



Board of Trustees Action Items

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Erie Board of Trustees Action Items – May 8, 2012

Second Analysis of NOAA Data Determines Low Risk of Adverse Health Effects – As part of continued efforts to address the public’s questions and concerns, the Town of Erie engaged in a second Air Quality Assessment of the NOAA data to determine what (if any) health effects would result from exposures to the levels of propane and benzene as presented. The scientific analysis of the data conducted by Pinyon Environmental, Inc. concluded that the risk of Erie residents experiencing an adverse health effect over a lifetime exposure (70 years) to the reported Benzene and Propane concentrations is low.

During her presentation of the analysis to the Town of Erie Board of Trustees, Cynthia Ellwood, Ph.D., CIH, stated that compared to the levels presented by NOAA, the public would be at a greater exposure risk to Benzene when engaged in activities such as fueling a vehicle at a gas station; sitting in an idling car; eating in a restaurant which permits smoking; waiting in a drive-thru lane or sitting around a campfire.

Levels of Toluene and Xylene DO NOT Pose Toxic Health Effects

Dr. Ellwood also informed the Board that the levels of Toluene and Xylene as reported in the NOAA data DO NOT pose an adverse health effect. According to Ellwood, “Neither of those compounds causes cancer. They do have toxic health effects at elevated exposures, but at exposures that were reported by the NOAA study they did not.”

According to Pinyon’s Air Quality Assessment, generally, NOAA’s research scientists study atmospheric processes and pollution control and formation to better understand atmospheric factors that are responsible for poor air quality. NOAA does not engage in human health studies to better understand the risk of disease as a result of exposure to ambient air quality. The purpose of Pinyon Environmental’s report is to present toxicological information for propane and benzene in order for the Town of Erie Board of Trustees to understand potential health impacts of these two chemicals, independent of each other, at various exposure concentrations.

In her report, Dr. Ellwood referenced NOAA's Summary of Findings of the data as presented during the February 21, 2012 Board of Trustees meeting which states: *"The Boulder Atmospheric Observatory (BAO) tower provides a convenient site for making measurements of air quality. Although the tower is located near Erie, Colorado, measurements of elevated pollutant levels at the BAO do not imply that those levels are confined to the area or that the pollutants come from sources only in the immediate area. Tower data typically provide information representative of the broader Front Range region."*

BACKGROUND: During the Board's April 24, 2012 meeting, a presentation of the Town's first peer-reviewed Analysis and Health Impact of Propane Levels of the NOAA data was presented by Quality Environmental Professional Associates (QEPA). QEPA's scientific analysis of the data concluded that: *"The levels of Propane in the NOAA study are 1,000 – fold or more below those considered to be of a health concern."* The average level of Propane as presented by NOAA was 20 ppb (parts per billion) and the maximum level was 115 ppb. According to the analysis: *"Propane at 115 ppb (the peak level found) does not present a health concern to the citizens of the Town of Erie."*

[View Air Quality Assessment Report](#)

[View Air Quality Assessment Presentation](#)

Coal Creek/Rock Creek Trail Project Contract Approves – The Board approved a resolution authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Boulder County for construction management services for the Coal Creek/Rock Creek Trail Project in Erie. With design of the trail through Erie, Lafayette and Boulder County now complete, the project is ready to be bid. As such, the project team has agreed that engaging third-party construction management and inspection experts to oversee this multi-jurisdictional construction project will provide the most efficient and cost effective process for completion of the trail. Boulder County selected Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) to provide construction management services for the project for approximately \$124,000. The fee includes materials testing (\$23,850). The Erie Parks & Recreation Director participated in defining the scope of services and in the selection process. Staff has negotiated an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with Boulder County for these services.

Town to Recognize National Trails Day on Saturday, June 2nd – In honor of National Trails Day, Saturday, June 2nd, the Town of Erie Parks & Recreation Department and Erie's Cub Scout Pack 62 will help improve the trail and open space at Thomas Reservoir by removing weeds and any trash from the trail and surrounding landscapes, re-mulching existing trees and shrubs and adding crusher fines to uneven sections of the approximately .75 mile trail surrounding the reservoir. This is the third year Pack 62 has assisted Erie Parks and Recreation at this location.

All efforts will all be overseen and supported by the Town's Parks Maintenance Division which will be on hand to provide tools and equipment necessary. Participants should bring their own gloves and wear

appropriate clothing and shoes. All interested volunteers should meet at the Thomas Reservoir by 8:45 am for an organizational/safety briefing, with work commencing at 9:00 am, and concluding by noon.

BACKGROUND: National Trails Day is a program of the American Hiking Society, a national non-profit organization that was founded in 1976 and is dedicated to promoting and protecting America's hiking trails. The American Hiking Society's National Trails Day began in 1993 and was created to:

- Promote public awareness of and appreciation for America's trails and the people who build and maintain them.
- Promote the health benefits of trails.
- Build partnerships among trail groups, businesses and public land managers.
- Encourage cooperative efforts among various trail users, including hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, walkers, paddlers, bird watchers, photographers, trail runners and others.

Upcoming Board of Trustees Meetings – The Board of Trustees will meet in Study Session on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 6:00 pm. The May 22, 2012 Board meeting has been canceled. The next regularly scheduled [Board of Trustees](#) meeting will be on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 6:30 pm. All meetings are held in the [Town Hall boardroom](#) located at 645 Holbrook Street in Erie.

More Information – Board of Trustees Action Items are brief summaries of some, but not all, agenda items and do not serve as the official meeting minutes. Select this link to view archived Board of Trustees meeting online via the Town's [On Demand Video](#) service. To request approved meeting minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at nparker@erieco.gov .

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