

Ground Rules

Please follow a few ground rules to encourage respectful listening, increase participation and the sharing of ideas and perspectives, promote openness to points of view and increase learning, prevent conflict and misunderstanding, manage problems before and as they occur, and build trust and a sense of safety among group participants. Here are suggestions for ground rules that can be especially helpful for public meetings:

- ❑ **This is a public discussion, not a debate.** The purpose is not to win an argument, but to hear many points of view and explore many options and solutions.
- ❑ **Everyone is encouraged to participate.** You may be asked to share what you think, or we may ask for comments from those who haven't spoken. It is always OK to "pass" when you are asked to share a comment.
- ❑ **No one or two individuals should dominate a discussion.** If you have already voiced your ideas, let others have an opportunity. When you speak, be brief and to the point.
- ❑ **When you speak, state your name and where you live.** In a public meeting, it is helpful to know who is speaking as well as where they live in the community.
- ❑ **One person speaks at a time.** Refrain from side conversations. Pay attention to the person speaking. If you think you will forget an idea that comes to mind, write it down.
- ❑ **Listen to and respect other points of view.** All of us bring information and ideas to contribute. People are more likely to contribute if they know they are respected.
- ❑ **Do your best to understand the pros and cons of every option,** not just those you prefer. Be as objective and fair-minded as you can be.
- ❑ **Seek first to understand, not to be understood.** Ask questions to seek clarification when you don't understand the meaning of someone's comments.

PRAIRIE DOG ORDINANCE

ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

INFORM the general public about the prairie dog ordinance that was recently approved by city council and accept suggestions for future consideration in modifications to ordinance.

Community Input Themes

- Prairie dogs as keystone species and should be a part of a holistic approach to wildlife management
- Incentivize humane methods of control

Key Recommendations to Future Code Changes

- Live relocation efforts should occur between July 1 and mid-October and extend to late fall only if approved by the PWNR staff.
- If live-relocation is not feasible, donation to a raptor rehabilitation facility or the Black-footed Ferret Recovery Program should be undertaken regardless of colony size.
- Minimum number for a live relocation should be raised to 60.
- Use of aluminum phosphide as a burrow fumigant to control prairie dogs is to be strongly discouraged in favor of carbon monoxide.
- Fumigation of burrows should be allowed between March 1 and June 1; trapping is still not to be allowed during this period.
- Prairie dogs from private property will not be live-relocated onto City-owned lands.



SETBACK VARIANCE REQUESTS

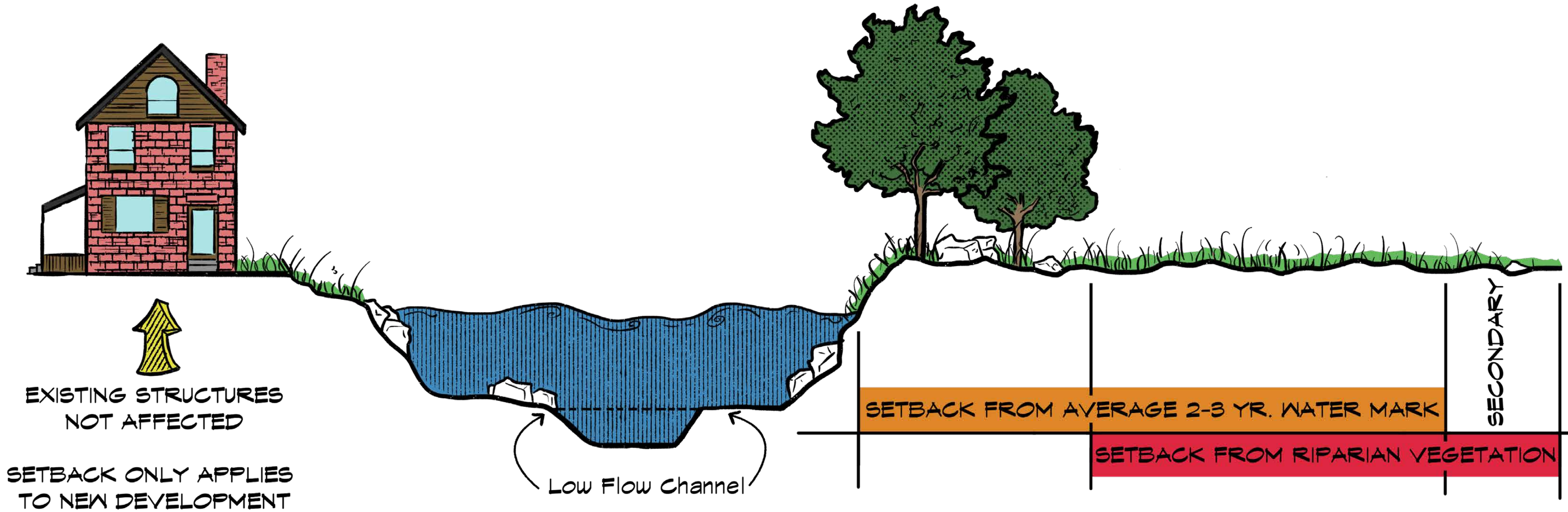
ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

