

EXHIBIT A

GRANT APPLICATION CHECK LIST

MANDATORY:

- Signed letter of resolution from Governing Body
- Exhibit A - Application
- Exhibit B - Budget (Unprotected Excel CPW form)
- Environmental Forms (not required for Regional Trails Planning grants)
- Maps/Photographs/Graphics (5 page max, pdf, letter sized pages)
- Letters of Support (maximum of 5). No letters from clubs or groups specifically working on the project
- Project can be completed within 2.5 years from receiving grant
- Required MATCH funding is secured, including CASH match funds
- CPW Area Wildlife Manager has been contacted and informed of construction projects by July 1st. Note that ALL projects will be reviewed by CPW for wildlife impacts
- (Construction only) Project area is owned by public land agency or has easement that designates the area to be open to public outdoor recreation for at least 25 years
- (Construction Only) Formal Environmental Assessment (EA) or NEPA has been completed with final approval for the project area (federal lands only).

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 organization)



July 25, 2019

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division
Trails Program
13787 U.S. Hwy 85 N.
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Colorado the Beautiful Grant Opportunity

To Whom It May Concern,

We proudly present our application for the 2019-2020 Colorado the Beautiful grant program. The City of Denver is applying for funds to construct major improvements to the multi-use trail within the Sand Creek Regional Greenway. Sand Creek provides an important open space, active transportation and recreation corridor in north Denver.

The Denver portion of the Sand Creek Regional Greenway underwent a master planning effort in 2016 and many of the design concepts included in the Master Plan will be realized through successful competition of this project. The design and engineering for the construction documents for the complete buildout is fully funded as a separate project, and the construction funding sought through this grant will help make those plans a reality. Building out Sand Creek Regional Trail has long been a goal of the City of Denver, the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership, and the neighborhoods surrounding the Greenway. Funding this project will provide a trail for the community and region to enjoy.

It is our hope that our project will be strongly considered. The Sand Creek Regional Greenway trail corridor is maintained by Denver Parks and Recreation and DPR is committed to long term operations and maintenance of the trail. This project will provide trail improvements long needed in north Denver and for the region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Allegra "Happy" Haynes
Executive Director

Denver Parks & Recreation
101 West Colfax, Suite 900 | Denver, CO 80202
www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation
p. 720.913.0738 | f. 720.913.0782



Trails, DNR <dnr_trails@state.co.us>

FW: re: Council

1 message

Coffey, Jason - DPR CE2291 Project Manager I <Jason.Coffey@denvergov.org>
To: "Trails, DNR" <dnr_trails@state.co.us>

Thu, Aug 1, 2019 at 3:44 PM

Hi Kate,

Please see the email below with the references to the Denver Revised Municipal Code regarding contract and grants. The mayor will have final approval of any agreement should we be awarded a grant, since the mayor approves all contracts. But Denver Parks and Recreation does not have to go to City Council for approval unless a grant or contract is over \$500,000. Since the match amount of \$150,000 is under the threshold Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) can apply for the grant using DPR funds. I hope the email below and my brief explanation provide enough information for the committee. Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Thank you!

Jason

Jason Coffey | Trails PlannerParks and Recreation | [City and County of Denver](#)[101 West Colfax Ave., Denver, CO 80202](#)p: 720.913.0676 | jason.coffey@denvergov.orgCONNECT WITH US | [311](#) | [POCKETGOV.COM](#) | [DENVERGOV.ORG](#) | [DENVER 8 TV](#)

From: Allsop, Megan M. - DPR Contracts and Procurement Administrator
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2019 3:14 PM

To: Coffey, Jason - DPR CE2291 Project Manager I <Jason.Coffey@denvergov.org>

Subject: re: Council

Per section 20-52 of DRMC, grants only need approval by City Council if they are for over \$500,000. https://library.municode.com/co/denver/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodetid=TITIIREMUCO_CH20FI_ARTIVCOPUCO_DIV1GE_S20-52APGR-A

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(b) Approval of the council shall be required prior to the acceptance of any grant-in-aid by the city or by any department or agency thereof if: (1) The grant-in-aid is for a dollar amount in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) or, in combination with other grants-in-aid received from the same source for the same project or program in the preceding year, will cause the total amount received to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00); (2) The grant-in-aid specifically requires a matching contribution by the city in the form of an expenditure for which a budget and appropriation has not previously been approved by the council, regardless of the amount of the matching contribution; or

Supplemental info from DRMC 3.2.6:

The Council shall have the additional powers to approve or disapprove, by ordinance or resolution, leases or other instruments selling or granting the use of City-owned property to other parties, and certain contracts, under the following conditions:

