

# Application form



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - CONSTRUCTION

## PROJECT BASICS

Title Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement Project

Type  Construction  Planning  
 Maintenance  Support

Phased project  Yes  No If yes, Phase # of

Brief summary

Intertwined ramp and stairs stemming from a single universal access point from the upper level to the lower level of the site, creating a safe, welcoming path for all visitors, considerate of all mobility levels and modes of movement. This project will rectify unsafe and inaccessible trails.

Grant request	\$ 250,000.00	Grant ratio <sup>1</sup>	33 %
Match	\$ 509,792.50	Match ratio	67 %
Total	\$ 759,792.50	Total	100 %

## APPLICANT

Type  Local  County  Federal  Tribal  
 Recreation and Metro Districts  Non-Profit

Organization Bluff Lake Nature Center

Postal address 4760 Oakland St, Suite 200

City Denver State CO ZIP Code 80239

General email info@blufflake.org UEI # LQT5J6JY2GP4

Lead contact Leila Regan-Porter Title Development Director

Telephone (404) 313-3720 Email leila@blufflake.org

Project manager Rachel Hutchens Title Executive Director

Telephone (720) 708-4147 Email rachel@blufflake.org

## PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization  N/A

Postal address

City State CO ZIP Code

Contact name Title

Telephone Email

<sup>1</sup> Grant ratio = grant request / total. Match ratio = match / total.

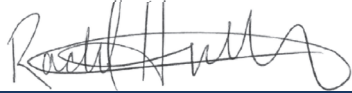
PROPERTY			
Nearest town or city	Denver	County	Denver
Latitude/Longitude	39.75849946/-104.85716586	Congressional district	1
Name of property owner	Bluff Lake Nature Center		
Trail Corridor controlled by	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee simple	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease	<input type="checkbox"/> Easement
	<input type="checkbox"/> License	<input type="checkbox"/> ROW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Free public use, privately owned

TRAIL			
Uses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking, walking, running	<input type="checkbox"/> Biking	<input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian
E-bikes allowed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snow sports (non-motorized)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Educational Programming		
Estimate percentage by type (e.g.,) 50% hiking, etc.	45% walking, 25% running, 10% education, 19% ADA, 1% snow sports		
Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural	<input type="checkbox"/> Crusher fines	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Size of new trailhead (sq. ft.)		Length of trail being planned	755 linear ft
Length of new trail construction <sup>2</sup>	755 linear ft	Length of trail maintenance	
Length of inter-connecting trail		Length of trail reroute	
Length of decommissioned trail	996 linear ft	Length of restored trail	
Length of trail to be signed	755 linear ft	Length of trail grooming	
Other:			
Estimated amount of paid crew hours:	Grant	Match:	100

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the applicant entity, I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct.

**Authorized Representative**

Signature		Date	10/02/2023
Name	Rachel Hutchens	Title	Executive Director

<sup>2</sup> Length of trail – use miles, square feet, linear feet



10/2/2023

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for Bluff Lake Nature Center's Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs project.

This project has been discussed in depth by the Board of Directors (as well as our subcommittees including the Natural Resource and Site Management Committee) and we are aware of and support the application to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Non-Motorized Trails Grant. We believe this project is critical for our organization's ability to continue fulfilling our mission, vision, and values. At our next full board meeting we will pass a resolution in support of the project. We recognize the legal and financial obligations this grant would entail, and support the project's completion and long-term maintenance. I can also verify that Bluff Lake Nature Center intends to operate indefinitely into the future, but should any issue arise, there are restrictive covenants in place as a part of our land transfer agreement from the City and County of Denver (in 2008) that would revert the land back to their ownership as a nature center and wildlife refuge in perpetuity.

We recognize the tremendous importance of this project, and hope that, with support from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, it will become a reality and a gateway to nature for so many of our neighbors who are unable to fully access the nature sanctuary that is Bluff Lake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Jared Luner  
Board President, Bluff Lake Nature Center  
Regulatory Policy Specialist, Xcel Energy

# Timeline



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION

## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization Bluff Lake Nature Center

Project title Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement Project

TASK	Q4 2022- Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2022- Q2 2024	Q3 2024- Q3 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025- Q3 2026	Q3 2026
<i>Mobilization, staffing, construction or maintenance elements, planning phases, etc.</i>							
Mobilizing design team (landscape architect, engineers, consultants), <del>community engagement, concept level design</del>	X(done)						
Concept level plan submittal with City and County of Denver		X(done)					
Contracting with Construction Manager/General Contractor		X(done)					
Construction Documents finalized			X				
Permitting with City and County of Denver			X				
Break Ground followed by Construction				X			
<b>Significant Completion</b>					X		
Removing Former Ramp & Site Restoration (open during construction to provide access to the site)						X	
Administrative Close-out							X

\*The timeline is an estimate of your project completion. Remember the project must be completed within 2.5 years of the award date. *Suggestion - use quarterly or multiple month time frames [Q2/XX; Jun-Sept XX].* Initial grant expiration date will be June 30<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup>, dependent upon assigned funding source.

# Criteria Questions



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - CONSTRUCTION

Organization Bluff Lake Nature Center

Project title Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement Project

## 1. PROJECT NEED

15 points

- A. Give a detailed description of the project, including information such as miles of new or resurfaced trails, any other trail components/structures, and the restoration/decommission of old reroutes.

Bluff Lake will create a combined Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs from the upper level to the lower level of the site (ramp length 600 linear feet, stairs length 155 linear feet, combined trail length 755 linear feet). This will replace the separate ramp (length 782 linear feet) and stairs (length 214 linear feet), which are not ADA compliant. The new trail will be constructed in place of the current stairs, and the current ramp will be removed and the land will be restored to natural habitat.

The trail will be a intertwined ramp and stairs stemming from a single universal access point from the upper level to the lower level of the site, creating a safe, welcoming path for all visitors, considerate of all mobility levels and modes of movement. This project will rectify unsafe and inaccessible trails that have split groups based on accessibility, resulting in inequitable nature experiences.

- B. Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time.

The trail is part of a Major Campus Improvements Project, which initially included a new building, parking lot, and utilities. After extensive community engagement, we discovered that the biggest needs actually revolved around the access down into the site. This project now features a complete redesign of our ramp and stair system that leads visitors into the site. New project features reflect community feedback telling us that access to outdoor recreation and education is not currently equitable, and that those with limited mobility and other accessibility needs do not have the same access as our able-bodied visitors. Mobilizing this project during other major campus improvements, including the new building, will ensure less interruption to visitors, an easing of fiscal burden on our small nonprofit, less impact on the site and habitats, and a smoother transition to a more accessible and welcoming site experience.

- C. Describe all existing trails/trail systems in the area and the need for additional trail reroutes to be constructed.

The proposed ramp and stairs trail will replace the current separate ramp and stairs, and will lead visitors from the entrance and parking lot to the Lake Loop (1 mi) and Creek Loop (0.4 mi). The Sand Creek Regional Greenway runs around our site, with access at our entrance. Our current ramp is too steep and does not have flat resting points along the trail. It is also constructed out of a crusher fine surface, which is very hard to maintain. It frequently ices over in the winter and gets ruts after rainfall. New trail conditions would include: asphalt paving for easy snow removal and no rutting from rain, making the path easier to navigate for mobility devices; frequent rest stops with benches and overlooks; a new, universal entry-point adjacent to the newly-designed gateway to the site, leading to the start of the ramp and stairs, that would be easily findable for all visitors.

