

Application form



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT BASICS

Title **Blodgett Open Space Development**

Type Construction Planning
 Maintenance Support

Phased project Yes No If yes, Phase # **1** of **3**

Brief summary

Implement the priorities of the Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan (anticipated completion in March 2024): multi-use trails, mountain bike only trails, trailhead, and signage.

Grant request	\$ 250,000.00	Grant ratio ¹	56 %
Match	\$ 200,000.00	Match ratio	44 %
Total	\$ 450,000.00	Total	100 %

APPLICANT

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

Organization **City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services**

Postal address **1401 Recreation Way**

City **Colorado** State **CO** ZIP Code **80905**

General email **PRCS@coloradosprings.gov** UEI # **HV8LYKJKAQW6**

Lead contact **Stephanie Surch** Title **Grant Writer**

Telephone **(719) 385-6024** Email **stephanie.surch@coloradosprings.gov**

Project manager **David Deitemeyer** Title **Senior Landscape Architect**

Telephone **(719) 385-6515** Email **david.deitemeyer@coloradosprings.gov**

PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization N/A

Postal address

City State CO ZIP Code

Contact name Title

Telephone Email

¹ Grant ratio = grant request / total. Match ratio = match / total.

PROPERTY

Nearest town or city **Colorado Springs** County **El Paso**

Latitude/Longitude **38.9489° N, 104.8864° W** Congressional district **5**

Name of property owner **City of Colorado Springs**

Trail Corridor controlled by Fee simple Lease Easement

License ROW Other:

TRAIL

Uses Hiking, walking, running Biking Equestrian

E-bikes allowed? Yes No Snow sports (non-motorized) ADA Accessible

Other: **Some trails will be used by track chairs (OPDMD) and adaptive mtb bikes.**

Estimate percentage by type (e.g.,) 50% hiking, etc. **48 % hiking, 48 % biking, 2 % equestrian**

Surface Natural Crusher fines Asphalt Concrete

Other:

Size of new trailhead (sq. ft.) **25,000** Length of trail being planned

Length of new trail construction² **40,467 LF** Length of trail maintenance

Length of inter-connecting trail Length of trail reroute

Length of decommissioned trail **1,600 LF** Length of restored trail

Length of trail to be signed **40,467 LF** Length of trail grooming

Other: **Total master planned trails within Blodgett Open Space approx. 21.5 miles**

Estimated amount of paid crew hours: Grant Match:

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 *Gemi Mobolade* Date **10/03/2023**

Name **Blessing A. Mobolade** Title **Mayor; City of Colorado Springs**

² Length of trail – use miles, square feet, linear feet

CPW Non-Motorized Trails Grant Application

WHEREAS, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is soliciting grant applications for its 2024 Non-Motorized Trails construction grant opportunity;

WHEREAS, The City of Colorado Springs ("City") is requesting funds from CPW that if approved will be applied to development of Blodgett Open Space in the amount of \$250,000;

WHEREAS, The City acknowledges that the grant includes a matching funds requirement which will be fulfilled through TOPS, and that the City shall be responsible to provide documentation to CPW if grant is awarded;

WHEREAS, The City acknowledges that the terms of the grant award and legal obligations will be further outlined in a grant agreement that will be executed by the Office of the Mayor;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Blessing A. Mobolade, Mayor of the City of Colorado Springs, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim support for the City of Colorado Springs application to CPW for Blodgett Open Space Development.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this 3rd day of October 2023.

Blessing A. Mobolade

Blessing A. Mobolade, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs

Timeline

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION



PROJECT DETAILS

Organization City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services

Project title Blodgett Open Space Development

TASK <small>Mobilization, staffing, construction or maintenance elements, planning phases, etc.</small>	Dates*	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates	Dates
	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	
Master Plan Adoption (not included)	X						
Grant Award	X						
Procurement		X					
Parking Lot Construction			X	X			
Trail Construction		X	X	X			
Wayfinding Installation			X	X			
Trails open to public			X	X			
Substantial Completion				X			
Grand opening					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 30th or December 31st, dependent upon assigned funding source.

Criteria Questions



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION - CONSTRUCTION

Organization City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services

Project title Blodgett Open Space Development

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.