(A) Definitions. For the purposes of this section the following definitions shall apply: (i) The term "real property" shall include interests in land and any improvements and facilities attached thereto, except public rights-of-way. (ii) The term "lease" shall include all agreements, permits, contracts, licenses, easements or other instruments whereby the City grants the exclusive use of all or a portion of real property now or hereafter owned by the City for an indefinite period of time or for a specific period in excess of thirty (30) days. (iii) The term "personal property" shall include tangible and intangible personal property other than cash and investments invested by the Manager of Finance under Section 2.5.3 of the Charter. [(iv)] The term "contract" shall include any contract or other instruments of writing requiring the assent of the City and County, as provided in section 2.2.4. (B) Leasing of city-owned real property. The Mayor of the City and County of Denver shall be and is hereby authorized to initiate actions to effect the lease of real property owned by the city, when such lease will serve a public purpose, for such considerations and upon such terms as in the Mayor's judgment shall appear proper. All leases of real property owned by the city, or amendments to existing leases, before their execution by city officials, shall be authorized by the Denver City Council acting by ordinance or resolution. The ordinance or resolution shall state the public purpose to be served by the lease or amendment. (C) Sale or conveyance of city-owned real property. The Mayor of the City and County of Denver shall be and is hereby authorized to initiate actions to effect the sale or conveyance of real property owned by the City upon such terms as in the Mayor's judgment shall appear proper. All contracts providing for the sale or conveyance of real property owned by the city, or amendments to such contracts, before their execution by city officials, shall be authorized by the Denver City Council acting by ordinance or resolution. (D) Intergovernmental Agreements. Contracts between the City and County of Denver and any other government entity shall require the approval of the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution, prior to their execution by City officials, if the contract or instrument: (i) Provides for tax revenue sharing between the city and any other governmental entity; (ii) Contains any commitment by the mayor or other official to seek legislative action by the City Council or otherwise implicates the legislative authority of the Council; or (iii) Requires the approval of the City Council pursuant to any other law. (E) Approval of certain contracts by Council. Contracts which will require or result in the payment or receipt by the City of one-half million dollars (\$500,000.00) or more, and those in which personal property valued at one-half million dollars (\$500,000.00) or more will be sold or transferred by or to the City, and those in which a provider of services to the City will receive a percentage of generated revenues, shall require the approval of the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution, prior to their execution by City officials.

BY AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE NO. _____
SERIES OF 2019

COUNCIL BILL NO. CB19-0538
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:
Land Use, Transportation
and Infrastructure

A B I L L

For an ordinance approving the Parks, Trails and Open Space Program Plan.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 20-18 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code (“DRMC”), by Ordinance No. 641, Series of 2018, and by voter approval, which was enacted December 11, 2018, there has been approved the establishment of a fund for the receipt of a portion of sales tax for the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 39-223 and Section 39-224, DRMC, that portion of sales tax paid to the fund shall be used for certain Permitted Uses under the Parks, Trails and Open Space Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 39-224(i), DRMC, within one (1) year of enactment, the Department of Parks and Recreation shall work with the Department of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to hold at least one (1) public hearing; and submit to City Council for approval a five-year Parks, Trails and Open Space Program Plan for the use and expenditure of the fund established for the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation has held such public hearings, and submitted the Plan to City Council June 4, 2019 for approval as required, with the final revised plan submitted to City Council June 7, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the final revised Plan is available through the Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Parks, Trails and Open Space Program Plan provides guidance regarding the acquisition of additional land for parks, trails and open spaces; improving and maintaining existing parks, trails and open spaces; restoring and protecting waterways, rivers, canals and streams; expanding the urban tree cover in parks, parkways and public rights-of-way; and implementing the Game Plan for a Healthy City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 39-224(i), DRMC, such plan for the use and expenditure of the fund for the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Program shall be approved by City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER;

Section 1. Council hereby approves the Parks, Trails, and Opens Space Program Plan,

1 which was submitted as revised June 7, 2019.

2 **Section 2.** Approval of the Parks, Trails and Open Space Program Plan, and of any
3 amendment thereto, shall not preempt the decision making powers vested by law or administrative
4 directive in the Mayor, the Council or any other official of the City and County of Denver with respect
5 to, but not limited to: the operation, maintenance and management of parks and park facilities, a
6 designation of a park, the issuance of revocable permits, a conveyance or acquisition of real property
7 by the City and County of Denver, or an appropriation for maintenance and operation of parks and
8 park facilities, or construction of a capital improvement; and provided, further that it is expressly
9 understood that judgment must be exercised in the application of the Parks, Trails and Open Space
10 Plan in the decision making processes of the Mayor, Council and other officials of the City and
11 County of Denver.

12 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: June 4, 2019

13 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: June 11, 2019

14 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL June 24, 2019

15  _____ - PRESIDENT

16 APPROVED: _____ - MAYOR _____

17 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
18 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
19 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

20 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL _____; _____

21 PREPARED BY: Jason D. Moore, Assistant City Attorney DATE: June 13, 2019

22 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of
23 the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed
24 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to
25 §3.2.6 of the Charter.