**2. COMMUNITY BENEFIT****15 points**

- A. Describe the community that will benefit from this project. Include relevant demographic and economic data.

This project addresses the intersection of race and ability. The Hispanic Access Foundation and the Center for American Progress found that communities of color are almost three times more likely than white communities to live in “nature deprived” areas. According to the Center for Disease Control, people of color are more likely to have a disability. As we serve communities of color, low income, and higher disability from Montbello, Northwest Aurora, and Commerce City (via EPA's EJ Screening and Mapping Tool), Bluff Lake is a vital point of access to nature for multi-generational families who will benefit from a universally-accessible ramp and entry point. Bluff Lake is an outdoor classroom to thousands of school-aged children (8,000+/year) through (free for Title I) educational programming. A majority of our students come from Aurora Public Schools, Denver Public Schools, and Adams 14, which averaged together is 65.5% Hispanic, 15.5% white, 11% Black, and 8% other. It is imperative that our diverse visitors are able to easily access and enjoy this shared natural space. Currently many are unable to do so due to the challenging nature of our ramp and stairs.

- B. Outline any deficiencies or barriers to access that this project would address or improve for the abovementioned community.

This project will increase access to nature for people with disabilities. Access to nature is the lens through which Bluff Lake looks when we consider our programs and site, asking ourselves what barriers are between underserved communities and nature experiences. This is especially important for people with disabilities, BIPOC, our elders, and children in low-income urban areas, all of whom Bluff Lake is well-situated to be a source of natural respite. Through extensive community engagement, we discovered that many people with disabilities, especially wheelchair and mobility device users, are unable to fully access and enjoy our site. Having a nature sanctuary in the heart of an urban area is paramount when considering accessibility for those who have to contemplate trail conditions etc. We recognize that there are additional trail accessibility issues we need to fix, which is part of our master plan, and this is a first step in removing the biggest barrier: Access down to the site. Creating a welcoming and accessible space to be used by our underserved communities will increase appreciation of nature, physical activity, and socialization.

- C. Estimate the number of people and/or types of user groups that will have access to recreational opportunities as a result of this project. Include methods for determining this estimate.

Bluff Lake Nature Center serves 85,000 visitors a year (number determined by attendance counters at the ramp and stairs entrances). The project will serve those that access Bluff Lake each year, as well as an untold number of community members who have not yet visited Bluff Lake due to our inaccessible ramp. Many adjacent neighbors may not even be aware of Bluff Lake, and we hope this process can help expand the reach of the organization throughout the area and bring people together at the site.

Those that will have access as a result of this project include: people with disabilities; people who use mobility devices; multi-generational families and groups; class and youth groups with people of differing abilities. A major goal of this project is to bring together groups of people who would be otherwise separated by different entry points to the site, which “others” people with disabilities and other groups we mentioned.

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### 3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

10 points

- A. Give a detailed description of who will oversee the design process and trail construction. Include who will build the trail (staff, volunteers, conservation corps, contractors, etc.)

Bluff Lake Nature Center staff will include Executive Director Rachel Hutchens and Natural Resource Manager Tess Robeson. Rachel has been highly involved with the community engagement and design process. Tess manages the site, ensuring the protection of habitats, and working with volunteers and restoration crews. Tess will oversee work crews of volunteers (including our dedicated and knowledgeable weekly Weed Warriors), Mile High Youth Corps, Groundwork Denver, and site interns in the plantings and restoration around the current ramp and stairs, after they are removed.

We engaged the design team of Shape Architecture and Superbloom Landscape Architecture based on their focus on sustainable and inclusive design, access to health and environmental justice. We have a team who can truly create an inclusive space for our community. They have been instrumental in recognizing areas for improvement regarding accessibility, developing the community engagement process, and planning for a sustainable future of the site with restoration projects and plantings.

Cumming Management Group is Bluff Lake's owner's representative for this project, and were engaged early on to ensure a smooth process. Cumming has been providing owner's representative services to clients throughout the front range for over 25 years.

Bluff Lake recently engaged Howell Construction as contract manager/general contractor for the entire Campus Improvements Project, which includes this trail. They understand the need to plan and execute our construction operations in a way that minimizes impact to programs, maintains access for visitors, adheres to stormwater management best practices, and does not interfere with habitats and wildlife.

- B. Outline any CPW State Trails funding received in the last five years and if the project(s) were completed on time, on budget and within scope. For applicants without prior State Trails funding, provide examples of similar grant funded projects. Include project title, year of award, grant amount, and grantor for each.

N/A

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**4. PLANNING**

**10 points**

- A. Discuss the process that identified this construction project as a priority.

This project is one element of the greater Campus Improvements Project and was added to the original plan after considerable community engagement that spanned several years. This included: 1) Laying the groundwork. We prioritized conversations with organizations serving BIPOC and disabled communities in Montbello, Aurora, Commerce City, building trust through program co-creation. 2) Learning about our site. Staff from all Bluff Lake departments (natural resources, education, resource development) collaborated with partners to create reports with a Birdability site survey with Denver Audobon’s Birding Without Barriers and a Roll and Stroll led by Topher Downham, creator of Boulder’s Accessible Trails Guide. Engaging our onsite homeschool program, we heard from a six-year-old student with hypotonia and osteoporosis who struggles to use the stairs with her caregiver’s assistance, feeling “othered” when forced to use the ramp. 3) Listening to our neighbors. Multilingual compensated online and in-person surveys were administered. To reach people where they are, surveys were administered at neighborhood events, including Montbello Town Hall and Library events, the latter engaging 50+ students using the library on early-release days. Almost 300 people responded to the surveys. Comments included: “Being sure that we can get the wheelchair on the trails,” “fixing the stairs are they ADA compliant?” and “no wheelchair accessibility.” JEDI partners Prismatic conduct two compensated group empathy interviews. Empathy interview comments included: “It was challenging to be in a wheelchair,” “We didn’t know where the access ramps were.” Living experts revealed inequitable access to Bluff Lake. This project will serve as a major accessibility improvements milestone.

- B. List all approved internal master or outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports.

After deep community engagement and internal review, Bluff Lake developed a Site Infrastructure Master Plan which identifies elements needed to improve our organization's ability to protect and manage this open space. Elements include:

- 1) Building with classrooms, facilities, and admin space
- 2) Updated Parking Lot
- 3) Universally Accessible Ramp and Stairs
- 4) West Entrance
- 5) Outdoor Prairie Classroom
- 6) Creek Deck Overlook
- 7) Amphitheatre Improvements
- 8) Full Trail System Maintenance and ADA Redesign

These elements were approved by our board of directors and will be phased over the next decade, starting with the first 3 elements. Community engagement identified numerous other areas onsite that could be improved and made more accessible through trail redesign and maintenance. BLNC plans to do this project over the next 5 years.

This project also directly supports the City and County of Denver Department of Parks and Recreation's “Game Plan for a Healthy City” specifically the elements related to connectivity and making nature accessible.



**5. MAINTENANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**10 points**

- A. Explain how the site will be maintained and monitored (maintenance plans, estimated cost, and future budgeting commitments, etc.) after construction.

Bluff Lake’s Natural Resource Manager Tess Robeson will oversee the maintenance of the trails, as she monitors and manages the entire site. She is also responsible for overseeing the robust volunteers, youth corps groups, and interns that maintain the site.

The aforementioned design team, general contractor, and owner’s representatives are refining pro forma budgets for Bluff Lake to use in determining the full cost of future maintenance. We have calculated pro forma expense models to determine the new operating, programming, and maintenance costs that will come with the campus improvements. This will be supported in part by our endowment fund, which we will be fundraising for in 2024, as part of Bluff Lake’s 30th anniversary, to ensure the improvements are sustainable for the organization moving forward.

