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**For Immediate Release: April 16, 2018**

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## Statement from the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon *Changes Needed to Recommended Master Plan Before Giving Endorsement*

The North Cheyenne Cañon Park Master Plan was last updated in 1999, and the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon has been actively involved in the master planning process which began in July of 2017. The Board of Directors has reviewed the recommended plan released for the April 12<sup>th</sup> Parks Advisory Board meeting, and proposes changes be made before it goes to the Parks Advisory Board for approval on May 10<sup>th</sup>. These recommendations are from the Board of Director's own review, as well as listening to comments from those who responded to the request for input from the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon's e-mail list.

The section of concern is the "Recommendation for Management Toolbox for Park Roadways, Parking and Circulation", toolbox items 3, 6, 7, and 8, on pages 65-67. **It is recommended that these tools be removed from the management toolbox, and instead, a section be added that calls for further study on traffic and carrying capacity of the park.** This section should also require that once the study is completed, there is a public process for amending the plan before finalizing actions. While the current plan does note that further study is required for tools 6-8, the language is assumptive that they will be implemented, instead of considering whether the tool should be utilized. During the initial public meetings traffic was raised as a concern and should be addressed. A formal study will provide the required data to inform recommended solutions, and consider what is best for the park overall in the context of those traffic concerns.

**Finally, it is recommended that prior to the May 10<sup>th</sup> Parks Advisory Board meeting, there be public input accepted.** In addition to a summary of changes made, the fully revised plan should be released no later than April 26<sup>th</sup>. The city should then accept public input via e-mail through May 3<sup>rd</sup> so that those who cannot make the Parks Advisory Board meeting can still participate, and the Parks Advisory Board can review those public comments in advance of voting. These comments should be made public, as has been done in prior steps of the process. This change to the plan is critical, and it is important to make sure that there can be sufficient opportunity for public input on proposed revisions.

The mission of the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon, a 501(c)(3) organization, is to preserve, protect and enhance North Cheyenne Cañon Park for future generations. Thank you to the Parks Department for their work on the plan, and the Parks Advisory Board for their review.

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