

Golden Parks and Recreation 2020 Annual Report



City of
Golden
PARKS AND RECREATION

National Gold Medal Winner



2010 Gold Medal Award
Recipient, Class V,
Population 25,000 and below



Three-time CAPRA
Accredited Agency
since 2009

Department Summary

Parks and recreation facilities and the programs, activities, and services that occur within them, contribute greatly to the overall quality of life in Golden. The award-winning Golden Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining open spaces, for providing a quality system of parks and recreational facilities, and for providing positive leisure opportunities for the community. Golden is home to many unique recreational amenities for a town of its size including 253 acres of parkland, 402 acres of open space, 25 miles of trails, 10,000 trees, Fossil Trace Golf Club, Splash Aquatic Park, Golden History Museum & Park, and the Golden Community Center. The Parks and Recreation Department includes the Municipal Facilities Division, Recreation Division, Parks, Forestry, and Cemetery Division, Golden Museums Division, Golf Maintenance Division and Golf Clubhouse Division.

Advisory Board

Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board

In order to increase community involvement, a Parks, Recreation, and Museums Advisory Board was created in 1982. Board members are appointed by City Council and represent Golden residents. The Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board, consisting of seven members and one alternate whom serve four-year terms, makes suggestions about policies and procedures, fees and charges, acceptance of park land, design of parks, and other projects relating to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Advisory Board Meetings

The Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board meet on the first and third Thursday evening of each month. The third Thursday is the regular meeting date. These meetings take place at City Hall in Council Chambers, 911 10th Street, Golden at 7 p.m. For more information and to view meeting minutes or listen to audio of the minutes, visit www.cityofgolden.net/agendas.



City of
Golden
PARKS AND RECREATION

2020 Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board

Craig Middleton (Chair)

Amirah Shahid (Vice-Chair)

Clare Cragen

Pete Erslev

Scott Peabody

Cynthia Szymanski

Jackie Winterbottom

Pam Loebig - Alternate

Parks and Recreation Department Staff

Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks,
Recreation and Golf

Stacy Turner, Parks and Recreation
Executive Assistant/Department Liaison

Becky Richmond, Recreation Manager

Chad Meinert, Parks, Cemetery and
Forestry Manager

Keith Isenberger, Facilities Manager

Noy Sparks, Golf Course Superintendent -
Fossil Trace Golf Club

Jim Hajek, PGA Head Golf Professional -
Fossil Trace Golf Club

Nathan Richie, Manager –
Golden History Museums & Park

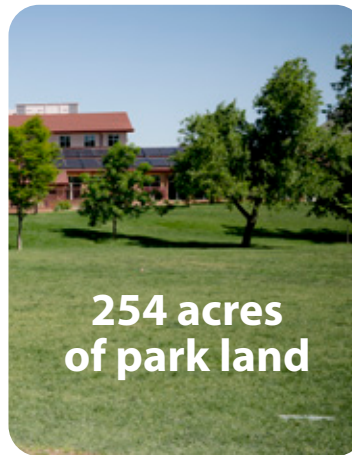
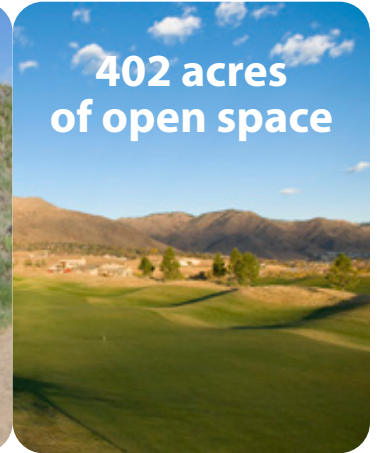
Who We Are

Golden is home to many unique recreational amenities
for a town of its size...

9 sq. miles with a population of 20,000.

VISION

*"Golden will be recognized as a national leader
in the provision of high quality parks,
trails and recreation facilities."*



MISSION

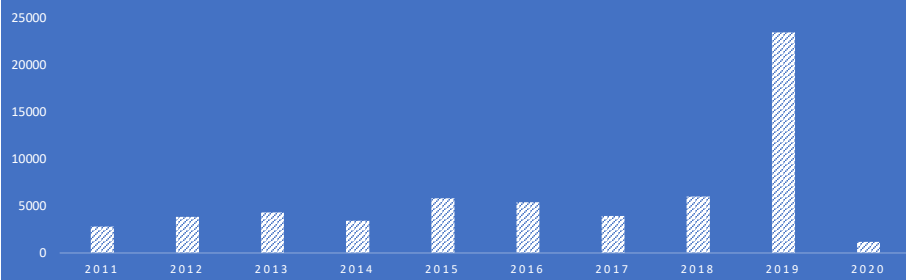
*"To promote and provide safe and comprehensive
community facilities, programs and services
that will enrich the quality of life
for all residents and visitors."*

