

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES MEMORANDUM  
#15-2022**

**DATE:** Aug. 22, 2022

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

**THROUGH:** Heather Geyer, City Manager *hmg*

**FROM:** Amanda J. Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture *ajp*

**SUBJECT:** Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Assessment Update

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**PURPOSE**

To provide an update regarding the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Assessment from the BerryDunn consultant team.

**BACKGROUND**

CPTED is a multi-disciplinary approach to crime prevention that uses urban and architectural design and the management of built and natural environments. CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community among inhabitants to reduce crime and minimize fear of crime.

The City entered into an agreement with BerryDunn in April 2022 to complete a safety assessment at E.B. Rains, Jr. Memorial Park, the Civic Center and Croke Reservoir through a CPTED lens. BerryDunn is a full-service accounting, assurance and consulting firm. Key project tasks to date have included:

- Data review
  - Police reports
  - Site plans
  - Existing policies and procedures
- Stakeholder interviews
  - City Council members
  - Staff
- Community engagement
  - Open house
  - Pop-up events
  - Site visits
- Development of initial public safety improvements or strategies

BerryDunn's Michele Weinzetl, Manager for the Local Government Practice with expertise in public safety, and Jason Genck, Practice Lead for Parks, Recreation and Libraries, will be in attendance to present a project update, including an overview of the CPTED assessment process and initial findings. They will be seeking City Council feedback regarding potential public safety improvements or strategies.

**NEXT STEPS**

The BerryDunn team will continue to conduct public outreach through September, utilizing feedback from City Council to target specific areas, times or days. The BerryDunn team will also be compiling a final report to include recommended public safety improvements or strategies

and the associated cost estimates. This information will be presented to City Council at a future study session.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of the CPTED project is \$30,000 and is budgeted in the General Fund.

Any additional budget or time implications would depend on any actions taken.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for informational purposes only.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

If Council members have any questions, please contact Amanda Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture, at [apeterson@northglenn.org](mailto:apeterson@northglenn.org) or 303.450.8950.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Presentation



# City of Northglenn, Colorado Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Project Update



## Project Purpose:

Research potential public safety improvements through a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) based assessment of E.B. Rains, Civic Center Campus, Croke Reservoir, and adjacent areas.

# BerryDunn's Dual-Pronged Approach



## **Optimal public safety service delivery**

Our experts combine decades of law enforcement and consulting experience to improve the delivery of critical public safety services for your community, leveraging innovative ways to approach age-old problems.

## **Growing and enhancing public services**

We are thought leaders who help communities provide the very best parks, recreation, and library services. We collaborate with organizations and community stakeholders to create innovative and community-centered solutions.



# Project Overview

May 2022 – October 2022



## Underway/Completed:

- y Environmental scan of related policies, procedures, site-specific plans, police reports, and other data
- y Staff and staff group interviews
- y Council interviews
- y Community open house
- y Pop-up engagements
- y Site visits

## Upcoming:

- y Complete environmental scanning and pop-up engagements
- y Discussion with local businesses
- y Recommendations and final report including cost estimates of recommendations
- y Follow-up report to City Council



# What are we hearing from stakeholders?



**Patrons (site users) generally feel safe and believe the sites are well maintained.**

**Patrons love the programs provided by the City and would like to see more of them taking place at these sites.**

**Neighbors want to collaborate with the City to help.**

**Patrons feel safer with the park rangers around and want to see them more.**

**Patrons are very happy the City is conducting this study.**



# What are we hearing from stakeholders?



**Patrons believe that the sites have opportunities for public safety improvement due to concerns about illegal activity.**

**Inadequate lighting is a concern for all locations.**

**Inadequate parking is a problem for many patrons at all sites.**

**Several patrons report that they have experienced threatening and uncomfortable behaviors (e.g., vulgar language, intimidation, public nudity, verbal threats, “stalking,” etc.).**

**Staff do not have enough resources to keep up with maintenance and public safety needs at all sites.**

**Large-scale events are not staffed adequately for public safety and crisis response.**





# What are we hearing from stakeholders?

## E.B. Rains and Civic Campus Concerns



**Patrons feel that multi-modal crossings between the Civic Campus and E.B. Rains are not safe.**

**Patrons choose to use E.B. Rains earlier in the day for activities due to concerns related to safety taking place later in the day.**

