

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 25, SERIES 2024 – A
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE, BOULDER
COUNTY, AND PLAY BOULDER FOUNDATION LOUISVILLE
CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY FORESTRY CORPS' URBAN
FORESTRY PILOT PROGRAM

DATE: MAY 21, 2024

PRESENTED BY: ABBY MCNEAL, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT
ADAM BLACKMORE, PARKS, RECREATION &
OPEN SPACE DIRECTOR

SUMMARY:

2024 Urban Forestry and Community Forest Corps Pilot Program

The City of Louisville is partnering and providing financial support with the City of Boulder, Boulder County, PLAY Boulder and Classrooms for Climate Action to pilot the Community Forestry Corp (CFC) program, to plant and maintain trees throughout Boulder County. The City of Louisville Parks and Forestry staff identified 2 park locations to restore lost trees- Cleo Mudrock Park (4 trees) and the Louisville Sports Complex (12 trees). PLAY Boulder is targeting a mid-May planting of trees, then the CFC program will support the aftercare and maintenance of newly planted trees throughout the summer months. The CFC program intends to offer employment, career development, and educational opportunities for local youth from underrepresented and historically disadvantaged communities. PLAY Boulder will also support the countywide urban forestry expansion strategy via expanded tree tender training programs and technical and data assistance associated with the upcoming PlanIT Geo tools.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Resolution
2. PLAY Boulder IGA - Louisville
3. High Scope of Work

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of IGA for Pilot Program

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. 25, SERIES 2024

DATE: MAY 21, 2024

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STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

☐	 Financial Stewardship & Asset Management	☐	 Reliable Core Services
☐	 Vibrant Economic Climate	☒	 Quality Programs & Amenities
☒	 Engaged Community	☐	 Healthy Workforce
☐	 Supportive Technology	☒	 Collaborative Regional Partner

**RESOLUTION NO. 25
SERIES 2024**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE, BOULDER COUNTY, AND PLAY BOULDER
FOUNDATION LOUISVILLE CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY FORESTRY CORPS'
URBAN FORESTRY PILOT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, an Intergovernmental Agreement has been proposed between the City of Louisville, Boulder County and PLAY Boulder, 2024 Urban Forestry and Community Forest Corp Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, City Council by this Resolution desires to approve said Intergovernmental Agreement and authorize its execution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE, COLORADO:

Section 1. The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Louisville and the County of Boulder concerning PLAY Boulder- Urban Forestry and Community Forest Youth Corps hereby approved in essentially the same form as the copy of such IGA accompanying this Resolution.

Section 2. The Mayor is authorized to execute the IGA on behalf of the City, except that the Mayor is hereby further granted authority to negotiate and approve such revisions to said IGA as the Mayor determines are necessary or desirable for the protection of the City, so long as the essential terms and conditions of the IGA are not altered.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of May, 2024.

Christopher Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Meredyth Muth, City Clerk



INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

PLAY Boulder Foundation and the City of Louisville

Concerning the Community Forestry Corps Urban Forestry Pilot Program

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
PLAY Boulder Foundation and the City of Louisville
Concerning the Community Forestry Corps Urban Forestry Pilot Program

Contents:

- Background, Purpose and Scope
 - Budget, Urban Forestry Funding and Payments
 - Deliverables and Timeline
-

Project Background: The PLAY Boulder Foundation has been hired by the Boulder County Office of Sustainability, Climate Action and Resilience to launch and manage an urban forestry pilot program intended to establish faster, more comprehensive urban forestry benefits while providing meaningful youth employment opportunities that enhance both individual and community growth and resilience. The pilot program will take the form of the Community Forestry Corps, which will empower underserved youth to maintain and expand urban forests, gather and review critical urban heat data, and become local climate ambassadors supporting community resilience and sustainable community development

Project Purpose: Urban areas are heat amplifiers due to a variety of factors such as infrastructure and energy use. This heat amplification increases landscape desertification, but also poses a huge health risk to city dwellers. However, studies show that increasing green space in cities can lead to significant cooling and therefore a reduction in extreme heat's harmful effects on the land and humans. For this reason, urban forestry, heat data and human health are inextricably linked.

