

## Exhibit A – Project Information

### NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL MAINTENANCE APPLICATION

Applicant or Organization Name: Evergreen Park & Recreation District		
Complete Mailing Address: 1521 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen CO 80439		
Applicant Lead Contact Name: Cory Vander Veen		Title: Executive Director
Telephone: 720-880-1011	Email: cvanderveen@eprd.co	Is this the primary contact for this grant <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

### PROJECT MANAGER (this person will have day-to-day responsibility for the project)

Name: Liz Cohen	
Telephone: 303-885-4054	Email: lcohen@eprd.co

### PRIMARY PARTNER INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Name:		
Mailing Address:		
Partner Contact Name:		Title:
Telephone:	Email:	Is this the primary contact for this grant: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

Project Title: Evergreen Lake North Trail	
Grant Request: \$ 250,000	Match Amount (Min. 25%): \$ 4,777,903
Total Project Cost: \$ 5,027,903	
<p><b>Project Description:</b> Please write a 2-3 paragraph description of your project and the expected accomplishments. Be sure to include Who, What, When and Where. <b>This is your scope of work.</b> (This section is not the place to talk about the project background, the benefits, the funding, or anything other than the actual work to be accomplished. Please address that information in question #1 of the Selection Criteria.)</p> <p><b>WHO?</b> Who will complete the work, and who will oversee the project? Provide a brief description of your community or organization, highlighting its mission and purpose.</p> <p><b>WHAT?</b> Explain what you are going to do or accomplish. What is the goal or the reason for your project? Break down the project into a list of specific activities to be completed. These should be quantifiable items that correspond to the categories on your budget page. Include quantity or quality as part of your description of work to be performed. How long? How many? How many feet? How many miles? What materials will be used? Is a specific standard or guideline being used?</p> <p><b>WHERE?</b> Explain in detail the location of your project. Where is the project located? What county? What National Forest/BLM Office? Provide the names of the trail(s) or trail system and where the work will be performed. List the land manager agency or municipality.</p> <p><b>DEFINITIONS?</b> Please define all acronyms and specialized terms that are used in your project description.</p>	

## Exhibit A – Project Information

### Project Description

The Evergreen Lake North Trail Project (ELNT) is a collaborative trail construction project spearheaded by Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD) in cooperation with several agency partners. The project will create an accessible, multimodal trail on the north side of Evergreen Lake, on the western edge of unincorporated Jefferson County.

The Evergreen Lake North Trail project is part of the 1.25-mile Loop Trail around Evergreen Lake, within Dedisse Park owned by the City & County of Denver (Denver). The project will improve 1,300 feet of existing soft-surface trail on the north side of Evergreen Lake, creating a two-level trail system to accommodate a variety of users and modalities, increase safety, and fix failing infrastructure. The 10-foot-wide, concrete Upper Trail will be constructed on a precast modular block support wall, with additional shoring for global stability. Post and cable safety railings will be installed on both sides of the Upper Trail. The Upper Trail will have an accessible transition to a 300-foot soft-surface Lower Trail that creates a more natural experience at lake level, with large boulders armoring the trail and three bulbouts for fishing and wildlife viewing. A 12” water transmission line operated by Evergreen Metro District (EMD) lies underneath the existing soft-surface trail. The project will protect the water line, improve drainage under the trail system and SH-74, add curb and gutter, and make other improvements to the project area.

### Previous CPW grants awarded (last 3 years) List award year, category and project name

2019 Colorado the Beautiful (20-TRLG-149542)  
Evergreen Lake Trail Improvement Project

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
EVERGREEN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**October 26, 2021**

**Resolution Number: #2021-004**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ACKNOWLEDGING FUNDING OF THE EVERGREEN LAKE  
NORTH TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS the Evergreen Lake North Trail Improvement Project includes design and construction/reconstruction of the existing trail on the north side of Evergreen Lake. The upper trail (near road level) is an off-street, hard surface accessible trail and the lower trail (lake level) is a pedestrian-only natural surface trail. The project will also include improvements to drainage, roadway characteristics, and support infrastructure at and near the project site.

WHEREAS the Evergreen Lake North Trail Improvement Project will be funded under TAP C110-045 (22364), State RPP funds and Local Match as described in the State of Colorado Intergovernmental Agreement 331002557.

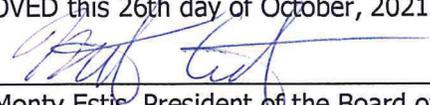
WHEREAS the project's Local Match is comprised of funds from Evergreen Park & Recreation District, Evergreen Metropolitan District, Evergreen Legacy Fund Foundation, and a grant from the Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVERGREEN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT THAT:

- Section 1: The Board of Directors of Evergreen Park & Recreation District supports the project and hereby authorizes the Executive Director of Evergreen Park & Recreation District to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement for this project, subject to the Board of Directors' review.
- Section 2: The Board of Directors of Evergreen Park & Recreation District hereby authorizes Evergreen Park & Recreation District to expend its match share of the work. Evergreen Park & Recreation District will appropriate funds to cover its match share of the work in its 2022 budget.
- Section 3: The Board of Directors further authorizes the Evergreen Park & Recreation District Executive Director to ensure that its Local Match partners, Evergreen Metro District and Evergreen Legacy Fund Foundation, have obtained the necessary agreements or funding commitment documentation to appropriate their respective portion of funds to cover their match share in their respective 2022 draft budgets and to provide additional confirmation of such appropriation as necessary.
- Section 4: Evergreen Park & Recreation District confirms that it has entered into a grant agreement for the Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program that authorizes the expenditure of match funds covered by the grant.
- Section 5: This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

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APPROVED this 26th day of October, 2021.

BY: 

Monty Estis, President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

## Exhibit A – Project Information

LAND OWNERSHIP			
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners: City & County of Denver			
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Denver owns in fee simple; Assignment Agmt for EPRD to construct improvement			
USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking, Walking, Running	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biking	<input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding, In-Line Skating	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Sports (non-motorized)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADA Accessible	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Wildlife Viewing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Fishing Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
TRAIL SURFACE			
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crusher Fines	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
PROJECT LOCATION (For multiple project sites attach a separate list.)			
Nearest Town or City: Evergreen			
County(ies): Jefferson County			
Latitude & Longitude Coordinates (in decimal degrees): 39.633258, -105.325081			
State Congressional District ( <a href="https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members">https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members</a> ): 2			
<i>Please fill out all applicable categories for your project:</i>			
Acreage of new trailhead		Miles of trail being planned	
Miles of new trail construction	300 ft	Miles of trail maintenance	1/4
Miles of inter-connecting trail	1/4	Miles of trail reroute	100 ft
Miles of trail to be decommissioned		Miles of trail to be restored	1/4
Miles of trail to be signed	1/4	Miles of trail grooming	
Other		Other	

Elizabeth Cohen

Applicant Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature:  Date: 10/04/22



## MAINTENANCE GRANT SCORING CRITERIA

All applicants must respond to the criteria questions. Use the numbered blank pages at the end of this section. This application will be scored on a 100-point basis. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for each question is shown in parentheses. Outside reviewers and State Trails staff will review each project. Projects will be ranked according to reviewer and staff scores.

Grant review subcommittee members review and score grant applications based on the totality of information available. This may include not only the answers provided to the application questions, but also additional information provided to the review subcommittee from agency staff and subcommittee member knowledge and information that is relevant to the proposed project.

