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Board of County Commissioners to consider approval of Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan June 29

Littleton, CO --- The Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for adoption during a public hearing 9:30 a.m., June 29 at the Administration Building East Hearing Room, 5334 S Prince St., Littleton. The public is invited to attend.

Key recommendations of the plan include creating an interconnected countywide system of parks, open space and trails and protecting natural resources that include water quality and wildlife habitats of key riparian corridors through varied conservation efforts. The plan will serve as a guide for making strategic decisions about the program's future and supports the County's regional efforts in partnering with cities, towns and special districts to protect key amenities including the South Platte River Corridor, Cherry Creek Basin Corridor, Arapahoe Grasslands and High Line Canal Corridor.

"We'd like to thank our residents for taking ownership of their county's parks, trails and open spaces," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Chair Rod Bockenfeld. "The Open Space Master Plan recommendations are a direct result of the feedback from thousands of residents and partners who have participated in the master planning process during the last year."

Already, the County has protected more than 15,500 acres of land that preserve natural habitats and wildlife corridors, protect sweeping vistas and provide outdoor recreation for residents of all ages, thanks to the voters who generously approved the Arapahoe County Open Space sales and use tax in 2003.

For every \$1 spent in Arapahoe County, a quarter-of-a-penny is used to preserve urban and rural open space and natural areas; protect lands that preserve water quality; improve parks, sports fields, picnic facilities and trails; protect wildlife habitat and corridors; preserve agriculture and ranchlands; and enhance heritage areas.

The tax collection began Jan. 1, 2004 and is set to expire Dec. 31, 2013 unless citizens vote "yes" to continue the program during a future ballot question reauthorization.

For more information, go to www.greenways.com/arapahoe or call Bob Toll, Arapahoe County Open Space Manager, at 720-874-6725.

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To download photos click on the link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/OpenSpace/>

WalkonSPGreenway2009 – As a result of the Open Space Master Plan, Arapahoe County will focus on creating an interconnected network of parks, trails and open space across the County.