While the recent Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) has committed to supporting many new urban forestry initiatives, the current approach to urban forestry is still missing critical elements required to achieve success. For example, "tree equity" is the widely promoted concept that planting more trees in historically disinvested and under-canopied communities will deliver more equitable futures. Although it is clearly essential that we support these communities in gradually re-growing sheltering canopy, trees planted now will take 20 to 30 years at a minimum before they begin delivering substantive levels of critical ecosystem services like shading and cooling, water infiltration, or air and sound pollution abatement. In the interim, these same trees represent a liability to the community, one it will have to find ways to maintain and protect for what is essentially a generation (25 or more years) before the trees start producing substantive benefits.

For these reasons, the Community Forestry Corps was designed with the recognition of the need to commit to long-term, multi-decade comprehensive support for both the tree and the human stewards needed to provide this essential care, while integrating essential urban heat data and climate change education in ways that will maximize the present and future benefit of tree related actions and empower future climate ambassadors. The Community Forestry Corps

is a practical, achievable step in the demonstration of immediate and equitable urban forestry, designed to address both the equity limitations of past approaches and improve the environmental and social outcomes of these investments.

Project Scope: This pilot program will primarily be led by the PLAY Boulder Foundation, which will coordinate with the participating Boulder County communities, and will report to the Boulder County Office of Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience. Key roles and responsibilities are as follows:

PLAY Boulder Foundation:

- Coordinate and communicate meetings, program scope of work, and program updates.
- Develop and support tree tender working groups in participating county municipalities.
- Develop youth engagement/employment opportunities associated with urban forest expansion through the Community Forestry Corps.
- Manage urban forest analysis and planning with each municipal working group when Urban Tree Canopy reports are available.
- Coordinate local tree planting initiatives through an urban forestry pilot.
- Oversee Employer of Record responsibilities for the Community Forestry Corps.

Boulder County OSCAR:

- Support PLAY Boulder in the coordination and communication of meetings, pilot scope of work, and program updates.

Participating Communities: (Boulder, Louisville, Lafayette)

- Identify tree planting opportunities/sites on public lands.
- Select tree planting quantities, species, sizes, etc. based on community characteristics.
- Coordinate with PLAY to schedule planting days
- Identify water tank filling locations for CFC crews (ideally close to planting sites)
- Outline additional activities for CFC crews (mulching, weeding, pruning, etc).
- Collaborate with PLAY Boulder to develop Tree Tender community training sessions in Louisville and Lafayette to establish volunteer working groups (*Southwest Hub is a potential location*).

Project Budget:

PLAY Boulder Foundation: Approximately \$45,000 from external grants and fundraising

- Plant Materials, Tools, Equipment, Work Gear
- Uniforms, Classroom Supplies, Miscellaneous
- Creation of Education & Youth Development Curriculum
- Urban Heat, Urban Forestry and Nature-based Solutions Expertise/Instructor Support

- Employer of Record, Program Management, Staff Wages

Boulder County OSCAR: \$120,000 paid to the PLAY Boulder Foundation:

- Plant Materials & Program Materials
- Creation of Education & Youth Development Curriculum
- Employer of Record, Program Management, Staff Wages

Participating Communities:

- **Boulder:**
 - \$50,000 paid to CAPA Strategies heat data collection, analysis & engagement
 - \$70,000 paid to PLAY Boulder for Plant Materials, Program Materials, CFC crew wages
- **Louisville:**
 - \$5,000 paid to PLAY Boulder for CFC crew wages
- **Lafayette:**
 - \$5,000 paid to PLAY Boulder for CFC crew wages

Urban Forestry Funding:

The PLAY Boulder Foundation will pay for the plant materials required for the tree planting initiatives in each of the participating communities. \$2,000 from the \$120,000 PLAY Boulder contract has been budgeted for plant materials, with PLAY Boulder pursuing an additional \$5,000. With \$7,000 budgeted for plant materials, both Louisville and Lafayette will have \$3,500 available for urban forestry initiatives in the first year of the pilot program, with additional PLAY Boulder funds from external grants and fundraising initiatives available, if needed.

