager farm is already annexed, but preserving a portion of the farm in the center of the community would be a nice amenity. Perhaps the farm could be purchased and then a portion sold for development to offset costs.

We need better maps of available trails - need easily obtainable maps. How about maps on the website?

Could city purchase water rights to increase flow in the St. Vrain to insure adequate habitat for fish and wildlife. As well as helping the river look like a river for more than the run-off months.

I think open space areas and parks are two separate things, and should be kept that way. Having parks available for activities is more appropriate. Open space should be more for resource conservation/preservation.

Golden Pond's restrooms need to be repaired as they have been closed for 4-5 months. Crushed rock needs to be added to the trails so one doesn't have to walk in the mud. Please, no more concrete trails - too hard to walk on!

More power, more funds should be given to open space.

I think we will eventually need a separate Open Space Board to govern, not just advise.

Stop building. Buy open space land.

I used to love to walk at Golden Ponds before you put in the concrete paths. Now because of my arthritis, I can't walk there anymore because the concrete surface is too hard on my knees & hips. Although we live outside the city limits, we pay the sales tax as we do all of our shopping in Longmont.

Suggest improved access to information on open space and appropriate uses. As a relative newcomer, it is difficult to find details on trails and open space. Still not sure on some areas. I'd like to see a brochure/web site with all trails and open space/activity availability.

Try to get open space with every new development.

Let's finish the trails here and get some easier to walk on gravel, etc. Thanks!

Every area should have open space and promoted and policed.

Need to extend bike path along St. Vrain east to new ballfields. St. Vrain bike path should be center of wheel for extending paths out to other parts of city. Always provide dirt option on side shoulder of paved bike path.

Please take into account the high cost of maintaining a property after being purchased. If irrigated there is the ditch system to be maintained or replaced. Wildlife areas often need grass planting and weed control. Prairie dog colonies need at least 5 years from the time grass is planted until it can sustain very many animals. Ask horse rescue about prairie dogs and grass establishment.

Our overall population is getting older - therefore bike paths should interconnect so golf carts can be used - this is the time to think about thinking and planning for the inevitable.

Open Space is just that - open for use (specifics may be needed) to all. We (taxpayers) buy it - we use it - City buys ag land and then uses it for a City Nursery to grow trees/bushes/plants for use in parks and for sale of surplus to citizens. Also on city-owned ag land - grow a pumpkin patch for kids in Fall, a xmas tree farm for citizens who can't afford much, a xeriscape nursery to support low-income housing & parks & open space. Do not lease ag land to commercial entities which would restrict use by citizens. Ag land could grow varied products then open it up at harvest time to citizen gleaning for personal or charitable use.

Explain the difference between county and city open space in a column sometime. Seems like a conflict.

Consideration may want to be given to having a meeting with volunteer non-profit-recreational groups to ascertain their needs prior to selecting areas for purchase. Also the city P & R have been using Lottery funds to develop St. Vrain Greenway. Consideration may want to be given to developing a north/south greenway going through the city that will include bike paths and walking paths.

Longmont is a great city but really needs to have open space too.

Balance is the key in all aspects.

In response to question # 11 a & b: unacceptable.

In response to question # 4: these are all important in regard to open space.

Balance is important. Parks - Parks - Parks low impact and finished parks on east side of town. Cut trails through 17th to 19th & 17th - 21st. Open space is critical to Longmont's future success.

In response to question # 11: Makes Longmont unique with all our birds & lakes.

I would also like to see open space acquisition in area A - and better bike trails through town. I would ride my bike for errands in town more if it were easier to cross major roads like Hover for example. I am extremely opposed to Wal-Mart building a super center anywhere near downtown - we don't need it! Thanks for the chance to state an opinion.

CITY OF LONGMONT

Parks: Open Space & Trails

Public Survey, Fall 2001

Development of purchased does not create peace and quiet, but groups people and noise which is no longer a buffer.

We do not need open space; just stop the damn development. Open Space is a means of rewarding the politicians and their friends by putting _____(inflates?) the price for land. The county and _____(city?) have no business _____ the two biggest landowners in ___ already. It is all done for political gain. Poison all of prairie dogs. Eliminate them.

In response to question # 6c: Purchase no land. Free enterprise.

I or we generally agree that properly maintaining current or readily available open space is more important than over-extending beyond budgetary or limited capabilities. Conservative use of functional areas is paramount.

I am very much in favor of open space - it's what will set us apart from the rest of the sprawl.

Does the map show Boulder County open space? The use and percentage of county vs city space would be of importance to us.

I am very excited about the possibilities of joint acquisitions with Boulder County and the City of Boulder. This should help free up funds to purchase more buffer lands in Weld Co. and allow more purchases for trail connections. I am very pleased with your efforts in this area. Thank-you, Dan! I am also very impressed with your efforts to include the citizens.

I would like to see Longmont surrounding by open space (farms, greenbelts, etc.) so it remains a free-standing community with a unique history and its own identity.

I was born and raised in Longmont. It has sure changed in the last twenty years (for the worst). If you want to control growth do not sell Longmont water to other communities. If you limit water you can limit growth and all the other problems in this area.

Turn Main Street into a mall like Pearl St. in Boulder and Denver's 16th Street. Go for a buffer zone outside boundaries to protect suburban crawl. Stop permits for surface mining. Stop building 3 story commercial sites west of Hover Road in SW Longmont that block our views of Twin Peaks & Longs Peak.

IGA's should be used to assure agreement of surrounding cities for buffer zones, location & use. Too much money is being spent by Boulder County on open space for the amount of use by the public.

Turn Main Street into a mall like Pearl St. in Boulder and Denver's 16th Street. Go for a buffer zone outside boundaries to protect suburban crawl. Stop permits for surface mining. Stop building 3 story commercial sites west of Hover Road in SW Longmont that block our views of Twin Peaks & Longs Peak.

Longmont has too many houses being built. Lights, water and a few other things are raising. Low-income people can't afford all the bills. I think they should end all the house building and work on our streets. Keep the trees trimmed, and side walks in good shape. Get rid of Bella's. Also keep the 100-year houses and other buildings where they are. I have been living here for 56 years and I liked the old Longmont.