The Hadley Smith Bluff Lake Nature Center Fund was launched in 2020 by a \$1,000,000 donation to Bluff Lake by the Smith Family in honor of their late daughter Hadley. The \$1,000,000 gift is held and invested by The Denver Foundation.

We receive annual funding from many funders including the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) based on our service to Denver, Arapahoe, and Adams counties; Great Outdoors Colorado for programming; and Xcel Energy Foundation for site maintenance, which has needed a greater focus as visitation has increased.

The capital campaign for the Campus Improvements Project has placed Bluff Lake in an ideal position to engage more fully with our community of users and donors and secure and build new pathways of communication and resource development.

- B. Describe the best management practices that will be used to construct the trail to ensure that the trail and its amenities will be sustainable.

Landscape architects Superbloom were chosen because of their interest and knowledge of ecosystems and sustainable practices. They have been our partners throughout this project and have listened and learned from Bluff Lake’s team to understand best practices when it comes to protecting wildlife and creating a sustainable finished project. One example of this was the decision to use asphalt for the trail surface, as it will require less maintenance and will be better equipped to handle mobility devices. Superbloom has extensive experience in trail construction with projects like High Prairie Park in Aurora (features extensive stormwater elements), Wild Bear Nature Center in Nederland, and Central Park with the City of Denver.

Howell Construction has a history of “invisible construction,” which relates just as strongly to nature as it does to the public we serve. Since they have joined the team, there have been robust discussions as to how this project will provide better access in a manner that is sustainable for both the natural environment and the organization.

**6. WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES****15 points**

- A. Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the project scoping phase (using 'Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind', mapping tools, etc.). Include any positive impacts this work will showcase.

When analyzing the potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources, we used multiple tools as well as on the ground research. We first considered if it was possible to redesign our old ramp to have a lesser impact on the surrounding habitats. However, due to site slopes, that was found to be impossible. We then looked at the proposed site area, consulted with many community members including several of our site volunteers who have been working on site restoration for over 20 years at Bluff Lake. We determined that the positive value of rerouting this ramp and then restoring the old ramp area to native habitat outweighed the potential negative impacts of habitat fragmentation and disturbance during construction. Other human dimensions we considered include decreased off-trail usage (a current problem) and continuing our policy of no dogs. We analyzed our internal wildlife "heat maps" (created using game camera footage), evaluated data submitted through online portals such as iNaturalist and eBird, discussed habitat conditions with experts like the Colorado Partnership in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. We also looked at statewide mapping tools and endangered species lists.

- B. Describe any wildlife and natural resources issues raised by CPW staff during the application consultation.

CPW staff was enthusiastic about the project and commented "From an overall perspective, CPW would expect that the development of the newly proposed Universally-Accessible ramp and stairs would have minimal impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat." However they did bring up three main points which our team has considered and plans to implement.

- 1) Fragmentation- trail creation naturally fragments wildlife habitat which could impact ground-nesting birds, small ground-dwelling mammals, raccoons, foxes, coyotes, and deer along with a variety of raptor species using the property for loafing, foraging or simply passing through the area.
- 2) Burrowing Owl Survey- if prairie dog towns are present at or near the site and development will occur between March 15 and August 31.
- 3) Active Weed Management Plan- ensuring that noxious and invasive weeds do not take over the area during and after restoration, which would have negative impacts on native wildlife habitats.

- C. Explain how potential wildlife and natural resource impacts will be avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated (trail realignment, seasonal closures (include dates), signage, gates, game cameras, etc.)

One major benefit of our project is that we are creating this new ramp and stair system as a replacement for an old ramp. This old ramp will serve as the main public access point during construction (so impacts from the construction to the rest of the site should be minimal). We also plan to restore the old ramp to native habitat at the completion of the project, thus mitigating some of the habitat fragmentation occurring.

The Bluff Lake Natural Resource Team conducts frequent Burrowing Owl Surveys in the prairie dog towns on and adjacent to our property, and plans to continue doing so before, during, and after construction. We also have a strong history of weed management, successfully restoring our site to near-native habitat after decades spent as a part of the Stapleton Airport. Our staff, interns, weekly volunteers, frequent corporate groups, and paid contracted workers are thorough and dedicated to maintaining these habitats.

**7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS**

**15 points**

A. Outline public engagement activities for this project (public meetings, comment periods, surveys, etc.)

See 4A for engagement thus far. This laid the groundwork for the community engagement we will conduct moving forward. The plans for this and the entire Campus Improvements Project have been displayed onsite, online, in local press, via social media and newsletters. We unveiled plans to stakeholders at an event on September 14. A new round of surveys will be conducted onsite and online, as well as in person at community partner tabling events, such as local farmers markets, holiday events, town halls, and school events, as well as Bluff Lake’s own regular public programming. We will continue to engage with the partners listed in 4A, as they have been instrumental in giving us living expert advice on what makes a trail truly accessible. We will also utilize our other community partners to hear from people who have not been directly contacted by Bluff Lake, but are invested in access to nature. We received CPW Partners in the Outdoors Program grant to equitably engage an additional bilingual AmeriCorps Environmental Educator to translate materials into Spanish and be present for Spanish-speaking community engagement.

B. Describe any partnerships that will ensure the project’s success (public agencies, conservation or recreation groups, local businesses, etc.)

We have developed strong relationships with groups like The Nature Conservancy, Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership, Environmental Learning for Kids, and Colorado Health Foundation (funders of this project), all of whom hold access to nature in the highest regard. Partnerships have led to better understanding of the site and stronger relationships to ensure we are better serving our visitors with disabilities. We conducted a Birdability site survey with Denver Audobon’s Birding Without Barriers and a Roll and Stroll led by Topher Downham, creator of Boulder’s Accessible Trails Guide. Both of these organizations have supported us in advising the project as it progresses.

We frequently use our strong partnerships with organizations like Denver Parks and Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership to consult on management issues related to wildlife habitats, weed mitigation, and more.

C. Describe how potential opposition to this project or its implementation will be identified, addressed and managed.

There will be some difficulties as site access will be impacted while the ramp and stairs trail is being constructed. However, we are working on implementing creative scheduling around when certain areas will be closed to minimize the difficulty in access. The current ramp will remain open while the current stairs are removed and replaced with the new ramp and stairs trail. We will also utilize the above partnerships to engage fully with the community and communicate thoroughly with the public to ensure everyone is aware of the project.

While Bluff Lake does have prairie dogs onsite, this project area does not currently have prairie dog colonies. We do not anticipate opposition, but have internal policies in place as well as a board of directors with whom to consult.

**8. BUDGET AND FUNDING****10 points**

- A. Describe the source of match for the project and when it will be secured. Include in-kind donations and partner contributions.

Colorado Health Foundation has awarded Bluff Lake with a grant of \$350,000 for this project. This is a huge commitment and a vital sign that the project has been designed with the community as partners in the process, as we actively work to remove barriers from access to nature.

In-kind donations include service-learning projects (restoration, planting, future maintenance) by Mile High Youth Corps and Groundwork Denver, as well as 100+ hours of volunteer work. We partner every year with these organizations as a host site for their young adult stewardship crews and anticipate that to continue into the future.

The remaining match will consist of private donations that have already been secured.

- B. Describe any consequences if this funding application is unsuccessful (loss of partner funds, staff capacity, expiration of surveys, etc.).