Annual Numbers

GOLDEN COMMUNITY CENTER ADMISSIONS



GOLDEN HISTORY MUSEUM DROP-IN ADMISSION



Golden History Museum & Park Donors January — December 2020

\$10,000 +

Linda and Dale Baker City of Golden	Scientific and Cultural Facilities District Pat Spieles
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\$1,000 — \$9,999

Downtown Development Authority Mark and Nancy Foster Golden Civic Foundation Cathy Lytle	Kristi and Robert Mallow McKee Family Foundation John and Andi Pearson Danielle and Louis Samuels
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\$500 — \$999

Jennie and Charles Boeder The Denver Foundation, Greenwood Fund Wendy and Rick Goad Justin LeVett Photography	Elaine and Joseph Marolla Renaye Murphy Dixie Termin and Ron Miller
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\$100 — \$499

Lydia Andrews-Jones and Jason Matischeck Darryl Annett James and Joy Bauman Richard and Cynthia Bauman Lark Birdsong and Julie Brisson Bill and Carol Bleau Shelly and Nick Bleckley Betty Bloom Patrick and Melissa Bojan Kristie Brice and Mike Schwartz Cannonball Creek Antiques & Appraisals Traci L. Case and Peter Gotseff Jim and LouAnne Dale Ingrid Depta Pat Donahue and Kevin Skeate Dressel-Martin MediaWorks, Inc. Ewers Architecture Margaret and Vincent Faso Sheryl and Steve Fassino Kristine and Kevin Fletcher	Richard Flint Larry and Barbara Foos William and Frances Fraser Norma Fricke Betty and Thomas Gleaton Lynne Haigh Kathleen Weller Horky and Kevin Horky Steve Hughes Janet Johnson Paul and Karen Jones Diane and Marv Kay Sharon and Robert Kirts Sarah and Todd Labosky Mary Anna and Walter Madden Pat and Judy Madison Bill and Suzy McKee Helen McVey George Meyers and Merrill Wilson Carl and Anne Mulay Bob and Joyce Nelson	Mark and Cathy Patridge Gerhard Pfau Hayley Schneider Kermit Shields David C. Shuey Jack and Catherine Skokan James and Melanie Smith Sherry and Roger Stuart Jean Theobald Justin and Sarah Wade Larry and Betty Weaver Laura and Michael Weinberg Angela and Tom Wheaton Jeanne Whittaker Mike and Mary Wood Alan and Elizabeth Woodard John P. Young Frank Young and Terre Deegan-Young
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Parks and Recreation

204

Part-Time/Seasonal
Employees

45 Full-time Employees

410 Volunteers

Park Land Acreage

14 acres
of park land
per 1,000
population

= Meeting Gold Medal
Community standards
of **12 acres**

Tree City USA

31 consecutive years

Fossil Trace Wins
2020 Best Golf
Course in Denver
Denver A-List

Colorado Avid Golfer
Mentions:

- Best Starting Hole
- Best Finishing Hole
- Best Par 5 #12

National CAPRA Reaccreditation

The Parks and Recreation Department was recognized for quality services and experiences provided to the community by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). Golden was the first agency in the state of Colorado to receive this award in 2009, and now the only city in Colorado to achieve this status for three continuous cycles.



Innovations in Parks and Recreation – Opportunities through Adversity

While the 2020 Pandemic hit the department with facility closures, it did not prevent programming staff at the Museum or Golden Community Center from connecting with residents. Virtual programming became the new norm. The GCC offered a variety of virtual classes, such as babysitting, CPR, art and Legos.

In addition to offering virtual programs at the Golden History Museum, staff uploaded and shared 70 videos to YouTube, reaching youths and adults. They also used Facebook Live to stream programs.

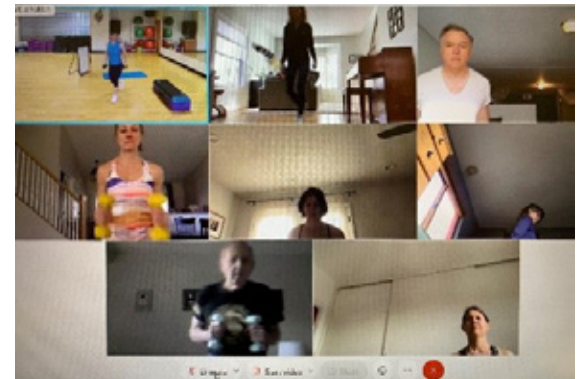
Recreation facilities reopened in phases beginning June 24 with SPLASH for a lap-swim only season with strict guidelines and disinfection protocols.

