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News Release

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CROWN HILL PARK PROJECT PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SURVEY ARE CONCLUSIVE ON “NATURE PLACE” CONCEPT

April 30 Meeting Will Focus on Resolution of Fitness Equipment and Pergola/Shade Feature Elements

Friday, April 5, 2013 -- Following a community engagement process regarding projects at Crown Hill Park, Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) reviewed all the comments received from citizens, information collected at a March 11 community meeting and the results of an independently administered survey. In response to community sentiment, the concept of “Nature Place” environmental learning and nature play features at this Park will not occur. JCOS had proposed three Nature Place areas in close proximity to the main parking lot that would provide elements of digging, climbing and an elevated perspective for multi-age exploration; none of these will be pursued at Crown Hill Park.

JCOS also asked the community about whether the fitness equipment at Crown Hill Park installed in the 1980s should be replaced, and if replaced, in what format. Additionally posed for input was whether a pergola with seasonal shade would be desired near the restroom and parking lot. Through collected community comments and the use of the survey, the desire for fitness equipment and a shade structure were inconclusive with a nearly even split desiring and not desiring these amenities.

On April 30, from 6-8 PM at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, 4005 Kipling Street, Wheat Ridge, CO the community and JCOS will continue to discuss options for the proposed shade and fitness elements. The meeting will include a presentation of the public comments and survey results, a recap of the project “givens” and estimated timeline for their implementation and the items that require further discussion to reach consensus. This will be followed by group discussions to address the fitness and shade elements for possible resolution.

Crown Hill Park is located between the Cities of Wheat Ridge and Lakewood in unincorporated Jefferson County. Bounded on the west by Kipling, the north by 32nd Avenue and the south by 26th Avenue, the Park is immediately west of the Crown Hill Cemetery.

Jeffco Parks is comprised of Boettcher Mansion, CSU Extension, the Fairgrounds, Weed and Pest, and Open Space. Open Space, the largest division, was founded as a land conservation organization in 1972 and preserves natural and cultural resources, provides quality outdoor recreation experiences and promotes sound environmental stewardship. Funded through a one-half of one percent sales tax, the program has protected over 52,000 acres and created 28 regional parks and 227 miles of trails in Jefferson County.