The timing of this funding is instrumental in ensuring that we are able to move ahead with final planning and implementation of this project in relation to the Campus Improvements Project. We have already noted the need for this project to occur in conjunction with the other improvements, and not being able to do so would be detrimental to the accessibility of the entire Campus Improvements Project. We will have a new building and parking lot that is accessible, but the continued lack of access to the majority of the site (which is the true focus of Bluff Lake) will mean the building is pointless, as it does not fulfill our commitment to making nature accessible.

An unsuccessful funding application and a delay in funding will also mean that current surveys and geotechnical reports may need to be redone.

Our Colorado Health Foundation grant was awarded in the fall cycle to ensure that we could use it as a match for grants such as these, therefore we would be at risk of not being able to use those funds in the agreed upon manner.

Having to delay this project would also be a huge burden on our small nonprofit, financially and organizationally.

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# 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:** Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement Project

**Project Sponsor:** Bluff Lake Nature Center

<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disturbances to neighboring properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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

- Comprehensive regrading plan carried out by our contractor
- Utilization of active weed management plan to choose appropriate seed mixes and plants, as well as monitor site for several years after construction to remove any invasive or nonnative species that have appeared.
- Team will conduct frequent wildlife surveys of the area before, during, and after construction, using wildlife cameras and more formal surveys for species such as Burrowing Owls.
- Team has already paid for multiple site surveys including a geotechnical report, soil sample report, and review of a previous Phase 1 Environmental Report done in 2008.
- Management of users and related activities with signs, fencing, and education programs

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

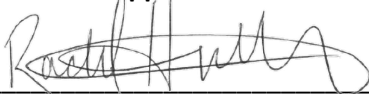
- Habitat improvement such as restoration of native habitat, wetlands restoration, erosion reduction, sediment reduction, river corridor clean-up, or plantings with a diversity of species and plant types for habitat restoration, and the reduction or elimination of non-native plant species
- Education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

- restoration of 996 linear feet of trail into native habitat, planting with a diversity of species
- decreased habitat fragmentation as a major trail is removed and restored
- major erosion reduction as trail surfaces are improved and planned for better runoff control
- over 85,000 visitors per year will enjoy our natural area, including over 10,000 people (mostly youth) participating in programs
- volunteer opportunities and engagement with youth crews such as Mile High Youth Corps and Groundwork Denver

**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.**

Rachel Hutchens

Printed name of applicant



Signature of applicant

10/2/2023

Date

Tess Robeson

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.



Signature of authority

10/2/2023

Date

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.

**1. Plants species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

The project area does not currently contain plant species of special concern. However, by restoring the old ramp back to native plant populations at the end of the project, we believe there will be an increase in the quality of short grass prairie habitat on the bluff slope.

**2. Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

**3. Wetlands/floodplains **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

The base of the ramp and stairs comes close to the edge of the floodplain, but efforts are being taken right now to avoid any construction in this area and ensure the ramp route avoids the floodplain. Our team has been working with the Mile High Flood District in the early permitting stages and is on top of this issue. The trail currently going down to the Sand Creek access point at the east edge of our property will remain open during a majority of construction, so we do not plan to stage any construction equipment down in this area.

**4. Storm water runoff and/or Sedimentation **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

Due to the significant regrading necessary (see details below), extra efforts will be taken to ensure that before, during, and after construction, stormwater runoff is handled appropriately in the area surrounding the bluff.

**5. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc. **IMPACTS EXCEED MINOR****

There will be major regrading done to the northern face of the bluff, in order to reroute the stairs and ramp and have it be at a slope that meets ADA standards. Our Landscape Design team Superbloom did numerous studies of where the ramp could go and if the old ramp could be regraded. It was determined that our current plan involves the least amount of regrading, taking advantage of the least steep area of the bluff. The Landscape team is working in conjunction with several engineering firms to ensure this process is successful, and our construction contractor plans to hire a subcontractor for this work with experience on steep slopes.

**6. Disturbances to neighboring properties **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

**7. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. **NOT APPLICABLE****

**8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species **MINOR IMPACTS****

BLNC's active weed management plan will be implemented in accordance with local county standards to control and eliminate the spread of any noxious weeds in and around the site. Invasive plants endanger the ecosystem by disturbing natural processes and may jeopardize the survival of native plants and the wildlife that depend on them. The spread and control of noxious weeds on the site is a concern for wildlife in the immediate and surrounding area. Our robust Natural Resource team and dedicated onsite volunteers will be diligent in protecting this area, as proven through several previous large scale construction projects Bluff Lake has taken on as well as the full restoration of the property after it was a part of the airport.

**9. Environmental disturbances during construction **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

**10. Air Quality **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

**11. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated **NOT APPLICABLE****

**12. Other important environmental resources to address **NEGLIGIBLE IMPACTS****

The Bluff Lake Nature Resource Team conducts frequent Burrowing Owl Surveys in the prairie dog towns on and adjacent to our property, and plans to continue doing so before, during, and after construction.



# Project Budget

**NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT**

Project details				Match details			
CPW Grant #				Source of match	Type	Date available	Amount
Organization	Bluff Lake Nature Center			Colorado Health Foundation	Cash	Sep-23	\$ 250,000.00
Project title	Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement			BLNC Fundraising-Private Donors	Cash	Sep-23	\$ 258,092.50
Grant Request (auto populates)	\$ 250,000.00			Mile High Youth Corps	In-Kind	As needed	\$ 1,700.00
Local match	\$ 509,792.50	Min. Match	\$ 62,500.00				
Project Total	\$ 759,792.50					Match Total	\$ 509,792.50