26
27 Kristin M. Bronson, Denver City Attorney

28 BY:  _____, Assistant City Attorney DATE: Jun 13, 2019

EXHIBIT A

COLORADO THE BEAUTIFUL CONSTRUCTION APPLICATION

Applicant or Organization Name: Denver Parks and Recreation		
Mailing Address: 101 W. Colfax Avenue, Suite 900, Denver, CO 80202		
Applicant Lead Contact Name: Jason Coffey		Title: Trails Planner
Telephone: 720-913-6076	Email: jason.coffey@denvergov.org	Is this the primary contact for this grant: <u>YES</u> NO

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

Name: Jason Coffey, Trails Planner		
Mailing Address: 101 W. Colfax Avenue, Suite 900, Denver, CO 80202		
Telephone: 720-923-0676	Email: jason.coffey@denvergov.org	

PRIMARY PARTNER INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Name:		
Mailing Address:		
Partner Contact Name:		Title:
Telephone:	Email:	Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES NO

Project Title: Sand Creek Regional Trail Complete Buildout		
Grant Request: \$ 500,000	Required Match: \$ 150,000	
Total Project Cost: \$ 3,500,000		

EXHIBIT A

Project Summary: Please write a short (1 paragraph) summary of your project. This information will be posted online and in grant application and reviewer information packets.

See attached pages.

Detailed Project Description: Please write a 3-4 paragraph description of your project and the expected accomplishments. Be sure to include Who, What, When, and Where. **This is your scope of work.** (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 this information in question #1 of the Selection Criteria.)

See attached pages.

WHO? Who will complete the work and who will oversee the project? Provide a description of your community or organization, highlighting its mission and purpose.

WHAT? 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?

WHERE? Explain in detail the location of your project. Where is the project located? What county? What National Forest/ BLM Field Office? Provide the names of the trail(s) or trail system and where the work will be performed. What agency manages or is responsible for the land where the project is located?

DEFINITIONS? Please define all acronyms and specialized terms that are used in your project description.

LAND OWNERSHIP

1. Provide the name/s of the property owners: The City and County of Denver

2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease
 Easement License Right-of-Way Other:

USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADA Access
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Running	<input type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Line Skating	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biking	<input type="checkbox"/> X-Country Skiing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

TRAIL SURFACE

<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input 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: City and County of Denver

County: City and County of Denver

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Construction/Maintenance Phase				X					
					X				
						X			
Administrative Close-Out						X			
Grand Opening						X			

All applicants must respond to the following selection criteria questions in **nine pages or less in 12 point font with 1" page margins**. Answers can be longer than one page, as long as the total number of pages is less than or equal to nine.

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. Projects that make it beyond the initial review will be scored by outside reviewers, State Trails, GOCO, and DNR staff. Projects will be ranked according to reviewer and staff scores.

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. Reference all attachments.

1. **COMMUNITY NEED: (15 points)**

Introduce the community this project will serve. Provide population and income data. Discuss the recreational interests of your community and how this project ties in to those? Provide estimates of trail usage in your community. Discuss the ways in which the community currently is or is not compensating for the lack of the proposed project components. Why does the community need this trail segment and why is it important to them? Discuss the significance of this trail segment to its users.

See attached pages.

- 2. SCOPE (15 points)** Describe the proposed project including the length/width of trail construction, any major components necessary to complete the trail such as under/overpasses, bridges, trail heads, etc. – describe what exactly will be built. Discuss the ownership status of the trail corridor and any easements or land acquisitions necessary to complete the proposed trail. Address each trail component separately, specifically mentioning its characteristics. If the project is intended to enhance or replace an existing trail and/or trail amenities, describe their existing state, why they are no longer acceptable, and how they arrived at the condition they're in. Discuss the significance of the trail segment to users. List each user group and estimate their percentage of overall trail use, e.g., motorized users – 20% mountain bikers – 70%, hikers – 10%) How did you arrive at those estimates? Include any site photos.

See attached pages.

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- 3. TIMELINE (15 points)** List the permits, licenses, and approvals required to complete this project. For each one, discuss where you are in the process of securing it and when you anticipate securing it. For easements or land acquisitions, provide details on where you are in negotiations with the landowner. Discuss any wildlife concerns that may impact the implementation of this project. How will they be addressed? Have CPW wildlife specialists provided input or consultation on this project? Reviewers will evaluate the responses using CPW's Wildlife Assessment and the applicant's Environmental Forms.

See attached pages.

- 4. ACCESS (10 points)** Describe the larger trail network this project is a part of. How does it contribute to local, regional and/or statewide trail opportunities? Will the proposed trail(s) increase access to existing recreational, open space, and/or environmental education opportunities for youth and families? Will the project increase park, trail, or open space access for marginalized communities and/or serve communities with large prevalence of health conditions (i.e. obesity)? Which studies or community level data were used to make this determination?

See attached pages.

- 5. PLANNING (10 points)** Describe any comprehensive planning efforts that this project has undertaken or has been a part of. If this project is part of an approved master plan, what priority is it given in that plan? ***Public comment and involvement is mandatory for all projects.*** Describe the public planning process that identified this trail as a priority. Summarize the feedback received from the public and describe the involvement of user groups and/or communities that are within the project's region. Have any potential user group conflicts been identified? If so, how will they be addressed/managed? Has this project been deemed a priority by any other agencies or given any significant designations? Has there been public opposition to the proposed project? If so, describe the opposition and what has been done to address it.

See attached pages.

