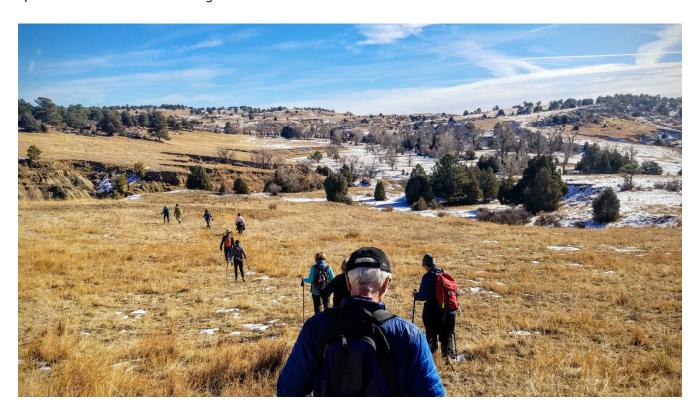


Our Mission:

We advocate for the creation and conservation of an interconnected network of trails, parks and open spaces across the Pikes Peak region.





A Message from the Executive Director

2019 was an exciting year of achievements, completing important projects and beginning new ones. Leading the community effort for 2B (TABOR refund - \$7 million for critical parks and trails projects) was just one of many high points. The ink was barely dry on the Ring the Peak Trail Master Plan and we immediately launched into "Phase II", which will lead to new trail construction.

Because we are a Coalition, we partner with others to accomplish critical projects. Re-Imagine Waldo Canyon, Boulder Park and Panorama Park Master Plans were all initiatives that will improve our community.

None of this work would be possible without a highly professional and committed staff. In 2019 we lost one of our "rock-stars" when Deputy Director Eileen Healy moved back home to Florida. Beth Desloges joined our team in November as Development Director. Her experience and personality have made for a seamless transition. Bottom line - you have every reason to expect your Trails and Open Space Coalition to have even more impact in 2020. As always, we credit you with our ongoing success: our members and partners who share our vision and make all of this possible.

Susan Davies
Executive Director



Advocacy & Master Planning

Central to TOSC's advocacy efforts are promoting the creation of trails and bikeways, conservation of open space, recreational opportunities for residents and visitors and protection of the natural and geological features that are unique to our community. In 2019, TOSC continued to be your leader in advocacy.

Passage of 2B: 2B was a gift the community gave itself in 2019. In response to a TOSC led advocacy effort, City residents voted to forgo a TABOR refund and invest in trails and parks.



Advocating for 5,000 Acres of Banning-Lewis Ranch Open Space: Advocating for adequate open space in Banning Lewis Ranch continues to be a TOSC priority. Thanks to TOPS, land has been secured that will one day allow a trail linking Corral Bluffs and Jimmy Camp Creek.

Cultivating a New Generation of Advocates:

TOSC is developing a new generation of park advocates and stewards through cutting edge projects focused on educating students on the importance of trails and creating opportunities for them to engage with our outdoor resources.

Colorado Springs Park Master Plans: Master Plans are so very critical because they determine what can and will be built in a park or open space. Austin Bluffs, Panorama and Boulder Parks all went through planning processes and we were there representing you.



Waldo Planning: TOSC joined forces with the Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Colorado Springs Parks Department to develop a community vision for the Waldo Canyon burn area. The partner organizations held a series of public workshops and stakeholder meetings throughout 2018-19 to gather input on potential trails and trailheads. For more information on this project please visit https://www.waldocanyonplanning.com.



TOSC is at the table for master planning processes, serving as your voice to communicate a vision for world class trails and open spaces in our community.

Preserving & Improving Our Trails & Open Spaces

TOSC knows creating new opens paces is not enough. We also need to preserve and improve our public spaces. With limited park budgets, volunteers are important for caring for the places we love.

Volunteer Calendar: TOSC manages and maintains the region's largest outdoor volunteer calendar with over 350 volunteer opportunities from roughly 35 partner organizations each year.

