Re-cap

- Our consultant, DHM, conducted extensive research and created the Parkway Landscape Conversion Action Plan in 2018.

- Findings from the action plan were presented to Metro and CWSD Boards in the fall of 2018.

- A demonstration site along University was identified for an alternative grass conversion.

- The Board determined they wanted a more in depth discussion before moving forward with the demonstration site.
A Deeper Look

- Rising Maintenance Costs
- Rising Water Costs
- Statewide trends, expectations and laws
- The difference between alternative and native
- Demonstration Site
- Next Steps
- Questions and comments
Rising Maintenance Costs

Parkways Maintenance Budget

- 2012 - $591,719
- 2019 - $830,030

Escalating costs resulting in a 40% increase over 7 years despite years of scaled back services.
Rising Water Costs

Parkways Water Budget

- 2012 – $678,000
- 2019 – $931,000

37% increase in costs in 7 years. This is the budget, not actual spent.
## Water Budget Busted!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>VARIANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$678,000</td>
<td>$716,513</td>
<td>-$38,513</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$709,000</td>
<td>$541,272</td>
<td>$167,728</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>$748,803</td>
<td>$1,197</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>$791,600</td>
<td>$822,462</td>
<td>-$30,862</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>$813,000</td>
<td>$975,767</td>
<td>-$162,767</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$860,000</td>
<td>$799,863</td>
<td>$60,137</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$898,000</td>
<td>$946,161</td>
<td>-$48,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-$51,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Is this really that big of a deal?

- …aren’t all costs rising?
  True, but not quite at this rate. Remember that the water tiered rates can be costly.

- …the manicured grass is one of the reasons that makes this community stand out.
  Agreed... it can still stand out but be more cost effective and sustainable too.

- …this is a luxury worth keeping!
  Unfortunately, the water is finite... water conservation is a priority in the semi-arid west.
Loveland's Centerra is Colorado's 1st Community Wildlife Habitat
By Pamela Johnson
Reporter-Herald Staff Writer

Fort Collins water use keeps dropping, even as population grows

Aspen takes on 'smart' landscaping
By ELIZABETH STEWART-SEVERY • JUL 23, 2017

The City of Aspen has long encouraged residents to cut back on water consumption: Buy an efficient showerhead, turn off the tap while you brush your teeth. But now, officials are taking that message outside.

Greeley to host educational public on Bittersweet Park

The city is planning a $1.5 million upgrade to the irrigation system as well as changing the type of grass in the park to make water and maintenance of the turf more efficient. The $1.5 million includes design and construction.

While this work is going on, the appearance of the park might look rough in spots until the turf is dug up and replaced. The park is expected to be back in business in about two weeks.

Fort Collins parks eliminating Kentucky bluegrass in favor of native seed

Westminster piloting native grasses to replace Kentucky bluegrass in some parks
New State Law

HOUSE BILL 19-1050

CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF WATER-EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING ON PROPERTY SUBJECT TO MANAGEMENT BY LOCAL SUPERVISORY ENTITIES.

BILL SUMMARY

Section 1 of the bill augments an existing law that establishes the right of unit owners in common interest communities to use water-efficient landscaping, subject to reasonable aesthetic standards, by specifically extending the same policy to limited common elements, which are owned by the community and available for use by some but not all of the unit owners.

Sections 2 and 3 extend existing water conservation requirements, currently applicable only to certain public entities that supply water at retail and their customers, to property management districts and other special districts that manage areas of parkland and open space.

(Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)
Native vs. Alternative

- Native – consists of xeric grasses most similar to our open space and intended for minimal maintenance and watering.
- Alternative – consists of a variety of denser forming, low growing, hardy grasses with decreased maintenance and reduced watering.
Proposed Demonstration Site

University Slope
Demonstration Site
September 2018
Demonstration Site May 2019
Next Steps

- Return to Board for funding of demonstration site (January, 2020)
- Begin converting demonstration site (May, 2020)
- Public information
- Gather public input
- Modify plan if needed
- Boards adopt plan
Time for Questions & Comments