The final amount spent on plant materials will largely be determined by the planting projects identified by the participating municipalities, as well as the size and species of the trees chosen for planting. The participating municipalities, Louisville and Lafayette, will coordinate with PLAY Boulder in the identification of planting sites and the selection of trees.

Payments: \$5,000 paid by both Louisville & Lafayette to the PLAY Boulder Foundation

This pilot program has a variety of first-year funding sources, including Boulder County, with the intention of establishing systems and infrastructure for expansion in future years. We anticipate this program growing in 2025 to increase its capacity and provide services to more Boulder County municipalities that are interested in participating. For the first year of the pilot program, participating municipalities will pay \$5,000 to pay for the Community Forestry Corps crew wages. Participating municipalities have the option of paying the \$5,000 in either two or three payments:

- \$2,500 paid upfront upon signing this agreement, and
- \$2,500 paid by December 1st, 2024

Or,

- \$1,666.66 paid upfront upon signing this agreement,
- \$1,666.66 paid by August 1st, 2024, and
- \$1,666.67 paid by December 1st, 2024

Project Deliverables:

- PLAY Boulder:
 - By end of March: High-Level Scope of Work for Participating Municipalities
 - By end of April: Intergovernmental Agreement for Participating Municipalities
 - Mid- and End-of-Year: Reporting and summary of work
- Participating Municipalities: Detailed information regarding the following:
 - By end of April 2024: Identified tree planting sites and desired tree species, size, quantity and planting specifications.
 - By end of May 2024: Water refill locations and additional desired site tasks for CFC crews (e.g. mulching, pruning, weeding).

Project Timeline:

- Kick-off Meetings: March 2024 (All)
- Spring Tree Tender Trainings: March 2024 (PLAY Boulder)
- Identification of Planting Sites and Tree Quantities/Species/Size: March - April 2024 (Participating Muni's, with support from PLAY Boulder)
- Tree Planting Initiatives: April - May 2024 (Participating Muni's, with support from PLAY Boulder)
- Community Forestry Corps Activity: June 3rd - August 9th (PLAY Boulder)
- Fall Tree Tender Trainings: August 2024 (PLAY Boulder)
- Evaluation & Assessment: August/October 2024 (All)
- Begin Planning for 2025 Urban Forestry Initiatives: October - December 2024 (All)
 - *Urban Forestry & Heat Analysis*
 - *Community Engagement*

Name (Printed): _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

High-Level Scope of Work for CFC Participants

Overview:

The Office of Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience (OSCAR) is contracting PLAY Boulder to provide support and management of a multi-jurisdictional tree tender program, Community Forestry Corps (CFC), technical and data assistance, and tree plantings within an urban forestry pilot program. This project is intended to create the needed social and organizational infrastructure to support private-land urban forestry long-term, while facilitating collaboration between residential, public, and institutional forest owners and managers.

Contents:

- Roles & Responsibilities
 - Budget Sources / Urban Forestry Funding
 - Timeline
 - Goals & Key Progress Indicators
 - Planting Sites & Information - Stage 1
 - Breakdown of Weekly CFC Crew Activity
 - Youth Training & Curriculum
 - Communications
-

Roles & Responsibilities:

This project will primarily be led by the PLAY Boulder Foundation, which will coordinate with the participating Boulder County communities, and will report to the Boulder County Office of Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience. Key roles and responsibilities are as follows:

PLAY Boulder Foundation:

- Coordinate and communicate meetings, program scope of work, and program updates.
- Develop and support tree tender working groups in participating county municipalities.
- Develop youth engagement/employment opportunities associated with urban forest expansion through the Community Forestry Corps.
- Manage urban forest analysis and planning with each municipal working group when Urban Tree Canopy reports are available.
- Coordinate local tree planting initiatives through an urban forestry pilot.
- Oversee Employer of Record responsibilities for the Community Forestry Corps.