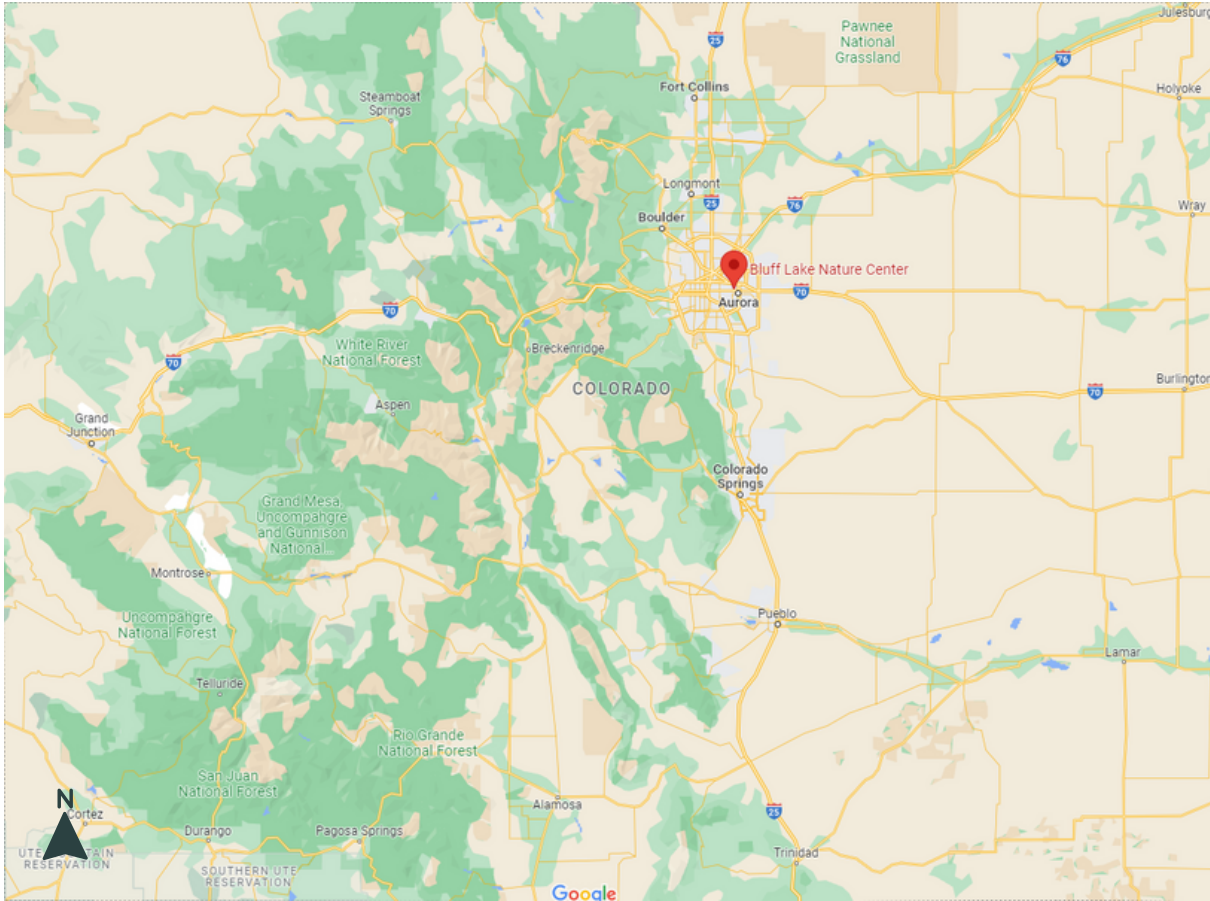
Description	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	CPW Grant	Local match	Balance
<b>Hard Costs</b>								
Area Prep	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	Cash		\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Electrical/Communications/Safety/Security	1	LS	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	Cash	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ -
Earthwork	1	LS	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 145,000.00	Cash	\$ 72,500.00	\$ 72,500.00	\$ -
Hardscape	1	LS	\$ 76,000.00	\$ 76,000.00	Cash	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ -
Railings	1	LS	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 63,000.00	Cash	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 31,500.00	\$ -
Site Furniture	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Landscaping	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	Cash	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Irrigation & Water Line Installation	1	LS	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	Cash	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00	\$ -
Stabilization & Protection	1	LS	\$ 117,000.00	\$ 117,000.00	Cash	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 59,500.00	\$ -
Utilities	1	LS	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	Cash		\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
<b>Soft Costs</b>								
Architectural & Engineering Fees, Contingencies,	1	LS	\$ 178,675.00	\$ 178,675.00	Cash		\$ 178,675.00	\$ -
General Project Overhead (10%)	1	LS	\$ 68,917.50	\$ 68,917.50	Cash		\$ 68,917.50	\$ -
<b>In -Kind</b>								
Restoration Support from Mile High Youth Corps Land	100	Hour	\$ 17.00	\$ 1,700.00	In-Kind		\$ 1,700.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 759,792.50		\$ 250,000.00	\$ 509,792.50	





# MAKING NATURE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE: RAMP AND STAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## SITE CONTEXT (STATE AND LOCAL)



**Ancestral land of the  
Cheyenne, Arapaho,  
Ute (Núu-agma-tuvu-pu) and  
Sioux (Očhéthi Šakówiŋ)  
Peoples**

**City: Denver  
County: Denver  
Latitude: 39.75849946  
Longitude: -104.85716586**





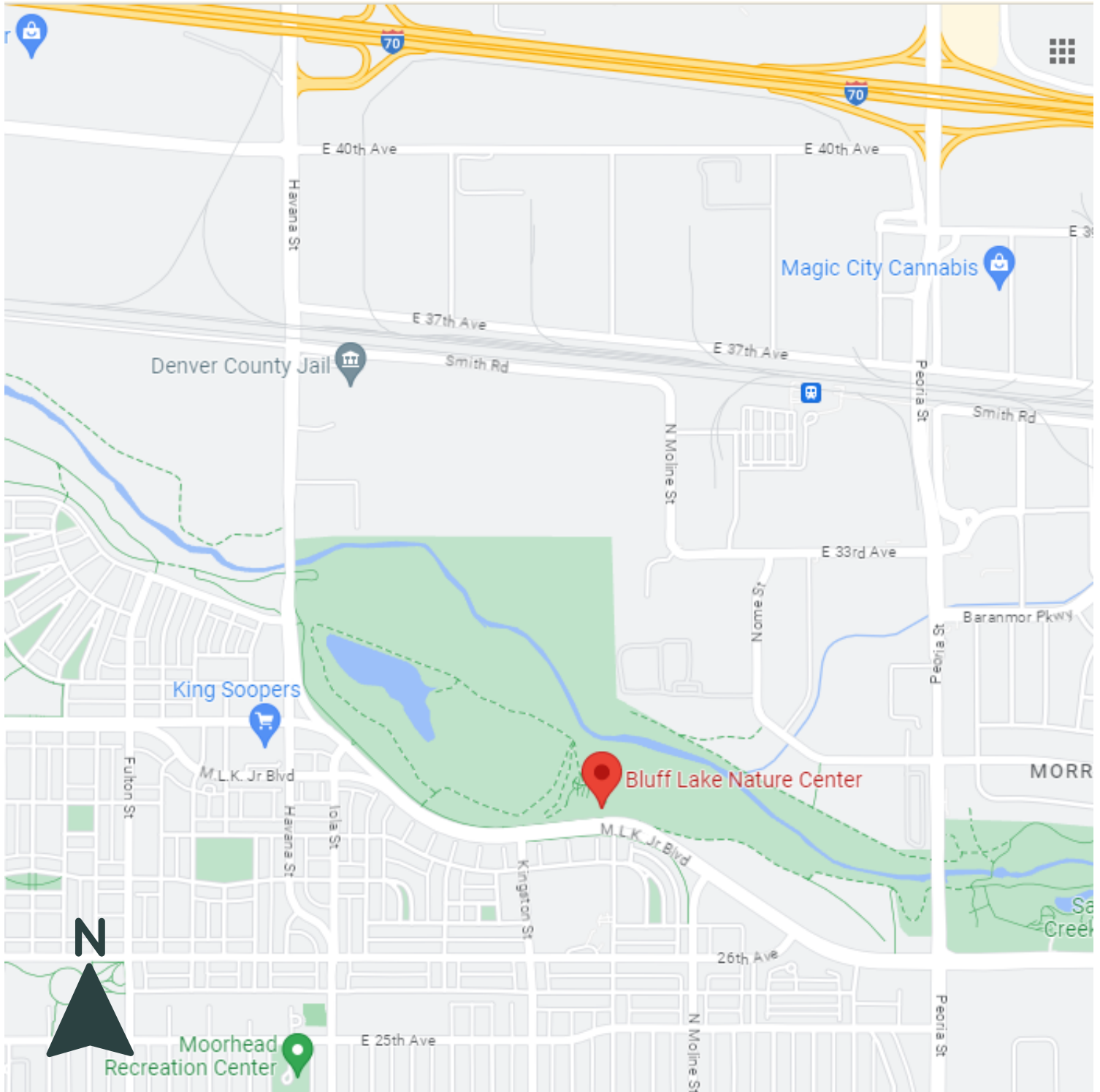
# MAKING NATURE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE: RAMP AND STAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## SITE CONTEXT (STREET VIEW)

