



PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hiawatha Gardens Task Force Unveiling Draft Preferred Plan at July 11 Community Meeting

MANITOU SPRINGS CO – Community responses received through the two public meetings in March have driven design priorities for the Hiawatha Gardens project. Those priorities are reflected in the Draft Preferred Plan which will be unveiled at a community meeting at 6PM on July 11 in Memorial Hall (606 Manitou Ave.)

This community meeting will be a hybrid setup, meaning you can attend it in person or participate via ZOOM! The ZOOM link will be posted to the City's website at: <http://bit.ly/3AOC88G>.

The Draft Plan includes a plan for the entire Hiawatha Gardens site as well as an architectural design for the historic dance hall building and recommendations for its use. As directed by the Manitou Springs City Council in 2020, the site is to serve as a multi-modal transportation hub, with the dance hall building to be established as a center for community use.

Highlights of the Draft Preferred Plan which reflect March meeting participants' most preferred ideas for the Hiawatha Garden site include: a large public plaza to the west of the dance hall building; an adjacent building north of the dance hall to house public restrooms and space for the City Parking Office; and a covered patio south of the dance hall along Fountain Creek.

The Hiawatha Gardens Task Force made up of City staff and community volunteers is coordinating development of the project and is working with BVH Architects on the design. After the community has provided a response to the Draft Preferred Plan, it will be presented to the Manitou Springs City Council, likely in August.

For those interested in more detail about the community's reaction to the options and alternatives presented at the March community meeting, visit the City of Manitou Springs website at <http://bit.ly/3AOC88G>.

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