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## **Arapahoe County appoints citizens to serve on boards, committees**

**Littleton, Colo.** --- On Tuesday, the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners appointed citizens to serve on the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board and the Citizen Budget Committee.

"It's inspiring to see how many citizens take the time to volunteer in the government process," said Commissioner Susan Beckman, who serves as chair of the Board of County Commissioners. "There's no doubt that Arapahoe County could not be such an effective government without the dedication of residents who volunteer their time and commitment."

The Commissioners appointed Jack Cooper to fill the vacant at-large position on the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board. As the former Aurora Parks and Open Space Director with more than 40 years of experience, Cooper will serve a three-year term where he and fellow members will continue to plan and develop an approach for the preservation of open space in Arapahoe County. The seven-member Board makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the distribution of revenue collected from the Open Space Sales and Use Tax.

To date, Arapahoe County has invested more than \$50 million in sales tax revenue across the county to enhance the quality of life by preserving urban and rural open space and natural areas; protecting lands that preserve water quality; providing, maintaining and improving neighborhood parks, sports fields, picnic facilities and multi-use trails; protecting wildlife habitat and corridors; preserving agriculture and ranchlands and enhancing and maintaining designated heritage areas.

In addition, the Commissioners appointed and reappointed 15 people to the Citizen Budget Committee. This committee is responsible for reviewing the County's budget, reviewing proposals that have significant fiscal and operational impacts and performing other duties as assigned by the Board of County Commissioners.

When directed by the Board, the committee gathers information and makes recommendations regarding County financial decisions. Each Commissioner is responsible for appointing three members to represent his or her district. The appointments are:

- District 1 – Commissioner Susan Beckman: Leonard Kopec, Betty Lepthien-Mirzayi, Elizabeth Wuest
- District 2 – Commissioner Jim Dyer: B. Bertram Neely, Steve Hunt, Ron Phelps
- District 3 – Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld: Matthew Arnold, Thomas Tanner, Timothy J. Yoakum
- District 4 – Commissioner Pat Noonan: Sue Hall, Jared Ingwalson, Martha J. Karnopp
- District 5 – Commissioner Frank Weddig: Michael Garcia, Carol Miller, George Rawles

To find out more about Arapahoe County's citizen boards and committees, visit [www.co.arapahoe.co.us](http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us).

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