CONSULT the general public about setback variance requests by asking:

- 1) *What criteria should the City consider when a variance to a setback has been requested?*
- 2) *What alternatives to variances might the City consider?*

Community Input Themes

- No variances
- Involve Boulder County Land Use Department in application/review process
- Demonstrable community benefit, if allowed
- Ecological enhancement, if allowed
- Creation of habitat
- Minimization of impact to wildlife (e.g. noise, light)
- Minimize depth of variance
- Maintain wildlife movement/corridor
- Preservation of existing ecological functions
- Criteria must be evaluated on a site-specific basis
- Developer mitigation of wildlife impacts
- City Council involvement in granting variances with recognition that Council members are not ecological or environmental experts



SETBACK VARIANCE REQUESTS

KEY 2019 RECOMMENDATIONS

Riparian Setbacks

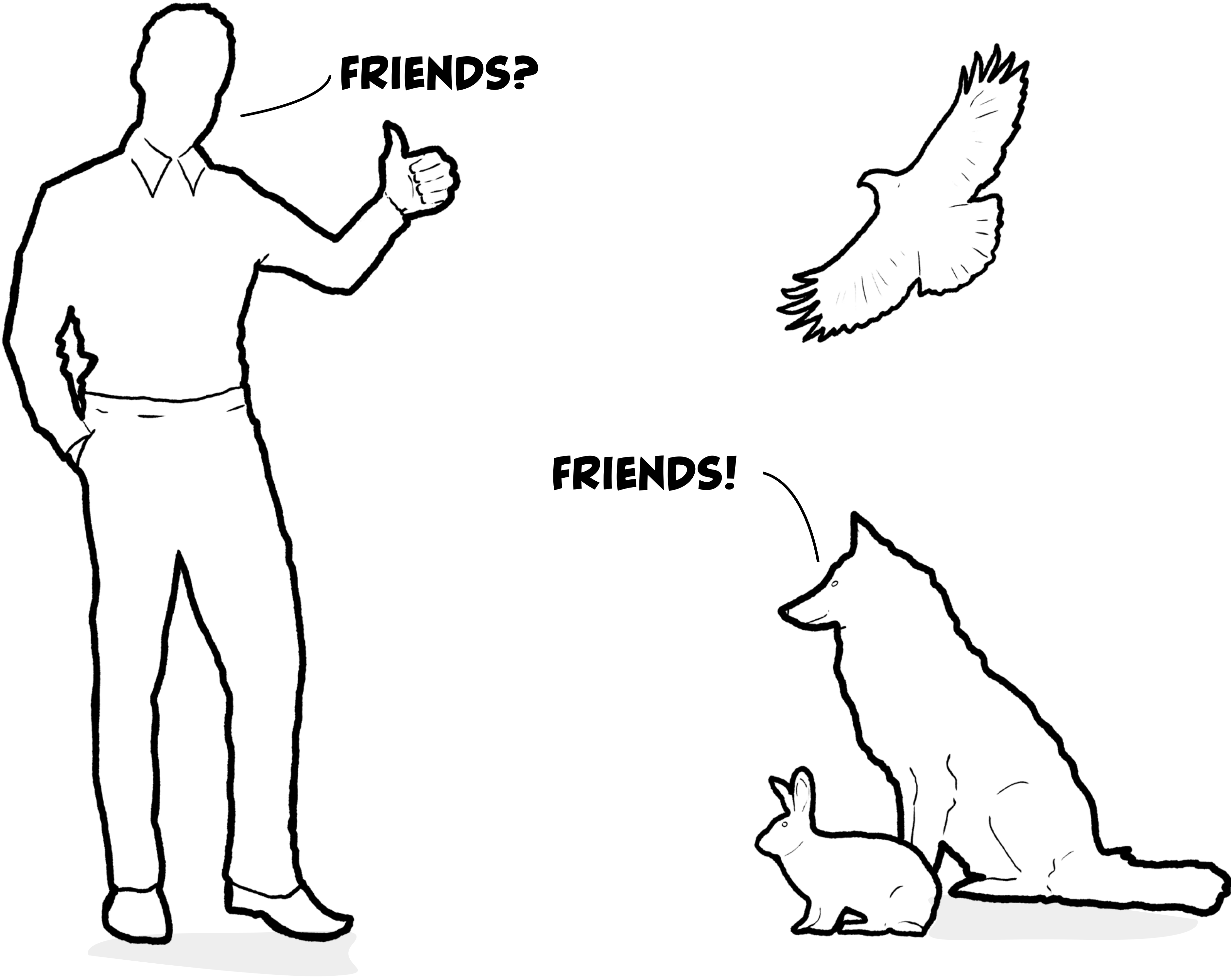
- Expand existing recommended 150-ft setback to all natural creeks and streams.
- Redefine “high water mark” and provide a definition for “riparian vegetation” within the Longmont Municipal Code to create more clarity regarding the limits of the riparian corridor.

