

Meetings on future of Incline continue next week

By Jeanne Davant

Community members interested in the future of recreation at the Manitou Incline will have an opportunity to participate in a series of public discussions Tuesday, Wednesday and July 15 at Manitou Springs City Hall.

The City of Colorado Springs and the City of Manitou Springs are hosting several focused discussions addressing parking and traffic, trails and trailhead design, and management and operations at the Manitou Incline. These discussions follow on the heels of a June 24 public meeting attended by over 100 people.

Public input from the June 24 meeting and the focus area meetings will guide recommendations that will be included in the draft management and site development plan.

The draft plan will be presented to the public for review and comment in October.

All meetings will be hosted at the Manitou Springs City Hall, 606 Manitou Ave. The meeting schedule follows:

- Tuesday, 6 to 9 p.m. - Traffic and parking focus area session
- Wednesday, 6 to 9 p.m. - Trails and trailhead focus area session
- July 15, 6 to 9 p.m. - Management and operations focus area session

Hiking the Manitou Incline remains illegal.

The purpose of the management plan is to provide recommendations for addressing key issues at the Incline and to inform future decision-making regarding recreational use.

The planning process is funded by Great Outdoors Colorado and the Hill Family Foundation. The final plan will be presented to the Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs City Councils in February 2011.

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