Boulder County OSCAR:

- Support PLAY Boulder in the coordination and communication of meetings, pilot scope of work, and program updates.

Participating Communities: (Boulder, Louisville, Lafayette)

- Identify tree planting opportunities/sites on public lands.
 - Select tree planting quantities, species, sizes, etc. based on community characteristics.
 - Coordinate with PLAY to schedule planting days
 - Identify water tank filling locations for CFC crews (ideally close to planting sites)
 - Outline additional activities for CFC crews (mulching, weeding, pruning, etc).
 - Collaborate with PLAY Boulder to develop Tree Tender community training sessions in Louisville and Lafayette to establish volunteer working groups (*Southwest Hub is a potential location*).
-

Budget Sources:

PLAY Boulder Foundation: (approximately \$45,000 from external grants and fundraising)

- \$15,000 - Plant Materials
- \$870 - Tools, Equipment, Work Gear
- \$1,090 - Uniforms
- \$900 - Miscellaneous (food, drink, etc. for trainings, site visits.)
- \$400 - Classroom Supplies
- \$9,500 - C4CA Curriculum & Training Development
- \$1,000 - Urban Heat and Urban Forestry Instructor Support
- \$1,000 - Nature-based Solutions Expertise - Instructor Support
- \$10,000 - Employer of Record & Program Management
- \$5,200 - Staff Wages

Boulder County OSCAR:

- \$120,000 to the PLAY Boulder Foundation:
 - \$2,000 - Plant Materials (trees, shrubs, mulch, compost, etc.)
 - *Additional \$5,000 from alternative source**
 - \$5,020 - Program Materials (van/trailer rental, food, etc)
 - \$9,500 - C4CA Curriculum & Training Development
 - \$15,000 - Employer of Record & Program Management
 - \$88,480 - Staff Wages

Participating Communities:

- Boulder:
 - \$50,000 for CAPA Strategies heat data collection, analysis & engagement
 - \$70,000 for Program Materials, CFC crew wages, Plant Materials
- Louisville:
 - \$5,000 for CFC crew wages
- Lafayette:

- \$5,000 for CFC crew wages

Urban Forestry Funding Received:

Each participating community will receive funds from the PLAY Boulder Foundation for tree planting initiatives. \$2,000 from the \$120,000 PLAY Boulder contract is budgeted for plant materials, such as trees, mulch, and compost. Furthermore, PLAY Boulder is pursuing an additional \$5,000 for plant materials. This \$7,000 budget for Plant Materials will be split between Louisville and Lafayette, \$3,500 each, with additional PLAY Boulder funds from external grants and fundraising initiatives available, if needed.

The final amount spent on plant materials will largely be determined by the planting projects identified by the participating municipalities, as well as the size and species of the trees chosen for planting. The participating municipalities, Louisville and Lafayette, will need to coordinate with PLAY Boulder in the identification of planting sites and the selection of trees.

Timeline:

- **Kick-off Meetings:** March 2024 (All)
- **Spring Tree Tender Trainings:** March 2024 (PLAY Boulder)
- **Identification of Planting Sites and Tree Quantities/Species/Size:** March - April 2024 (Participating Muni's, with support from PLAY Boulder)
- **Tree Planting Initiatives:** April - May 2024 (Participating Muni's, with support from PLAY Boulder)
- **Community Forestry Corps Activity:** June 3rd - August 9th (PLAY Boulder)
- **Fall Tree Tender Trainings:** August 2024 (PLAY Boulder)
- **Evaluation & Assessment:** August/October 2024 (All)
- **Begin Planning for 2025 Urban Forestry Initiatives:** October - December 2024 (All)
 - *Urban Forestry & Heat Analysis*
 - *Community Engagement*