Comments regarding vision statement - 'PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE' 'PROTECTING WHAT WE VALUE' If you were around when the Roosevelt barns were used for shuffleboard, ping pong, skating, you know what I mean. Grew up in Longmont - sorry you tore down the grandstand at Roosevelt Park. How about more

emphasis on the fact that it is the Memorial Building and less emphasis on the Athletic/Recreational facet - e.g. sign on front of building - paint memorial bldg. letters black and light. In general - I think the city does a good job! Thomson & Collyer parks are great. City trucks at Roosevelt have hindered the use of that park. Hope they will soon be gone.

When I graduated from HS in 1956 at Longmont Hi, 9th & Main, this was a lovely open green area with rolling hills. Now I see new places going in all around Longmont. Buffers needed between cities. Whatever happened to "Don't Californicate Colorado" from the 1980's? But leave open space natural. Don't go filling it up with skate parks, dog runs, swimming pools, etc. P.S. I just moved back after being gone for 34 years - it's not a pretty site!

From reading this survey I believe you have determined your agenda and the results you would like to achieve. Therefore your questions, parameters for rating and answer choices have been created to meet your agenda. Question 5a wording is inflammatory and far from unbiased - the wording seems to direct an expected answer. Question 7 - poor map quality. Sections large and undefined. Question 13 - poorly defined category (activities) to evaluate.

The Parks Dept. uses this type of survey to justify their own opinion of what should happen in Longmont. Time after time I have observed meetings steered by Park staff to their own end. The City of Longmont has the attitude that they are too big and too powerful to listen to the community, both private and business. You don't serve the public interest, only your own narrow views.

In response to question # 13 (reading) give me a break!

In response to question #7: there is no space left to acquire

The only wildlife you see along the St. Vrain Greenway are geese, herons, ducks, other birds. Some fish if you look close. I have never even seen a squirrel People seem to scare everything away except bugs. So much for nature. Thanks.

I moved from Texas where there was almost no open space. That's why I'm here!

Response to question 5c: We don't need ANY MORE open space for any purpose.

Buy proposed super Wal-Mart's space/land for open space!

Buy more open space!!

Jacqui is the most beautiful and talented bass player ever to play at RMCC. (?)

Buy as much as we can as soon as we can! Resources become scarce over time.

Response to question 6: We have more than enough open space now. Stop taking land off of the tax rolls

Longmont with its current growth needs to look at open space issues now or you will become another Denver.

We need to stop the development of open areas around Longmont. The illusion of increased revenues will overcrowd our roads, schools and land. What was once a beautiful area west of Longmont is now an eyesore. This kind of tasteless, cheaply built housing will only become rundown suburbs built on once beautiful

farmland. My quality of life has decreased rapidly in the last ten years due to unlimited development, pollution, traffic and too many people. Increase corporate taxes & watch them bail.

Please keep Longmont a nice place. Plan for traffic so people can get to work. Keep lots of open space. Make public transportation a priority.

More power, more funds should be given to open space.

Stop building. Buy open space land.

I love open space and use it!

We are new to Longmont and have not yet had the opportunity to utilize the trail system. However, we are very interested in using and exploring the places available to us.

Use the resources you have community service people, volunteers, outdoor classrooms. I love events at Rogers's grove, farmers market, fairgrounds. Approach large landowners for conservation easements. I don't use dog park, but that's very popular. Longmont is a lovely place.

Are you confusing city parks with open space?

As a parent of small children, open space used for recreation needs to have bathroom facilities for us to be able to utilize them.

Buy as much as you can as quick as you can!

Maintain private property rights!

Consider landowners rights

We need to find a way to give more weight to the opinions of individual neighborhoods (the majority of residents within a given area) in determining whether some areas within their neighborhoods are to become open space or not. Our neighborhood voted in a survey to preserve a 34-acre enclave which could be excluded unless open space is balanced throughout the community (your question #6). We need to be careful not to rule out areas within the older parts of the city for open space dollars (we pay taxes too!) Thank you.

Buy up all you can; the developers will fill in every nook & cranny.

Purchase available lands now before they are gone.

In response to question # 13: lost a great opportunity to team up with Eagle Claw - SSR property.

I believe it would be beneficial to manage the animals on open space with archery or shotguns in certain areas - deer, elk, waterfowl. Thank-you for letting me voice my opinion.

Your questionnaire and your practices seem to confuse open space and parks (with lights, pavilions, etc.) inappropriately. Roosevelt Park was more passive; now is parking lots and concrete. Why don't developers of commerce have to contribute open space?

State law prohibits feeding wildlife - why ask!?

Stop Wal-Mart. No super centers please! Keep area west of Rogers Grove open; no development. Get rid of the "Taxi House" also. It's a blight in an otherwise nice, open area of Hover Road.

A trail system along the St. Vrain from Lyons to Longmont should be a high priority.

I would love to bicycle commute to work if the connecting trails (anything off street) existed. Please don't purchase open space then allow only million dollar homes to benefit from views, etc. Open Space purchases should contribute to the revitalization of east Longmont.

Need a continuous path connecting Dry Creek Bike Path to the Willow Farm Park. Need paved access to Farm park from west (89th) to allow biking to park.

The "trail system" is too short and disconnected to be of much use as it currently is. Some areas are important for wildlife and should be purchased as open space and closed to the public such as the heron nesting colony on the Saint Vrain River near CO SR 119 (closed only during nesting)

THANKS AND AFFIRMATIONS

Thanks for asking us!

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves. People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

If frisbee golf is picked, it needs to be a frisbee golf only course for safety reasons. Loomiller is a nice course, but people are always standing in the way because they don't understand what is happening! Thanks!

Work fast! I grew up in Boulder and Ft. Collins and all the open spaces we played in as kids are gone! I will always support your aims. Thanks for the opportunity to share viewpoints!

I think Longmont is a great place to live, work and enjoy the wonderful park systems. Keep up the good job.

I would love to be a part of the public process but work every Wed. night. Please keep me informed. Thank-you!

I think a rifle/pistol range should be created as an activity on open space land. We would use a trap range, too. Thank-you for this opportunity to give our thoughts.

Thanks for seeking input. I appreciate the opportunity to have my opinions considered.

