



Becoming a COSA Steering Committee Member

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 and learn from established open space programs. This group met in July of 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 participants to over 300 in attendance. 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 our fiscal agent providing financial, tax, and administrative oversight, and this structure allows COSA to operate as a nonprofit.

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](#).
- Term of service is 3 years. Multiple terms may be served.
- Attend Steering Committee meetings (3-4 per year) plus devote energy, time and resources to planning, attending, and actively participating in the annual conference. Time requirements vary by task and are usually heaviest in spring and late summer, as well as during the conference. We are a working committee in order to keep the conference costs low.
- We strive for 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 for your program, including the ability to commit to sponsorship funds and other contributions.
- Contribute enthusiasm and energy for helping COSA evolve as an organization.
- 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, to tnielsen@bouldercounty.org by Jan. 25, 2019. The steering committee will review applicants and anticipates appointing new members in February.