
Town of Buena Vista

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Buena Vista Monthly Connection

December 2016

Town and Buena Vista School District partner on new ball field

The Town of Buena Vista has partnered with the Buena Vista School District (BVSD) on a unique land swap project that will result in a new ball field for the school district and town to use in exchange for the land where the Town's affordable housing project will be built (where the current BVSD ball field sits). In September, the Town was awarded \$952,365 in tax credits from the Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA). Forty eight units of affordable housing will be built at the site once the new ball field is built.

The purpose of the swap

The Town of Buena Vista partnered with BVSD on the land swap. The Town and School District saw a special opportunity to provide a new ball field, and at the same time provide a new site for the affordable housing project. The land where the current school ball field sits is ideal for an affordable housing project because it is in a central location and has infrastructure nearby, or already in place.

The current ball field is not regulation size, has an incredibly hard infield surface that requires a tremendous amount of maintenance, inadequate parking, and many other safety concerns including a lack of fencing and an unsafe outfield fence made with solid concrete posts. Additionally, the site where the new ball field will be built is in the river park, to the north of the two other ball fields, and adjacent to the soccer fields, Whitewater Park, trails, disc golf course and many other recreational amenities.



Upcoming events

Saturday, December 3

Christmas open

(Details on next page)

Wednesday, December 14

Board of Trustee meeting

7:00 p.m.

Community Center, 715 E. Main St.

This will be the last meeting of the year.



Happy Holidays!

In observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Town offices are closed:

Friday, December 23 & Monday, December 26

Benefit to the community

The community will benefit greatly from the land swap. The new ball field will be a multi-sport field. It will contain a regulation size baseball diamond and soccer field. The outfield can accommodate soccer games, lacrosse and bike polo.

Once the ball field is built and the new field is available, the old baseball field site will be converted into 48 units of affordable housing. The demand for affordable housing has grown in Chaffee County due to the diversified and growing economy, resulting in an increase in year-round service sector jobs. Additionally, the average household income of our residents is far below the national average, while prices of homes in Buena Vista continue to increase.

What we will be asking voters in 2017

The land that the Town of Buena Vista is swapping with BVSD is currently town park land. Because the land will be given to BVSD by the Town, voters will need to formally approve the land donation via an election.

The local election will be held April 4, 2017 and will contain a ballot question seeking voter approval for the land swap. Town will not be able to build 48 units of affordable housing to house teachers, parents, and children of the School District (among others) if the current park land north of the existing ball fields is not conveyed to BVSD.

We need your vote to convey the land to BVSD. We hope that you will see the value in this unique project, and will allow the land swap to occur. Thank you for your support of this important project for our community.

For more information, contact Town Administrator Brandy Reitter at 719.395.8635 ext. 13 or bvadmin@buenavistaco.gov

❄ Winter is coming ❄

Don't forget to shovel your sidewalks! Sidewalks must be clear within 24 hours of a snowfall event. Please refer to section 7-56 of the municipal code, which can be accessed at: <http://buenavistaco.gov/2179/Municipal-Code>

For additional questions contact Mark Doering, Principal Planner: 719.395.8643 ext. 15 or bvplanning@buenavistaco.gov



Events Continued

Saturday December 3

CHRISTMAS OPEN

Chocolate Walk 10am-4pm

Pick up your playing card at the Chamber, 343 Hwy 24. \$1 each.

Visit participating businesses, sample a chocolate & have your card stamped. If your chocolate is a winner, you will win a prize!

Holiday Art Show @ Community Center, 715 E. Main St.

Chili Cook-Off @ CKS, 1-5pm

Equine Parade 2pm

Brings Santa along Main Street to the Community Center

Free photos with Santa 2:30-5:25pm @ the Community Center, 715 E. Main St.

Parade of Lights 5:30pm

Lighting of the Holiday Tree 5:45pm @ the Splash Park, corner of E. Main & Railroad St.

Polar Express movie, Noon & 6pm @ Pinon Real Estate, 306 E. Main

Full details on Chamber website:

<http://bit.ly/2fMHZfb>