Golden Community Center Preschool created at-home programs during the early months of the Pandemic. Outreach to families included sending weekly activities and virtual staff “check-ins” to participants.

The Golden Community Center Front Porch also initiated “Care Calls” to seniors ensuring that they had access to resources while sheltering at home.

In compliance with Jefferson County Public Health Department’s guidelines, summer camp activities resumed in-person. Participation exceeded staff expectations. Smaller group sizes and health department limits on traditional games and activities required staff to shift and modify schedules and programming.

The Recreation and Museum’s divisions, both expect to continue many of the new innovations in 2021.



Capital Improvements – Taking Advantage of the Shutdowns

While visitors and program participation was down in 2020, Municipal Facilities staff were very busy with improvement projects and preparing a safe environment for staff and reopening to the public. They constructed 17 sneeze guards, installed 26 new hand sanitizing stations, and 42 automatic flush valves on toilets and urinals.

The Golden Community Center received much needed new plaster on the pool basins and new modern water works in the leisure pool for interactive play. Annual maintenance was also performed at the GCC during the April Pandemic shutdown in an effort to alleviate the regular two-week August closure.



Facilities staff also completed a bath house remodel and office construction project at the RV Park. The Clear Creek RV Park continues to attract people from all over the country



The Fossil Trace Golf Maintenance Division with the assistance of contractors renovated greens 15 and 3. They redesigned hole 15 to correct drainage issues that caused ice buildup in the winter months, created several damaging issues. The surface of hole 3 was reshaped to allow more pin locations and mellow out the extreme undulations which cause similar challenges with ice buildup during the winter months. Improvements addressed sustainability of the greens and better playing conditions.



Fossil Trace – A Sustainable Recreation Sport Hit Record High Numbers

Golf was the first activity to open during the Pandemic and was considered “the only games in town”. Golfers from around the region created unprecedented demand and tee sheets sold out from first tee time thru last tee time all summer (6 a.m. - 6:40 p.m.).



golf carts to food and beverage.

The Fossil Trace Golf School, once allowed to safely resume operation, exceeded their capacity expectations. Staff reduced class sizes to accommodate COVID-19 guidelines and increased the number of classes offered in an attempt

Constant adjustments and innovations created by staff allowed a safe, contact-free experience from start to finish including online tee time booking, paying over the phone as well as enhanced safety measures from practice range to

to service the remarkable demand. Junior programs were maxed out all season. Developmental leagues also exploded in growth over previous years and all player development programs aided in getting new golfers onto the course.



**Record-setting
Green Fees Revenue
Topped Over
\$2,000,000
(\$2,518,941)**

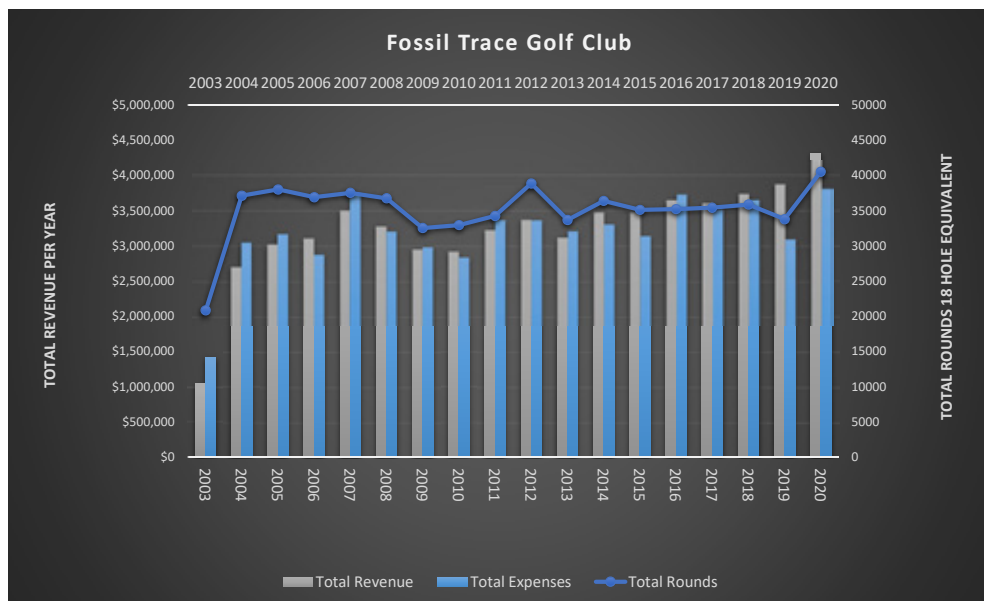
For the Second Year in a Row

**Cart and Range Revenues
Hit All-time HIGHS**
and are expected to
continue into 2021

**Record-setting
18-Hole
Equivalent Rounds
= 40,512**

5,898 OVER the previous
year with Total "Starts" at a
**NEW High of 46,700
Paid Players**

**Entertained well over
75,000 Guests**
with food, beverage, golf,
practice, and shopping



Parks and Trails Offer a Safer Space During Pandemic

The silver lining to stay-at-home orders was reconnecting with the outdoors. Parks and trails were heavily valued in both active and passive park amenities. The skate park, bike park, playgrounds, and trails experienced higher visitation than in previous years. Demands on park staff increased from installation of signage, trash collection, fence installation and general maintenance.

