

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Krystal Bruchs <krystalbruchs@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 03, 2022 7:43 PM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: Buffalo Highlands Park

To whom it may concern: The comment below is to be read this aloud at the city council meeting in regards to the Buffalo Highlands Neighborhood Park.

When my husband and I decided to move to the Buffalo Highlands neighborhood, just over two years ago, we fell in love with the location and the neighborhood. As we were going through the process of choosing our floor plan and looking at what lots were available, the Lennar representative we were working with gave us an ariel view map of the neighborhood. She specifically pointed out that a large park was going to be installed at the south end of Quintero St. My husband and I immediately knew we wanted the lot that was available on Quintero St despite the fact that it would back up to a major street like we originally discussed. The fact that a park would be at the end of our street was the selling point for us and made us okay with living on the busier street. We have two young boys that are currently 9 & 6 years old and they love to be outside, running and playing.

Shortly after we moved into our home a neighbor mentioned that Lennar was relocating the park. I was very confused and went into the Lennar office to ask for a new map, on the new map the park at the end of Quintero St was gone. I expressed my concern but the Lennar representative was very reassuring, stating that the park would still be going in, it would just be a few blocks further. Fast forward two years and the park has dissolved into nothing. With each phase developed, Lennar has relocated our once large park (as pictured in the map I was given) in order to drag in home buyers, only to completely dissolve our park into a few small patches of grass and a couple park benches.

Currently, from our home, there are no parks that we can walk to within a distance that my son can manage, he is on the autism spectrum and walking for more than a handful of blocks frustrates and discourages him to the point that we return home before even making half way to the park. To get to a park from our home via a safe walking path it takes 35+ minutes (southlawn or frontera) and that involves crossing or walking along 96th which has semi trucks and heavy traffic which makes me feel unsafe with small children. So instead of walking to the park we end up loading into the car and driving, which sounds easy but when you have kids who need to use the bathroom often, or forget a favorite toy, or suddenly need a refill of their water bottle, we have to get back into the car and drive home. My children and the other children in our neighborhood deserve to grow up with the opportunity to explore and play at a park within a *safe walking distance from our homes*.

Buffalo highlands is a beautiful neighborhood with lots of young families that have children and plan to have children. Our neighborhood should have the opportunity to have a communal park for our kids and families to play and connect outside and enjoy a neighborhood park.

Thank you,

K. Bruchs, Resident of the Buffalo Highlands Neighborhood

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Priscilla Campos <priscampos86@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 03, 2022 9:11 PM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: Buffalo Highlands Park

Good Evening!

My name is Priscilla Campos and I am writing in reference to the proposed Buffalo Highlands neighborhood Park. When we purchased our home almost 3 years ago, we purchased with the intent of this being our forever home. One of the appeals to this neighborhood was the promise of a brand new park- our previous neighborhood had a run down park that was dirty, not maintained, broken equipment and having children we realized the importance of a park when we bought our home. The fact that the promise has not been kept has been very disheartening, disappointing and it's just flat out wrong.

Residents have often been told that there is X park down the road or X amount of parks within a certain radius but that is not the point. We want and deserve a park in our neighborhood because that's what was promised and that's what residents deserve. In addition, with housing in this area continuing to develop at such a rapid rate, parks are already very overcrowded.

I'm not sure if you have or have once had small children but if so, I kindly ask you to think back to the time when they were babies or even toddlers. Getting out of the house is not an easy task- planning, packing up their things, getting them ready (sunblock, dressed, potty, etc.), loading them in the car and so on takes up SO much time. Like most, time is not a luxury that many households with two working parents have and it would be so wonderful to have something in walking distance to our homes, that didn't require us to plan for an outing.

We deserve that and our children deserve that. A park isn't just a park now days but in the times we are living in, it's an outlet for families, parents and most importantly of all, our children. Please, PLEASE, help us get our park!

Thank you!!