Failure to provide a response to any question (unless otherwise noted) will reduce your project's score. Please read and understand all application questions prior to answering. Respond in **12-point font**. Reference all attachments.

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### 1. Scope (10 points)

Describe the proposed project including the length/width of trail maintenance, any major components necessary to complete the trail such as maintenance materials, under/overpasses, bridges, trail heads, trail sections that will be maintained, number of maintenance features, etc. Address each trail component separately, specifically mentioning its characteristics. Describe the state of the existing trail, why it is no longer acceptable, and how it has arrived at its current condition.

### 2. Access/Trail Connections (5 points)

Briefly discuss how this project maintains trail loops, links, or improves and/or restores trail use and connectivity to other trails, park areas, outdoor recreation opportunities, and/or other public recreation and community centers. If the project is connected to a larger trail system, describe the size, extent, and predominant uses of that system.

### 3. Need (15 Points)

Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time. Describe what issues this trail project will be addressing (resource damage, user safety, increased trail usage, etc.) and how this project will meet those needs. Why are CPW State Trails funds necessary to complete this project and what opportunities are lost if the grant is not awarded? Describe the community this project will serve and provide population and economic data. Discuss the significance of the trail segment to users. List each user group and estimate their percentage of overall trail use, e.g., bicyclists – 40%, hikers – 50%, equestrian – 10%. What features make this trail suitable for these uses?

#### **4. Planning and Prioritization Process (10 points)**

Discuss the planning process that identified the maintenance of this trail(s) as a priority. Is this project part of an approved master plan, federal Forest or Resource Management Plan, or a landscape level regional planning effort (such as an Outdoor Regional Partnership). If so, what priority is it given in that plan? Has this project been deemed a priority by any other agencies or given any significant designations? Please explain existing trails in the area and describe the need for improvements to this section of trail.

#### **5. Design and Trail Work (10 points)**

What best management practices will be used to ensure that the trail and its amenities will be sustainable? Who is designing/will design and oversee the trail work, and what are their qualifications? Who will perform the trail work (staff, volunteers, conservation corps, contractors, etc.)? Have trail reroute options been considered for current on-the-ground unsustainable trails and trail sections in the project area? If so, are there plans to decommission and/or restore these sections?

#### **6. Sustainability (10 points)**

Has an operations and maintenance plan been developed for the project areas for long-term sustainability? If so, please explain the plan in detail including who will be responsible for this work, the estimated annual costs, and funding plans. Is this a multi-phase project, and if so, how many phases is it and how will future phases be funded?

#### **7. Wildlife and Natural Resources (15 points)**

Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the planning process for the trail (such as utilizing resources listed in Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind). Describe any plans for avoiding sensitive habitat as well as minimizing, and/or mitigating wildlife and natural resource impacts. Describe the plan for trail management and monitoring after the trail work is complete. Were CPW staff engaged in the planning process? Describe how their recommendations will be implemented. For example, if a seasonal closure is recommended, what are the dates of the closure and how will it be implemented to be effective (signage, gates, game cameras, etc.)?

#### **8. Public Engagement (10 points)**

**Public notification is mandatory for all projects.**

Describe the public process for this trail project (regular meetings, public meetings, working groups, etc.). Please highlight any collaborative approaches that were taken and summarize the feedback received from the public that determined the need for this project. Describe any received opposition to the project, and how the concerns have been addressed.

**9. Matching Funds and Partnerships (10 points)**

Discuss partnerships established for this project and their contributions. What other funding sources have been dedicated or are anticipated to be dedicated to this project? If matching funds are not yet secured, what are the plans for raising those additional funds? Will applicant and/or partner funds be lost if State Trails funds are not awarded? Submit letters of commitment/support from landowners and/or funders as a separate attachment (resolution from the governing body should include support and resource commitment; a separate support letter is not required). Beyond these letters, up to 5 non-funding letters of support may be submitted.

**10. Ability/Contingency (5 points)**

Describe your organization's ability to complete the specific grant transaction(s) that will be necessary to accomplish this project. Please provide examples (if any) for grant projects of similar magnitude that demonstrate your organization's ability to manage the requested level of grant funding; including the project title, grantor, award amount and year the project was funded. If State Trails funding is not awarded, what is the plan to complete the project?

## 1. Scope of Work (10 points)

### Project Scope:

The Evergreen Lake North Trail project is part of the 1.25-mile Loop Trail around Evergreen Lake, within Dedisse Park owned by the City & County of Denver (Denver). The project will improve 1,300 feet of existing soft-surface trail on the north side of Evergreen Lake, creating a two-level trail system to accommodate a variety of users and modalities, increase safety, and fix failing infrastructure. The 10-foot-wide, concrete Upper Trail will be constructed on a precast modular block support wall, with additional shoring for global stability. Post and cable safety railings will be installed on both sides of the Upper Trail. The Upper Trail will have an accessible transition to a 300-foot soft-surface Lower Trail that creates a more natural experience at lake level, with large boulders armoring the trail and three bulbouts for fishing and wildlife viewing. A 12" water transmission line operated by Evergreen Metro District (EMD) lies underneath the existing soft-surface trail. The project will protect the water line, improve drainage under the trail system and SH-74, add curb and gutter, and make other improvements to the project area.

EPRD operates recreation at and around Evergreen Lake, which is part of Dedisse Park owned by the City & County of Denver, under a series of cooperative agreements made in the 1980s. The project is complex because it is located on Denver property in a narrow corridor between Evergreen Lake and the edge of CDOT's State Highway 74, Evergreen Metro District's water main is located underneath it, its funding is federalized, and multiple agency stakeholders are involved. The project is federalized by grant funding from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), which are administered by CDOT (Colo Dep't of Transportation).

### State of the Existing Trail:

Evergreen Lake was created in the 1920s when the Evergreen Dam was installed on Bear Creek just west of downtown Evergreen. The existing soft-surface trail was constructed in 1987 on steel bin walls located on a steep embankment above Evergreen Lake. The area experiences high stormwater and roadway runoff from State Highway 74, located immediately adjacent to the trail corridor. Urgent safety needs arose in 2016 when the steel bin walls under the trail began to fail, creating dangerous sinkholes and trail section failures. The trail between Evergreen Lake and downtown Evergreen was closed for 1.5 years in 2016-17. EPRD developed creative solutions to repair failing sections and to reopen the trail, but it became clear that a long-term fix was needed. (The most recent trail failure in August 2022 reminded the community that trail failures will continue and increase until the trail's support wall is rebuilt.) The safety concerns of the current situation include: risk of catastrophic wall failure; trail closures and reliability issues that lead trail users to pour onto the state highway when the trail is closed; user conflicts on the narrow trail corridor, and the risk of potential conflicts between trail users and motor vehicles on the adjacent state highway.

## 2. Access/Trail Connections (5 points)

### Increased Access to Recreation at Evergreen Lake:

The project will improve the 1.25-mile Loop Trail around Evergreen Lake and also provide a safe link to Evergreen Lake (fishing, skating & boating), Evergreen Lake House (community events), trails in Dedisse Park (hiking), Evergreen Nature Center (environmental education programming), Evergreen Golf Course (golf and cross-county skiing), and downtown Evergreen. It is estimated that 160,000 people visit Evergreen Lake for boating, skating, fishing, bird watching, strolling, picnicking, environmental education, and community events each year. The picturesque mountain setting, wide range of recreation choices, and easy hike on the loop trail make Evergreen Lake especially popular for families and tourists from across the State.