Thank-you for asking for our input! These questions should have been asked of us years ago ... hope it is not too late!

The only wildlife you see along the St. Vrain Greenway are geese, herons, ducks, other birds. Some fish if you look close. I have never even seen a squirrel People seem to scare everything away except bugs. So much for nature. Thanks.

Open Space and buffering is very high priority of a quality of life in this community. My family and I are happy and grateful for your efforts.

Great process, thanks for including the public!

Looking forward to the fruition of all the Greenway, St. Vrain Open Space planning and the continued interest of the Longmont residents (users - enjoyers!!!)

Work fast! I grew up in Boulder and Ft. Collins and all the open spaces we played in as kids are gone! I will always support your aims. Thanks for the opportunity to share viewpoints!

It is encouraging that Longmont is finally considering improvement of recreational opportunities with a comprehensive plan. Other front range communities are light years ahead in trail development and it is sad that Longmont area residents must go to Loveland, Ft. Collins, Boulder, Estes Park to walk/rollerblade/cycle, etc. on a scenic paved trail system. Longmont's existing greenway trail along the river is a "token trail" - a joke in comparison to other forward-looking communities.

We feel that overall the City is doing a fine job. All of these worthy objectives take time - and are worth the effort! Keep up the good work!

I strongly support a very aggressive open space acquisition for Longmont of varying types of land and open space land use.

Thanks for putting this here for convenience in responding. (library or museum)

The most important issue regarding open space to my husband and I is to buy land for open space to create a buffer from development of other communities!! We appreciate being able to participate in this survey.

We really enjoy Longmont's open space areas. Thank-you for this opportunity to put our thoughts and input to the city.

Considering the huge population explosion of recent years, I think Longmont has done a good job of balancing growth and community needs. Open Space is important to a good quality of life and should exist everywhere possible to maintain integrity of the open space and lifestyles of nature thereon. Quiet places are few and far between as it is - open space should be a place of peace and renewal.

Thanks for the opportunity. Preserving open space is one of the most important things we can do for future residents, as well as preserving important natural values now.

Please continue to survey the community for their opinions on matters that affect everyone that calls Longmont home. I continue to be impressed by the opinions the City takes to everyone for their input and opinions that matter to us all. Keep up the great work, Longmont!

We think the city has done well with open space. But more is needed. We need to slow down growth a little. We are going to hurt ourselves with too fast growth and not having the tax structure to keep pace with the growth, schools, fire, wildlife. Thank you for the questionnaire.

I believe Longmont has done a good job in creating open space; lets keep up the good work. City's around are not as well-planned.

I believe it would be beneficial to manage the animals on open space with archery or shotguns in certain areas - deer, elk, waterfowl. Thank-you for letting me voice my opinion.

Keep up the good work!

We appreciate the opportunity to express our opinions about such a critical issue as land use.

I would also like to see open space acquisition in area A - and better bike trails through town. I would ride my bike for errands in town more if it were easier to cross major roads like Hover for example. I am extremely opposed to Wal-Mart building a super center anywhere near downtown - we don't need it! Thanks for the chance to state an opinion.

I am very excited about the possibilities of joint acquisitions with Boulder County and the City of Boulder. This should help free up funds to purchase more buffer lands in Weld Co. and allow more purchases for trail connections. I am very pleased with your efforts in this area. Thank-you, Dan! I am also very impressed with your efforts to include the citizens.

Longmont is a wonderful place to live. We must all work together to keep it that way. God bless Longmont, Colorado USA.

Thanks for working to preserve our open space.

Comments regarding vision statement - 'PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE' 'PROTECTING WHAT WE VALUE' If you were around when the Roosevelt barns were used for shuffleboard, ping pong, skating, you know what I mean. Grew up in Longmont - sorry you tore down the grandstand at Roosevelt Park. How about more emphasis on the fact that it is the Memorial Building and less emphasis on the Athletic/Recreational facet - e.g. sign on front of building - paint memorial bldg. letters black and light. In general - I think the city does a good job! Thomson & Collyer parks are great. City trucks at Roosevelt have hindered the use of that park. Hope they will soon be gone.

Open space is a good thing! Keep up the good work for our future.

Thank you for seeking this input and for providing a convenient means to do so.

No one wants to see Longmont disappear into a solid corridor with Boulder & Berthoud. It's important to put a stop to the kind of growth we have seen in the past in Colorado as well as seen in coastal states. Let not the coastal states be our example - let us change the greedy minds of builders and developers. Open space is very important. Thank-you.

I'm very glad that the City of Longmont hired Dan Wolford as the City's Open Space & Trails Superintendent. I've had the pleasure of working with Dan in the past and think of him as a real professional. Dan will do an excellent job for the citizens of Longmont. (Dick Lyman)

Keep up the good work now and in the future.

Thank-you for asking.

Thank-you for requesting the public's opinion. Great Job!

Overall you're doing a good job on this.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I'm glad the city is purchasing land along the St. Vrain River in both Boulder and Weld counties. Please don't pay artificially inflated land prices for property with significant development constraints though! Hopefully we will partner with the county(s) and apply for GOCO grants to expand our ability to acquire open space. Perhaps there are other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands, to partner with for open space acquisition. We could also try to work with Weld County to establish a transferable development rights program similar to the Boulder County program and allow development rights from either Weld or Boulder Counties to be transferred across county lines to designated receiving sites. Also, I know the Yeager farm is already annexed, but preserving a portion of the farm in the center of the community would be a nice amenity. Perhaps the farm could be purchased and then a portion sold for development to offset costs.

Open Space - yes. Preserve prairie dogs!!

Thank-you for requesting the public's input. I believe that this is important to make the open spaces work and to help future bonds and purchases successful for our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to vote. I'm a conservationist at heart and would gladly give up my rights to areas so that my children's children can enjoy them. I appreciate your efforts. Thank you again.

Thank you for conducting this survey.

Good survey! Very educational and comprehensive!

Good luck on your endeavors!

This is a well-constructed survey.

Good Survey. It is essential to get water rights for parks and wildlife habitat.

Open Space is by far the most valuable contribution any city can make to not only its citizens, but to its future.