Goals & Key Progress Indicators (KPI's):

Community Forest Corps:

- Develop and launch the CFC program to support the aftercare and maintenance of newly planted trees, and to offer employment, career development, and educational opportunities for local youth from underrepresented and socio economically disadvantaged communities.
- Identify and implement tree planting opportunities to establish systems and methodologies for expanded urban forestry initiatives in future years.
 - KPI's:

- Hire 12 local youth to participate in the CFC crews.
- Hold a 5-day training week for CFC crews to learn about tree care, nature-based climate solutions, heat, and the safe use of tools and equipment.
- Focus on 2 sites in the City of Boulder and 2-3 sites in Lafayette and Louisville (1-2 each) that can sustain new plantings and care.

Tree Tender Program:

- Continue to develop and support the Tree Tender volunteer base in the City of Boulder, and expand the development of Tree Tender working groups to support each participating county municipality.
 - **KPI's:**
 - 2 community wide training sessions in the City of Boulder, and one or more sessions in Lafayette and/or Louisville.
 - 3 continuing education sessions (at schools, in communities, etc.)
- Offer continued engagement opportunities throughout the year for Tree Tenders by providing opportunities to volunteer at events, tree plantings, community and parks based projects, support private homeowners, support low income low canopy areas, happy hours and social events. Activate neighborhood Tree Tender volunteer support throughout the year, particularly after the CFC crews finish activities on August 9th.
 - **KPI's:**
 - Offer at least 6 opportunities for Tree Tenders to stay engaged.
 - Begin to develop a plan for "neighborhood tree champions" so that Tree Tenders get assigned areas and tasks to help care for the canopy throughout the communities.

Planting Sites & Information: Stage 1

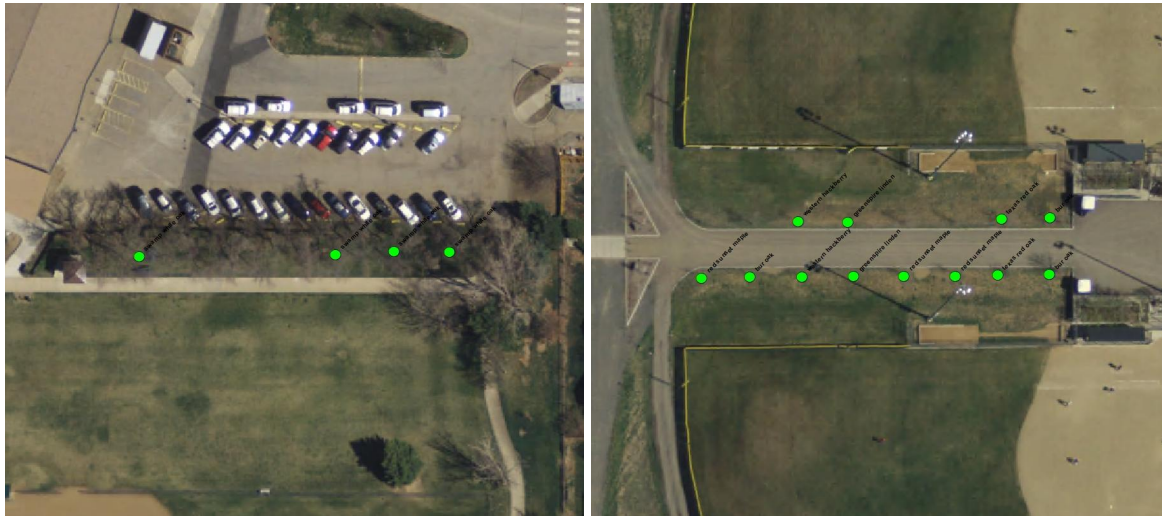
City of Boulder:

