

## **J.R. Jemelka: Open space -- Keeping dogs off trails**

Posted:

DailyCamera.com

---

Open Space & Mountain Parks appears to suffer from an aggravated case of park envy. The rationales presented for the revised Green Tag proposal suggests they want to play with the big boys at the National Park Service in engineering a pristine 'natural' environment on open space, forgetting that their mandate is more Central Park than Rocky Mountain National Park.

Not satisfied with that conceptual overreach, they want to fire the first shot in a Front Range municipalities' facilities war by creating visitor classes based on distance from Boulder. Convinced of the superiority of their open space over others, they are prepared to antagonize citizenry not only at home, but throughout the near Front Range as well. Can passports and border crossings be far behind?

OSMP prevails, councils are temporary. Last council, Councilwoman Suzy Ageton objected to the cost and complexity of the revised Green Tag proposal and convinced council that OSMP should rethink and come back with a revised, milder, version.

Arrogantly, OSMP tables the Green Tag proposal unaltered before this new council assuming that no institutional memory exists and that the same old misrepresentation of data and sentiment will prevail, proving again that a lie told often enough becomes truth.

Language such as 'council approves' and 'the people support' describes OSMP's best understanding of the previous council's rework directive and the overwhelmingly negative responses to the public forums on the Green Tag revision proposal.

OSMP wants to enforce etiquette, yet rangers attended the most recent council meeting hearing this matter armed. Etiquette would suggest that they attend such sessions unarmed, eliminating the appearance that intimidating institutional opponents is by design. Perhaps in this case they came armed in fear of insurrection. The mindset of OSMP is hard to fathom.

Tone deaf and purposefully obtuse, OSMP doggedly pursues its agenda with regal disdain for council and public opinion, unmasking their real desire: 'get you and your dog off my open space.'

**J.R. Jemelka**

*Boulder For Reasonable Open Space*