Bachman Online and Public Meeting (March 3, 2015) Comments

**Heritage Village Neighborhood**

- Keep it as open space – no improvement
- Use goats or some similar way to keep the weeds down
- Plantings of native trees and grasses. Use as a meditation park. A few benches and paths. Keep it rustic!
- Please not another dog park

**Eagle Ridge Neighborhood**

- I would like to see a mountain bike (dirt path) loop trail and a pump track/skills area added for our children to enjoy. The Golden Bike Park is really great, however it is not close enough for us to use frequently. I think there is room for more facilities like this in Golden. There are multiple playgrounds and baseball fields, I don’t see why we can’t have more places suitable for kids to ride their bikes – Eagle Ridge

- I think there should be a couple of trails that go through the space suitable for mountain biking. It would be good to have a pump track/skills area for kids, too. There was plans for such a facility at the bottom of Apex until it was found that not enough land was available after the earth-moving was done. I and others in the neighborhood will volunteer to make this happen. See what happened with JCOS and "Friends of Apex" getting that park opened after the floods. The community can make this happen and it would be a great benefit - Eagle Ridge

- Minimal if any development. My only recommendation would be to plant trees and shrubs that are native to the area, preferably flowering and/or fruit producing (choke cherry, currant, native plum, etc.) to provide shade, water management, and forage for birds and wildlife. I think it would be AWESOME to "lend" out a small fenced area to a local beekeeper or beekeeper association (Denver Bee or someone locally in Golden). I think preserving it as an undeveloped area is key - Eagle Ridge
Heritage Dells Neighborhood

- Support for roundabout along Heritage
- Not in any favor of developing trails through the park’s center
- Support for trails along perimeter along Colfax or 4th
- Leave it Open Space
- New families need a park of some sort for their children to play
- Keep native grasses for the elk
- Create a bike path through
- Create a dog park
- No public park to maintain
- I was not able to attend the meeting last night but am curious as to why there is a push to do something with the land now if the money is not available to turn it into a park at this time? It was purchased with that idea in mind. Why not just leave it alone until funds are freed up at a later date? Not sure where the pressure is coming from but doesn't make sense if there's no money

- I get a good view of this space from my backyard and I appreciate the current open space. The elk show up there consistently, and it's such a nice view. I do also appreciate the idea of including a walkable park there for the underserved neighborhoods on the east side of Heritage. I would highly prefer there be no commercial or residential development of any kind there.

- Thank you for hosting the meeting this evening. I attended and wanted to give my opinion not everyone was represented in the meeting this evening. An indoor and outdoor play area are highly needed. Heritage Park is too small to accommodate our neighborhood population

- Children's museum (indoor and outdoor) would be awesome.
- Outdoor and Indoor splash play area with covered patio. Skate and bike park are much needed.

- A 2nd recreation center is much needed. Similar to Evergreen and Lakewood. For example our Golden Recreation center lacks a gymnastics facility (Could be used by Golden schools). Our children's daycare lacks outdoor area. It is true there is a lack of parks for the area mentioned that is under served? I look forward to attending when it is time for a master plan. P.S Round abouts are awesome, I believe the elderly need to be educated in how much safer a round about is and how to use them
• I would like to state that my family, and others in the neighborhood, would like to see a park in the Bachman property. This would increase the sense of community in the area, as well as preserve the natural feeling of the area.

Other
• Land should be left untouched and fences should be put up to protect it on the west side along Heritage Rd. Keep the ecological and natural significance of the property intact. Trail is a good idea

• Possibly a trail that loops property but no development. Open space needed

• Two additions to my comments from yesterday: This article, about community trail-based efforts in Eagle, CO, really expresses the point: http://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-gear/gear-shed/edge/Eagle-Colorado-Singletrack-Sidewalks.html

Also, regarding the elk. We all love having elk in our neighborhood, but the reality is that they are VERY habituated to humans (as evidenced by their heavy winter presence in Heritage Dells Park and in many back yards). In the spring and summer, they stay high on the mountain and do not come down.

On the Bachman property, the elk mainly use it 2-3 times a year, in the winter, after a heavy snow. That's it. And that's exactly when humans are not using parks and trails. This does not seem to me to be a plausible reason to shut off access to the property

• I am a resident of the neighborhood adjacent to the Bachman property. After listening to several people adamantly denounce anything happening to that property that involves a park, I can’t help but be saddened by the blind nimby approach. I would like nothing more than a place for families and neighbors to gather and enjoy the area. The lack of support for a park and trail was disheartening. This seems to be a theme in the area. We can destroy a hillside with a mine, but we can’t put a community trail in an open space.

• I will mention that things like this have pushed my decision to leave this city for an area more open space friendly much easier. I'll also add that community members, including myself, will develop a user created trail in the area now that the fence is gone.

• As much as a trail and a park is needed and would be much appreciated, I feel a temporary trail would be a waste of time, money and energy. I feel that perhaps the only thing that should be done at this time to the property would be to identify a parking area, a sign indicating the park name, and perhaps attractive fencing to identify the park boundaries, as these items would be included in the master plan. Without a master plan or finances available, anything else would be considered a waste of resources by the residents of Golden. Even my 7 year old son agrees!- W 3rd Place

• Given the number of young families proximate to the area, and the area's relative proximity to apex park, I would like to see a bike park / pump track built on the site.
There is no doubt that the volunteer base to maintain such a track would be vast, given the number of bike enthusiasts and young families in the surrounding neighborhoods-Chelan St.

- Several years ago, I was involved with a group of Goldenites seeking to establish a network of soft surface trail connections in and around Golden, to improve access and provide more nature- and trail-based recreation opportunities close to neighborhoods. The Bachman Property became a high priority because of its city ownership, new opportunities, compatibility with the Master Plan, and relative ease of construction. I'm glad that this conversation has come back around.

- I would still like to see a well-planned and designed natural-surface trail connection on the property, for the following reasons:
  1. To provide access to the open space, including the views and native prairie communities
  2. To provide off-street access between the Lakota Hills/Heritage Dells neighborhoods and the Colfax/Rooney corridor. (Albeit short, the existing route - Fourth and Zeta - is somewhat unpleasant on foot or bike).
  3. To provide kid-friendly trail access close to neighborhoods

- I value the importance of the property as both a visual backdrop, and for the native prairie communities on the hillside. While a well-planned and constructed trail will maximize benefits while minimizing impacts to those important values, I am concerned that the "do nothing" option will result in a proliferation of unplanned social trails that will cause much more substantial visual and ecological damage. This is increasingly true in light of the planned sidewalk improvements along Heritage Road and since the perimeter fence is now gone.

- Over the past year, a group of our neighbors mobilized to complete flood-damage trail repairs at Apex Park. We collectively volunteered over 300 hours of labor, and developed a collaborative relationships with JCOS. I think this same community-based energy can be mobilized to both construct and maintain trails on the Bachman property.- Lakota Hills

- I would love to see a bike path which would connect the sidewalk along west Colfax to the Apex trailhead. Also, a kid friendly bike dirt bike track with small jumps and obstacles would be cool.- Lakota Hills