- 6. COLLABORATION AND MATCHING FUNDS (10 points)** Discuss partnerships established for this project and their contributions. Discuss the sources of matching funds. How much match is secured beyond the required 30%? How much of it is yet to be raised and what are your plans for raising those additional funds? Submit letters of commitment/support from landowners and/or funders as a separate attachment. Beyond these letters you may submit up to 5 letters of non-cash support.

See attached pages.

- 7. URGENCY AND NEED FOR FUNDS (5 points)** Briefly describe the project's urgency. Why are Colorado the Beautiful funds necessary this grant cycle? What opportunities are lost if the grant isn't awarded?

See attached pages.

- 8. MAINTENANCE (10 points)** Describe how the project will be developed, maintained, and managed for long-term sustainability. Has an Operations and Maintenance Plan been developed for the project areas? Prior to considering new trail construction, have current trail reroute options been considered for current on-the-ground unsustainable trails and trail sections in the project area? Estimate the annual costs to maintain the project. How did you derive those numbers; how do you intend to fund operations and maintenance; and who is responsible?

See attached pages.

- 9. CONTINGENCY/ABILITY (10 points)** What other funding sources have been dedicated or are anticipated to be dedicated to this project? Will applicant and/or partner funds be lost if funds

EXHIBIT A

are not awarded? If you are not awarded funding, what measures will be taken to complete the project? Describe your 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 ability to manage the requested level of grant funding; including the project title, grantor, award amount and year the project was funded. Was reporting and close-out requirements completed? How well was it managed from your perspective? Will you be applying for additional funding through CPW State Trails Program in the future?

See attached pages.

Project Summary:

Sand Creek Regional Trail complete build out will improve the multi-use trail system in the Denver metro region. Currently, segments of the Sand Creek Regional Trail are unimproved maintenance roads that do not meet the City and County of Denver trail design standards. Periodic flooding of these segments leads to erosion and mud that create trail system reliability and maintenance issues. The Sand Creek Regional Trail serves north Denver, Commerce City, Aurora and connects to the South Platte River Trail. Constructing trail improvements will better serve all trail users and improve access to the Sand Creek Regional Greenway open space within the Denver metro area.

Detailed Project Description:

This project will implement improvements identified in the 2016 Sand Creek Greenway Master Plan and the Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails. These plans will guide the design and implement a 12' wide concrete trail with a 4' wide soft surface side path. As site conditions allow, this will result in the construction of approximately 11,088 LFT of 12' wide concrete multi-use trail with 4' wide crusher fines side path. These new segments of multi-use trail will tie into existing concrete segments to complete the Sand Creek Regional Trail within the City and County of Denver. The project will also include approximately 4,752 LFT of 6' wide crusher fines secondary trail providing access to the north side of Sand Creek from the Smith Road trail head east to Havana St. This project will construct trail head improvements at the Smith Rd and Westerly Creek trail head, to include asphalt paving of the parking area and new signs orienting users to the trail.

Within the City and County of Denver the Sand Creek Regional Trail follows Sand Creek through the Sand Creek Regional Greenway open space. See the attached map for more detail - the Sand Creek Regional Trail runs roughly east to west from Aurora to Commerce City along Sand Creek through north central Denver. The property where the trail is sited will be owned by the City and County of Denver and will be open for public use as part of the Denver Parks and Recreation system of parks, trails and open space.

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1. COMMUNITY NEED:

This project will serve north Denver and neighboring municipalities of Aurora and Commerce City. North Denver is a rapidly developing part of metro area and providing better trail facilities is important to promote access to open space, recreation and active transportation opportunities. Access to open space and trails promotes healthy active lifestyle choices. Improving the trail infrastructure at Sand Creek will provide an opportunity for active transportation for residents of Commerce City, north Denver and northwest Aurora.

The Sand Creek Regional Trail connects to the South Platte River Trail and forms part of the Denver metro area's regional trail network. This regional trail network provides access to the Denver Central Business District and recreation sites and open space for the entire Denver metro area. Sand Creek Regional Trail lies within the Sand Creek Regional Greenway surrounded by the Stapleton neighborhood. But, improving the regional trail is the first step towards encouraging more connectivity to the trail from Northeast Park Hill and all the communities surrounding Stapleton.

Development pressures from the buildout of Stapleton and north Denver have increased demands on the trail and improving the trail to current standards will help to meet this demand. Based on 2013-2017 American Community Survey data the population of the Stapleton neighborhood is 21,763 and the average household income is \$127,061. The Denver Regional Equity Atlas shows a high percentage of children ages 5-17 within one mile of the Sand Creek Regional Trail. Children make up nearly 20% of the population of the two census block groups intersecting the 1-mile radius of the trail. Northeast Park Hill, just west of Quebec Street, has a median income less than \$50,000 according to 2010-2014 American Community Survey data provided by the Denver Regional Equity Atlas. Additionally, there is 30% to 60% non-White population to the west of Stapleton, but adjacent to Sand Creek, in the Northeast Park Hill as shown by Equity Atlas data from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey. Equity is a key driver in the need to improve Sand Creek Regional Trail.