Technical Assistance to Friends Grounds: TOSC supported 21 Friends groups with technical assistance, including board recruitment, event planning, volunteer training and social media assistance. One highlight of 2019 was having 16 Friends groups and partners gather for a grant writing class presented by Pikes Peak Library District.

Creation of Fox Run Friends Group: During the course of the year, TOSC assisted with bringing passionate members of the Fox Run Regional Park community together and led efforts to form a new group. By the end of 2019, the Friends of Fox Run were hosting events and holding monthly meetings to inspire the public to help support the park.

2019 Crew Leader Training: During late April of 2019, the Pikes Peak Crew Leader Training prepared 30 volunteers to become crew leaders in the Pikes Peak region. TOSC partners with RMFI, Friends of the Peak and the City of Colorado Springs to put on this annual training.



Connecting Businesses to Cleanup Days: TOSC works with businesses and organizations to find different ways to be stewards of our open spaces. TOSC helped Key Sight arrange a trail restoration day in Ute Valley Park and assisted Northrop Grumman with several trail cleanups along the Pikes Peak Greenway. In Austin Bluffs Open Space, TOSC led a cleanup with Diversified Business Management. We helped UCCS students lead a Creek Week cleanup along the northern Sand Creek Trail.

Recruiting our next generation of Stewards and Advocates: In 2019 UCCS communication students researched local Friends Groups and created a "Successful Friends Group" template that we are now sharing. A Colorado College Political Science class devised strategy for garnering public support for parks. "Pennies for Parks" was one of many exciting ideas.

Finally, a Leadership Pikes Peak group surveyed community attitudes about parks and helped us create a model for future focus groups as we take the TOPS Initiative to the community. Our community greatly benefited from the projects created by emerging young leaders under the guidance of TOSC.

Closing the Gaps

Southeast Colorado Springs: The community has become more aware of the high-quality connectivity Sand Creek Trail provides for Southeast Colorado Springs. The Sand Creek Trail is a critical 3.5mile path that links multiple schools, a library, several neighborhoods and many other community amenities for people of all ages. TOSC worked with the RISE Coalition and the Youth Advisory Council on a signage and wayfinding project that will highlight the connection to the upcoming revitalized Panorama Park.



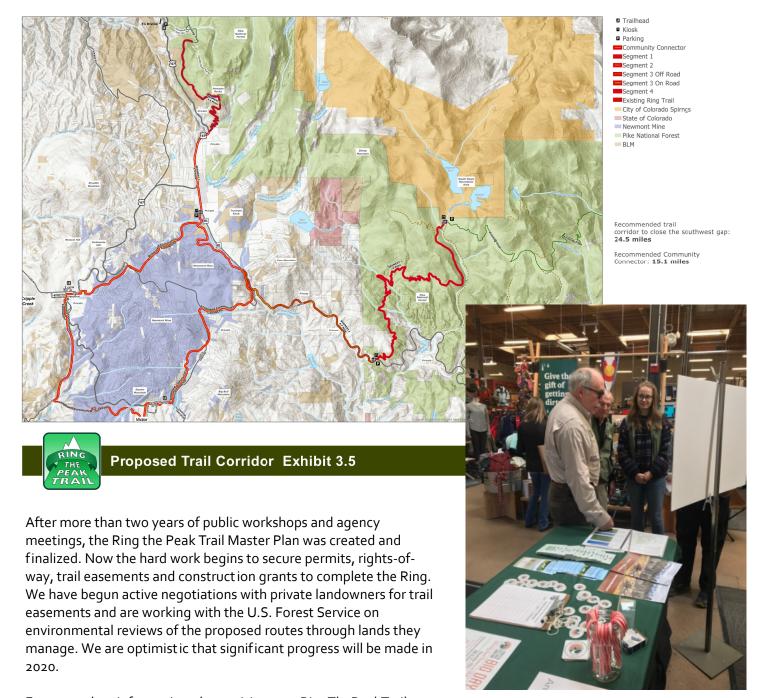
Legacy Loop: The vision for the Legacy Loop is a continuous paved trail connection through the heart of Colorado Springs. In 2019, a major section of trail was added to the Pikes Peak Greenway, from the Popcycle Bridge south to the Legacy Plaza Trailhead. This addition of Tier 1 trail, with adjacent crusher-fine running track is helping to create a safer and easier-to-navigate corridor. It bring us a step closer to making our community vision for a 10 mile loop around our city a reality.