### Connections to Local & Regional Trail Networks:

Because the project is located at a hub for the area's trail, open space, and recreation systems, it will increase access to our community's open space/recreation assets and complete regional trail connections. As shown in the Vicinity Map Ex D2, the project is part of a connected trail network and links to the following regional and local trails/routes:

- the regional Pioneer Trail to the north (directly linked);
- the new Connector Trail into downtown Evergreen to the east (directly linked);
- trails in Denver's Dedisse Park to the west (directly linked), which in turn connect to trails in Jeffco's Alderfer/Three Sister's Park;
- routes north on SH-74 to connect to rides on Squaw Pass Rd and the I-70 Bike Path;
- routes west on Upper Bear Creek Rd to USFS' Mt Evans Wilderness Area;
- routes south on JC-73 to Marshdale, Aspen Park and Conifer; and
- routes east on Bear Creek Rd (SH-74) to Red Rocks Park and Morrison.

### Improved Connections to Nearby Parks, Trails, Parks & Open Space:

Beyond better connections to Evergreen Lake amenities and the trail networks discussed above, trail users will enjoy improved bike/ped access to a multitude of other high quality parks and open space assets throughout Evergreen, via Dedisse Park trails and the Pioneer Trail, including: Alderfer/Three Sisters Park (Jeffco); Elk Meadow Park (Jeffco); Stagecoach Park (EPRD); Buchanan Park (EPRD); and Bergen Park (Denver).

### Other Access Improvements and Benefits:

Equitable access to the outdoors and community destinations will be improved with the ADA-compliant fully-accessible Upper Trail and the accessible transition between the Upper and Lower Trails. Persons with disabilities will be able to enjoy a visit to the shores of Evergreen Lake followed by a meal or shopping in downtown Evergreen on fully-accessible trails. Evergreen businesses and community members will benefit from the project's positive impacts to our community's vitality. Regional agency partners will benefit from the project's new connections to our regional trail system, better park stewardship, and more interagency cooperation. Evergreen Lake will be protected with reduced erosion and sedimentation, and the land around the Lake will be revegetated and improved.

See Denver, EMD, and ELF Letters of Support; Maps and Photos.

### 3. Need (15 points)

#### Safety Urgency:

This project is urgently needed to fix the ongoing safety issues caused by the failure of the support wall under the existing trail. In 2016 the steel bin wall began to fail, creating dangerous sinkholes and trail section failures. The trail between Evergreen Lake and downtown Evergreen was closed for 1.5 years in 2016-17. EPRD developed creative solutions to repair failing sections and to reopen the trail, but it became clear that a long-term fix was needed. (The most recent trail failure in August 2022 reminded the community that trail failures will continue and increase until the trail's support wall is rebuilt.) The safety concerns of the current situation include: risk of catastrophic wall failure; trail closures and reliability issues that lead trail users to pour onto the state highway when the trail is closed; user conflicts on the narrow trail corridor, and the risk of potential conflicts between trail users and motor vehicles on the adjacent state highway.

#### Funding Urgency:

This project's urgent need for additional funding stems from the COVID-induced strains on the construction market, which have caused elevated material costs (especially concrete and steel), supply-chain issues, and labor shortages. Coupled with that, the project's major funding sources (DRCOG's \$3,428,000 TIP grant and CPW's \$550,000 Colorado the Beautiful grant – thank you!!!) have sunset dates that require the project to be built as soon as possible to avoid the loss of funding. This combination puts the project in a severe pinch. The project went to bid in June 2022 and received one unaffordable bid that was \$1.8M above available funding. EPRD and its project partners have carefully evaluated and adjusted the project's performance specs and schedule constraints after feedback from contractors. We plan to rebid the project in early November in hopes of getting more affordable bids and securing gap funding so the trail can be constructed in 2023.

#### Community Description & Trail Users:

Evergreen is a vibrant, unincorporated mountain community on the western edge of Jefferson County. Evergreen covers over 78 square miles, with a population of about 30,000 and an estimated per capita income of \$54,735. Because Evergreen is easy to reach from Denver - 25 miles west on I-70 – today it is both a bedroom community for residents who work in metro Denver, and a gateway to the outdoors for visitors from across the State. Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD) serves about 23,000 residents from Evergreen, Bergen Park, Kittredge, Indian Hills, and Marshdale. Residents and visitors enjoy the outdoors in over 11,000 acres of parkland and on 230 miles of trails within EPRD's borders. Evergreen Lake is a popular, close-in outdoor recreation hub for the entire Front Range, with an estimated 160,000 annual visitors from across foothills communities and Metro Denver. Year-round recreation opportunities at Evergreen Lake include boating, ice-skating, walking, hiking, bird-watching, golfing, picnicking, a nature center and community events. Estimated annual use along the north corridor of Evergreen Lake is about 70,000 users -- 56,000 pedestrians on the existing trail and 13,500 bicyclists on the adjacent roadway. The improved and ADA-compliant two-track trail system will accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons with disabilities, and separate users for better safety and enhanced outdoor experiences.

#### 4. Planning and Prioritization Process (10 points)

##### Local Planning:

Seven years of planning and design lay the groundwork for this project, with over \$644,000 already invested in engineering, planning, and design. In 2015, the North Lake Trail improvement was recommended in the Evergreen Trails Master Plan. The Evergreen Trails Master Plan gathered extensive public/stakeholder input from web-based communication, four working group meetings, three public meetings, and targeted user group outreach to local user groups including Team Evergreen Bicycle Club, Evergreen Rotary, Evergreen Pathfinders, Evergreen Downtown Business Ass'n, local school administrators and PTAs, and local residents/property owners. The Master Plan (p. D-29) concluded that "Major benefits could be realized in water quality, reduced bank erosion, accommodations of persons with disabilities, and system level connectivity with this improvement."

As soon as the trail's support infrastructure began to fail in spring 2016, EPRD recognized it would need to accelerate and lead a multi-agency effort to plan, design, and build the improved trail recommended in the Master Plan. The Phase I Engineering Study (conducted by Muller Engineering) was completed in 2017. The Phase II Planning & Preliminary Design Study (conducted by OV Consulting) was completed in September 2018. Phase II planning involved extensive public process, solicited community feedback, conducted three stakeholder forums, and hosted two public meetings in spring/summer 2018. Phase III Final Design & Engineering began in 2019 and was completed in May 2022. All necessary permits and compliance requirements have been obtained.

##### Regional Plans and Prioritization:

Recommendations of the project in the DRCOG Active Transportation Plan (2019), the Jeffco Trails Plan (2021), and the Jeffco Bicycle Plan (2022) are evidence of prioritization by regional stakeholders and partner agencies. And CDOT's ongoing support/prioritization of the project is particularly noteworthy. CDOT was the first agency to dedicate funds toward the project with its 2016 award of a \$200,000 TAP grant for design, and has since added another \$200,000 in Regional Priority Project funding toward construction. CDOT is the administrator for both design and construction, so it has been closely involved and supportive of all project phases.

See ELF Letter of Support.

## 5. Design and Trail Work (10 points)

### Practices to Ensure Sustainability:

The improved Upper Trail and its support infrastructure are designed for a 60+ year lifespan. A precast modular block support wall, additional shoring for global stability, and significant drainage improvements at the site will help the trail withstand stormwater and roadway runoff and protect against erosion and sedimentation into Evergreen Lake. The Lower Trail will use large boulders, rip rap, and structural fill to buttress the trail, fishing bulbouts, and shoreline, further protecting the Lake from erosion and sedimentation. A fence between the Lower Trail and the embankment will keep pedestrians from disturbing area vegetation. Vegetation along the lakeshore and on the embankment will be reseeded and restored.