The trail users count data available is from 07/31/17 through 08/29/17 and shows a daily average of 173 users. The count number does not differentiate between cyclists and pedestrians but does show a weekday average of 140 users and a weekend average of 260 users. These numbers indicate more recreational use on weekends but as the population of the surrounding area has increased the needs for active transportation and recreation options has increased. To help north Denver residents access employment opportunities and provide active transportation and recreation options to meet current demand the Sand Creek Regional Trail must be improved.

References:

Children age 5-17- <http://DenverRegionalEquityAtlas.org/RetrieveMapSession?id=6f0610c0-a014-4cf7-ae33-4a8201f1fad6>

Median income- <http://DenverRegionalEquityAtlas.org/RetrieveMapSession?id=c07c5353-fa9e-40e1-9029-ffd73a97c615>

Non-White population- <http://DenverRegionalEquityAtlas.org/RetrieveMapSession?id=e2aef0a0-cef6-4559-90c7-8f7044c15f2a>

2. SCOPE

Currently, the Sand Creek Regional Trail has segments that do not meet current City and County of Denver trail standards. To encourage an increase in trail use and improve safety and enjoyment, the trail must be upgraded to the current trail standards. The project will implement the Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails standard for regional trails of a 12' wide concrete multi-use trail with a 4' wide crusher fines side path. Some segments of the trail have been improved over time as part of other projects and the newly constructed segments will tie into these existing segments. The existing segments are 10' wide concrete trail but are lacking the crusher fines side path. These existing segments will be evaluated for suitability and the soft surface side path will be added as site conditions allow.

The existing alignment and elevation of the trail is not intended to shift, but final alignment and trail profile will be determined during design. There is one location where the trail alignment will be straightened to bring the trail closer to creek as was identified as the preferred alignment in the 2016 Sand Creek Greenway Mater Plan. Flood plain permits and requirements will be addressed during the design phase of the project and the final trail alignment to be constructed will be done so in accordance with the flood plain regulations.

There is a trailhead off Smith Road and this project will implement improvements to the trailhead. A small parking area will be paved with asphalt, the exact size and area to be paved will be determined based available funding and resulting scope. Less funding will result in a smaller parking area. The trailhead needs new signs and some site furnishings and those will also be value engineering elements determined by available funding.

From the Smith Road trailhead, the primary trail heads south across a bridge over Sand Creek into the Westerly Creek uplands area, near the confluence of Sand Creek and Westerly Creek, or trail users can head east or west. To the west is the primary route and to the east is a secondary route. The primary route to west heads down between the walls remaining from the old Stapleton airport runways and in this segment a secondary trail alignment will be designed and included for construction depending on available funding. The purpose of this secondary alignment will be to provide a high-water route for the trail out of the flood plain during high flows on Sand Creek and to provide access to Denver Parks and Recreation property that currently lacks access.

To the east from the Smith Road trailhead is a secondary route that will be improved to a 6' wide crusher fine trail to form about a mile-long trail heading east toward Havana Road. This secondary trail is envisioned as an out-and-back route with a short loop on the eastern end. This secondary trail will provide access to the north side of the creek and is a desired alignment identified in the 2016 Sand Creek Greenway Master Plan.

The primary trail, secondary trail and improvements to the existing trail head will complete this vital community resource and improve access to open space, recreation and active transportation for generation to come.

3. TIMELINE

Property acquisition is in process to purchase the last remaining private property along the trail corridor and once this acquisition is complete the entire trail corridor will be owned by the City and County of Denver. The property acquisition is funded and being worked on by City and County of Denver Real Estate but in the worst-case scenarios, either an easement will be needed to cross the property, or the trail will remain in its current alignment and jog away from the creek north toward I-70 and then west again. The property acquisition is anticipated to be complete before construction begins, and construction is anticipated to begin in early 2021.

There will be flood plain impacts on the western segment of the trail and the level of effort for the flood plain work will be determined during the design process. The design includes survey and engineering work to evaluate flood plain impacts and get the necessary permits and approvals. This project could require CLOMR and LOMR from FEMA and we will know that when the design is at 60%. If CLOMR and LOMR are needed these map revisions would be complete prior to construction.

Based on review of the project's proposed scope, Denver Parks and Recreation's Natural Resources Planner did not find any environmental impacts beyond "negligible impacts" within the project corridor. The project scope and map were sent to the Area Wildlife Manager prior to the July 1, 2019 deadline.

4. ACCESS

The Sand Creek Regional Trail connects City of Commerce City, City and County of Denver and the City of Aurora. The Sand Creek Regional Trail also connects to the South Platte River Trail and the High Line Canal Trail and provides east/west active transportation connectivity and recreation access in the rapidly developing northeast Denver area. Improving the trail will promote increased use of the trail will enhance access to the natural resources and allow for more year-round educational and environmental programming by our non-profit partner Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership. The Sand Creek Regional Trail is the last regional trail in Denver to be fully built out, and completion of this trail will provide the City a fully implemented regional trail system.