The Blodgett Open Space Development Project will include the following elements:

1. Trailhead improvements including a new parking lot to accommodate approx. 50 stalls
2. Professional and purpose built sustainable trail system -
17000 LF of Chamberlain Trail (providing regional connectivity)
8626 LF open space, singletrack trails
14850 LF Mountain bike only trails
1600 LF social trail closure
3. Wayfinding posts for new trails, new maps, signage with rules/regulations, and "Leave No trace" education signs
4. Stormwater permits for City of Colorado Springs construction activities. (These are required at time of disturbance to ensure compliance with stormwater management best practices).

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

The Blodgett Open Space Master Plan process was driven by the city's need to update its existing 21-year-old master plan to include new acquisitions that expanded the open space and address the city's growth which has resulted in a significant increase in visitation, legal trail use, and illegal trail building.

Because of the popularity of this area, land managers and the community alike have expressed concerns about increased degradation to the natural resources, including the known Bighorn sheep habitat. City staff affirmed the need to reduce user conflicts and improve public health and safety for trail users through decreasing social trail access and creating designated trails that are managed and maintained.

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

Designated Blodgett Open Space trails currently make up about 9 miles. This includes several trails on utility and maintenance access roads. Some of the "roads" will be rerouted to singletrack trails. Many of the existing trails leave the open space and travel uphill and thus do not provide good connectivity, loop options, or variations for skills levels. The Blodgett Open Space Master Plan will recommend a trail system of 21.5 miles.

The project will expand access by incorporating a new trailhead on the south side of the open space and through substantial construction of the recommended master plan trail system.

2. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

15 points

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

With 500,000 residents, Colorado Springs is the state’s second largest city. Located on the Front Range, it boasts a vibrant and diverse community with proximity to an abundance of outdoor amenities and a temperate climate conducive to four seasons of outdoor recreation. Colorado Springs is unique in its geographic expansiveness, with a municipal footprint that spans 195 square miles.

From its inception as a city, Colorado Springs has long enjoyed a robust park system that has helped shape the community’s identity. The City of Colorado Springs PRCS department maintains over 18,000 acres of parkland and open space, 15 regional parks, 143 neighborhood and community parks, an extensive urban trail network, community centers, museums, golf courses, Garden of the Gods Park and Pikes Peak America’s Mountain. Voters in 2020 affirmed the importance of outdoor amenities with an overwhelming majority supporting an extension of the TOPS (Trails, Open Space, and Parks) sales tax revenue program until 2045.

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

The lure of outdoor amenities and a proliferation of new jobs in recent years has made Colorado Springs one of the fastest growing cities in the state. With the city's increased population arises a demand for more recreation areas, and with this demand, land management challenges to balance recreational and preservation needs. Both Blodgett Peak and the Blodgett Open Space are reflective of these challenges. As Colorado Springs and the neighborhoods surrounding the project area have grown exponentially in the last two decades, an increased amount of trail users have has created the urgent need for comprehensive assessment, planning, and implementation of designated trails for recreational use, and closure of the many social trails that resulted from absent or outdated management plans.

- 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.

Blodgett Open Space is located in Northwest Colorado Springs, which encompasses the neighborhoods of Rockrimmon, Peregrine, and Woodmen Valley, within zip code 80919. The area is adjacent to the US Air Force Academy and just north of Garden of the Gods. Approximately 70,000 people live within a five mile radius of the area including adjacent zip codes of 80918, 80920 and 80904. The open space is nearby three elementary schools and a middle school. This increasingly popular open space and nearby USFS lands are attractive for their forested terrain and scenic views of the city. The 2014 PRCS Master Plan revealed that 90 percent of respondents utilize parks and open spaces at least once per week. Considering this figure, Blodgett Open Space provides potential access for nearly 70,000 proximal residents.

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.)

The City of Colorado Springs Parks Department's David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect, will design and manage the construction of the project. David has 11 years of trail design, construction, and management experience. He has successfully led many projects of this size and scope.

Construction activities described in the scope of work for this grant request will be contracted out to professional trail builders. The PRCS Department anticipates utilizing volunteer groups, maintenance staff, and youth conservation corps in subsequent phases of master plan implementation.

- 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.