### Project Team:

The project has been designed by Muller Engineering, which has designed several successful regional trails improvements across the State. Our Project Manager is Chris Vogelsang of OV Consulting, who wrote the Evergreen Trails Master Plan and has helped EPRD design and plan the trail improvement since 2015. EPRD and its project partners are currently in the selection process for a Construction Manager and Project Engineer to oversee construction. The project will be readvertised in early November, and all construction contractors will be prequalified by CDOT. Throughout the process, CDOT, Denver, EMD and Jeffco have all been heavily engaged in project design, planning, permitting, and oversight.

### Trail Rerouting during Failures and Construction:

When the existing trail is closed for repairs (most recently in August 2022), the recommended trail detour is 0.8 miles around the south side of Evergreen Lake. Unfortunately, many trail users ignore the reroute and instead choose to walk and ride along the narrow shoulders of State Highway 74. See Photos. We are eager to resolve this safety issue with the trail repair. The project's traffic control plan has been approved by CDOT and all stakeholders. During construction, one lane of traffic will be closed alongside the construction zone, along with the trail. Southbound traffic will continue on SH-74 adjacent to the project site, and northbound traffic will be rerouted to a detour on Meadow Drive. For safety reasons pedestrians will not be permitted within the project limits during construction.

See Denver and EMD Letters of Support.

## 6. Sustainability (10 points)

### Operations and Maintenance to Ensure Sustainability:

To ensure long-term sustainability, EPRD and Denver have developed agreements that will govern both the construction of the trail and its operation and maintenance in the future. An Assignment Agreement was executed in March 2022 that provides for construction of the trail improvement on Denver property. The trail's operation and maintenance currently is performed by EPRD under a series of intergovernmental agreements between Denver, EMD, Jeffco and EPRD executed in the early 1980s. Denver, EMD, and EPRD currently are finalizing updated Cooperative Agreements that delineate responsibilities for future operations and funding for improvements around Evergreen Lake. Under the new agreement, EPRD will be responsible for trail clearing, snow removal, and ongoing maintenance. Major repairs and maintenance will be performed with responsibilities agreed to by the parties and subject to a cost-sharing model between EPRD and Denver. Further details about estimated annual maintenance costs and funding plans will be available once the new Cooperative Agreement is executed.

See Denver Letter of Support.

## 7. Wildlife and Natural Resources (15 points)

Over the last three years, extensive evaluation of potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources has been performed at the federal, state, and local levels for the Evergreen Lake North Trail project.

### Federal/CDOT Evaluation:

CDOT administered the federal environmental impact evaluation for the project, with results summarized in the attached CDOT Form 128. Environmental review was completed by CDOT and included Air Quality, Hazmat, T&E, Wetland Delineation Survey, Paleontology, Archaeology and Historic Review. CDOT determined that no significant environmental impacts will result from this project. A biological resources assessment and report was also completed. All impacts will be temporary and actions to mitigate include providing an alternative trail route during construction, revegetation with native species at 2:1 in disturbed areas, wetland mitigation and improvements to stormwater runoff with a comprehensive storm water management plan.

### CPW Evaluation:

Mark Lamb and Joe Nicholson of CPW have both visited the site and evaluated the project. Mark Lamb noted in April 2019 that “no significant environmental impacts that require mitigation are expected to be encountered during construction of this project.” More recently, Joe Nicholson evaluated the project in September 2022. Mr. Nicholson recommended to “use best management practices to control erosion and sedimentation during construction phase of project. Re-vegetate disturbed areas and control noxious weeds. The inlet area of Evergreen Lake, directly adjacent to the proposed project location, is a calving area for elk and common area for elk-human conflicts during elk calving season in May and June. Avoid any construction related disturbance in the inlet area during elk calving season (May - June).” In response to this recommendation, construction disturbance limits have been minimized to avoid the lake inlet and seasonal elk calving area. Mr. Nicholson also noted that “CPW supports this project with the stipulation that anglers will have access to fish along the reconstructed trail. Currently, EPRD does not permit access to the water from shore at this location. GOCO funds used to reconstruct the trail will increase safety of visitors, reduce erosion of the bank, and provide additional opportunity for fishing. Impacts to wildlife are minimal.” The project improvements will provide for accessible access to Evergreen Lake along the Lower Trail and will permit fishing access along the fishing bulbouts.

### Jeffco Evaluation:

Jeffco evaluated and approved the project’s Stormwater Management Plan and issued grading and stormwater permits for the project in Spring 2022.

### Denver Evaluation:

Denver completed the Non-Federal Environmental Form for the project in September 2022 and found no or negligible impacts to the environmental considerations listed on the Form. Denver’s Environmental Form is attached.

## 8. Public Engagement (10 points)

Extensive community engagement and input from diverse user groups have informed the development of the project through seven years of planning processes that involved over thirty community meetings, focus groups, and stakeholder charrettes.

Public Engagement to Prioritize Project (2015):

Detailed trail planning for Evergreen began in 2015 with the Evergreen Trails Master Plan, initiated by Jefferson County in partnership with the Downtown Evergreen Economic District. This planning process included three public meetings and numerous targeted focus group discussions with diverse user groups:

- business owners (Evergreen Downtown Business Association)
- nearby property owners (Lower Meadow Drive area neighbors)
- community groups (Evergreen Rotary Club, Evergreen Pathfinders)
- faith community (Church of the Hills)
- school students & families (Evergreen High School, Wilmot Elementary)
- bicyclists (Team Evergreen Bicycle Club)
- fishermen (Trout Unlimited)

Based on this broad cross section of community feedback, the Master Plan recommended the Evergreen Lake North Trail project as a priority project. See ELF Letter of Support.

Public Engagement during Project Planning (2017-2022):

Project-specific planning for the Evergreen Lake North Trail began in 2016, when sections of the trail began to fail causing the trail to be closed for 1.5 years. The Phase 1 Preliminary Engineering Study was completed in 2017 and Phase 2 Planning Study followed in 2017-2018. The Phase 2 Planning Study conducted two community meetings, more outreach to targeted groups, and ongoing communication through EPRD's website and email updates. Phase 2 Planning identified diverse user groups and incorporated feedback from many perspectives including pedestrians, bicyclists, fishermen, and seniors. EPRD continues to provide regular updates about the project and receive community feedback via our website, during monthly EPRD Board meetings, and at regular meetings with the Evergreen Downtown Business Association.

Future Public Engagement during Construction:

EPRD recognizes the importance of keeping the community informed about the project as construction draws near and throughout the project. Signage advising of the road detours during construction are included in the project's Traffic Control Plan. EPRD will use its website, email communications, newspaper ads, and mailings to notify the community about project schedules, progress, and road detours. EPRD's Project Manager Chris Vogelsang will oversee EPRD's public information campaign, with support from the Construction Manager and EPRD Staff.

## 9. Matching Funds and Partnerships (10 points)

Through this project's seven years of vetting, planning, engineering, design, permitting and initial advertisement, EPRD has formed strong partnerships with several stakeholders, all of which have played crucial roles in moving this project forward. The attached Budget shows current funding and partner contributions for the construction project.