Trails provide a “high comfort, low stress” way for residents to navigate their city. Many residents are interested in alternative transportation, such as biking or walking throughout the city, but see safety and convenience concerns as considerable barriers. Improving the trail infrastructure at Sand Creek will alleviate some of these fears, providing an opportunity for active transportation for residents of Commerce City, northeast Denver and northwest Aurora. The Denver Regional Equity Atlas shows a high number of children ages 5-17 within one mile of the Sand Creek Regional Trail. Children make up nearly 20% of the population of the two census block groups intersecting the 1-mile radius of the project site.

5. PLANNING

The 2016 Sand Creek Regional Greenway Trail, Denver Segment Master Plan identified a range of options for improving the trail. Today, significant portions of the trail remain soft surface and these existing soft surface segments are subject to impacts from erosion and elevated maintenance needs. Two public meetings and three stakeholder meeting were held to get input on the master plan in 2016. There is no documented public opposition to the project. The 2016 master plan elicited a strong public desire to improve the trail and open space resources. Building off this work the final design and complete construction documents package for the entire corridor will be developed through a separate design project beginning August 2019. This upcoming design work will include two public meetings to get updated community input. The funding we are seeking will go toward construction of the trail as the 2019 design work is fully funded.

The 2019 Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails plan addresses the need to complete the trail network in Denver. Sand Creek is specifically mentioned in the section outlining the importance of the complete trail network. The “complete network reduces access barriers” (p. 72) and the plan also includes two priority projects to improve access to Sand Creek Regional Trail. But, before additional access to the trail can be prioritized the regional trail must be completed. The Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails plan is designed to complement the Denver Moves Transit and Bicycle plans and together provide a comprehensive planning framework to address the needs of alternative modes of transportation. In addition to this transportation element, Sand Creek Regional Trail provides access to recreation opportunities, natural areas and healthy active lifestyles for north Denver residents and the entire metro area.

6. COLLABORATION AND MATCHING FUNDS

Denver Parks and Recreation has a strong relationship with the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership, they are not contributing matching funds but contribute strong leadership in outreach and education and have been major champions for the complete buildout of the trail. The Greenway Partnership was a key partner in the development of the 2016 Sand Creek Greenway Mater Plan and it is through their ongoing collaboration with Denver Park and Recreation that this project has remained a priority.

In 2018, Denver voters approved measure 2A, which dedicates a percentage of sales tax toward the improvement and expansion of Denver’s parks and recreation system. The passage of 2A was an important turning point for one of the region’s largest and most historic park systems which serves hundreds of thousands of people throughout the Denver-metro area annually. While 2A does not fully meet increased annual deferred maintenance needs and expanded demands placed on the park system as our city continues to grow, it provides DPR a unique opportunity to more effectively leverage funds from partner organizations with shared goals to provide Denver residents with innovative programs and safe, beautiful, sustainable places to connect with nature and live healthy, active lives.

The funding requested through this grant will be part of the overall funding package, with an additional \$2,850,000 for construction of the trail coming from the Denver sales tax funding dedicated to park, trails and open space. This additional sales tax funding will be available in 2020.

7. URGENCY AND NEED FOR FUNDS

Since Stapleton airport closed in 1995 there has been a vision to have a trail following Sand Creek connecting Aurora, Denver and Commerce City. This vision has become a necessity with the development of north Denver spurred by the redevelopment of Stapleton and the Denver metro area's economic and population boom. According to the Census Bureau, Denver's population was 600,158 in 2010 and the 2018 estimate is 716,492. Sand Creek Regional Trail is one of the key active transportation and recreation corridors in north Denver and investing in this trail shows commitment to continuing to provide more access to the trail for communities surrounding Sand Creek. Active transportation and recreation opportunities are vital to healthy lifestyles.

The funding available from sales tax revenue must be supplemented by additional funds to ensure the facility constructed meets the current and future needs of residents of north Denver. Now is the opportunity to build all the infrastructure and amenities needed, all at once, to ensure access to healthy lifestyles are available to all Denver residents.

8. MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of the trail will be provided by Denver Parks and Recreation. DPR already maintains the trail, but because the trail is not improved in all segments and is still incomplete, the Sand Creek Regional Greenway is mostly maintained as a natural area with minimal specific trail maintenance. Much of the maintenance has come in the form of repairs to erosion impacts and graffiti removal. The per hour average rate for maintenance based on the records kept by the Parks Operations Division is \$21.29, but the total number of hours has been low. Building out the trail to the current City and County of Denver trail standards will increase maintenance costs by requiring more hours removing trash, vegetation management, maintaining and replacing signs and other standard trail maintenance. The buildout of Sand Creek Regional Trail was anticipated and accounted for in the 2020 budget request from the Park Operations Division.

9. CONTINGENCY/ABILITY

This project has funding dedicated from the 2A sales tax, but the purpose of the tax funding is to leverage additional funding and the \$500,000 DPR is seeking from the Colorado the Beautiful Grant Program is vital to building all the elements needed for the trail. If funds are not awarded the project will have to be scaled back and the scope reduced. Denver Parks and Recreation is well suited to manage a grant and meet all the requirements associated with the funding, reporting and fiscal management.

Denver Parks and Recreation received a Colorado the Beautiful Grant for the Heller/Heron/Carpio Park in 2018 for \$500,000 and this demonstrates our department's commitment to the effective, efficient use of funds associated with this grant program. DPR takes fiscal responsibility very seriously and our project managers are supported by fiscal administrators and contract specialists to ensure successful competition of projects and compliance with funding and program requirements.