Within the last five years, the City has received State Trails Grant funding for the Daniels Pass Trail system (\$250,000 award). The project was completed on time and within budget in 2020.

4. PLANNING

10 points

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

The City is nearing the last phase of the Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan process, a nearly 12-month-long process to study the open space, engage community and establish recommendations for the development and management of the open space over the next 10-15 years.

The proposed improvements include creation of a new trailhead to access the newly acquired open space parcels, identified because there is currently no public access at that location.

The proposed trails seek to expand recreational access to the entire open space to provide improved, expanded and additional trail access for the community while balancing preservation and conservation of the area's resources. Goals identified through the planning process are:

- 1) Expand key habitat areas, wildlife corridors and reduce habitat fragmentation
- 2) Reduce the impact and degradation to the natural resources
- 3) Manage the public access on newly acquired open space parcels

Additionally, the expansion and development of bike-only trails seek to:

- 1) Reduce user conflict between mountain bikers and other trail users. The new bike trails will promote safer multi-use trail conditions by offering select trails to optimize bike-only experiences
- 2) Reduce the number of illegally built trails that have occurred within the open space and adjacent forest service land
- 3) Strengthen the relationship between the PRCS Department and the region's mountain bike user groups, industry partners, and retail businesses

This work will be critical to protect the natural and cultural resources from high use/demand.

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

The City of Colorado Springs has an active PRCS Master and Management Plan adopted in 2014 which calls for the following:

1. Enhance and promote the landscape, built-environment, culture and history of Colorado Springs and propose parks and open space strategies customized to the area's unique sense of place and people.
2. Create balanced system of conveniently located parks, interconnected trails, open space networks and multipurpose recreational facilities
3. Protect the natural environment and promote environmental conservation (water quality, wildlife habitat, scenic views, air quality)

The City of Colorado Springs Comprehensive Plan - Plan COS - Chapter 7 highlights the importance of preserving natural resources stating, "Our citizens and City government place a high priority on the natural environment—protecting natural features, minimizing impacts of environmental hazards, and conserving natural resources." Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance (PPORA) is leading the OPPI (Outdoor Pikes Peak Initiative), an aligning initiative which aims to "Identify and advance priorities and innovative strategies for recreation and conservation planning." Further, the SCORP encourages projects which "Foster awareness and experiences that build an ethic of stewardship and responsibility to care for natural and cultural resources and outdoor recreation infrastructure."

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.

Once completed, the Blodgett Open Space and its new trail system will be maintained and monitored by the City of Colorado Springs PRCS staff. The City of Colorado Springs has a dedicated tax revenue for development, maintenance and stewardship of our parks, trails and open space known as the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) program. The program allows for an annual stewardship fund of \$1.5 million for the open space program.

The stewardship of Blodgett Open Space is managed by a PRCS Park Ranger assigned to the property and supplemented by a volunteer citizen group, Friends of Peregrine Parks and Open Space. (Blodgett Open Space is adjacent to the Peregrine Neighborhood).

Lastly, we anticipate additional community involvement from volunteer and nonprofit user groups for maintenance and future trail development needs as identified in the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan.

- 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.

The proposed project will be professionally designed by a landscape architect utilizing professional trail building standards and recommendations from the US Forest Service, International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), and Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado and incorporating local knowledge of trail building best practices for the Pikes Peak Region.

- Trails will be designed and constructed with frequent grade reversals and will be rolling contour trails.
- Vegetation and boulders will be used for anchor points, speed control and screening.
- Trail gradients will be guided by the trail difficulty, soils, cross slope and potential user experience levels.
- Technical bike-optimized trails will incorporate rocks and boulders to armor steep trail grade sections and provide advanced trail features.

Trail designs will be completed to optimize the user experience, best utilize open space and terrain interaction and encourage compliance in staying on designated trails. Land management personnel will utilize maintenance staff and volunteer groups to provide ongoing maintenance as needed.

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.

The Blodgett Open Space Master Plan process evaluated natural resources and wildlife habitats and discussed those findings with CPW, USFS, and US Fish and Wildlife.