- Denver Regional Council of Governments –\$3.428M in federal funding
- Colorado Department of Transportation – project administrator and \$200K
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife – \$550K Colorado the Beautiful grant
- Great Outdoors Colorado -- \$95,558 grant toward Phase 2 Planning Study
- City & County of Denver – landowner and permission to construct
- Jefferson County –permitting authority and project advisor
- Evergreen Metro District – \$200K local match funding partner
- Evergreen Legacy Fund – \$50K local match funding partner
- Evergreen Chamber of Commerce - community communication conduit
- Evergreen Downtown Business Association – community communication conduit

Please see attached Letters of Support, showing current support from project partners and funders, as well as ongoing support since the project's inception from community stakeholders.

EPRD believes about \$1,000,000 in additional funding is needed to build the trail in 2023. Impending sunset dates on current funding sources (including CPW's Colorado the Beautiful Grant) will not allow further delay of the project. First EPRD will increase its own project contributions by \$100,000. Next we are seeking the last dollars in from Jeffco Open Space (through their Trail Partnership Program), Great Outdoors Colorado (through their Community Impact Program), and CPW (this request to your Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance Grant Program). We are grateful for CPW's prior \$550,000 commitment to the project under the Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program in collaboration with GOCO. We are disappointed that timing has worked against us in the last two years of planning, and now COVID-induced market factors have increased the cost to construct the project. But we are determined and asking for your help. CPW's additional funding in this round will allow us to complete this community-driven, legacy trail improvement that you've helped the Evergreen community plan since 2019.

## 10. Ability/Contingency (5 points)

EPRD's experienced administrative staff (small but mighty) have the skills and capacity to administer and support large grant programs and projects. This has been demonstrated over the last seven years with several grants to realize multiple land and infrastructure projects to benefit the Evergreen community. Some examples include:

- \$250K GOCO grant to build Connector Trail to downtown Evergreen (2015)
- \$450K GOCO grant for Buchanan Park land acquisition (2018)
- \$258K GOCO grant for Evergreen Lake park & trail restoration (2021)
- \$200K CDOT grant for this project's final planning (2020)
- \$3.428M DRCOG grant for this project's construction (ongoing)
- \$550K CPW grant for this project's construction (ongoing)

If State Trails funding is not awarded in this round, EPRD will ask our other last-in funders (Jeffco and GOCO) to stretch their awards. And we will consider moving forward with a trail improvement project of reduced scope – one that resolves the urgent safety issues posed by existing trail failures but eliminates some of the project enhancements such as the accessible transition between the Upper and Lower Trails, three fishing bulbouts, or enhanced post & cable safety railings. These compromises to the project's specs are hard to consider because they are improvements that our community members, stakeholders, and funders avidly support.

Non-Federal Environmental Form

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST (for projects outside of NEPA requirements)**  
**(Construction and Maintenance Grants Only)**

Applicants are responsible to complete this form with county/local government staff or an environmental consultant to address the following environmental impacts associated with the project, including: securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, or federal law. Please fill out the table below and associated narratives. If an environmental review has already been conducted on your proposal and is still viable, include the citation including any planned mitigation for each applicable resource, and choose an impact level as mitigated. If the resource does not apply to your proposal, mark NA in the first column.

All applicants will be evaluated for wildlife and aquatic impacts in a separate evaluation process by CPW wildlife staff.

**Project Name:** Evergreen Lake North Trail

**Project Sponsor:** Evergreen P&R

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS</b> Indicate potential for adverse impacts	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b> Resource does not exist	<b>NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS</b> Exists but no or negligible impacts	<b>MINOR IMPACTS</b>	<b>IMPACTS EXCEED MINOR</b>	<b>MORE DATA NEEDED TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF IMPACT</b>
1. Plants species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Wetlands/floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Storm water runoff and/or Sedimentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disturbances to neighboring properties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Environmental disturbances during construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other important environmental resources to address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use a separate sheet if necessary for the following questions.

Please briefly clarify how each resource could be adversely impacted; any direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that may occur; and any additional data that still needs to be determined. Also explain any planned mitigation already addressed in previous environmental reviews.

**MITIGATION:** Please describe how impacts exceeding negligible will be mitigated; some considerations below:

- Alternative design or trail route system
- Protection of critical habitat, channeling use through less sensitive habitat areas
- Re-vegetation of disturbed areas and control of invasive species
- Management of users and related activities with signs, fencing, and education programs
- Consideration of runoff when selecting project materials, such as uncured concrete to encourage seepage
- Comprehensive storm water runoff plan

Environmental review was completed by CDOT and included Air Quality, Hazmat, T&E, Wetland Delineation Survey, Paleontology, Archaeology and Historic and project was determined that no significant environmental impacts will result from this project. A biological resources assessment and report was also completed. All impacts will be temporary and actions to mitigate include providing an alternative trail route during construction, revegetation with native species at 2:1 in disturbed areas, wetland mitigation and improvements to stormwater runoff with a comprehensive storm water management plan. The project improvements will provide for accessible access to Evergreen Lake and fishing platforms. Construction disturbance limits have been minimized to avoid the lake inlet and seasonal elk calving area.

**BENEFIT:** Please describe any positive impacts of the project on sensitive species; some considerations below:

- Habitat improvement such as restoration of native habitat, wetlands restoration, erosion reduction, sediment reduction, river corridor clean-up, or plantings with a diversity of species and plant types for habitat restoration, and the reduction or elimination of non-native plant species
- Education of users through environmental education programs

Native species will be used to replant disturbed areas and permanent erosion control methods will be used to prevent and minimize siltation into Evergreen Lake. An integrated noxious weed management plan will be completed describing methods to control noxious weeds and specifications outlining BMPs to reduce the introduction of noxious weeds will be included in the construction documents. Also vegetation will be removed outside of breeding season or a nest survey will be completed with 1-week prior to start of construction.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:** The applicant is responsible for adhering to all applicable environmental compliance regulations including: Migratory Bird Treaty Act; concurrence with US Fish and Wildlife Service if any federally listed species of concern exist in project area; Clean Water Act section 404; US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permits; raptor buffer guidelines and incorporation of CPW recommended wildlife best management practices; CO Senate Bill 40 (33-5-101-107, CRS 1973 as amended); Colorado Historical, Prehistoric and Archeological Resources Act. ***All required permits must be acquired prior to submitting a non-motorized trails grant application.***

Liz Cohen, EPRD Grant and Development Coordinator

---

Printed name of applicant

Brad Eckert, Denver Mountain Parks Program Manager

---

Printed name and title of environmental authority

*Brad Eckert*

9/23/2022

---

Signature of authority

---

Date

*The Governmental authority, natural resource specialist or hired consultant who completed this checklist must sign here. The applicant and authority must be different.*