- Crestview Elementary & Park (*planning stage*)
 - *PLAY - TBD*
- San Juan del Centro community (*planning stage*)
 - *PLAY / Rotary Clubs - 6-7 trees: species TBD (size TBD)*
- Valmont Bike Park
 - *PLAY / Boulder Forestry - 12 trees: Shingle Oak & Hackberry (large, ball & burlap)*
- BCSIS
 - *PLAY / Shade Committee - 10-14 trees: species TBD (size TBD)*
- Fairview High School & Harlow Platts Park
 - *PLAY / C4CA - 14 trees: Hawthorn, Chokecherry, Hackberry, Gambel Oak (large, ball & burlap)*

- *PLAY / Boulder Forestry - 15 trees: species TBD (size TBD)*
- *PLAY / Boulder Natural Lands - 15 trees: species TBD (size TBD)*

City of Louisville:

- Cleo Mudrock Park
 - PLAY / Louisville Parks - 4 trees: Swamp White Oak (2" caliper)
- Louisville Sports Complex
 - PLAY / Louisville Parks - 10 trees: Red Sunset Maple, Greenspire Linden, Bur Oak, Hackberry, TX Red Oak (2" caliper)

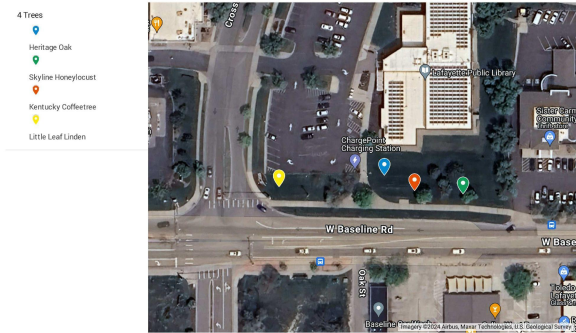


(Left: Cleo Mudrock Park; Right: Louisville Sports Complex)

City of Lafayette:

- Lafayette Public Library
 - PLAY / Lafayette Parks - 4 trees: Heritage Oak, Skyline Honeylocust, Kentucky Coffeetree, Little Leaf Linden (1.5 inch)
- LaMont Does Park
 - PLAY / Lafayette Parks - 4 trees: Ohio Buckeye, Bur Oak, Western Catalpa, London Plane Tree (1.5 inch)
- John Breaux Park
 - PLAY / Lafayette Parks - Redmond Linden, Ginkgo Tree, Hackberry Tree, English Oak (1.5 inch)
- Romero Park
 - PLAY / Lafayette Parks - 4 trees: Common Horsechestnut, Eastern Redbud, American Sweetgum, Tartarian Maple (1.5 inch)

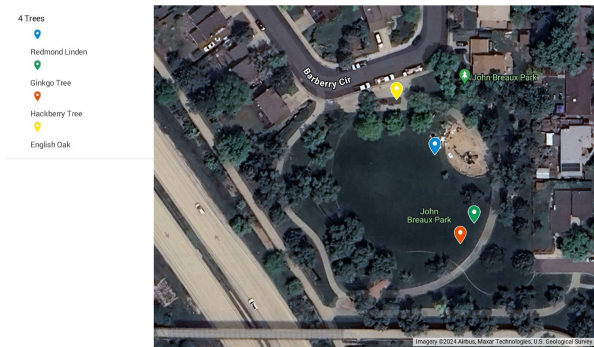
Lafayette Public Library- 775 W Baseline Road, Lafayette, CO 80026



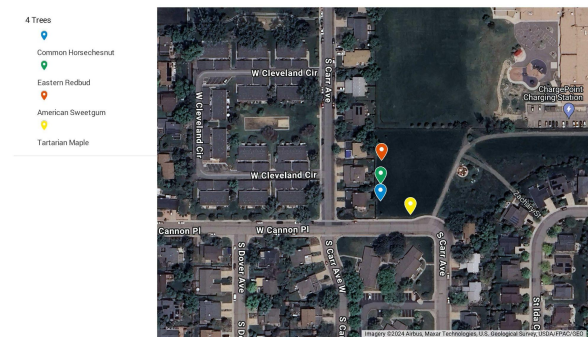
LaMont Does Park- 11400 E South Boulder Road, Lafayette, CO 80026