Wildlife and natural resource project components include:

1. Expanding and enhancing critical wildlife habitats and corridors currently disrupted by habitat fragmentation resulting from prolific social trails in the project area.
2. Reducing the number of miles of trails by creating designated and managed trail access.
3. Recommendations vetted through CPW, USFS, and the community with guidance from the CPW's publication "Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind."
4. Recommendations to include possible regulated, controlled access (seasonally) in sensitive habitats.

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

None have been submitted.

Based on previous dialogue with CPW staff regarding Blodgett Open Space, we are aware of the importance and sensitivity related to the Queens Canyon Big Horn Sheep herd.

- 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.)

- Designated trail alignments, with a reduction of trail density in the project area, and design of alignment outside of key habitat area

- Non-designated trail closures (currently estimated at 6 miles)

- Expanding and enhancing key habitat areas and wildlife corridors in the project area and east to the City of Colorado Springs

- Exploring management concepts and recommendations including restricting dogs off leash, seasonal trail closures, signage and education, and other applicable regulations

- Expanding the planning area, analysis and future trail improvements onto the adjacent US Forest Service lands (Blodgett Peak Trail planning area - 2024 CPW Planning Grant request)

7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

15 points

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

The City of Colorado Springs PRCS Department is currently leading a strategic community engagement process into the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan that started in May 2023. An active stakeholder action committee has met six times to review and provide input into the engagement process. At the time of this writing, the public process has included five in-person engagement opportunities, three community surveys, one community workshop, and one review survey. Planned are seven more public meetings, including an additional community workshop and two more online surveys. The final Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan will be completed by March 2024.

If awarded our CPW Planning grant request, the Blodgett Peak Trail planning project will continue through 2024, expanding the scope of the open space master planning team and allowing for additional public comment and engagement.

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

1. The project is supported by the PRCS Department's advising bodies - the TOPS Working Committee and Parks Advisory Board. Both groups will endorse and approve the final Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan.
2. Collaborating government agencies include the US Forest Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (local office), US Fish and Wildlife Service (appointed biologist), and Colorado Springs Utilities.
3. The stakeholder committee includes user and advocacy groups such Trails and Open Space Coalition, Colorado Springs Mountain Bike Association, and Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates, as well as hiking, equestrian, and paragliding groups.
4. Nearby neighborhoods, including several HOA's representing adjacent subdivisions, and the Council of Neighborhood Organizations (CONO) are also part of the stakeholder committee.
5. Blodgett Open Space continues its existing "Friends Group" partnership with the Friends of Peregrine Parks and Open Space.

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

Possible opposition would include providing designated recreational access in/near Bighorn Sheep habitat.

- The master planning process provides for a better understanding of the key habitats, their extents, and their health. Land managers will develop recommendations to reduce the existing amount of social trails which contribute to habitat fragmentation and create designated trails that can be strategically managed and regulated.

Additional opposition may occur related to single use trails in the planning area.

- This is being addressed in the comprehensive analysis of recreational opportunities in Blodgett Open Space. Single use trails will be specified to reduce conflict among user groups.

- Under consideration is local management of recreational use in the adjacent planning area (City management on Forest Service lands) which may provide more managed trail access.

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.

The matching funds are provided by the City of Colorado Springs PRCS Department, totaling \$200,000 (or 44% of the project budget). The funding source is the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) fund program.

The matching funds have been allocated in the City's 2024 budget which is scheduled to be adopted by the Colorado Springs City Council on December 12, 2023. Once approved, the funds will be available January 1, 2024.

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

If the funding application is not successful, the following consequences will result:

- It will prolong the necessary management and implementation of much needed regulated public access in a highly sensitive area with increasing demand for use.
 - Degradation of natural resources and wildlife habitat will continue at a fast pace without action.
 - Decreases or eliminates the PRCS department's ability to leverage City funds that are already available.
 - Missed opportunity to strengthen the partnerships with the US Forest Service, CPW, neighborhoods, partner nonprofits, and user groups
 - Decreased recreational opportunities for an increased number of local residents and visitors to Colorado Springs.
-

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: Blodgett Open Space Development **Project Sponsor:**

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS Indicate potential for adverse impacts	NOT APPLICABLE Resource does not exist	NEGLIGIBLE 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Wetlands/floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Storm water runoff and/or Sedimentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disturbances to neighboring properties	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Introduction or promotion of non-native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use a separate sheet if necessary for the following questions.