This survey is a great idea. I have lived all over the world and have never had this opportunity for input. Please put the results to good use. P.S. Please don't turn Longmont into an over-developed "California Bay area" type of city. Most people chose this area because it is still a little rural. Thanks.

Limited access to some areas is A-OK with us. Get the open space as it arises. We need to act now. Thank you for asking!

Dan: keep doing what you're doing. Great job, but we don't know about what you're doing at Jim Hamm, going to be a city park. Just don't put a hot dog stand out there! Sandstone is great!!

I'm very impressed with Longmont's focus on open space - related issues. Staff is doing a great job!

We love the Open Space Supervisor!

Dan needs/deserves a raise! Dan needs to invite the boys (all 4) fishing more often! Dan for mayor!!! (Your friends on Bowen St. G.)

TRAILS

In response to question # 3: You rarely can go between areas without getting onto city streets and busy intersections.

In response to question # 1: I would like to have more trails.

In response to question # 2: When camping out mainly and do you have trail maps to give out?

The opinion survey locator map is very hard to read. Clean up sites along St. Vrain Greenway - i.e., high fence around auto junkyard on Sunset, trees to camouflage Golden's constant mining around Rogers Grove. Spend \$ on this instead of all the artsy little amenities.

Linkage between existing open space to create a wider, integrated network of parks and trails should be a priority, i.e., non-road access from Union Reservoir all the way to McIntosh Lake should be a goal. The St. Vrain corridor is the obvious trunk route for this connection.

The land belongs to the people and should be used by the people. We need a variety for various uses. We also need parks for kids to play organized activities although schools should be used for this. Some land should be leased back to agriculture if its irrigated land. Try to connect properties for biking and horse trails that go many miles. Perhaps alternate days - MWF for bikes and T TH S for horses. Be creative!!

In regard to the trail systems, I truly believe it would cut down on traffic and make a safer place for kids to bike, rollerblade, etc. I also believe it would promote healthy lifestyles and a happier community. I moved here from Boulder and I miss their trails.

Keep open space for public hiking access. I detest closing open space to hikers for any reason. I do sometimes use the St. Vrain Greenway trail and am very anxious to see an addition made to the wonderful trail. Easy access is also very important.

I think it would be great to have a walking/biking trail system all along the St. Vrain River.

Currently our trail system is poor and limited to St. Vrain/Rogers Grove/Golden Ponds. Act now - buy now - before it is too late.

I would really like to see the continuation of a trail system that connects Longmont and the surrounding communities increasing the pleasure and recreational activities of the most amount of Coloradoans. Thank you.

I'd like to see our trails connected - Golden Ponds to Pella Crossing. A trail developed that would provide a connection from Union Reservoir to the foothills, along scenic areas for all types of recreation.

There are many trails closed to mountain biking. If all trails were open to all activities the congestion on each trail would be reduced. Also I have been told by walkers/hikers MTG causes much erosion problems but from personal experience I know that horses cause much more erosion.

Longmont needs trails & open space & help for the prairie dogs more than houses, house, houses & more buildings. It breaks my heart to see our field, farms, etc. being torn up for more ugly developments.

In response to question # 1: I would use the trails more often if they were more extensive. For example, the trail from Golden Ponds going east ends at Pratt Pkwy. I, for years, have wanted it to extend to east of town.

I am very excited about the possibilities of joint acquisitions with Boulder County and the City of Boulder. This should help free up funds to purchase more buffer lands in Weld Co. and allow more purchases for trail connections. I am very pleased with your efforts in this area. Thank-you, Dan! I am also very impressed with your efforts to include the citizens.

In response to question # 2: I would use it for walking. Please tell me where I can get a map of the trails.

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves. People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

As an avid horse person, I would be very happy to have local access to good trails with no motorized vehicles that could scare and endanger our horses. Our roads have become too dangerous and we would appreciate some equine friendly trails w/corrals, etc.

The streets leading to the St. Vrain Trail system - Sunset St, Hover, S. Pratt Pkwy and Main are too busy and sidewalks are woefully inadequate for safe access to the pathway!

To preserve Longmont's quality and preserve the lands which surround the area. Open Space should remain the highest priority of citizens, community leaders, etc. We should set an example for the rest of Colorado and encourage other communities to do likewise.

There are many trails and paths in Longmont that go nowhere. #1 priority should be to connect paths. Paths should connect all parts of the city, need paths to Jim Hamm Nature Park, Union Res, etc.

Would be happy to see longer trails, ie., each meeting to other cities - Golden Ponds is absolutely wonderful! More areas like that esp. on East of Longmont.

I strongly support linking bike trails to major areas of business (mall, grocery, etc.). Also bike trails from residential area to the Willow Creek Farm Park.) I also support more trails to and from the neighborhoods to the St. Vrain Greenway bike trail.

Need to extend bike path along St. Vrain east to new ballfields. St. Vrain bike path should be center of wheel for extending paths out to other parts of city. Always provide dirt option on side shoulder of paved bike path.

I like the trail system in Longmont, but it is inadequate. We need more trails. We also need safe trails that connect to the main St. Vrain Greenway trail. You shouldn't have to drive your car to get to the trail system.

Suggest improved access to information on open space and appropriate uses. As a relative newcomer, it is difficult to find details on trails and open space. Still not sure on some areas. I'd like to see a brochure/web site with all trails and open space/activity availability.

Longmont needs to put in at least one bike, walk, etc. path that goes along the St. Vrain River at least to the new ballfields. Also to develop trails and open space around the new ball fields.

I would like a bike path from Longmont to Boulder and maybe to Lyons. Trails that could be used for commuting and longer recreational bike rides. I strongly agree with the purchase of open space!

A bikepath from Longmont to Boulder would be great (in a safe distance from the Diagonal) for commuting. Bikepath to Lyons maybe. There should be a mixture of open space for low impact recreation and some for protection of wildlife. I think purchase of open space is very important.

We live off Mountain View Blvd between Hover Road and Airport Road. Because of increasing traffic, we no longer feel safe crossing 17th to access McIntosh Lake. It is also difficult to walk from Longmont Estates to Golden Ponds and the adjacent trail along the river. We would like McIntosh Lake to be accessible to all residents of Longmont. There should be a walking path around MacIntosh Lake.

