

MASTER PLAN 2023-2033

CURRENT SPACES



**NORTH FORK
POOL**



**SOCCER
FIELDS AT
CROSSROADS**



**BALLFIELDS
AT
CROSSROADS**



**BIKE TRAILS,
PUMPTRACK &
CLIMBING
BOULDER AT
CROSSROADS**



**APPLE
VALLEY
TENNIS/
PICKLEBALL
COURTS**



**PAONIA
SKATE PARK**

CURRENT FACES



**LENORE CAMBRIA,
DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATOR**



**CHRIS STRAUB,
FACILITIES
MANAGER**



**MAX HEEPKE,
PROGRAM
COORDINATOR**



**MARY SMITH,
POOL MANAGER**



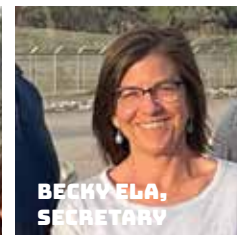
**SARA SHARER,
PRESIDENT**



**SVEN EDSTROM,
VICE PRESIDENT**



**DANIEL INNOT,
TREASURER**



**BECKY ELA,
SECRETARY**



**MICHELLE PAGONE,
MEMBER**



**NIKI RICHARDSON,
CLERK**

NOTE FROM THE BOARD

Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you the latest news from the North Fork Pool Park and Recreation District. The NFPPRD is in great condition with ample funding, seasoned and inspired employees, and a NEW MASTER PLAN.

BEFORE I BEGIN

The District board and leadership under District Administrator, Lenore Cambria, and in collaboration with local and state partnerships, have impressive accomplishments to celebrate. Across the District we've worked to create spaces to recreate: completing a long-dreamt-of million-dollar ballfield complex in partnership with Hotchkiss Homeplate; building almost 5 miles of bike trails, a bicycle pump-track and skills course in partnership with the Nature Connection; resurfaced tennis courts in Apple Valley and upgraded the skatepark in collaboration with the Town of Paonia and a pickleball court in Crawford in partnership with Crawford pickleball players. Thanks to you, the voters, the Mill-Levy was increased and NFPPRD weathered the COVID-19 Pandemic providing as many services as possible to keep you all outdoors and healthy. As a board, our intention is to keep the good times rolling and at the same time maintain our beautiful, but sometimes aging facilities, such as our crown jewel, the North Fork Pool.

THE CREATION OF THE NEW PLAN

From April to September 2022, the NFPPRD Board dove into a long-term planning process, assessing our accomplishments of the last 10-year-old Master Plan and creating our goals to lead us through the next 10 years. Public meetings were held, that included the Board, staff and community members and facilitated by Leane Matsen and Neal Schwiterman. This brainstorming and prioritizing process led us to the following conclusion; as a Special District with a mission to "provide our community with a variety of activities and programs that enhance healthy lifestyles, build strong families and provide a sense of community pride," our directive is clear: maintain the services and facilities we currently offer and expand recreation opportunities where we can have the biggest impact. Below are highlights of the new Master Plan.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PLAN

The 10-year plan has several priorities that have floated to the top (pun intended). Most urgently is protecting our facilities at Crossroads Park from another muddy and expensive catastrophic flood like the one we experienced last summer, which made our facilities unusable for weeks and months. Flood mitigation, including engineering and on the ground work, has already begun.

Similarly, the District has begun work on a Habitat Improvement Plan that will both enhance our 65-acre property as well as contribute to water management and wetlands improvement by reintroducing native grasses, plants, shrubs and trees. This summer, the Youth Conservation Core and The Nature Connection will assist with this project.

In addition to improving our Crossroads ecosystem, the Board prioritized renewable energy for our facilities as part of the Master Plan. Acting quickly, board member Dan Inot has already secured a solar energy grant implemented by Empowered

Energy that will build shade structures with solar panels this fall, creating enough electricity to power our pool complex.

The planning process also highlighted the importance of increased Senior/ADA access to activities and classes. Included in the the Master Plan are a completed ADA walking path around the ball fields and Crossroads grounds, maintaining and promoting pool classes focusing on seniors and potential development of a Silver Sneakers club.

Longer term goals from the Master Plan include an enlarged aquatics complex and a multi-use space for indoor activity and a meeting room. The Board will seek more community input for these goals through feasibility studies.

LONG-RANGE PLAN CATEGORIES

In the following pages, you'll see our priorities divided into the following categories: Pool, Programming, Environmental Sustainability, Trails, Extra Parks/Leased Spaces, Community-Building, Nature, Administration and Crossroads Park Facilities.

THE PLAN - IN A NUTSHELL

1. Maintain and maximize use of existing NFPPRD outdoor spaces
2. Study feasibility and implement expansions of facilities including the possibility of purchasing adjacent land, leasing or partnering on additional indoor spaces or building a multi-use space on Crossroads property
3. Expand, enlarge and upgrade the pool, pool area, pool facilities and pool season, where possible
4. Lead collaboration with community partners to facilitate recreation opportunities
5. Expand district staff to foster recreation programming and access for all community members
6. Expand recognition of district offerings through marketing and PR initiatives

I'm very proud of the process the NFPPR Board engaged in to create this plan, it is ambitious, as it should be. Yet, it feels good to have a road map for the next ten years. The work ahead includes outreach, collaboration with other organizations, grant writing, construction management, and let's hope a good dose of exercise, and fun. We look forward to collaborating with groups to enhance the quality of life in the North Fork Valley.

Now that NFPPRD path forward has renewed focus, it seems fitting that the organization is also entering a new chapter. We say goodbye to our 8-year-tenure District Administrator, Lenore Cambria and welcome incoming Administrator Stephanie Bureau. My term on the board is up and new board member Scott Shishim will join Sven Edstrom, Becky Ela, Michelle Pagone and Dan Innot to continue this important work. It has been a privilege to serve this outstanding organization with an active, inspiring board and talented staff who are all committed to getting outside and enjoying life.

Get out and play!

Sara Sharer

Board President 2015 - 2023