**Site Address: 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd, Denver CO 80238**

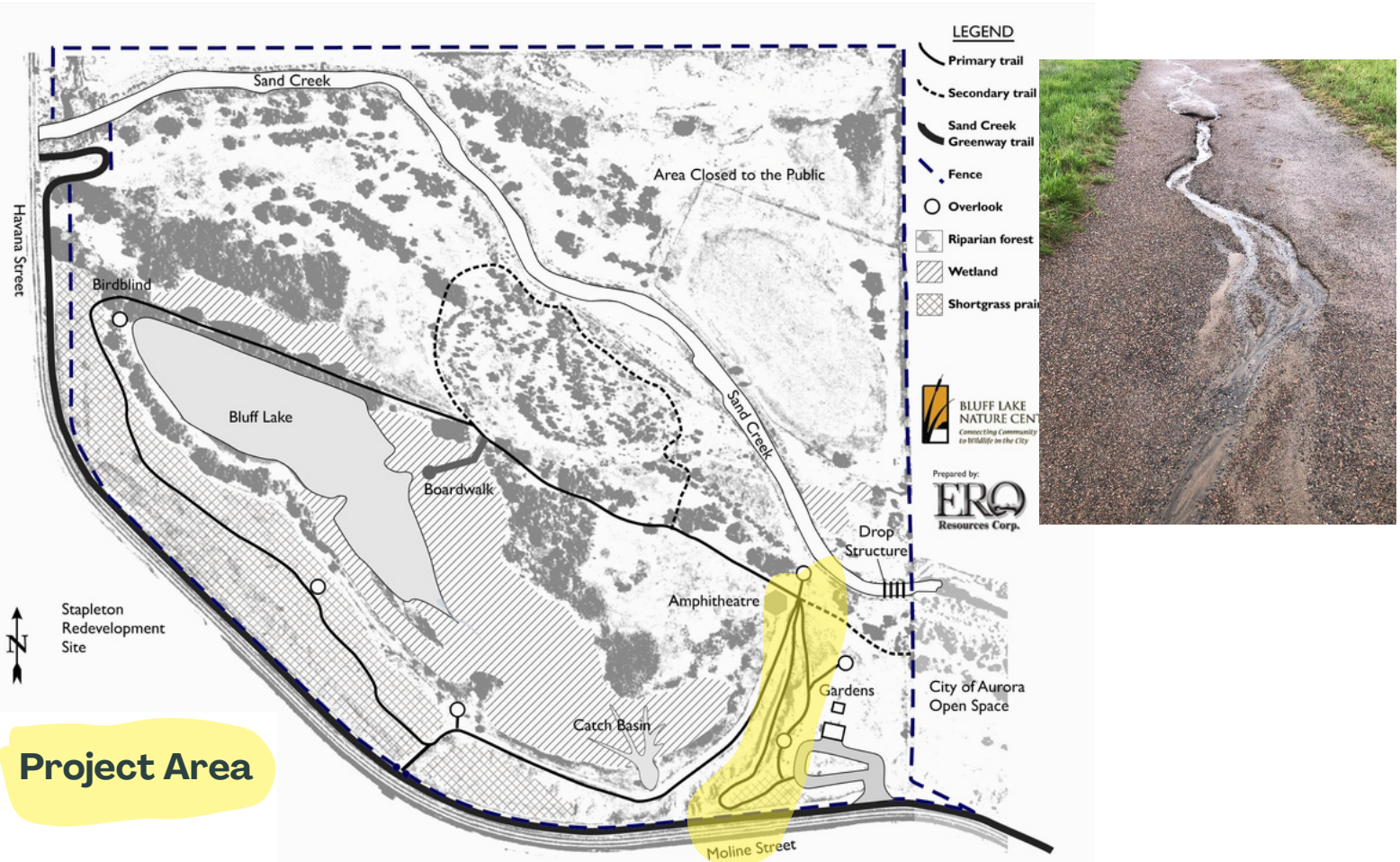
**County: Denver County**

**Located between Havana and Peoria roughly 1 mile south of I70**



# MAKING NATURE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE: RAMP AND STAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## CURRENT SITE TRAIL MAP & CURRENT CONDITIONS



**Our current ramp is too steep and does not have flat resting points along the trail.**

**It is also constructed out of a crusher fines surface, which is very hard to maintain. It frequently ices over in the winter and gets ruts after rainfall.**





# MAKING NATURE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE: RAMP AND STAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