I would like more trails in and near the city. The existing ones like the St. Vrain Greenway are great, but I would like to see more.

Let's finish the trails here and get some easier to walk on gravel, etc. Thanks!

My husband and I walked the trail starting at Boston Court - west. It was lacking something - I can't put my finger on it. It wasn't friendly - it seemed lonely. Maybe art, pavement color/type, adoption of a ½ mile by groups, etc. might help.

USE

The best approach to open space is to provide connected spaces for wildlife so that they can migrate from one place to another without having to deal with "civilization." Ideally Longmont's open space should connect with the county & city of Boulder open space, as well as other surrounding areas.

We're really against mining. Mining for gravel pollutes our air; damages our roads more and faster than car traffic and makes the land ugly and unnatural. People have a physical, mental and spiritual need for open space. Otherwise they tend to become less balanced and more stressed. Stress can lead to unhealthy people, more crime, more anxiety, disrespect for self and others, more conflicts, etc. That's not an ideal lifestyle for anyone.

Longmont is saturated with homes - we should have purchased open space years ago. Longmont needs more lakes; gravel mining should be reclaimed as lakes for wildlife of low-impact recreation. Longmont bike paths are the shortest I've ever seen. They should encircle the entire city of Longmont without stopping to cross a road.

Protecting wild lands, restricting growth, creating more bicycle paths & supporting mass transit need to be top priorities at this time in our area. Thank-you!

I think that we should respect our environment and only build things that are absolutely necessary. That will keep our environment clean. Not have Longmont change into something its not. Because I am one that is not for change unless it will benefit our community and our environment as well.

Public land should never be used to keep the public out.

When viewing the vast governmental ownership of the county, any city open space should be limited to parks & recreation within the current city limits. Pressure should be applied to the county to open all their lands for public use and this would eliminate the need for any future open space acquisition.

We would like to see more open space outside of town with dirt trails in large natural areas as opposed to park areas in town with paved trails. There is not enough open space that allows dogs to run off leash, and I'm not talking about dog parks. It would be nice to have areas similar to those owned b the city of Boulder where dogs and people can walk in only The best thing Longmont has done is preserve Button Rock. I love that area!

My wife and I are not able to use the open spaces due to our age and health. We see the open space as a good means to reduce density and traffic. It also will reduce noise if noise-making activities are restricted. Please: no concerts. (J.H.Rogers)

Hurry! This town is looking just like southern California in the southern areas. Please stop cementing pathways! Sidewalks are fine, but paths should be left packed dirt, or use the material Boulder uses in the mountains that gets stronger when water runs over it. It's used @ bridges where water erosion is a problem. Packs to a good path that allows wheelchair access but low maintenance.
In response to question #13: (Concession): vending type

More open space as Longmont grows would be great. Swim areas for dogs! Would be nice.

The land belongs to the people and should be used by the people. We need a variety for various uses. We also need parks for kids to play organized activities although schools should be used for this. Some land should be leased back to agriculture if its irrigated land. Try to connect properties for biking and horse trails that go many miles. Perhaps alternate days - MWF for bikes and T TH S for horses. Be creative!!

The experts should determine what "low impact recreation" is, and then poll the citizens for their preferences from those determined selections. Perhaps frisbee golf is a more "popular" choice than other activities, such as paintball, tubing, radio control recreation, but that doesn't mean it is less exclusive or that it impacts the natural areas and wildlife habitats less. Please don't use open space to duplicate or expand Parks' services. Rather keep open space areas purely for truly low impact and "quiet" activities (hiking, bird-watching, fishing, wildlife viewing, etc.) as well as for preserving agricultural areas.

I believe that the city should purchase land sooner rather than later. I think that the primary purpose of the project should be to retain the natural lay of the land.

I see open space activities as quiet - not encroaching upon others who may be going there for respite, peace & quiet. Also activities that would not disturb wildlife or damage natural properties.

No more high-maintenance expensive farm-ground buffers are needed. Usable open space is ok.

That any open space identified must permanently be open space, i.e., contract wording very important - explicitly describe terms -without ANY loopholes for future development.

Keep open space for public hiking access. I detest closing open space to hikers for any reason. I do sometimes use the St. Vrain Greenway trail and am very anxious to see an addition made to the wonderful trail. Easy access is also very important.

We need to protect our open spaces for all of the following generations to come. The beauty of this state needs to be preserved at any cost. It is also a health issue. Trees provide oxygen and cleaner air. People need places to go to view nature and gain a sense of peace and well-being; a place without a lot of loud noise. Noise pollution is a health risk as much as air pollution.

Longmont is so beautiful and is located in such a magnificent area. Please - stop the housing development and preserve the wetlands and farm areas. Motorized vehicles hasten the decline of natural areas. Keep Longmont what it has been for so long - a lovely farming community - not another suburb!

In response to question # 12: wildlife closures and trail reclamation are good reasons for closure.

I live in Boulder but thank God for our forefathers and our open space. I drive to Longmont often and am always horrified at its growth and sprawl. I love agriculture, horses and open space (natural world) and you are fast losing those resources. If I can help, please let me know. P.S. I subscribe to the paper.

Land should be purchased for specific reasons mostly as a buffer, farming and gravel mining is ok. Recreation purchase is just that. But mixing use doesn't always work. And saving pesky disease carrying rodents is not a purpose for open space. Just the opposite.

Can't have it both ways Open Space is protected space and not always open for public use.

I would really like to see the continuation of a trail system that connects Longmont and the surrounding communities increasing the pleasure and recreational activities of the most amount of Coloradoans. Thank you.

The most important issue regarding open space to my husband and I is to buy land for open space to create a buffer from development of other communities!! We appreciate being able to participate in this survey.

We need to control growth and preserve the agricultural areas in west Longmont. By buying open space in west Longmont, we will preserve the views, keep wildlife and upgrade the standard of living.

In City land should be cleaned, cared for but not developed with concrete all over.

All purchased lands should be available for people use, no motors, no boom boxes.

If city buys land farming can be only on annual lease w/limit to 3-5 years.