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

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

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

2. Minor Longterm impacts will be offset by the closing of rogue unsustainable trails which has a greater effect on water quality and sedimentation. Stormwater control measures will be implemented during construction activities

8. Minor Invasive species are anticipated with soil disturbance. Invasive species will be mitigated with seeding following construction as well as continued monitoring of invasive species in the area following construction.

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

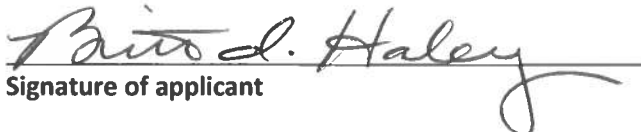
Long term erosion reduction after the closing of rogue trails currently being used in these areas.

Habitat improvement and enhancement through trail rerouts. This will decrease habitat fragmentation, expand and protect wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors, and manage public access in Blodgett Open Space

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.**

City of Colorado Springs - PRCS Department

Printed name of applicant


Signature of applicant

10/3/2023
Date

David Deitemeyer, Senior Landscape Architect

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.

David Deitemeyer Digitally signed by David Deitemeyer
Date: 2023.10.02 19:44:13 -06'00'

10/02/2023

Signature of authority

Date

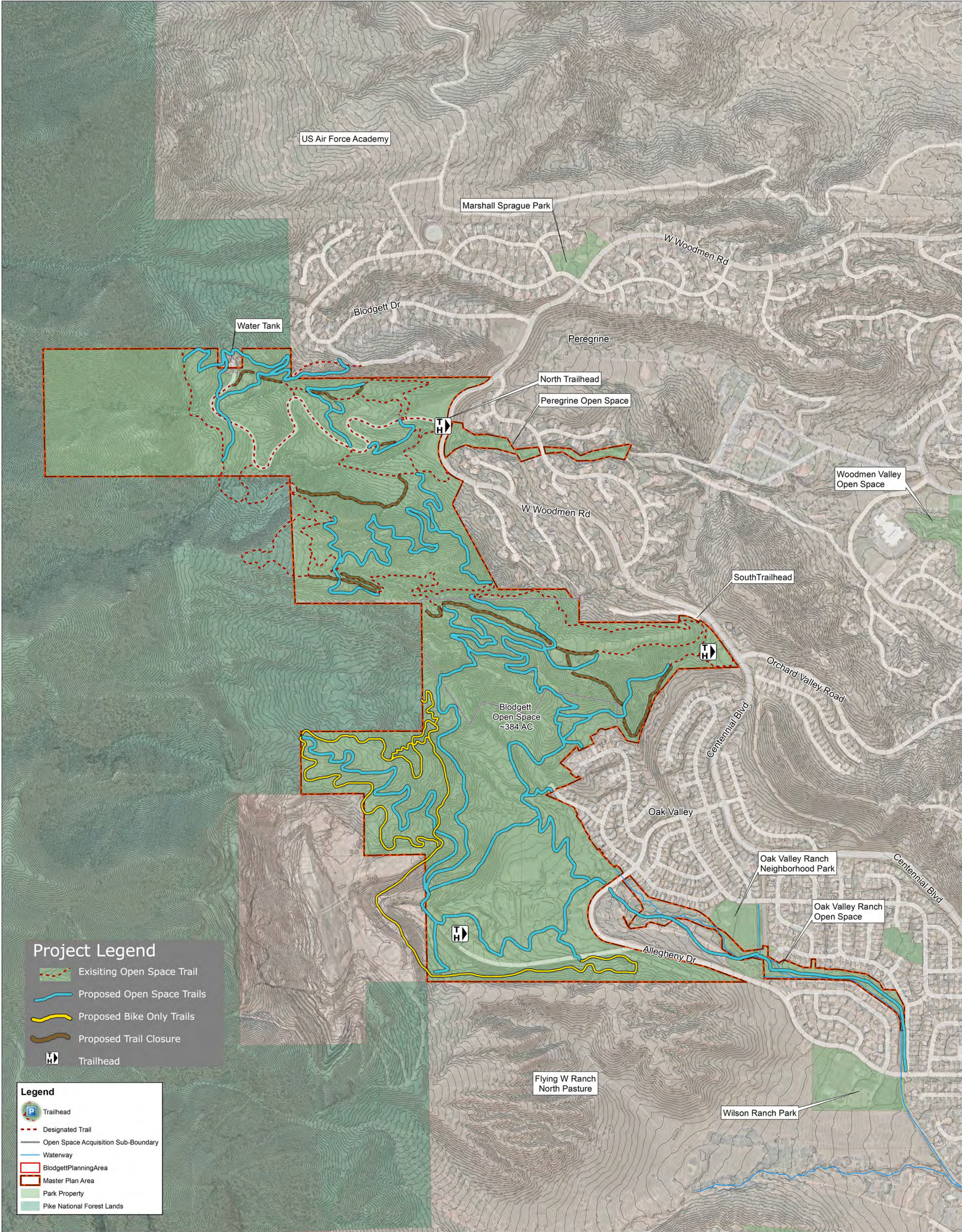
Project Budget



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT

Project details				Match details			
CPW Grant #	Organization			Source of match	Type	Date available	Amount
	City of Colorado Springs			City of Colorado Springs	Cash	Dec-23	\$ 200,000.00
Project title	Blodgett Open Space Implementation						
Grant Request (auto populates)	\$	250,000.00					
Local match	\$	200,000.00	Min. Match	\$	62,500.00		
Project Total	\$	450,000.00				Match Total	\$ 200,000.00

Description	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	CPW Grant	Local match	Balance
Contracted Services								
PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS								
Parking lot surfacing and enhancement	25000	SF	\$ 1.60	\$ 40,000.00	cash	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Parking lot signage	8	EA	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,400.00	cash	\$ 2,400.00		\$ -
Parking lot fencing	254	EA	\$ 30.00	\$ 7,620.00	cash	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 5,220.00	\$ -
TRAIL CONSTRUCTION								
Chamberlain Trail construction, 48" natural surface	17000	LF	\$ 8.00	\$ 136,000.00	cash	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 86,000.00	\$ -
Singletrack Trail construction, 36" natural surface	8626	Lf	\$ 7.50	\$ 64,695.00	cash	\$ 51,700.00	\$ 12,995.00	\$ -