Cottonwood Creek Trail: The Cottonwood Creek Trail has been extended a mile north and will continue to stretch to Powers Blvd, but the big achievement in 2019 was the connection under Academy. This link created access to the Pikes Peak Greenway and to a wider network of trails for the entire northeast region.



Ring the Peak



For up-to-date information please visit: www.RingThePeakTrail.org.

Connecting People to Trails and Open Spaces

Membership Hikes: TOSC hosted 8 Member Hikes in 2019. One of the most memorable and exhausting hikes was the trek up to the top of Cheyenne Mountain, led by Hiking Bob. Our outing to Jimmy Camp Creek Park was extremely popular. The area is not yet open to the public so it was a behind the scenes look at a unique and well preserved open space.



Community Cruises: With the support of Colorado Springs Health Foundation's "Power to the Pedals" Grant, TOSC was able to collaborate with partners to create a healthy, family-friendly, low barrier community bike ride series in Southeast Colorado Springs. The RISE Coalition, Deerfield Hills Community Center and Southeast Armed Services YMCA joined forces to execute four very successful Community Cruises; engaging more than 60 individuals - families of all ages and abilities - to go for an active, social ride on the Sand Creek Trail.

Activating Westside Parks: Thanks to the Colorado Health Foundation's "Connecting People to Parks" Grant, TOCS partnered with Organization of Westside Neighbors (OWN) and Council of Neighbors and Organizations (CONO) to help create a series of community driven bike rides (Classy Ladies Rides and Your OWN Brews Cruise) to highlight the 11 neighborhood parks.



The team also supported community led projects to paint and rehabilitate basketball courts at Cucharras, Blunt and Bott Parks. TOSC was honored to be the catalyst for this tremendous community engagement.



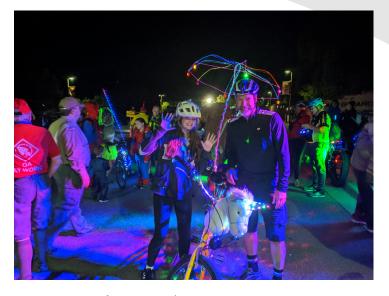
Bike Colorado Springs: Throughout 2019 Bike Colorado Springs has taken steps to make bicycling, in all its forms, more visible throughout the Pikes Peak region. From the Battle of the Bike Lanes to the Cottonwood Trail opening, from the Cascade bike lanes to Motorless Mornings at Garden of the Gods - BCS will continue striving to make Colorado Springs safer and easier for everyone who rides a bike now or in the future.

Fundraising & Outreach Events

Starlight Spectacular: Over 950 riders enjoyed a wonderful night under a full moon and a blanket of stars during the 25th Starlight Spectacular. The riders came out to the Garden of the Gods dressed in wild costumes and with their bikes decked out with lights to be a part of our festive late night ride and celebrated summer tradition. This annual event was made possible by nearly 100 volunteers and over 20 sponsors including our title sponsor, Heuberger Subaru.

Full-Moon Hike: Black Friday is starting to become known as a day for people to skip the shopping lines and opt to go outside. TOSC teamed up with the Garden of the Gods Foundation, the Friends of Garden of the Gods and the City of Colorado Springs to host a No Moon Black Friday Hike. It was a magical night that featured an amazing sunset, owls from Nature's Educators and a rocky landscape illuminated by fresh snow on the ground. This event was made possible by 16 hardy volunteers who braved the elements to make the hike a success.





ADT Marathon: On Labor Day, 747 runners participated in the 2019 Discovery Trail Races. TOSC and the Pikes Peak Road Runners partnered up to put on a point to point marathon, starting in Palmer Lake and finishing at America the Beautiful Park. Thanks to our sponsor, runners triumphed through the heat and were rewarded with food from Jersey Mikes, Marco's Pizza and beer from Bristol Brewing.