Variance Process

- Variance requests will continue to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- Ecological site assessment and conservation plan will be required with every variance request. The submittal requirements will be provided to the planning department for inclusion in Longmont Development Code Administrative Manual.
- Enhance the current Habitat and Species Protection Standards described in the Longmont Municipal Code to include :
 - Building height should be restricted to 20 feet within the riparian setback.
 - Window glazing to minimize bird strikes should be required within the riparian setback.
 - All utilities should be sited underground wherever possible. Above-ground utilities should incorporate all current and appropriate wildlife protections.
 - Site redevelopment cannot increase the built footprint or amount of impermeable surface within the riparian setback.
- PWR staff should review all variance requests and should be entitled to provide input to or deny requests.
- Explore options for providing incentives to landowners and developers for extending riparian setbacks beyond the required amount.
- Allow landowners and developers to dedicate riparian setback areas to the City for maintenance purposes.

BIODIVERSITY & QUALITY OF LIFE

ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES



INFORM the general public about:

- Currently identified wildlife conflict issues, existing regulatory conditions, and the City’s philosophy of “coexistence with wildlife”
- Importance of biodiversity and how wildlife enhances the quality of life of its residents
- Best management practices suggested by Colorado Parks and Wildlife for managing native fish

CONSULT with the general public about:

- Wildlife conflict issues that the City may not be aware of or may not currently be able to address
- Understanding what species enhance the lives of Longmont residents
- Best management practices the City should consider when managing pollinators



BIODIVERSITY & QUALITY OF LIFE

COMMUNITY INPUT THEMES

- Establish **baseline data** and monitor changes over time to determine management actions needed
- Involve a **natural resource planner** in relevant planning efforts
- **Preserve corridors for wildlife** to coexist within, and around, the City using public and private land opportunities
- **Preserve habitat** through land preservation and development requirements
- Prioritize **native fish** species over non-native and game species where possible and create fish passages
- Provide more **pollinator habitat** throughout the City (i.e., in new developments, when public spaces are renovated)
- Provide **environmental education** signage about the purpose of pollinators and what the public can do to provide habitat
- Provide habitat improvements such as bat houses and pollinator gardens
- **Partner** with neighboring agencies to increase natural areas and habitat
- Provide **outreach** to the community about how to address conflict issues
- Extension of **open space tax** for land acquisition as habitat preservation



LONGMONT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



BIODIVERSITY & QUALITY OF LIFE

KEY 2019 RECOMMENDATIONS

Native Fish

- Promote fish passage at diversions, especially the Beckwith diversion.
- Follow all CPW protocols to avoid introductions of nonnative species, especially at reservoirs and other boat access points.
- Enhance aquatic habitat wherever feasible by incorporating shading, woody debris, and natural channel design.
- Monitor aquatic populations after restoration and enhancement projects to identify successful strategies.
- Determine where more information is needed and arrange for additional surveys to fill data gaps. Work with CPW as available but arrange for independent surveys as well.
- Encourage and maintain in-stream flows. Pursue City ownerships and acquire water rights whenever possible.



LONGMONT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



BIODIVERSITY & QUALITY OF LIFE

KEY 2019 RECOMMENDATIONS

Pollinators

- Promote or incentivize native plant gardens on private property.
- Develop a City “pollinator network” where interested parties can collaborate.
- Use native plants in medians and planters throughout the City.
- Install bee boxes on City-owned lands with informational signage.
- Continue City policy of only using neonicotinoids in tree injection treatments. Only use contractors who do the same.
- Continue City policy of only fogging for mosquitoes after West Nile Virus has been positively identified in the area. Time applications to minimize risk to pollinators.
- Establish trial plots for the conversion of turf grass to native grassland.
- Alter City mowing schedules where feasible (i.e. Open Space properties) to allow flowering.
- Continue participation and collaboration with the regional Pollinator Action Team.



Wildlife Conflicts

- Provide education and assistance to landowners with significant turkey vulture problems regarding hazing, use of deterrents, and other methods that do not violate the MBTA.
- Collaborate with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for more extreme methods if turkey vulture hazing efforts are not successful.