



Board Summary Report

Date: October 6, 2020

To: Board of County Commissioners

Through: Shannon Carter, Open Spaces Department Director

From: Brett Collins, Grants and Acquisitions Manager

Subject: Joint Project Request-High Line Canal Wayfinding Signage

Direction/Information:

Staff will present information supporting a Joint Project funding request from the High Line Canal Conservancy (Conservancy) for the fabrication and installation of wayfinding signs along the High Line Canal Trail. See the attached letter of request from the Conservancy.

Request and Recommendation:

Open Spaces staff and the Open Space Trails Advisory Board (OSTAB) recommends the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approve the expenditure of \$114,207 in Open Space Acquisition and Development funds. The funds will be used for wayfinding signs along the High Line Canal Trail in the Cherry Hills Village, Greenwood Village, and South Suburban Parks and Recreation jurisdictions. See the attached recommendation from OSTAB.

Background:

The Conservancy completed The Plan for the High Line Canal (The Plan) in 2019. This visionary and collaborative plan reclaims the historic waterway for the region and depicts a new life for this legacy greenway. The Plan lays out clear guidance for repurposing the historic canal, improving people's health and the environment, and increasing accessibility and enjoyment for generations to come. One of the key recommendations in The Plan is that jurisdictions install uniform signage and wayfinding along the entire 71-mile length of the High Line Canal Trail.

In June of 2019, OSTAB and BOCC approved \$50,000 for the High Line Canal Conservancy to project manage the installation of uniform signage and wayfinding along the entire High Line Canal Trail and \$75,000 to fabricate and install signage in unincorporated Arapahoe County.

Since then, Conservancy staff worked with Arapahoe County, Cherry Hills Village, Greenwood Village and South Suburban Parks and Recreation to identify locations and secure funding for wayfinding signs within each jurisdiction. The Conservancy then conducted a bid process and now has sign costs for each agency and wants to implement installation of the sign package for the canal.

Links to Align Arapahoe:**Service First**

Increased customer service by improving the experience for trail users in each jurisdiction.

Fiscal Responsibility

Promotes responsible spending by leveraging County funding with partner agencies to optimize the use of resources.

Quality of Life

The project will provide wayfinding along the High Line Canal Trail, which will increase trail user confidence to arrive at their destination.

Discussion:

The wayfinding sign package will help build the canal's identity while helping users to connect to and travel along the canal. The signs will be wood posts with steel or aluminum panels and high-pressure laminate maps. Priority signage will be placed at street crossings, trailheads, primary access points, trail junctures, and other key wayfinding locations.

Interpretive signage is recommended in The Plan and will be a part of phase two of sign implementation once the Conservancy has completed an interpretive plan for the High Line Canal. Stone mile markers are also currently being implemented by the Conservancy and are being funded by donations.

The Conservancy has indicated they are working with each jurisdiction on a plan for taking on maintenance responsibilities for the signs, but it is not completed to date.

The Conservancy is asking for a partnership with Arapahoe County to match the jurisdiction funds 50% up to \$114,207. The project budget is shown as follows.

Project	Jurisdiction Funds	Arapahoe County Funds	Totals
Cherry Hills Village Phase 1 Wayfinding Signs	\$19,308	\$19,308	\$38,616
Greenwood Village Phase 1 Wayfinding Signs	\$42,084	\$42,084	\$84,168
South Suburban Phase 1 Wayfinding Signs	\$52,815	\$52,815	\$105,630
Totals	\$114,207	\$114,207	\$228,414

Alternatives:

Approve, modify, or deny the Joint Project funding request.

Fiscal Impact:

Arapahoe County Open Spaces Acquisition and Development funds pledged to the High Line Canal Working Group in the amount of \$114,207 will be used to match the applicant's funding. The fund balance exceeds this amount.

Concurrence:

The OSTAB recommended the BOCC approve funding for uniform wayfinding signs along the High Line Canal Trail at their August 24, 2020 meeting.

Attorney Comments:

None

Reviewed By:

Brett Collins, Grants and Acquisitions Manager
Shannon Carter, Open Spaces, and Intergovernmental Relations Director
Tiffanie Bleau, Assistant County Attorney
Todd Weaver, Director of Finance

Attachments:

Funding Request-High Line Canal Conservancy 8.17.20
OSTAB-Recommendation HLC Wayfinding Signage 8.24.20
Presentation-HLC Wayfinding Sign Implementation 10.6.20