It's important to protect the integrity of Longmont by preserving and improving open spaces. Longmont's attractiveness also diminishes by allowing "trashy" establishments such as pawn shops, tattoo parlors, strip bars and "super" walmarts. Specialty shops and return to nature could truly help this city.

Please push open space to create greatest impact for reduced development and more recreation. Recreation for all - hiking, jogging, walking, bikes but not motorized vehicles or weapons.

I or we generally agree that properly maintaining current or readily available open space is more important than over-extending beyond budgetary or limited capabilities. Conservative use of functional areas is paramount.

Boulder County (to my knowledge) does not allow hunting in open space. I hope Longmont does not follow this policy. Hunting is very important to me and since I have 7 kids, I don't have the money for paying to hunt. If I have to be taxed for open space, I should be at least able to bird hunt on Longmont Open Space.

Protecting our wetland resources and creating more wetlands is vital for protecting and encouraging biodiversity.

Since it is PUBLIC money being spent to acquire the land, it should be for public use. When I see public land being used by a small group which prevents access to the public (such as agriculture), that should not be a part of the open space.

Please don't let organized groups dominate the use of open space as the baseball/softball clubs have done! Kids can't play a game of sandlot during the summer because the fields have to remain freshly striped for evening games.

Weld County is not showing interest in buffers or open space or wildlife issues. Let's buy up important areas in Weld County. This will enhance Longmont. Also, property near 17th & Hover where radio towers are has an exceptional view and best grove of cottonwoods on Oligarcy Ditch. How about a dog-horse-people-kids-on-bikes space? This is how its being used now. Native grasses could be planted.

Open Space is just that - open for use (specifics may be needed) to all. We (taxpayers) buy it - we use it - City buys ag land and then uses it for a City Nursery to grow trees/bushes/plants for use in parks and for sale of surplus to citizens. Also on city-owned ag land - grow a pumpkin patch for kids in Fall, a xmas tree farm for citizens who can't afford much, a xeriscape nursery to support low-income housing & parks & open space. Do not lease ag land to commercial entities which would restrict use by citizens. Ag land could grow varied products then open it up at harvest time to citizen gleanings for personal or charitable use.

Please take into account the high cost of maintaining a property after being purchased. If irrigated there is the ditch system to be maintained or replaced. Wildlife areas often need grass planting and weed control. Prairie dog colonies need at least 5 years from the time grass is planted until it can sustain very many animals. Ask horse rescue about prairie dogs and grass establishment.

Open space has to be used by the public, some areas for hiking & biking; most areas for horse riding and hunting to manage the wildlife. Also to prevent sickness and starvation of deer & elk (wasting disease.) Wake up Boulder County!!!

As a parent of small children, open space used for recreation needs to have bathroom facilities for us to be able to utilize them.

The effects of activity on a natural habitat and wildlife has more to do with the intensity/density of use rather than the specific activity.

It is way past time to start restoring and preserving wildlife habitat. We are living in the largest species die-off since the dinosaurs. Animal, plant and mineral species need to be preserved. I also feel very strongly that Boulder County and Larimer County needs to do something before Longmont-Berthoud-Loveland-Ft. Collins run into each other and you can't tell where one ends and one begins like the Denver-Metro area mess.

I believe in planned open space and protecting the views as much as possible. Prairie dogs ruin the land they inhabit and disease carriers. They are rodents. Traffic needs more main arteries with turn signals especially 10 AM and 3-7 PM.

Considering the huge population explosion of recent years, I think Longmont has done a good job of balancing growth and community needs. Open Space is important to a good quality of life and should exist everywhere possible to maintain integrity of the open space and lifestyles of nature thereon. Quiet places are few and far between as it is - open space should be a place of peace and renewal.

In the City of Longmont we have over 4k kids playing soccer. The city fields are terrible. We are the only town in the front range that hasn't created a soccer complex. Soccer is played in Longmont my more kids than any other sport combined. We should be using open space \$\$ to develop quality fields for this fast moving sport.

I think the city needs more parks like Centennial Park that offer a lot of space and use options. Not just baseball, soccer, or golf or other single use space. This type of space best serves the needs of the surrounding community.

I, too, would love to see the St. Vrain Greenway expanded. If horses are going to be allowed in this area - or any other open space access areas, riders should be required to clean up after themselves. People need more education regarding staying on trails, keeping dogs on leash, cleaning up after dogs, and especially being respectful of habitat wildlife. Thanks for listening, doing this survey and taking on such an important task. Please be mindful in planning that small parcels all divided by roads, etc. negatively impact habitat, wildlife and soon becomes dead.

Open space should be placed as close as possible to homes so the people can walk to it, to be able for small children to walk to and use.

As an avid horse person, I would be very happy to have local access to good trails with no motorized vehicles that could scare and endanger our horses. Our roads have become too dangerous and we would appreciate some equine friendly trails w/corrals, etc.

I would like to see Longmont surrounding by open space (farms, greenbelts, etc.) so it remains a free-standing community with a unique history and its own identity.

No one wants to see Longmont disappear into a solid corridor with Boulder & Berthoud. It's important to put a stop to the kind of growth we have seen in the past in Colorado as well as seen in coastal states. Let not the coastal states be our example - let us change the greedy minds of builders and developers. Open space is very important. Thank-you.

In response to question # 11: It depends on the desirability of the land. A mix of these alternatives is appropriate.

In response to question # 11: depends on location

Turn Main Street into a mall like Pearl St. in Boulder and Denver's 16th Street. Go for a buffer zone outside boundaries to protect suburban crawl. Stop permits for surface mining. Stop building 3 story commercial sites west of Hover Road in SW Longmont that block our views of Twin Peaks & Longs Peak.

IGA's should be used to assure agreement of surrounding cities for buffer zones, location & use. Too much money is being spent by Boulder County on open space for the amount of use by the public. Longmont has too many houses being built. Lights, water and a few other things are raising. Low-income people can't afford all the bills. I think they should end all the house building and work on our streets. Keep the trees trimmed, and side walks in good shape. Get rid of Bella's. Also keep the 100-year houses and other buildings where they are. I have been living here for 56 years and I liked the old Longmont.

Open Space should be open to the public - in limited extent if necessary depending on ag activity. Uses such as hunting (waterfowl/goose) should be incorporated. Open Space should also provide radial corridors to access the city via alternative transportation.