Priscilla Campos

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Denise Burbage <deniseburbage@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2022 8:44 AM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: Buffalo Highlands Oasis Project

Hello. My family lives in the Buffalo Highlands neighborhood. My husband and I are proud parents to 3 young boys. We all implore to vote to move forward with the Buffalo Highlands Oasis Project. We would love to have a safe and close park where we can play, have family picnics, and meet people in our community. My family would strongly benefit from areas free from traffic to practice things like bicycling and skating. We also enjoy badminton, but there is nowhere for us to safely play. Not only would my family benefit from the park, but so would our community. It would be a great meeting place for both formal and informal events. We would be able to host neighborhood gatherings there and have a common place to meet for connection and community.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Denise Burbage

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Stephanie Witt <stephwitt7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2022 10:11 AM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: BUFFALO HIGHLANDS PARK SUPPORT

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing you to notify you that I am in support of the park in Buffalo Highlands community. I moved here from a neighborhood that was very walkable and I had 2 parks within walking distance. I love my home and I wish there was an actual park. Lennar advertised a park and gave us a "pocket park" which isn't even the park they advertise on their website (false advertising). In my opinion the pocket park they did put in is unsafe. The benches aren't even bolted into the ground and is unstable. My two year old went down the slide and flew off and I thought he broke a bone. It's too high and not safe for toddlers. If we do walk to the park in the stroller, I can't even bring the stroller to have it next to me on the bench so half of the time I'm standing in the stroller with my baby so that I can watch my toddler play. We have to pack up our kids and take them to surrounding parks in reunion where there is not a shortage in parks. They have one of every corner and it is wonderful. We dream of a neighborhood like reunion and have even dreamed of the idea of moving just down the street but I really do love my house.

Thanks,
Stephanie

Sent from my iPhone

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Halie Gdovin <halie.gdovin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2022 10:42 AM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: Buffalo Highlands Park

Good Morning,

This email is in support of a park being built for the Buffalo Highlands community. The park was advertised and promised to residents. The nearest park requires residents to cross 96th Ave. This busy street does not have a stoplight and it is dangerous for children and adults to cross.

Adding a park will promote community activity, allow for a safe place for children to play, and align with the values of staying healthy with outdoor activities.

Sincerely,
Halie Gdovin

Gibson, Dylan - CM

From: Laura Hellewell <laura.hellewell@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Gibson, Dylan - CM
Subject: Formal comment for council meeting 4/4/22 regarding AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 BUDGET OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

Formal comment

REGARDING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 BUDGET OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO BY TRANSFERRING \$2,000,000 FROM THE UNENCUMBERED FUND BALANCE IN GENERAL FUND TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND PRESERVATION PLAN FUND (CIPP) FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BUFFALO HIGHLANDS OASIS PROJECT AND AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF. :

To Commerce City City Council,

Thank you for making the time for this meeting in your already very full schedules. I am in favor of this park for many reasons, but mostly because it will be a much safer way for my family to enjoy Commerce City Parks.

As you know, a park was promised and not built. Instead they put in a small structure on the north east end of the neighborhood. While we do use that structure from time to time, we find it very difficult for small children to enjoy. The slope of the slide is steep and the drop at the end is high for my 2 year old. My kids won't even use the structure because they've fall so many times. Commerce City does have many great parks in Reunion area, but I have to pack my kids up in the car and drive anywhere we want to go across 96th avenue into the reunion area. As you can imagine this creates a barrier for our family to go out to the parks as much as we would like to. Our area is growing very rapidly and I feel strongly that this park wouldn't only benefit "Buffalo Highlands" neighborhood. It would benefit everyone on this end of North commerce.

I grew up with a community park where I played as a young kid and even as I got older and into middle school and highschool and I could meet my friends at because it was a safe walking distance from my home. We were able to play and build community. This was especially important for me as I did not attend my home school. So getting to know the kids around me happened after school at the park. I want this same benefit for my children.

My kids resort to running around our Paseo (its not a through street but it is the street all our driveways are on) when they need to be outside. And while for now my neighbors are great and safe drivers, that could change at any time. I see other kids playing in the streets and I see older teens just walking around with nothing to do and nowhere to gather.

Our neighborhood is young. We all want to get to know each other better and develop a strong community but as it stands there is no where to do that safely here. When we finally were able to put together a neighborhood gathering we had to get special permission to shut down the street. That is a barrier to our neighborhood being able to commune together.

Commerce City is full of great people! We are a stronger community when we get together and a park here will only help Commerce City to continue to grow and be a great place full of people that want to help each other.

Thank you!

Laura Hellewell