The future DeLong Park, located at 395 23rd Street was well underway with 80% design complete when the halted by the Pandemic. The project remains funded and scheduled for completion in 2021.



Photo Courtesy The Golden Transcript



Parks Department

167
Playground
Inspections

1534
Staff Hours
of Trash Removal

DID YOU KNOW?

RECREATION

- Prior to the pandemic, the Golden Community Center's Front Porch staff worked cooperatively with participants to sponsor activities and pot-lucks. One trip included transportation for **35 individuals to visit the International Snow Sculpture Championships in Breckenridge.**
- The **FlexStriders** let exercisers change stride length on the fly and choose a low-impact workout that's just right for them. It features an incredibly smooth motion that feels more like running or jogging than any similar product. The **Discover™ SE Tablet Console** features a 16" LCD touch screen with **Lifescape™ interactive courses.**
- The **Golden Community Center Preschool hosted an art gallery for students** to show off their work. Staff estimated **over 200 people attended** the open house. The kids (and parents) were thrilled to showcase their art work. This year's theme was focused on emotions.
- Front Porch staff initially made **128 "Care Calls" to local seniors** during the stay-at-home order. In addition, an **e-newsletter was emailed to 269 regular Front Porch participants** as outreach to the senior community.
- **The GCC launched a YouTube channel** to post some of the free online programs in an on-demand platform. Recreation staff have already received a lot of positive reactions, and it leaves the door open for continued uses.
- **Preschool families held a "Car Parade" for our teachers.** They were beyond touched by the gesture and messages of support from the families.
- The Golden Community Center **leisure pool received new water play features.** In addition, the new **"Marty the Miner" slide** for tots, kids can have fun swimming for bars of gold embedded in the new plaster.
- **Indoor pickleball** started at the Tony Grampas gymnasium.



FOSSIL TRACE GOLF CLUB

- Fossil Trace **welcomed 82 new golf club cars** which replaced the older fleet.
- **Junior programs** (classes, camps, and PGA Junior League) **all reached capacity** throughout the entire season.
- Fossil Trace **hosted 7,555 paid players in June**, a new single month record. Combining restaurant, practice areas and instruction, **the facility hosted an average of 400 guests daily.**
- Golf Maintenance staff **completed three capital improvements projects** during a very busy season.



DID YOU KNOW?

PARKS

- The Parks Division Horticulturist **maintains 125 gardens around the City** with the support from parks staff.
- Forestry staff conducted **three tree limb recycling events**.
- **12,500 flower bulbs** and **4,000 annual flowers** were planted in 2020.
- Volunteers assisted staff at the Golden Bike Park for **several enhancements to the trail system**.
- **Irrigation replacement and turf improvements** occurred in the Spring of 2020 at Tony Grampsas Sports Complex. The improvements allowed increased playability for local youth organizations.
- The **fencing along Lion's Park playground** was replaced as a safety and beautification project.
- The Forestry Division **planted over 150 new trees** to add to the Golden tree canopy.
- **New stamped concrete** was poured along 10th Street across from Lion's Park as a beautification project.
- Forestry staff added **educational information on the City's website** to include Emerald Ash Borer mitigation.



FACILITIES

- Completed **139 high priority ADA upgrades** in parks and facilities.
- Facilities staff **assisted the Fire Department** to complete the Fire Station 24 remodel, at Heritage Road, as well as, an inspection and technical support for the new 311 building.



GOLDEN HISTORY MUSEUM & PARK

- Golden History Museum & Park **ramped up digital engagement practices** including more short films, tours, posts, and activities. The Museum also **moved all planned programs to digital format**.
- Golden History Museum staff began improving the online collections experience. Over one half of the Museum's permanent **collection records are now publicly accessible online**.
- Golden History Museum & Park received the following grants and awards:
 - **\$6,000 grant provided by Colorado Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan of 2020.
 - **\$5,000 grant from the Golden Downtown Development Authority** for Reynolds Cabin electrical and storage enhancements at Golden History Park to better accommodate summer camp and interpretive activities year round.
 - The prestigious **Caroline Bancroft History Award from History Colorado** (formerly the Colorado Historical Society) for its *Building Colorado*.
- Golden History Museum & Park **opened a new virtual gift shop**.