



Becoming a COSA Steering Committee Member

Of the many comments COSA conference participants have included on their evaluations, some have asked, "How is the Steering Committee appointed?" and "How do I go about becoming a Steering Committee member?"

History: The COSA Steering Committee evolved from a group of open space professionals that were invited to explore how new or emerging programs could best tap into the experience of and learn from established open space programs. This group met in July 2000, and from it the first COSA conference in Fort Collins was held in November 2000, hosted by Larimer County. Since then, annual conferences have been hosted across the state. Over the years the conference has grown from about 125-150 participants to over 300 participants. In 2017 COSA took a big step toward becoming a more robust organization by becoming a project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center (CNDC). CNDC acts as a fiscal agent and allows COSA to be housed within its nonprofit structure without the need for COSA to become its own nonprofit organization.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the COSA Steering Committee, consider these eligibility requirements and committee member responsibilities:

- Employee of a local government open space/open lands program, ideally one that is not already represented on the [Steering Committee](#).
- Steering Committee members are asked to serve a minimum of 3 years.
- Attend Steering Committee meetings (4 per year) plus plan, attend, lead and participate in the annual conference and other workshops throughout the year.
- Provide broad representation of open space programs across the state such as large/small programs, city/county programs, geographically dispersed, established/newly developed programs.
- Have a high level of decision-making authority within your program.
- Able to commit the energy, time and resources to plan and facilitate conferences and workshops and volunteer for other needs of COSA.
- Willing to host/sponsor various meetings.
- Represent COSA at different events statewide.

You may contact any Steering Committee member with questions.

Please send a letter of interest, including your qualifications, skills, resources, networks, and a narrative of how you could serve COSA, to Kerri Rollins at krollins@larimer.org by December 31. The Steering Committee will review applications and anticipates appointing new member(s) in February 2018.