John Breaux Park- 750 Barberry Circle, Lafayette, CO 80026



Romero Park- 201 S Bermont Ave. Lafayette, CO 80026



Additional Tree Trust Projects:

- Peak to Peak Charter School
 - ~35 trees: Chinkapin Oak, Western Catalpa,
 - Miyawaki pollinator patches: ~100 small plants
- Marshall Fire Tree Distribution (private property)
- City of Boulder Tree Giveaways (private property)
- EcoLeader Distribution with EcoCycle (private property)

Breakdown of Weekly CFC Crew Activity - In Development (dependant on final planting plans)

City of Boulder:

- Mondays: Crew Leader planning and administrative tasks
- Tuesdays - Thursdays: Tree Care Days
 - Valmont Bike Park (one day per week)

- BCSIS & Aurora 7 Park (one day per week)
 - Fairview High School & Harlow Platts Park (one day per week)
- Fridays: Classroom Days (education, professional development, reflection, activities)

Louisville & Lafayette:

- Mondays: Crew Leader planning and administrative tasks
 - Tuesdays - Thursdays: Tree Care Days
 - Peak to Peak Charter School (one day per week)
 - Louisville (one day per week)
 - Lafayette (one day per week)
 - Fridays: Classroom Days (education, professional development, reflection, activities)
-

Youth Training & Curriculum - *In Development*

Outcomes:

- To recruit and train students to be Nature Based Climate Solution Ambassadors in their community and schools
- To train and develop a Corps of young people to work in our communities to take care of trees and parks.

Skills & Knowledge:

- Climate Change & Solutions
- Urban Forestry and Ecosystems
 - Tree care 101
 - Nature-based Climate Solutions
 - Traditional Indigenous Knowledge
- Urban Heat Data Collection, Modeling, & Analysis
- Advocacy
 - Social Justice & Equity
 - Redlining & Heat
 - The Role of Trees
- Professional Development
 - Public Speaking & Communication
 - Interpersonal & Intrapersonal Skills
 - Leadership & Employment Skills

Potential Activities & Adventures: (Fridays & Inclement Weather Days)

- Maker Space Woodworking
- Ropes Course, Tree Climbing
- Reading Maps and Landscape Blueprints

- Exploring the Green New Deal (BVSD) and Green Jobs
- Designing Outdoor Spaces with Nature-based Climate Solutions
- Site Visits: Drylands Agroecology Research sites, Esoterra, Growing Gardens, Jack's Solar Garden, Boulder Watershed tree thinning sites, Beaver dam in Lafayette, etc.

Training Topics: (May 28th - 31st, with activities and guest speakers)

- What are Nature-based Climate Solutions?
- Setting Team Expectations, Agreements & Norms
- Tree Examination & Identification
- Safety Demos
- Team Building Activities
- Connected Canopies & Urban Forestry
- Carbon Sequestration
- Urban Heat Islands
- Pollinator Pathways
- Traditional & Indigenous Knowledge
- Climate Justice
- Absorbent Landscapes & Soils

Communications:

Targeted Outreach for Staff Recruitment:

- Week of 3/4th & 3/11th: Announcement of Hiring & Logo Competition
- Week of March 25th or April 1st: Reminders to Apply / Participate in Logo Competition

General Program Communications:

- City of Boulder Communications Meeting: April 10th at 4pm
 - Theme: Nature-based Climate Solutions initiatives as integrated efforts to create urban resilient landscapes through the regeneration of the living world.
 - Targeting April, June, and August as key months for communications efforts.
- Boulder County & Participating Muni's: TBD

Breakdown of Key PLAY Boulder Foundation Tasks

Task 1: Meetings, Communication, and Pilot Overview

The consultant, PLAY Boulder, will complete the following administrative tasks:

- Create an updated urban forestry pilot schedule that includes recurring meetings with the OSCAR project manager, as well as meetings with the wider municipal working team.
- Write a summary of the urban forestry pilot scope, with an overall timeline, key milestones, KPIs, and goals.
- Provide monthly programmatic and financial updates to the county project manager and complete a final summary report upon conclusion of the project.
- Support outreach and PR, as well as internal or external presentations as needed.