<b>Project Name:</b> Evergreen Lake North Trail Project				<b>For Office Use:</b>				
SOURCE OF FUNDS	Date Secured			CPW CO the Beautiful Grant	CPW Trails Grant Request [A]	Total Project Match [B]	Total Funding (\$) [C]	
<b>CASH</b>								
DRCOG TIP Grants (orig, CPMI set-aside, waitlist)	2019-22					\$ 3,427,903	\$ 3,427,903	
CDOT Regional Priority Project	2/1/2019					\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	
Evergreen Metro District	2/1/2019					\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	
Evergreen Park & Recreation District	2/1/2019					\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	
Evergreen Legacy Fund	2/1/2019					\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
GOCO Community Impact/Jeffco Trails Partners	TBD					\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	
CPW Colorado State Trails Grant	TBD				\$ 250,000		\$ 250,000	
<b>IN-KIND</b>								
							\$ -	
<b>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>					<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,777,903</b>	<b>\$ 5,027,903</b>	
[CASH] Description of Work	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total (B*D)	CPW Funds	Total Project Match (\$)	Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]
<b>CATEGORY 1-Contracted Services</b> Identify as: Youth Corps, Engineering, Contractor, etc.								
Construction Prep & Mobilization (remove existing, surveying)	1	EA	\$ 270,464.00	\$ 270,464		\$ 270,464	\$ 270,464	0
Trail Construction (Upper Trail, wall, shoring, concrete work, railing)	1	EA	\$ 3,028,511.00	\$ 3,028,511	\$ 250,000	\$ 2,778,511	\$ 3,028,511	0
Trail Construction (Lower Trail, shoreline armoring, bulbout)	1	EA	\$ 114,851.00	\$ 114,851		\$ 114,851	\$ 114,851	0
Trail Construction (Transition Trail, concrete walkway, grading)	1	EA	\$ 133,992.00	\$ 133,992		\$ 133,992	\$ 133,992	0
Site Protection & Restoration (armoring, erosion control, reseeding, landscaping)	1	EA	\$ 167,665.00	\$ 167,665		\$ 167,665	\$ 167,665	0
Compliance & Misc Costs (OTJ training, contract revs, F/A erosion control)	1	EA	\$ 94,080.00	\$ 94,080		\$ 94,080	\$ 94,080	0
Construction Management (owner's rep, project engineer, inspection and testing)	1	EA	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	0
Project Management/Construction Engineer	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000		\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	0
<b>Additional Categories</b>								
Contingency (12%)	1	EA	\$ 598,340.00	\$ 598,340		\$ 598,340	\$ 598,340	0
<b>USE OF FUNDS - CASH SUBTOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,777,903</b>	<b>\$ 5,027,903</b>	
<b>*ESTIMATE NUMBER OF CREW HOURS [GRANT AND MATCH] CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE</b>								<b>*REQUIRED INPUT</b>
[IN-KIND] Description of Work	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total (B*D)			Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]
				\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	0
<b>IN-KIND SUBTOTAL</b>							\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>					<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,777,903</b>	<b>\$ 5,027,903</b>	
<b>25% REQUIRED MATCH</b>						<b>\$ 62,500</b>		

# Vicinity Map

Evergreen is a vibrant foothills community on the western edge of unincorporated Jeffco, 23 miles west of Denver. The community's "crown jewel" for outdoor recreation is Evergreen Lake, adjacent to our commerce and tourism center, downtown Evergreen. Evergreen Lake is part of Dedisse Park, owned by the City & County of Denver.

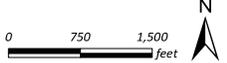


**Evergreen Lake North Trail**  
 Section 10, T5S, R71W; 6th PM  
 UTM NAD 83: Zone 13N; 472105mE, 4387085mN  
 Longitude 105.325064°W, Latitude 39.633081°N  
 USGS Evergreen, CO Quadrangle  
 Jefferson County, Colorado  
Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed  
 National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA,  
 increment P Corp.

**Figure 1**  
**Vicinity Map**

Prepared for: Muller Engineering Company  
 File: 6877 Figure 1.mxd [dH]  
 June 3, 2020

**ERO**  
 ERO Resources Corp.



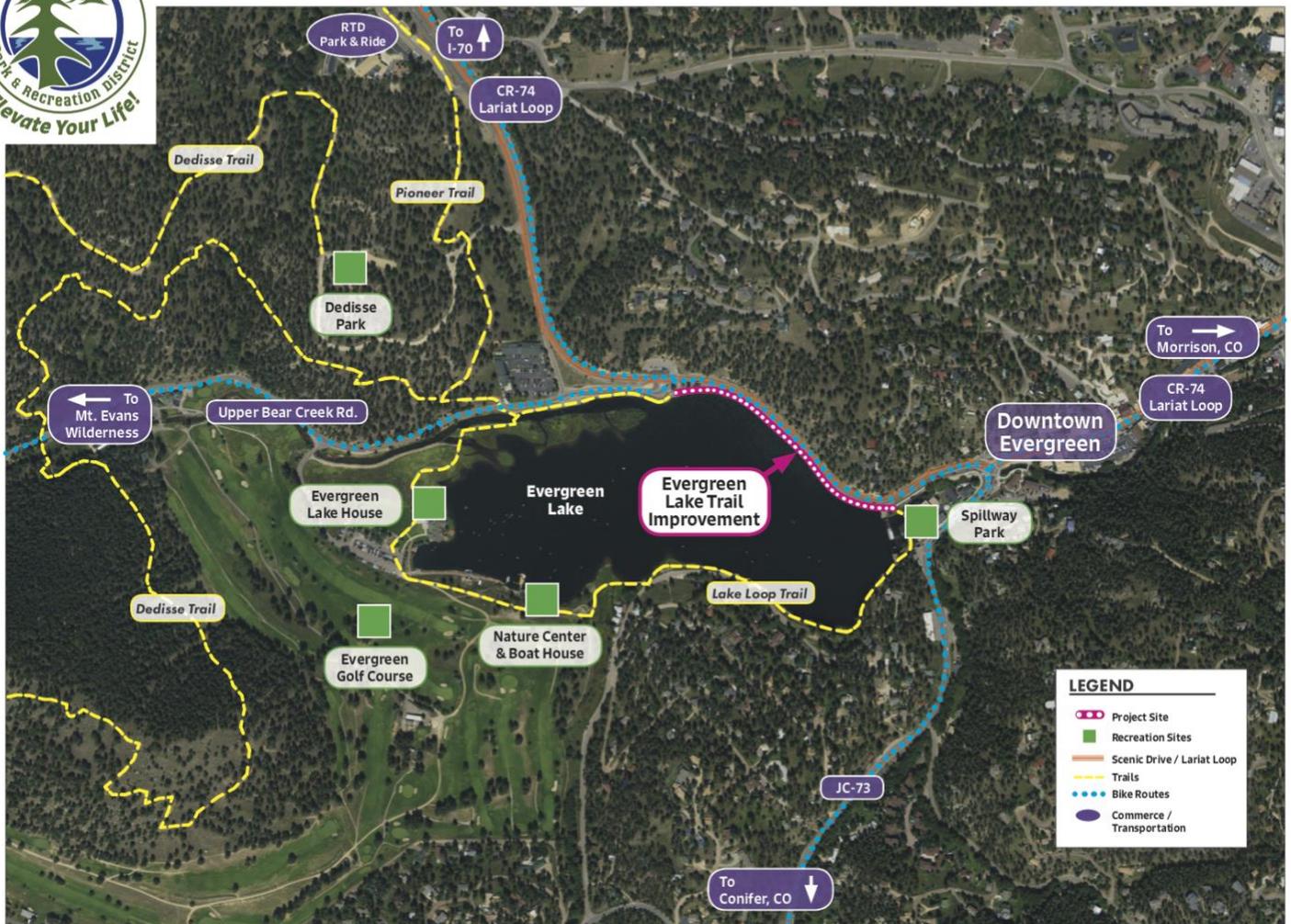
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# Project Map

The Evergreen Lake North Trail Project will provide a new, accessible, multimodal trail connecting Evergreen Lake to downtown Evergreen, our community's commerce and tourism center. The project will link to the regional Pioneer Trail that runs from north Evergreen to our community gathering place at Evergreen Lake. State Highway 74 runs along the project corridor and is part of the historic Lariat Loop. Evergreen Lake offers year round outdoor recreation including hiking, boating, skating, golf, a nature center, and community events.