Partnerships between agencies play an important role in maximizing delivery of projects for the constituents we all serve. Funding is one prime example of these partnerships and Denver Parks and Recreation will continue to seek funding from our partner federal, state and local agencies, plus non-profits and foundations to enable delivery of world class, parks, trails and open space projects for the residents of the City and County of Denver, the Denver metro region and the State of Colorado.

Non-Federal Environmental Form

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST (for projects outside of NEPA requirements) (Construction 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.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS Indicate potential for adverse impacts	NOT APPLICABLE Resource does not exist	NEGLEGIBE IMPACTS Exists but no or negligible impacts	MINOR IMPACTS	IMPACTS EXCEED MINOR	MORE DATA NEEDED TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF IMPACT
1. Plants species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing	X				
2. Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations	X				
3. Wetlands/floodplains		X			
4. Storm water runoff		X			
5. Sedimentation	X				
6. Disturbances to neighboring properties	X				
7. Soil/erosion		X			
8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species	X				
9. Environmental disturbances during construction		X			

MITIGATION: Please describe how any 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 that would encourage seepage
- Comprehensive storm water runoff plan

Non-Federal Environmental Form

BENEFIT: Please describe if the project will have a positive impact on sensitive species; some consideration 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

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.**

Allegra "Happy" Haynes, Executive Director

Printed name of applicant:

An authorized person must sign here, such as the applicant's executive director, county commission chairperson, or city council chairperson. Must be same person as Application Checklist.

Happy Haynes

Signature of applicant

7/29/19

Date

Cincere Eades, Natural Resources Planner

Printed name, title of authority:

County/local government natural resource specialist or hired consultant that completed this checklist must sign here. The applicant and title of authority must be different.

Cincere Eades

Signature authority:









7.17.19

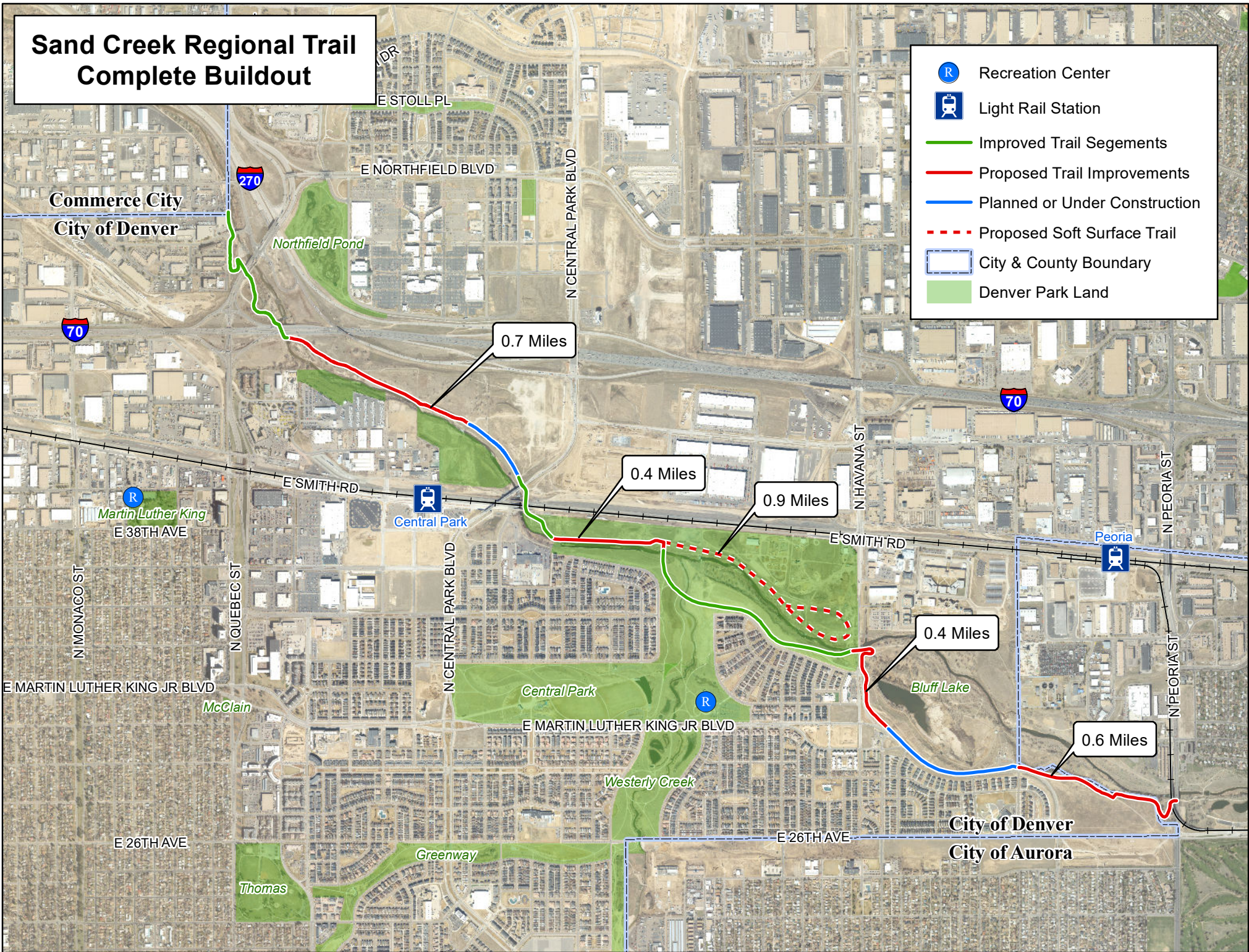
Date

Exhibit B
Budget Form - Project Name: Sand Creek Regional Trail Buildout

SOURCE OF FUNDS	Date Secured				CPW Trails Grant Request [A]	Total Project Match [B]	Total Funding (\$) [C]	
CASH								
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	TBD				\$ 500,000.00		\$ 500,000.00	
City and County of Denver	1/1/2020					\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	
							\$ -	
IN-KIND								
							\$ -	
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS					\$ 500,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 650,000.00	
[CASH] Description of Work								
Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total (B*D)	CPW Funds	Total Project Match (\$)	Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]	
CATEGORY 1-Contracted Services Identify as: Youth Corps, Engineering, Contractor, etc.								
Contractor-6' wide crusher fine trail	4752	LFT	\$ 87.50	\$ 415,800.00	\$ 415,800.00	\$ 415,800.00	0	
Contractor-4' wide crusher fine sidepath	4015.775	LFT	\$ 58.32	\$ 234,200.00	\$ 84,200.00	\$ 150,000.00	0	
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
Category 2 - Salary/Wages								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
CATEGORY 3-Materials/Supplies Identify as: Signs, crusherfines, native seed, weed barrier, etc.								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
Additional Categories								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
USE OF FUNDS - CASH SUBTOTAL					\$ 500,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 650,000.00	
[IN-KIND] Description of Work								
Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total (B*D)			Total Funding (\$)	Balance [should be 0]	
Category 1 - Contracted Services								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
Category 2 - Salary/Wages								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
Category 3 - Materials/Tools								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
Additional Categories								
				\$ -		\$ -	0	
IN-KIND SUBTOTAL						\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL PROJECT COST					\$ 500,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 650,000.00	
30% REQUIRED MATCH						\$ 150,000.00		

Sand Creek Regional Trail Complete Buildout

-  Recreation Center
-  Light Rail Station
-  Improved Trail Segments
-  Proposed Trail Improvements
-  Planned or Under Construction
-  Proposed Soft Surface Trail
-  City & County Boundary
-  Denver Park Land











SAND CREEK REGIONAL GREENWAY

Wilderness In the City

7350 E. 29th Avenue
Suite 300
Denver, CO 80238
303-468-3263
www.sandcreekgreenway.org

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Community Volunteer
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Oscar Madera
Commerce City City
Council
Robbin Mitchell
Community Volunteer
Kerry O'Connell
Mortenson
Rich Reading
Butterfly Pavilion
Jim Spaanstra
Faegre Baker Daniels LLP
Jim Thomas
Minor & Brown PC

Executive Director

Beth Nobles

July 19, 2019

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division
Trails Program
13787 U.S. Hwy 85 N.
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Colorado the Beautiful Grant Opportunity

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express our strongest support of Denver Parks and Recreation's application to Colorado the Beautiful grant opportunity for construction funding for our Sand Creek Greenway.

Our 14 mile of trail stretches through the metro communities of Denver, Aurora and Commerce City and their neighborhoods and businesses. We are a major east-west trail connector and a critical link in the regional trail network. Completing the construction and paving through the central Denver section is an absolutely critical step in encouraging use of the trail. Without it, the entire metro trail system has an unattractive and unappealing section, discouraging full use.

A complete build-out of the trail is THE major event we need to take place to fully realize the potential of our Greenway, as a recreational destination, as an outdoor classroom and as a transportation venue. It will help our cities fulfill their goals to have park land and trails conveniently available to all metro-area citizens.

We respectfully ask that the evaluation committee for the Colorado the Beautiful program favorably consider awarding this grant to Denver Parks and Recreation.

Sincerely,

Beth Nobles

Executive Director



THE HONORABLE

Christopher J. Herndon
COUNCILMAN DISTRICT 8

City and County of Denver
CITY COUNCIL

Arie P. Taylor Municipal Building
4685 Peoria St., Suite 245
Denver, CO 80239
p: 720.337.8888
christopher.herndon@denvergov.org

July 18, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today in support of Denver Parks and Recreation's application for the Colorado the Beautiful grant to fund the full buildout of the Sand Creek Regional Trail.

The Sand Creek Regional Trail system connects Aurora, Commerce City and Denver to the South Platte River Trail. This project will help provide a trail for the community and region to enjoy.

The Sand Creek Regional Trail is a significant asset to the residents of District 8 and this funding is important to the successful stewardship of this resource.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher J. Herndon".

Christopher J. Herndon, MPA
Denver City Council
District 8