Mountain Bike only trail, 18" - 36" natural surface	14850	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 178,200.00	cash	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 78,200.00	\$ -
Social Trail closure	1600	LF	\$ 2.50	\$ 4,000.00	cash		\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
WAYFINDING AND SIGNAGE								
Wayfinding posts	30	EA	\$ 450.00	\$ 13,500.00	cash	\$ 13,500.00		\$ -
Kiosk map, rules and regulations signs	4	EA	\$ 375.00	\$ 1,500.00	cash		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Salary/Wages								
NA				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Materials/Supplies								
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
Additional Categories								
City of Colorado Springs Storwater Permit	1	LS	\$ 2,085.00	\$ 2,085.00	cash		\$ 2,085.00	\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
TOTAL				\$ 450,000.00		\$ 250,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	



Blodgett Open Space

Master and Management Plan

DRAFT PLAN



Blodgett Open Space



Aerial View of South Blodgett Open Space (looking west)

Some existing trail routes and access roads are depicted. Quarry reclamation area is in the upper center/left. Newly acquired parcels are in the upper foreground.



Aerial View of South Blodgett Open Space (looking east)

Existing trail routes and access roads are visible. Existing dirt parking lot (West Woodmen trailhead) is in upper left. Oak Valley neighborhood is pictured in center/right.



Aerial View of Blodgett Open Space and USFS lands (looking west from main trailhead)

Main Blodgett Open Space parking lot and access road are visible (center). Blodgett Peak is in the upper right corner. Peregrine neighborhood is on the right. Centennial Road is at bottom.



Aerial View of Blodgett Open Space and USFS lands (looking northwest)

Main Blodgett Open Space parking lot is visible on right. (Note overflow cars parked on Centennial Road). Blodgett Peak is in the upper left. Peregrine neighborhood is on the right.



September 28, 2023
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Trails Program
13787 U.S. Hwy 85 N.
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Colorado Non-Motorized Grants Program – Blodgett Open Space Master Plan

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my enthusiastic support for the City of Colorado Springs Parks' application for a non-motorized trail construction grant. It is with great excitement that I endorse the Blodgett Open Space master plan implementation, which promises to provide new recreational access in a sustainable and resilient manner to the residents and visitors of our beautiful Pikes Peak Region.