## EVERGREEN LAKE TRAIL IMPROVEMENT Project Site



# Existing Conditions



Evergreen Lake and its loop trail are gateways to year-round mountain recreation and tourism for an estimated 160,000 visitors from across Jeffco and the Metro Denver region each year.



The Connector Trail installed in 2015 creates a new accessible link from downtown Evergreen to the project site, improving equitable access to the outdoors.



The project area is the spine of a regional trail system in an extremely constrained corridor between SH74 and the Lake. The guardrail and handrail separating the existing trail from traffic and the lakeshore were installed over 35 years ago.



2016



2022

Ongoing support wall failures have led to regular closures of the existing trail for safety concerns. Pedestrians and cyclists often choose to skirt the narrow shoulders of SH74 when the trail is closed. These problems will continue until the trail and its underlying infrastructure are improved.



2019







October 3, 2022

Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
State Trails Program Committee

Dear Recreational Trails Grants Review Committee:

Denver Parks & Recreation (DPR) supports Evergreen Park & Recreation District's (ERPD) request for a grant toward the construction of improvements to the Evergreen Lake North Trail. The Trail is located within Dedisse Park, acquired by the City and County of Denver in 1919 and part of Denver's historic Mountain Parks System, and is maintained by EPRD, Denver Parks and Recreation and the Evergreen Metro District.

For more than one hundred years, Denver's Mountain Parks have helped make Colorado a very special place where generations could grow and play in the mountains - and share in the magnificent beauty of the Rocky Mountains. Today 22 accessible parks and 24 conservation areas total over 14,000 acres and comprise one of the most expansive and unique park systems in the West. All outside Denver city limits, the mountain parks extend across four counties and at altitudes from 6,000 to more than 13,000 feet.

Denver Parks & Recreation staff have visited the site and are familiar with the project. DPR believes the improvements to the trail will meet the goal of the Colorado State Recreational Trails Grant Program to continue to improve outdoor recreation opportunities and address resource damage and visitor safety concerns.

Denver Parks & Recreation is especially interested in the environmental improvements that will be incorporated into the project, to protect the land and water in Dedisse Park, as well as the transportation equity enhancements of the project to accommodate all visitors to Dedisse Park. DPR is also pleased that the project will include engineering to improve drainage and stability at the project site. Along with the project partners, DPR looks forward to the successful completion of the project so that our interests as property owners are addressed.

Thank you for your consideration of the Evergreen Lake North Trail Project. It is our hope that you will select this improvement project at Dedisse Park to move forward.

Sincerely,

Mark Bernstein  
Chief of Staff, Department of Parks and Recreation  
City and County of Denver

**Parks and Recreation**  
Chief of Staff  
101 West Colfax, Suite 900 | Denver, CO 80202  
[www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation)  
p. 720.913.0738 | f. 720.913.0782

*EVERGREEN METROPOLITAN DISTRICT*

**Water and Wastewater**

30920 Stagecoach Blvd

Evergreen, Colorado 80439

303-674-4112

Fax 303-674-7267

September 14, 2022

Colorado Parks & Wildlife

Non-Motorized Trail Grants, Reconstruction

Re: Letter of Support for Evergreen Park & Recreation District; Evergreen Lake Trail Improvement Project

To Whom It May Concern:

Evergreen Metropolitan District (EMD) has supported the Evergreen Lake North Trail Project to replace the trail system located on the north side of Evergreen Lake since the project's inception in 2016. It remains Evergreen Metro's mission to protect the water supply and water line under the existing soft surface trail at Evergreen Lake. Evergreen Metro also commends the project's intent for improvements to access to outdoor recreation and regional trail connections at and around Evergreen Lake. For these reasons and to serve the Evergreen community, Evergreen Metro helped fund the project's preliminary engineering study in 2016 and has pledged \$200,000 in local match toward the construction of the project.

During the summer of 2022, there were more failures of the existing bin wall structure that supports the current trail and protects the EMD 12" water main. This is further evidence the existing structure must be replaced. EMD continues to support EPRD's efforts to replace the existing wall and trail structure.

The recently completed bidding process for the trail project resulted in a single bid submission that was significantly over the engineer's estimate and the EPRD budget for the project. Evergreen Metro's own experience with construction projects during the past 2 years is one of extended contract schedules and cost overruns because of labor shortages and supply chain issues. Evergreen Metro understands the dilemma EPRD faces in the current construction market and is supportive of their efforts to rebid the project and to seek additional funding to finance it.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project to improve access to recreation, regional trail connections, recreational assets, and the protection of critical infrastructure in the Evergreen community.

Sincerely,

David Lighthart

General Manager

Evergreen Metro District

Phone: 303 674-4112

E-mail: [dlighthart@evergreenmetro.org](mailto:dlighthart@evergreenmetro.org)



PO BOX 252 • EVERGREEN, COLORADO 80437

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September 1, 2022  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Non-Motorized Trail Grants, Reconstruction  
RE: Letter of Support for Evergreen Lake Trail Improvement Project

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Dear Colorado Parks and Wildlife Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Evergreen Legacy Fund (ELF) to strongly support the application for the construction of the Evergreen Lake Trail Improvement Project, submitted by the Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD). This support comes with a \$50,000 contribution from our Evergreen Legacy Fund towards the capital stack for the project.

ELF is a nonprofit organization in Evergreen comprised of nine board members, elected by our local business and property ownership community. Our mission is to support infrastructure improvements that are critical in maintaining the safety and welfare of the many residents and visitors that frequent our mountain town. This project will provide greater access around Evergreen Lake and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. Evergreen is not an incorporated town so the responsibility for these functions fall on the shoulders of Districts like the EPRD with volunteer and financial support from our community. ELF partners with such Districts, including the EPRD, and generates funds for use in grant cash match obligations for projects like this.

This project is important to ELF because it is a critical multi-modal link between our Downtown area and the Evergreen Lake through a narrow and curvy stretch of Right Of Way that is extremely dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists. The existing trail is in disrepair and at this point in time, the threat of closure of the existing high-use trail that would force numerous pedestrian/vehicle conflicts is imminent.

The benefits for this critical linkage are many. This connection provides the only accessible connection between Evergreen Lake and Downtown Evergreen via the GOCO grant funded elevated trail constructed in 2015. This project also provides a tremendous opportunity to enhance and protect the water and lakefront area of Evergreen Lake while providing greater public access. Through this community supported application, we can finally complete an accessible lakeside trail along the entire North side for the use of disabled users, linking Downtown Evergreen, Evergreen Lake, and Evergreen Nature Center on a contiguous accessible lakefront pathway. In addition, we can also create new opportunities for handicapped accessibility to use our community's most cherished connection to the outdoors, Evergreen Lake.

It is important to note that improvements to this trail system have been in the community discussion long before this trail was closed then temporarily reopened. ELF previously partnered with Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering on a Trails Master Plan throughout our greater Downtown Evergreen community. This master plan was funded in part by Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) with a cash match and significant volunteer support, including the full administration of the grant and the project, provided by our ELF members. In the plan, improvements were called out for this trail section in order to address the high daily use of multi-modal users. The plan can be downloaded at:

<https://greaterdeed.wordpress.com/2016/01/19/greater-downtown-evergreen-trails-master-plan/>

The process that we undertook for the development of this master plan included a major community outreach campaign. With the input of a significant cross section of the greater Evergreen community, feedback and comments were received and this trail linkage proved to be among the very highest priorities for the community. The plan in its final form was vetted by this community process and in concert with additional EPRD community outreach for the planning and design of the specific solutions for this corridor, it is still very fresh in the minds of our local residents. In fact, they are more motivated now than ever before to see improvements be made in this area and strongly support those efforts.