**Some parents will not allow their children to use E.B. Rains without supervision.**

**The restrooms at E.B. Rains are unsafe.**

**Recreation center staff frequently experience patrons “wandering” around the facility and some of the entrances/exits are not monitored.**



# What are we hearing from stakeholders?

## Underpass and Temporary Housing Concerns



**Stakeholders report favorable and non-favorable feelings about the temporary housing facility.**

**Patrons believe the train station and the temporary housing facility have created new safety problems.**

**The underpass is a significant concern.**

# What are we hearing from stakeholders?



**Neighbors at Croke Reservoir report trespassing from the park into their yards along with trash and people sleeping on their property.**

# “Hot Spots”: What Are They?

- ▲ Areas with observed higher frequency of public safety concerns
- ▲ Areas with potential sources of safety concerns that are impacting adjacent areas
- ▲ Typically less visibility throughout the area
- ▲ Often identified as an area of concern by patrons



# “Hot Spot”: Underpass

- ▲ Evidence of drug use
- ▲ Evidence of encampments/living areas that are obstructing public access
- ▲ People, debris, or other items restricting access



# “Hot Spot”: Temporary Housing Facility

- ▲ Most significant area of drug use observed
- ▲ Graffiti
- ▲ Excessive litter
- ▲ People, debris, or other items restricting access



# “Hot Spot”: E.B. Rains Restroom

- ▲ Evidence of drug use
- ▲ Evidence of individuals living and/or sleeping in restrooms
- ▲ Excessive litter
- ▲ Evidence of vandalized amenities



# “Hot Spot”: Skate Park

- ▲ Evidence of drug use
- ▲ Graffiti
- ▲ Evidence of vandalized amenities
- ▲ Area of the most observed broken glass
- ▲ Intimidation of skate park users
- ▲ Reports of people intentionally placing trip hazards on skating areas





## Potential Solutions: Underpass

- y Install two-way security cameras
- y Install a motion detector on either side of the underpass
- y Significantly increase lighting inside of the underpass
- y Policy and signage review and update
- y Create a no loitering zone approximately 200 yards from either side of the underpass and include the underpass
- y Install a push button alert on either side of the underpass to trigger monitoring
- y Significantly increase maintenance schedules to check on issues each day



# Potential Solutions: Underpass

- y Support a focused effort in staffing and enforcement (e.g., maintenance staff, police, and park rangers) of existing and new policies to kick off with new initiatives
- y Address all “hot spots” of illegal and negative activity taking place in the Civic Campus that likely create reasons for undesirable use of the underpass
- y Address all line-of-sight issues that can be addressed, especially within the proposed no loitering zone
- y If legally and feasibly possible, consider closing the underpass (with gates that cannot be removed) for a period of time as improvements are made and/or creating restricted periods of time



# Potential Solutions: All Areas

- y Address line-of-sight issues such as overgrowth of vegetation, tree limbs, physical barriers (e.g., hallways, walls, etc.)
- y Significantly increase lighting in all areas, especially E.B. Rains and Croke Reservoir
- y Increase staffing for maintenance, park rangers, operations, and public safety, especially in areas of hot zones, non-monitored areas, and large-scale events
- y Restrict non-monitored access into public buildings
- y Expand parking, especially around Croke Reservoir and adjacent to E.B. Rains
- y Expand communication and partnerships for crime prevention with adjacent neighbors



# Potential Solutions: All Areas

- y Fully renovate/replace and modernize the restroom facilities at E.B. Rains
- y Improve multi-modal crossings between Civic Campus and E.B. Rains Park
- y Increase programming and other recreation-based-activation of E.B. Rains Park and Croke Reservoir
- y Complete an updated master plan for E.B. Rains Park and Croke Reservoir
- y Install bollards, large planters, or similar around E.B. Rains Park to restrict vehicle access



# Next Steps

May 2022 – October 2022

## Upcoming Tasks:

- y Complete environmental scanning and pop-up engagements
- y Discussion with local businesses
- y Recommendations and final report including cost estimates of recommendations
- y Follow-up report to City Council



# Questions and Input



## City of Northglenn, Colorado Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Project Update