



City Council

July 15, 2025
Packet Addendum #1

From: [tamar krantz](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Please Make a Universal Recycling Ordinance a Work Plan Priority
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 7:57:54 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

I see that LSAB recommends that our city adopt a universal recycling ordinance. Please add this to the workplan!

This is a fantastic idea! The data provided in your meeting packet shows that commercial waste diversion rates are much lower than residential. With your help, businesses and institutions could do more to contribute to our waste diversion goals. It sounds like we can model our ordinance after other municipalities--making this easier.

As part of this effort, please consider revising the commercial development design standards and guidelines to require a place for recycling dumpsters in addition to trash. And strengthening the guidelines in the IDSG to require adequate space for recycling in new developments.

Thanks for all you do for environmental sustainability!

--

*Tamar Krantz
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She/her*

From: [Cathern Smith](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Diana Langley](#); [Adam Blackmore](#); [Ember Brignull](#)
Subject: LOSA's Comments on OSAB's Work Plan and Budget Requests
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:56:10 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] From outside of City of Louisville DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Leh and Members of City Council:

Now is the time to break the long-standing spending pattern where Open Space receives only inadequate funding. Open Space needs and deserves sufficient funding to restore, protect, and sustain both the land and the myriad life-forms it supports.

Now is the time to align spending on Open Space with the values of the community. There is strong community-wide support for our Open Space lands, including protection of native plants and wildlife and our scenic vistas. Last year's Community Survey to identify the top priorities for the City to focus on in the next 4 years ranked Open Space - *including protection of native plants, wildlife and scenic vistas* - in the top 4 with 33% of survey participants choosing Open Space. This ranks Open Space just below Public Safety's 39%. Notably, Recreation is ranked 6th with 24% and Parks is ranked 8th with 18%. <https://www.louisvilleco.gov/home/showdocument?id=45618&t=638878451942364187> Additionally, in November 2023, ballot measure 2C passed with a record breaking 70% of the vote.

The sheer number of and range of requests from OSAB shows the impact of deferred funding. While it may look like OSAB is looking for a lot, the reality is that OSAB is attempting to catch up and recover from years of unmet needs. In fact, the requests fall short of the restoration needs of lands that have substantial deferred maintenance and are in many cases severely environmentally degraded.

Recognizing that all of the work plan and budget requests deserve funding and approval, we provide the following additional information.

ESSENTIAL TO APPROVE - PROS Department Project Manager.

Immediate hiring of a PROS Department Project Manager with knowledge of Open Space is essential. When City Council decided to lump Open Space in with Parks and Recreation for the PROS plan, it baked in the need for careful oversight. Right now, a single individual, stretched too thin, is attempting to do all of the project management for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space. With all that is going on, that individual is simply unable to give the PROS Plan the attention that it needs and deserves.

As we just saw with the Comprehensive Plan mapping error, oversight of the consultants is necessary. Otherwise, things get off-track. Please approve the immediate hiring of a PROS Department Project Manager with knowledge of Open Space.

APPROVE BECAUSE INEXPENSIVE and GOOD for Open Space.

- Bird City and Dark Sky Designations;
- Collaboration with other Louisville advisory boards on issues of mutual concern;
- Collaborate with neighboring communities on mutual wildlife and environmental conservation goals, including restoration of pollinator habitat and the Coal Creek riparian area. For 2026, approve high level collaboration to establish mutual goals with a report back on phasing and costs; and
- As development increases, the need for a rodenticide ordinance increases.

IMPORTANT and FLESH OUT in the 2026 Work Plan (i.e., approve in part)

- Explore water rights more in 2026.
- Come back to Council with an analysis of the separate water needs of HECLA and Coal Creek, (including timing and amount).
- Explore possible sources of water: Right now, Coal Creek is 100% dry for part of the spring run-off season, when water should be available. Initiate conversations with upstream users and about maintaining a minimum flow.
- Explore cost of meeting the separate water needs of HECLA and Coal Creek.

PUSH to 2027 Workplan:

- For the 2028 election cycle, so that bonds can be issued, evaluate whether to make the open space sales tax (2C) permanent.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on these important matters.

Best,

/s Cathern Smith for Louisville Open Space Advocates

cc: Diana Langley, City Manager
 Adam Blackmore, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Open Space
 Ember Brignull, Open Space Superintendent
 OSAB (via email to Ember Brignull)