ELF had partnered with the EPRD in 2015 on an elevated trail linkage that connects to the very trail in this proposal with a safe, accessible, off-highway linkage between the Lake spillway (the East end of the existing trail in this proposal) and multi-modal underpass to Downtown Evergreen built by CDOT over a decade ago. This project was completed by the EPRD using financial help of a GOCO grant with ELF providing cash match and significant in-kind efforts. This trail project shared many things in common with the multi-modal trail in this proposal – CDOT ROW, Evergreen Metro District improvements, City of Denver Property and EPRD stewardship. Not to mention a steeply sloping hillside above a sensitive riparian zone. By working openly and collaboratively with all of these agencies, and in spite of typical construction challenges that were swiftly and expertly handled, this project was a huge success for the community and provided a critical transition from the Lake trail to the Downtown pedestrian infrastructure.

ELF plans to continue our support the EPRD on this project and as mentioned, has pledged \$50,000 from our ELF funds to contribute to the project. We will continue our partnership with the EPRD in this way and look forward to realizing this very important project in Evergreen.

We thank you for your consideration of this outstanding project for funding. If you have any questions for us or need anything else from us in support of this proposal, please contact us at any time. Thank you.

Sincerely,

---

Dean Dalvit, AIA, PE  
President, Evergreen Legacy Fund



# EVERGREEN TROUT UNLIMITED

Preserving, Enhancing and Protecting Colorado Fisheries  
Evergreen, Colorado



July 29, 2019

Colorado the Beautiful Trails Grant Program  
Colorado Parks & Wildlife  
6060 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80216

To Grant Reviewers:

Evergreen Trout Unlimited founded in 1983, a subsidiary organization of Trout Unlimited, Inc., fully supports the Evergreen Lake Trail Improvement Project. The overall project benefits fall directly in line with our Chapter purpose to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. We have a long history of teaming with Evergreen Parks & Recreation and Colorado Parks & Wildlife on projects such as Mount Evans Outdoor Education Laboratory Program, National Earth Day, Annual Youth Fishing Camp @ Buchanan Ponds, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular, CP&W Evergreen Outdoor Skills Day, Camp Comfort, CP&W Pine Valley Ranch Outdoor Skills Day and Evergreen Middle and High School classroom programs. All of these have the end purpose of improving our environment (wildlife, water quality, outdoor recreation, etc.) by developing true stewards for our future.

We firmly support the project's overall benefits to improve safety and access to recreation in our community. We are especially supportive of the project's improvements to environmental and water quality to protect fish, wildlife and plants in the area. We also applaud the project's plans to enhance opportunities for youth, visitors, and the entire community to enjoy fishing on Evergreen Lake.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited would like to stay involved in the project. We would be eager to help with volunteer consultation on the design of the fishing elements of the trail. And we will continue our volunteer work to provide youth education and fishing skills days at Evergreen Lake, hopefully with a focus on new fishing opportunities on the north side of the lake!

We encourage you to fund the Evergreen Lake Improvement Project for the benefit of all in our community.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike McGinnis".

Mike McGinnis  
President  
Evergreen Trout Unlimited  
PO Box 1974  
Evergreen, CO 80437-1974



# EVERGREEN AREA Chamber of Commerce

30480 Stagecoach Blvd, Suite C,  
Evergreen, CO 80439 Tel: 303-674-3412

September 9, 2016

Jake Houston  
Great Outdoors Colorado  
303 E 17th Ave #1060  
Denver, CO 80203

**Betsy Hays**  
President, CEO

**Board of Directors:**

**Patty DeLucas**  
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC  
Chair

**Kevin Ruble**  
Past Co-Chair

**Lisa Austin**  
Leadership Evergreen  
Past Co-Chair

**Linda McConnell**  
LIV/Sotheby's Intl. Realty  
Chair Elect

**Elizabeth Carlson**  
Lighthouse Bookkeeping  
Treasurer

**Lisa Fowler**  
Red Rocks Comm. College  
Secretary

**Lori Frease**  
Evergreen Christian Outreach  
Events

**Dr. Judy Morley**  
Foothills Center for Spiritual  
Living  
Marketing/Communications

**Warren Rose**  
Membership Services

**Dave Wilson**  
The Wild Game  
Marketing/Government Affairs

**John Warren**  
Kaiser Permanente  
Marketing Committee Chair

**Russell Hammond**  
Big O Tires Evergreen  
Ambassadors Co-Chair

**Tim Wilson Esq.**  
Sells Law Firm  
Legal Counsel

Re: Evergreen Park and Recreation GOCO Grant Application for a  
Feasibility Study of the Evergreen North Lake Trail

Dear Jake and the Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf the Evergreen Area Chamber of Commerce and the community of Evergreen to proudly support the application for grant funding for a feasibility study for the Evergreen North Lake Trail submitted by the Evergreen Park & Recreation District. It is our understanding that the grant covers the preliminary engineering analysis for short and long term solutions for the area, and then a planning process for the **lakefront pedestrian aspect** of the potential multimodal long term solutions for the area.

The closure of the Lake Trail has had a negative impact on our community from both recreational and economic perspectives. Visitors and residents alike use the trail on a daily basis to enjoy the beauty the lake brings to us right in the heart of our town. Our office has received multiple calls asking when the trail will re-open and why it is closed. They understand that it is closed for their own safety but they are anxious to have the project move forward. Although closed, there are adults and children still walking along the very narrow shoulder on Colorado Highway 74 and it is only a matter of time before an injury occurs.

A decaying trail also may have negative impacts upon the drinking water supply for our community and towns downstream. If the trail is designed and built properly, the health risk can be avoided.

As the voice of our community I can assure you that the plans are encouraging-we want the trail fixed and we want it to last a long time for our hikers, bikers, and handicapped accessible users.

We believe the project and goals are critical to the quality of life of our community and the economic stability of the downtown area.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration of this project for GOCO funding.

Sincerely,

Betsy M. Hays  
President/CEO - Evergreen Area Chamber of Commerce  
president@evergreenchamber.org

[www.EvergreenChamber.org](http://www.EvergreenChamber.org)

# CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

## MANDATORY:

- Signed letter of resolution from the Governing Body (Board of Directors or Commissioners, City or Town Government, etc.) that states the resources and support committed to the project.
- Formal authorization from land manager (federal lands only)
- Timeline form has been filled out
- Budget uploaded as an unprotected Excel document
- Maps/Photos/Graphics uploaded as PDF document(s)
- Letters of Support (maximum of five) uploaded. No letters from clubs, groups or individuals who are specifically working on the project. No letters from CPW staff.
- Project should be completed within 2.5 years from receiving grant
- Required MATCH funding is secured, including CASH match funds. If not secured at time of application, add a note in the comments sections at the bottom of this form.
- Scope of work and project location map emailed to CPW Area Manager by September 6, 2022.
- Project area is owned by a public land agency or has an easement that designates the area to be open to public outdoor recreation for at least 25 years.
- Formal Environmental Assessment (EA) or NEPA (Must be completed prior to applicant presentations in January 2023. Include web link to EA).

EPRD is unclear about this instruction and/or web link.

- Construction projects have been evaluated for required permits. If required, permits have been acquired (404 permit, etc.)

## ADDITIONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youth Corps or youth organization will be used on the project (name of organization)

- Volunteers will be utilized on the project (name of organization)

## Comments