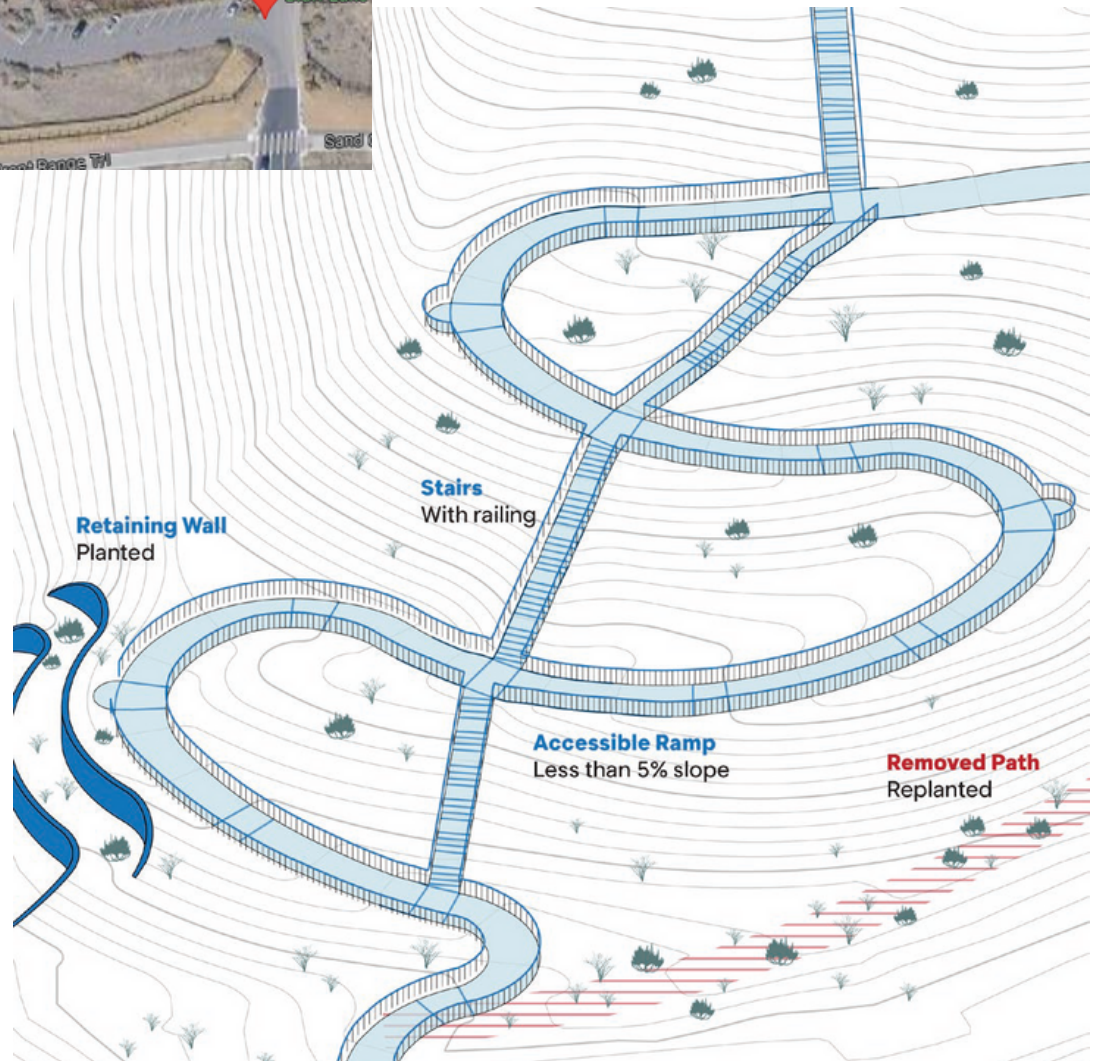
## PROJECT AREA & CONCEPT DESIGNS



### Current Ramp

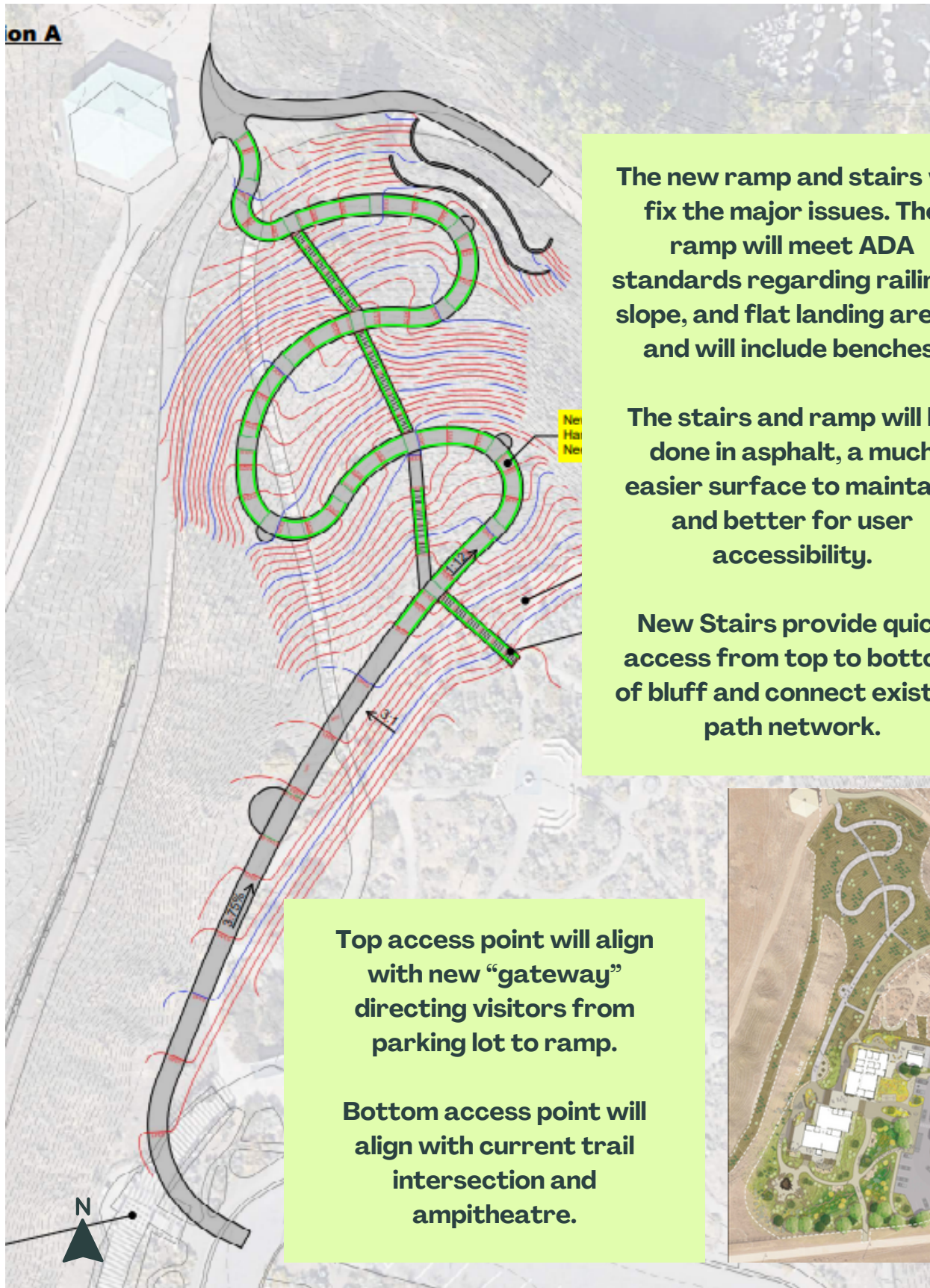
(entire area will be restored when old ramp is removed)

### Proposed Ramp



# MAKING NATURE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE: RAMP AND STAIRS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## CONCEPT DESIGNS



The new ramp and stairs will fix the major issues. The ramp will meet ADA standards regarding railings, slope, and flat landing areas, and will include benches.

The stairs and ramp will be done in asphalt, a much easier surface to maintain, and better for user accessibility.

New Stairs provide quick access from top to bottom of bluff and connect existing path network.

Top access point will align with new “gateway” directing visitors from parking lot to ramp.

Bottom access point will align with current trail intersection and amphitheatre.





September 27, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Non-Motorized Trail Grants  
% Pam O'Malley and Fletcher Jacobs  
13787 US Hwy. 85 N.  
Littleton, CO 80125

To the Colorado Parks and Wildlife grantmaking committee,

Environmental Learning for Kids wishes to express their support for Bluff Lake Nature Center's Universally Accessible Ramp and Stairs project. We are long-time partners with Bluff Lake and share in the value of bringing underserved youth in our community outdoors. We both understand the importance of dismantling systemic barriers that prevent people from accessing the outdoors and enjoying nature experiences, something this project seeks to achieve.

ELK educates youth through science and environmental education embedded in all programs and activities, furthering students' understanding and attitudes toward science, the outdoors, their communities, college, and careers. We share Bluff Lake's mission and have provided numerous joint programming opportunities together. ELK youth have been fortunate to participate in summer camp experience at Bluff Lake Nature Center.

Our communities have many barriers between them and value nature experiences, and lack of adequate trails creates more barriers for much of our community, including those with disabilities. We hope that the proposed universally accessible, ADA-compliant ramp will allow more of the youth we both serve to find a place for themselves in nature and open up door to a whole new world of nature experiences.

This proposed project and the potential support from Colorado Parks and Wildlife is highly significant to the communities we serve. We hope that it will show others that nature is for all, that more will reconsider how we view access and how to change the systems that prevent so many of our neighbors from enjoying the beautiful outdoors that Colorado has to offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Weiss".

Kim Weiss - Environmental Learning for Kids  
Associate Director



The Nature Conservancy in Colorado  
2424 Spruce Street  
Boulder, CO 80302

(303) 444-2950  
nature.org/colorado

Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Non-Motorized Trail Grants  
% Pam O'Malley and Fletcher Jacobs  
13787 US Hwy. 85 N.  
Littleton, CO 80125

To the Colorado Parks and Wildlife grantmaking committee,

I am writing to express The Nature Conservancy's support for Bluff Lake Nature Center's Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs project. The work that Bluff Lake has done on engaging the community to discover the need for this site improvement illustrates their commitment to dismantling systemic barriers that prevent people from accessing the outdoors and enjoying nature experiences.

Bluff Lake Nature Center educates individuals to be engaged, resilient, and curious; conserves a natural area in the city; furthers equity in outdoor access; and nurtures the health and well-being of communities and ecosystems. The Nature Conservancy recognizes the work that Bluff Lake is doing in these vital areas and acknowledges the importance of their proximity to many underserved communities who need access to nature now more than ever. We are proud to have supported Bluff Lake in a variety of facets for many years and commend their plans to make their site accessible for all.