The proposed Blodgett Open Space Master and Management Plan is a testament to the City of Colorado Springs' commitment to expanding and enhancing local and regional outdoor recreational opportunities. By creating critical trail connections, this project will not only benefit our community's health and well-being but also contribute to the preservation of our natural environment. The Blodgett Open Space master plan implementation aligns perfectly with the upcoming Outdoor Pikes Peak Initiative (OPPI) vision plan, a collaborative effort aimed at promoting improvements to recreational infrastructure, accessibility, and connectivity in balance with natural resource conservation priorities and part of the Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative.

The Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance supports the implementation of the Blodgett Open Space master and management plan as it prioritizes sustainable and resilient public recreational access, ensuring that the natural beauty of our environment is preserved, allowing future generations to enjoy these outdoor spaces.

The proposed trail and trailhead improvements will expand access to recreational opportunities, encouraging residents and visitors to engage in healthy outdoor activities. By establishing critical trail connections, this project will enhance the overall connectivity of our trail network, making it easier for outdoor enthusiasts to explore the region safely and conveniently. Lastly, the proposed improvements within Blodgett Open Space reinforces our collective commitment to improving outdoor recreational infrastructure, accessibility, and connectivity.

I wholeheartedly support this grant application and believe that the Blodgett Open Space development plan will have a lasting positive impact on our community. I urge you to consider this project favorably,



recognizing the potential it holds for enhancing our outdoor recreational experiences and preserving our natural treasures.

Thank you for your dedication to our community's well-being and for considering this important application. Please feel free to reach out if you need any additional information or support.

We hope that you will look favorably upon our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Leinweber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, elegant "B" and "L".

Becky Leinweber
Executive Director, Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance



Dear Colorado Parks and Wildlife,

I am writing on behalf of the Colorado Springs Mountain Biking Association (COSMBA) to express our strong support for the following grant application submitted by the Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services (PRCS) department's Non-Motorized Trails grant application for development of Blodgett Open Space.

Blodgett Open Space is a popular destination for mountain bikers due to its elevation gradient, native soils, and proximity to neighborhoods. Over the last six months, COSMBA has participated in creating a master plan for Blodgett OS which envisions a trail system that improves user experience while emphasizing the importance of sustainability and habitat preservation. We believe that the Blodgett Open Space Master Plan is a well-conceived plan that will provide significant benefits to the community. The new trails, wayfinding signage, and trailhead kiosks will make the open space more accessible and enjoyable for all users - not just mountain bikers.

COSMBA is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and developing mountain biking opportunities in the Pikes Peak Region. It just so happens that our history is also uniquely tied to Blodgett OS. In recent years, many local riders have performed illegal trail work in this area which caused tense relationships with city land managers. COSMBA started in 2022 as an agreement between both sides to reestablish trust and eliminate illegal trail work in Blodgett OS specifically. The public process for the open space has been a major conduit towards those goals and successfully cut down on illegal and unsustainable work being conducted. COSMBA's commitment to the process has yielded incredible personal investment from these trail users who now better understand the process of trail development and the many considerations therein. Securing funding towards realizing our dreams for Blodgett OS would only further demonstrate the possibilities that come with collaboration.

We urge you to approve the PRCS Department's application. We also pledge our support to see these dreams become a reality with the help of CPW funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Keith Thompson
Executive Director
Colorado Springs Mountain Biking Association (COSMBA)
www.cosmba.org

Document checklist



NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION – CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE

PROJECT DETAILS

Organization

Project title

DOCUMENTS

PRE-APPLICATION - SEPTEMBER

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

FULL APPLICATION - OCTOBER

Document	Source	Submission format
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Application form	CPW template	PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Timeline	CPW template	PDF
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Budget	CPW template	Unprotected Excel file
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Photographs & maps	Applicant's own	Merged PDF (5 pages max)
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Letters of support	Various	Merged PDF (5 letters max)
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Resolution	Applicant's own	Signed PDF
<input 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:
15. Volunteers will be utilized on the project
Name of organization:

*Must be completed prior to application presentations in January.