

Contact:
Mary Pat Adams
Manager of Marketing and Community Outreach
Foothills Park & Recreation District
mpadams@fhprd.org
(303) 409-2106

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Feb. 15, 2008

Foothills Park & Recreation District Board to work with election consultant on proposed May mill levy election

The Foothills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors at their Feb. 12 meeting agreed to contract with Community Resource Services (CRS), a local government consulting firm, to prepare for a proposed mail ballot election with a mill levy question for the May 6, 2008 election.

Lori Hoffner, Foothills Board Chair, said the selection of CRS will allow the District to prepare for a possible mail ballot election. "We are required by law to have a mail ballot election if the Board does vote to go forward with a mill levy increase question, and there are a number of steps we must take to prepare for that," Hoffner said. The Foothills Board is expected to vote at its Feb. 26 meeting on the question of a mill levy increase for the May election.

The Foothills Board has been discussing asking District voters to increase the mill levy rate by 3 mills in order to fund a number of capital repairs, to replace unsafe playground equipment and to pay for increases in fuel and utility costs as well as other increased operation expenses. An increase of 3 mills translates to about a \$2 a month increase for each \$100,000 of home value, Hoffner said.

Foothills has not had a mill levy increase since 2001 and Hoffner said without these additional funds the District faces serious budget shortages and service level reductions beginning in mid 2008.

Foothills Park & Recreation District receives about 70 percent of its current revenues from fees, admissions and rentals and about 30 percent from taxes. Tax revenues help support parks and trails, while programs such as golf, cultural arts and fitness classes and a range of services are either self-supporting or help support other program areas, Hoffner said.

###

Foothills Park & Recreation District, founded in 1959, serves a 28 square mile area of unincorporated Jefferson County generally bounded by Hampden Avenue south to C-470 from Sheridan Boulevard west to the Dakota Hogback. The District operates the Ridge Recreation Center, the Edge Ice Arena, Lilley Gulch Recreation Center, the Peak Community and Wellness Center, four outdoor swimming pools, Indoor Sports Arena, Foothills Golf Course complex, Meadows Golf Course, and 69 park sites totaling more than 2,410 acres and including four regional parks, 42 neighborhood and community parks and 24 greenbelts. In addition Foothills manages six regional trail corridors for

public use, which, combined with park trails, total more than 31 miles. For more information visit www.ifoohills.org , or call (303) 409-2100.