

Former Mayors of Durango urge the City Council to re-establish Parks and Recreation and Infrastructure Boards to oversee the 2005, 2015, and 2019 sales tax projects. In the ballot language for all sales tax issues, the explicit promise is that there shall be citizen advisory boards that provide a place where resident voices will be heard.

Durango City boards have historically encouraged citizen participation, allowing the public to have a voice in the process. Together, informed City Staff and informed residents build better coalitions. Through these boards we encourage trust and transparency which are the heart of safe and productive environments. Through these boards, residents have a place to express their opinions on public projects.

The current Master Plan for Parks and Recreation was established by public participation and board review. Board members delve into the intricacies of complex projects, potentially saving time for City Council. By early vetting of projects by the Boards, the citizen has a place to go to ask questions and to shape a project.

Boards are the grass roots for prioritizing projects. Boards are an integral part of the process and the result is great discussions among residents, city staff and community leaders. By bringing back the Parks and Recreation and Infrastructure Boards, the City Council will garner the respect of the people.