

Wagonwheel Gap Road and Fourmile Canyon Creek Flood Recovery Plan Public Open House, October 20, 2015, 5:30 – 7:30 PM Pine Brook Hills Community Center, 1905 Linden, Boulder, CO

This summary includes an overview of the purpose and format of the meeting, participation, and questions from the full group discussion. Individual comments shared at the meeting and after the meeting will be evaluated and considered for implementation by both Boulder County and the design team.

The Draft Project Designs are available at:

- Wagonwheel Gap Road Reconstruction: <http://www.bouldercounty.org/roads/pages/wwg.aspx>
- Fourmile Canyon Creek Recovery: <http://www.bouldercounty.org/flood/creekrestoration/pages/fourmilecanyoncreek.aspx>

Purpose and Format

The purpose of the community meetings was to share updates on the designs since the last meeting with a rationale for changes, and obtain input on the 30% designs. Community members were asked to respond to questions such as:

- Are there additional impacts that need to be considered (e.g., driveway access, culverts, grading)?
- Do you have any visual or other preferences that we should try to incorporate to reflect the future you envision for the area (e.g., trees, retaining walls)?
- Do you have feedback on the recommended creek alignment?

The meeting began with a brief presentation, which is available on the project websites listed above. It included a review of the policy and funding context and input received to date, updates to the roadway and creek designs, and a review of expected next steps and schedule. After a full group discussion (see questions below), the group broke into reach-specific groups to review the designs for their area. This was an opportunity for individuals to talk directly with technical team members to ask questions and share input. Feedback was recorded on maps and comment cards, all of which will be reviewed closely by the Project Team and incorporated into the Plan as appropriate. Community members were also encouraged to continue to contact Andrew Barth at Boulder County with feedback, questions or to be added to the community list serve. His contact information is 303-441-1032 or abarth@bouldercounty.org.

Large Group Discussion Questions

The following questions were asked.

Schedule and Funding

Explain the schedule? Why does the schedule keep getting extended? How long will it take?

We had to step back and restart a few times due to input. It's important to take the time to make sure it is done right. The schedule is further challenged by the scale of improvements that Boulder County is undertaking. There are other areas on a similar timeframe. We can't predict the construction time yet, but approximately a 120 day timeframe is likely.

Please explain the funding sources – for roadway improvements. The funding for roadway construction is from FEMA and is already available. This includes creek restoration that is required for roadway construction. FEMA funding is reimbursed so Boulder County does have to consider cash

flow issues. It has been requested by the County Commissioner. We expect them to discuss during their November planning sessions, and approve in December.

Please explain the funding sources – for creek restoration. Funding for creek restoration not required for the roadway construction is not yet determined. The most likely resources are: the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection (NRCS - EWP). If funding is secured before the roadway construction, it will likely be completed at the same time. The creek restoration design will only be developed to 30%. This is because the creek is constantly changing so it makes more sense to use a Design and Construction contract to refine the final design and construct at the same time.

What happens with creek restoration that has already been completed by property owners? We want to maintain the work you've done wherever possible. Please show us on the map to ensure we know where work has been done.

How will maintenance of the current, temporary roads be covered until construction? Boulder County will ensure the roadways are safe.

Will you be scheduling closures on the roadways? When? Yes, we will have to do some closures and these will be determined as the design gets refined. We expect to utilize Bow Mountain Road for access at some points.

Drainage and Protection Engineering

How will engineering (e.g., culverts) work? How did you determine that the box culvert is appropriate? A box culvert is a rectangular structure that can handle a lot more water and debris than metal corrugated ones. It's going to be a lot harder to clog as even allows boulders can pass through. The culverts clogged before because they were too small. Maintenance will occur periodically to ensure it is working appropriately.

How will scouring be prevented through scour prevention and armory? The roadway is constructed to withstand a 100 year flood. This is done by armoring the road (e.g., buried rip rap and concrete). The creek is armored with natural materials wherever possible. For example, the construction team will pack down available materials already in the channel. There is a wide range of rocks/ boulders to work with. They will also place boulders on embankments outside of culvert, utilize deeper wall stems, etc. It's much better for the ecosystem to use natural materials.

What are the plans for the culvert on upper Wagonwheel? This question was discussed offline. There is some confusion about whether it belongs to Boulder County or Carriage Hills.

What is the flow rate for the 100 year flood? 2800 cfs at the upper end of the project, though it varies throughout the project. The flow near Lee Hill and Wagonwheel Gap Road is 3025 cfs. It was noted that the 2002 and 2012 FEMA Effective Discharges are very different.

Specific Design and Land Use Questions

Will fire hydrants be moved with the road repairs? This is definitely possible. The Project Team will coordinate with the Fire Chief.

What are plans for safety (e.g., reducing speeds on the roadway)? Traffic calming considerations will be considered in more detailed stages of the design. The Project Team will definitely be suggesting speed mitigation options.

What are the plans for the three destroyed homes? The property owners are in the buyout process and the timeline is unknown. They can decide to opt out any time. If the buy outs go through, the structures will be removed and turned into Boulder County Parks and Open Space. Additional parking is a consideration for these parcels.

What is the plan for parking at the Anne U. White trailhead? Currently Pinto Road provides an additional 3 spaces. Boulder County Parks and Open Space is investigating whether more may be possible.