The proposed universally-accessible, ADA-compliant trail will create a safe, welcoming path for all visitors, considerate of all mobility levels and modes of movement. It will allow increased freedom to safely enjoy open spaces and view wildlife, providing many with a literal and figurative gateway to the outdoors. This project has the potential to become a recognized and replicable model in community engagement, sustainable design, and urban conservation, inspiring other organizations to consider how we view access and change the systems that have kept communities from enjoying nature.

The Nature Conservancy recognizes the importance of this project and hope that - with support from Colorado Parks and Wildlife - it will become a reality and a gateway to nature for so many who are currently unable to fully access Bluff Lake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Fernández", written over a horizontal line.

Carlos Fernández  
State Director, Colorado  
The Nature Conservancy

Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Non-Motorized Trail Grants  
% Pam O'Malley and Fletcher Jacobs  
13787 US Hwy. 85 N.  
Littleton, CO 80125

To the Colorado Parks and Wildlife grantmaking committee,

Please accept this letter as evidence of my support for Bluff Lake Nature Center's Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs project. I have witnessed firsthand the community engagement that Bluff Lake has conducted in order to understand the needs of their neighbors and how to answer those needs. This project will truly answer those needs and give valuable nature access to many of our underserved community members.

I have been helping people with disabilities get outdoors at the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks for 25 years. Each month we try to introduce families experiencing disabilities to a different accessible location with a Roll and Stroll Hiking Program. Recently we collaborated with Bluff Lake Nature Center on a monthly Roll and Stroll Hike at Bluff Lake. We would love to continue this collaboration as they strive to make their area more accessible.

The neighborhoods surrounding Bluff Lake are highly developed, with limited access to nature. This access is further limited when trails are not created with those experiencing disabilities in mind. This trail was created in such a limited way, excluding many of the audience we (myself and Bluff Lake) seek to serve. This universally-accessible trail will create a safe, welcoming path for all visitors, considerate of all mobility levels and modes of movement. It will allow increased freedom to safely enjoy open spaces and view wildlife, providing many with a literal and figurative gateway to the outdoors.

I believe this is a project of vital importance, and will continue to collaborate with Bluff Lake to offer my lived experiences and advice to better serve this community. I hope that, with support from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, this will further enable Bluff Lake to be a gateway to nature for so many of our neighbors who are unable to fully access the nature sanctuary that is Bluff Lake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Topher Downham'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Topher Downham

Education and Outreach Program Manager – Accessibility  
City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks





SAND  
CREEK  
REGIONAL  
GREENWAY  
Partnership to the City

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

Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Non-Motorized Trail Grants  
% Pam O'Malley and Fletcher Jacobs  
13787 US Hwy. 85 N.  
Littleton, CO 80125

To the Colorado Parks and Wildlife grantmaking committee,

Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership wishes to provide support for Bluff Lake Nature Center's Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs project. The Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership (SCRGP) is a non-profit organization advocating equitable outdoor access, awareness, and engagement via the 13.1 mile Sand Creek Regional Greenway, which runs along Bluff Lake Nature Center's property. We share in Bluff Lake's mission, often collaborating on programs that serve our neighbors in culturally-responsive ways that open the door to nature experiences in their backyard.

SCRGP believes strongly in projects driven by community voice, and recognizes the work that Bluff Lake has done on engaging the community to discover the need for this site improvement. This shows their dedication to dismantling system barriers that prevent people from accessing the outdoors and enjoying nature experiences. Many of our own programs are structured similarly, with community engagement occurring before programs or decisions are created. This shows the community that we care about their voice and opinions and are here to help make nature more accessible to them.

Bluff Lake Nature Center is an integral part of the Sand Creek Greenway. Many of our trail users park at the Bluff Lake parking lot, use the facilities, and enjoy the site. We have worked tirelessly over the years to improve the accessibility of the actual Sand Creek trail itself, and ensuring that places like Bluff Lake are accessible once visitors get there is directly in line with our mission.

We hope that Colorado Parks and Wildlife recognizes the importance of projects like this one, and understands the significant number of metro area residents that would benefit from these accessibility improvements.

Sincerely,

Monique Fair  
Executive Director  
Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership



The Colorado Health Foundation™

Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Non-Motorized Trail Grants  
% Pam O'Malley and Fletcher Jacobs  
13787 US Hwy. 85 N.  
Littleton, CO 80125

10/2/2023

Dear Colorado Parks and Wildlife grantmaking committee,

Bluff Lake Nature Center educates individuals to be engaged, curious, nurture their health and those around them including ecosystems while conserving a natural area in the city that furthers equity in outdoor access. Bluff Lake recognizes the vital importance of nature experiences to the community, which are already limited in the highly-developed area where they are located. The proposed universally-accessible, ADA-compliant, trail will create a safe, welcoming path for all visitors, considerate of all mobility levels and modes of movement. It will allow increased freedom to safely enjoy open spaces and view wildlife, providing many with a literal and figurative gateway to the outdoors.

Bluff Lake Nature Center led deep community engagement bringing community members who are often furthest from being able to access health through nature, together to intentionally co-design spaces; not merely seeking input and responding "selectively" to community input in some areas and not others. This process led to Bluff Lake working alongside the community to develop a design that fosters a sense of belonging from the start and creating relationships rooted in not just listening but moving into action. Bluff Lake contracted intentionally with design and architect teams who demonstrated strong JEDI alignment that gave the opportunity for community members to engage, drive design, and be decision makers creating a community designed project. The Colorado Health Foundation has awarded Bluff Lake Nature Center a \$350,000 grant to support the Universally-Accessible Ramp and Stairs project that reflected the community's needs, history and culture, and encouraged positive physical activity and psychological safety.

We recognize the importance of this project, and hope that, with support from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, it will become a reality and a gateway to nature for so many of our neighbors who are unable to fully access the nature sanctuary that is Bluff Lake. This project has the potential to become a recognized and replicable model in community engagement and Equity-Centered Community Design, inspiring other nature and wellness organizations to consider how to community can drive projects that center human design and lived experiences.

Sincerely,

Nikte Contreras  
Program Officer

1780 Pennsylvania Street, Denver, CO 80203

P 303-953-3600 F 303-322-4576

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

# Document checklist



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION – CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE

## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization **Bluff Lake Nature Center**

Project title **Making Nature Universally Accessible: Ramp and Stairs Improvement Project**

## DOCUMENTS

### PRE-APPLICATION - SEPTEMBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Scope of work	Applicant's own	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Project map	Applicant's own	PDF

### FULL APPLICATION - OCTOBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Application form	CPW template	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Timeline	CPW template	PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. Budget	CPW template	Unprotected Excel file
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. Photographs & maps	Applicant's own	Merged PDF (5 pages max)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. Letters of support	Various	Merged PDF (5 letters max)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. Resolution	Applicant's own	Signed PDF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9. Environmental forms	CPW Template	Signed PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Formal EA or NEPA*	Federal Template	Web link or PDF

## ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

11. Required match funding secured (including cash match funds)
12. Construction projects have been evaluated for permits and, if required, permits obtained.
13. Project area is owned by a public land agency or has an easement that designates the area be open to the public for at least 25 years.
14. Conservation/Youth Corps or other organization will be used on the project.  
Name of organization: **Mile High Youth Corps, Groundwork Denver**
15. Volunteers will be utilized on the project  
Name of organization: **Bluff Lake Nature Center**

\*Must be completed prior to application presentations in January.