Most of the land near Longmont now is very expensive! The City of Longmont is about 10 years too late! Most of the land that is now developed would have been appropriate for open space. Thank goodness Boulder County has taken the initiative over the last 20 years. The best remaining land for acquisition now would be land near rivers/streams & land between us and the mountains. Small narrow strips of land will appear only as "parks" in the future. Tracts of land bought must be large enough to be open space. Hurry, or this land will be forever gone!

We should not be purchasing land at exorbitant profits for some. If you want to exclude development, it could be accomplished by using zoning. Open space should be for people to use and enjoy, not just a tiny trail through hundreds of acres.

To preserve Longmont's quality and preserve the lands which surround the area. Open Space should remain the highest priority of citizens, community leaders, etc. We should set an example for the rest of Colorado and encourage other communities to do likewise.

In response to question # 13: Open space - animals & plantlife should come FIRST; people & activities SECOND.

When I graduated from HS in 1956 at Longmont Hi, 9th & Main, this was a lovely open green area with rolling hills. Now I see new places going in all around Longmont. Buffers needed between cities. Whatever happened to "Don't Californicate Colorado" from the 1980's? But leave open space natural. Don't go filling it up with skate parks, dog runs, swimming pools, etc. P.S. I just moved back after being gone for 34 years - it's not a pretty site!

There are many trails and paths in Longmont that go nowhere. #1 priority should be to connect paths. Paths should connect all parts of the city, need paths to Jim Hamm Nature Park, Union Res, etc.

Developers should be responsible for purchasing open space for the citizens. Closure of any open space area MUST have public input and review (yearly.)

Would be happy to see longer trails, ie., each meeting to other cities - Golden Ponds is absolutely wonderful! More areas like that esp. on East of Longmont.

I think the open spaces should be kept as natural as possible. No huge lighting, no concession stands, no commercialization of the areas. Just leave it alone. Is there a map of the trail system somewhere?

In response to question # 5b: limit access - not closed

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I'm glad the city is purchasing land along the St. Vrain River in both Boulder and Weld counties. Please don't pay artificially inflated land prices for property with significant development constraints though! Hopefully we will partner with the county(s) and apply for GOCO grants to expand our ability to acquire open space. Perhaps there are other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands, to partner with for open space acquisition. We could also try to work with Weld County to establish a transferable development rights program similar to the Boulder County program and allow development rights from either Weld or Boulder Counties to be transferred across county lines to designated receiving sites. Also, I know the Yeager farm is already annexed, but preserving a portion of the farm in the center of the community would be a nice amenity. Perhaps the farm could be purchased and then a portion sold for development to offset costs.

In response to question # 5: regarding closing agricultural land to the public at all times - why not just purchase development rights or a conservation easement rather than fee simple.

I come from a Colorado Homesteading family in Weld County and it breaks my heart to see so much of our very valuable and productive farmland being gobbled up for every purpose under the sun, but for farming! Farming is the main industry that built our state as well as feeds our nation's population and the world! Let's protect agriculture and the farmers who work so hard, but are paid so little for their efforts and livelihoods!

We personally would like to see open space lands be used more so for the welfare and preservation of wildlife & animals & plants and a continuous corridor of reasonable width be created for the migration of animals from the mountains to - front range prairie. Can do to feed during winter as well as for birds of prey to get to prairie dog & other rodent areas without human conflict.

All 4 members of our family are native Coloradoans. We have seen the front range "developed" within an inch of its life. We see open space acquisition and proper use as an essential element of preserving what we have left.

In response to question # 12: water access is very important

I think its very important for us to value the open land that we have left. Isn't that what Colorado is known for in some parts? We need to keep the land we have and leave it as is, if we don't there won't be anymore beautiful open Colorado.

I have a problem with reclaiming small areas of open space and then surrounding them with up-scale developments. As an environmental lawyer commented - this is not true open space - this is like a zoo.

It's important to care for the land we have and not buy land that we don't have the staff to care for it.

We need to ensure the safety of our wildlife for the future. We need to preserve farmland so we don't wake up one day and remember where our produce came from, but now its too late.

I think open space areas and parks are two separate things, and should be kept that way. Having parks available for activities is more appropriate. Open space should be more for resource conservation/preservation.

Response to question 5b, 12 a,b: If the land is being farmed or used as pasture, there need to be some restrictions, but I know that people in Boulder (County) voted for open space thinking they would have some access only to find it closed to all but the rangers and their horses in at least one case.

City owned land could prevent growth which could be good. Does City collect taxes on its own land? If no money would be lost to the city. Dogs should not be allowed off leash on public property. We don't need anymore of these prairie palaces. Soon all our farmland will be gone for the vanity of wealthy people.

We need more open space for wildlife. Rapid development is creating an imbalance. We also need open space so people can enjoy the beauty surrounding us.

VENTING OPPORTUNITY

Lets stop wasting funds for things like the two months used ballpark on Hwy 119 called Redstone (Sandstone). What a waste - 10 months of wasted maintenance. Develop hiking trails - stop buying land just to be hiked. Stupid Boulder. We can't continue to have property we can't afford & maintain.

Having only been a resident of Dacono for a few short years, being a resident of Weld County and not Boulder, being a regular patron of a number of Longmont businesses in the past and present, AND also having two children in the St. Vrain School District, I tend to believe we don't have much of any "say" in what happens here and I believe we should. We do pay to use your open spaces on weekends and vacations and our children "visit" sites in your area as "students of the S.V.S.D.", but if our thoughts and feelings on important issues are more than likely to be dismissed since I do not "reside" in Longmont or Boulder. We all need a voice to begin with such as this survey. Surveys and polls will show our standings even if we can't vote on this issue and others!

In response to question # 12a: We also need a say!

Why does Loveland have so much open space including lengthy trails - we have so little!? Perhaps you (the city) could enforce the leash law! Perhaps you (the city) could encourage (perhaps print) guidelines of common courtesy.