TOSC's Big Day: The goal of our Big Day was to get the community excited about our trails and parks and inspire at least 100 people to donate to TOSC through Indy Give. During the course of 24 hours, TOSC hosted guided hikes in North Cheyenne Canon and the Garden of the Gods and led two bike rides on the Legacy Loop. The day finished with more than 50 people joining TOSC and the Friends of Boulder Park for a Holiday Light Walk. In the end, 106 people donated over \$2,000!

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Mike Obernesser, Vice-President
Kevin Walker, V.P. Advocacy
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Carrie Simison, Secretary

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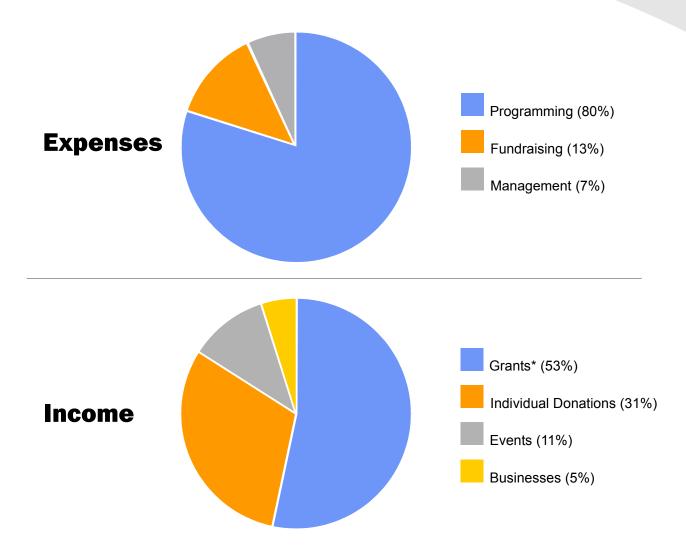
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Kathy Loo
John Maynard
Bill Slaughter
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Staff:

Aaron Rogers, Program Coordinator
Mike Rigney, Ring the Peak Project Manager
Beth Desloges, Development Director (as of November)
Sharie Dodge, Office Manager
Susan Davies, Executive Director
Allen Beauchamps, Community Engagement Coordinator
Eileen Healy, Deputy Director (through August)

Financials

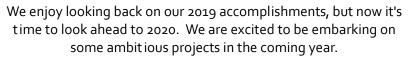


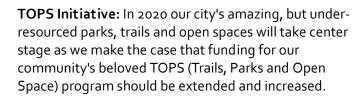
*In 2019, we applied for and received an unusually high number of grants to support some unique, expense-heavy programming (such as our work in the Southeast and preparations for the TOPS initiative).

NOTE: These are unaudited figures.

Looking Ahead







Creation of a Trail Ambassador Program: In 2020, TOSC will be launching a Trail Ambassador program. The goal of this program is to have TOSC advocates out on the trails to help guide users, answer questions and promote trail stewardship.

New Friends Groups: TOSC has the goal of forming new Friends groups for Panorama Park and Austin Bluffs Open Space and several Friends groups for El Paso County Parks. In the upcoming year, TOSC will continue to create networking opportunities for Friends groups and create new events that will connect park users with the Friends groups.



Ring the Peak: TOSC has put together a top notch leadership team for this project and has completed a master plan. Now, TOSC will be creating partnerships for the Ring the Peak Plan that will lead to building key trail segments.

Advocate for New Open Space Opportunities: TOSC will continue to be the community's voice for saving open spaces and connecting trails, with a keen eye on new open space opportunities on the east and west side of our communities and new trail projects in the north and south.

Waldo Canyon Planning: The input from stakeholder meetings will be compiled into a final report and will be submitted to the U.S. Forest Service in June of 2020. The plan will be used by USFS staff to develop a final recommendation for a trail network and trailhead.

Supporting our Cause

Businesses and Organization Support

We are grateful to the companies and organizations, large and small, that help us in many ways. Business support comes in many forms: from direct contributions, sponsorships, in-kind services, and fundraisers.

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