Task 2: Develop and support a tree tender working group in each participating county municipality

The tree tender training program educates community volunteers in the basics of tree biology, planting, identification, pruning, and aftercare, as well as empowers them to work in their communities to grow the urban tree canopy near where they live. PLAY Boulder will:

- Extend their current operating Tree Tender program in the City of Boulder to Louisville and Lafayette, with a minimum of 3 people in each volunteer working group.
- Expand or create a new Tree Trust Advisory Committee to include Lafayette and Louisville for additional support in decision making and community organizing (TBD based on need).
- Consider a system for regular monthly meetings open to the public.

Task 3: Develop youth engagement/employment initiatives associated with urban forest expansion

Community Forest Corps (CFC) empower youth to maintain and expand urban forests, gathering critical local environmental information needed to increase community resilience and sustainable community development. The CFC program will be the first step toward the long-term, comprehensive support needed for urban forestry expansion. PLAY Boulder will manage the CFC program, including the following tasks:

- Develop the CFC alongside communities that are most at risk to the effects of climate change in urban areas.
- Recruit and hire CFC employees from historically underserved communities in Boulder County, with a preference toward a bilingual Crew Lead.
- Leverage existing, equity-focused relationships and partnerships to support recruitment from specific communities within Boulder County, such as Boulder County Housing Partners, Community Connectors, El Centro Amistad, and FLOWS.
- Provide living wages, participation in professional development, continuing education, technical urban heat training, and opportunities for exposure to a wide range of land stewardship progressions to CFC hires.
- Create the CFC work plan, including tree watering and maintenance routes in urban forest pilot neighborhoods.
- Develop curriculum for the CFC in partnership with Classrooms for Climate Action (C4CA).

Task 4: Manage urban forest analysis and planning with each municipal working group

PLAY Boulder will support the municipalities in technical and data assistance.

- Support learning new tools, such as the PlanIT Geo platform, an urban tree canopy tool that is being developed by the county to assess percentage of plantable space available in each community, what rate the canopy is being lost or maintained, and which areas have the highest heat and lowest ability to adapt.
- Use the PlanIT Geo tool when available to guide equitable decision making in the urban forestry pilot and identify potential planting project sites.
- Assist OSCAR to identify the best neighborhoods to focus on in 2025 for community engagement and possible tree plantings to achieve the most equitable outcomes possible.
- Serve as a point of contact for PlanIT Geo to implement system updates.
- Assist in designating primary UTC points of contact for each municipality.

Task 5: Coordinate local tree planting initiatives through an urban forestry pilot

PLAY Boulder will distribute trees via an urban forestry pilot in the City of Boulder, City of Louisville, City of Lafayette, and possibly unincorporated Boulder County.

- Manage the urban forestry pilot program.
- Plant and distribute trees at schools, parks, and neighborhood sites.
- Lead coordination between the municipal partners, county, local nonprofits, schools, and community volunteers to make this successful.
- Assign responsibilities, provide updates, and make collaborative decisions on plantings and program tasks with above partners.
- For plantings at schools, strive to increase school-based participation and engagement in community forest activities.
- Create an ongoing monitoring program for trees being planted.
- Utilize the tree tender training program and CFC to support the planting, maintenance, and watering of trees.
- Coordinate community engagement with preference toward bilingual staff leading outreach and engagement.
- Track # of active community participants in each location, # of planting projects initiated and completed, # of tree planted, # of youth participants by event, and total hours of youth engagement.
- Support OSCAR in coordination and communication with the other partner cities in the U.S. completing this pilot and CFC program (i.e. Cleveland, Albuquerque, and Boise).