Unless we, as human beings, educate ourselves to the fact that this planet totally support our life (we cannot live without it!) we will continue to destroy it and ourselves with it. In Genesis, God said "...multiply AND REPLENISH the earth." We are destroying the plenty! (This individual also altered the vision as: "Preserving our heritage, respecting THE environment, defining our community, balancing our growth "YEAH, RIGHT", Treasuring our children's future THEY WILL HAVE NO FUTURE WITHOUT NATURE, Protecting what we value AS A SOCIETY, WE HAVE DESPICABLE VALUES.")

In response to question # 1: Society run by women so family comes first and more time for raising kids than making some white guy at the top of the company you work for richer.

In response to question # 4: Maintaining what little balance is left between nature and too many human beings.

In response to question #12: altered statement a to read "Open Space land is A STEWARDSHIP OF the public ..."

In response to question # 11c: added comment "waste of natural resource"

I would also like to see open space acquisition in area A - and better bike trails through town. I would ride my bike for errands in town more if it were easier to cross major roads like Hover for example. I am extremely opposed to Wal-Mart building a super center anywhere near downtown - we don't need it! Thanks for the chance to state an opinion.

All open space is a waste of taxpayers money.

Enough open space already!

I don't think the government of any level should be in the business of buying land! In communist countries is where the government owns everything.

Longmont has too many houses being built. Lights, water and a few other things are raising. Low-income people can't afford all the bills. I think they should end all the house building and work on our streets. Keep the trees trimmed, and side walks in good shape. Get rid of Bella's. Also keep the 100-year houses and other buildings where they are. I have been living here for 56 years and I liked the old Longmont.

Open Space are no more adequate in Longmont. Cement and buildings are growing and the quality of life (decreasing due to traffic, pollution, noise, etc.) Longmont is not doing enough to preserve its history and identity.

This survey-while better than the trash pickup survey (which was a joke designed to validate current service and use as an excuse to say "Things are just fine") still lacks the ability to get THE TAXPAYER'S TRUE THOUGHTS. But, who gives a damn about them? "Why don't they just shut up and let the pros do their job?" This survey is an advance from normal city questionnaires ... period.

The city has enough open space now. The county is still going crazy trying to buy up all the land it can without a thought as to its appropriateness or cost of maintenance. Why not use any monies available to maintain and beautify current open space. I use the trails for walking. 90% of the time, they are empty with few exceptions. Where is the tax \$ to come from to replace that which previously was paid by owners of the land?

The "trail system" is too short and disconnected to be of much use as it currently is. Some areas are important for wildlife and should be purchased as open space and closed to the public such as the heron nesting colony on the Saint Vrain River near CO SR 119 (closed only during nesting)

Open space is necessary for the health of our community. Increase the ratio of open space to developed space. More bike paths that are interconnected and go somewhere, we should be able to safely access all public facilities i.e., library, etc. Union Reservoir, new recreation center and museum and all schools esp. high schools. I'd rather have teenagers on bikes rather than in cars. More skateparks, etc. Be proactive and provide them with positive recreational opportunities. Consider a bicycle park with everything from families on bikes to racers. And please, stop kowtowing to crybaby nimby's (Not In My Back Yard). Let's face it - with the runaway growth in Longmont, when you build a stadium or skatepark, it will be in someone's backyard.

Please keep Longmont a nice place. Plan for traffic so people can get to work. Keep lots of open space. Make public transportation a priority.

In response to question 13: Some areas should be open to more activities and other areas should be closed to most (sometimes all) activities

A bikepath from Longmont to Boulder would be great (in a safe distance from the Diagonal) for commuting. Bikepath to Lyons maybe. There should be a mixture of open space for low impact recreation and some for protection of wildlife. I think purchase of open space is very important.

Open space is so very important to the beauty of Longmont. Open space means just open land and also developed open space (i.e., established trails.) We need both! Some of us find beauty in simply an open field that is undeveloped.

Genetically engineered crops should be banned from Open Space land. For example, AMO's such as starlink corn, roundup ready soybeans should be banned. Preservation of wildlife habitat should be top priority and should not be lumped together with preservation of agricultural land - they are 2 different things! "Conservation of natural resources" has a negative connotation for me, because it implies something that will eventually be consumed (This is how the terminology has been used by the Forest Service and logging industry, so I rate this low, because I do not support this approach to "conservation").

It is critical to preserve open space. Although it may appear costly, we will get back so much more than we spend if it is well-planned. The value of personal property will also naturally go up in a well-planned community. We can't all expect perfect mountain views from our homes, but it is possible to have a healthy balance for the whole community.

Top priority is preservation - seeing U.S. Homes, a light industrial site and gravel mining on a short space of 75th St. is good example of the destruction of a way of life that is far superior to what is replacing it.

It is imperative to begin the acquisition process. I am most concerned about areas C, A & B in that order. Maintaining a land base in its natural state is very important to me. We cannot easily reclaim what is developed. While this river corridor is important, the outlying areas are equally vulnerable and we cannot count on Boulder County to make these purchases.

Open space would best be looked at in its place with a total usage comprehensive plan. It is purchased with public dollars and should be used for the public recreational needs with moderation and conservation. I do not agree with purchasing land for wildlife habitat or prairie dogs within the city as so much of our state is already set aside for this purpose and handled by others with the appropriate skills.

Mining should be weighed against value of natural ecosystem - don't destroy something of value. Even "low impact" human use needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Not all areas are appropriate for everything, but plans should be made for various types of access.

Open space serves many purposes: public use such as recreation and private use such as agriculture preservation. Although the public owns it, some by necessity needs to remain off limits. Compare to BLM land; we all own it, but to preserve wildlife and agriculture, we do not have access to most of BLM land.

Limited access to some areas is A-OK with us. Get the open space as it arises. We need to act now. Thank you for asking!

I think that all open space should be open to the public in some form. Not all open space can be used by everyone but everyone should be able to use some open space, i.e., not everyone rollerblades, some of us like to hunt.

I think we should have as much open space as we can afford and take care of - it is the only way to have "tramping around areas". All will be houses for the rich if we don't. Dogs off leash should have at least on big area - like Boulder Valley Ranch - it's wonderful! Limit bicycles - they overtake a place - go so fast - a person can't relax with them flying by every minute. Have some areas - no dogs too.

Be sure to educate people about native/non-native plants, habitat preservation and respecting wildlife.