# Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass

Joint Project Application

City of Littleton

Heather Ferrari

Heather Ferrari

hferrari@littletongov.org

# **Application Form**

# **Application Summary**

Grant Category\* Select One: Joint Project

## **Primary Contact Information\***

Please provide information for the primary contact for this project in the following format.

Agency: Name: Title: Telephone: Email: Agency: City of Littleton Name: Sarah White

Name: Sarah White Title: Water Resources Manager Telephone: 303-795-3826 Email: swhite@littletongov.org

#### Project Type\*

Select One:

- **Trail Project:** Trail/trailhead construction or improvement, including stream/road crossings and trailhead amenities (such as parking, restrooms or shelters)
- Site Improvement Project: New construction, improvement, repair, or replacement of passive outdoor recreation amenities
- Acquisition Project: Eligible projects include fee simple acquisition of land for public open space or trails; acquisition of buffer land; acquisition of a conservation easement; and/or acquisition of water rights
- Other Project: Other allowable projects include stream/habitat restoration, natural re-vegetation, and water quality improvement

**Trail Project** 

#### Project Title\*

Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass

Heather Ferrari

**Project Address** Broadway and W Dry Creek Ct.

Project Location\* Select all that apply: Littleton

## GPS Coordinates (Latitude in Decimal Degrees)\*

Example: Dove Valley Regional Park Latitude: 39.577303 39.578298

## GPS Coordinates (Longitude in Decimal Degrees)\*

Example: Dove Valley Regional Park Longitude: -104.828850

-104.988416

Grant Request Amount\* \$2,108,079.00

# Cash Match Amount\*

\$2,108,080.00

#### **Total Project Amount\***

Total project amount includes grant request and cash match only. Please do not include in-kind match. \$4,216,159.00

#### Cash Match Percentage\*

Calculate cash match as % of total project cost. 50

#### **Project Partners**

List partner agencies if applicable. South Suburban Park and Recreation District

#### **Executive Summary\***

Highlight key points of your proposal, such as project description, components, deliverables, need, goals, beneficiaries, planning, etc.

Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway – Pedestrian Underpass project presents a unique opportunity to install a pedestrian underpass and enhance the safety and accessibility of the trail. The primary driver for the project is the replacement of a deteriorating stormwater pipe under Broadway, which is a project being undertaken by the City of Littleton and the Mile High Flood District. Due to high traffic volumes on Broadway, which sees 34,000-37,000 vehicles daily, this is a rare chance to interrupt traffic for a project of this nature, as there will be no similar opportunity in the next 30-40 years. The installation of a 66" storm pipe will require major excavation, providing an ideal occasion to construct a 10' by 10' pedestrian underpass, improving safety for trail users and connecting them to the High Line Canal and Mary Carter Greenway Trails.

Currently, trail users are forced to detour significant distances to cross Broadway, with the existing crossing at W. Jamison Avenue creating potential conflicts with vehicles. The existing 6-foot-wide path on the east side of Broadway is inadequate for a multi-use trail and sits on private hospital property, limiting the potential for future improvements. The proposed underpass will be complemented by a 65-foot pedestrian bridge over Lee Gulch, improving trail access and eliminating the need for the difficult crossing at Broadway. Additional components of the project include trail realignment, grading, storm drainage, lighting, and the construction of a flood control wall. The open space west of Broadway is planned to be terraced using the excess dirt from excavation, creating areas for potential future enhancements such as benches, shade structures, and educational signage, further enhancing trail connectivity and preserving open space.

# Authorized Signature

#### **Certification and Authorized Signature Form**\*

Please attach completed Certification and Authorized Signature Form as a PDF document. Form must be signed by highest authority in agency or authorized individual. *Staff will email you the form.* 

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_CertificationandAuthorizedSignatureForm.pdf* 

Applicant\_CertificationandAuthorizedSignatureForm.pdf

## **Project Timeline**

#### **Project Timeline Form\***

Please attach completed Project Timeline Form as a PDF document. Staff will email you the form.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_TimelineForm.pdf* Littleton\_Lee Gulch Underpass Timeline Form.pdf

# Project Budget

#### Budget Forms\*

Please attach completed Summary Budget Form and Detailed Expense Budget Form as a single PDF document. *Staff will email you the form.* 

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_BudgetForms.pdf* Littleton\_Budget Forms\_Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass.pdf

# **Project Narrative**

#### Question 1\*

Describe the project goals, scope, expected results, and deliverables. Discuss the current condition of the project site and what improvements, if any, are proposed and why. Discuss how this project preserves open space, improves access to the outdoors, creates connectivity, and/or provides educational opportunities.

The proposed Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway – Pedestrian Underpass project takes advantage of a once in a lifetime opportunity to install a pedestrian underpass, significantly improving both access and safety for trail users. The impetus of the project is the need to replace a deteriorating stormwater pipe under Broadway that conveys flows in the gulch from the east to the west side of the street. The City of Littleton and Mile High Flood District have partnered to complete this portion of the project. This requires open cutting across the entirety of Broadway which will have a significant impact on traffic in the area. Due to high traffic volume, there will not be another opportunity in the next 30-40 years to interrupt traffic to construct this critical underpass.

Broadway is a four-lane major arterial road with 34,000-37,000 vehicles per day according to the 2024 Broadway Corridor Study. The road is a major barrier to east-west travel on the Lee Gulch Tail. Installation of a new 66" diameter storm pipe requires the open cut and major excavation of Broadway. This provides the opportunity to install a 10' tall by 10' wide concrete box culvert (underpass or CBC) allowing pedestrians, bicyclists, and other trail users to safely cross underneath Broadway, improving access to the High Line Canal and Mary Carter Greenway Trails, and eliminating conflicts with vehicles at the existing street crossing.

The estimated 92,000 annual Lee Gulch Trail users must detour approximately 800 linear feet on the east side and 1,000 linear feet on the west side of Broadway to cross at the signalized intersection at W. Jamison Avenue. While this intersection is signalized, it also serves as the vehicular entrance to the emergency department at AdventHealth Littleton Hospital. Ambulances and other emergency vehicles can trigger timing changes to the signal, limiting or delaying pedestrian/bicycle crossing. The high frequency of trail users, emergency vehicles, and heavy vehicle load on Broadway creates potential conflicts between user groups.

Further, the concrete path on the east side of Broadway that connects Lee Gulch Trail to the intersection is only six foot wide, an inadequate width for a multi-use trail. It is located on the hospital's private property with no public access easement. As the hospital continues to expand their facilities and services, encroachment into Broadway frontage is planned to allow for parking and stormwater detention ponds restricting the potential to widen the path and acquire a public access easement.

The underpass is the most critical element of the proposed project, but alone it does not connect the east and west segments of the Lee Gulch Trail. A 65-foot-long pedestrian bridge over Lee Gulch is needed to connect to the existing trail. This is an improvement to the existing bridge (to remain for neighborhood access) that connects to the signalized crossing of Broadway, which has steep grades, a 90 degree approach turn, and limited sight lines. Approximately 230 linear feet of 8' wide new concrete trail will connect the existing Lee Gulch Trail, underpass, and pedestrian bridge, completing the east-west connection.

Other aspects of the work include demolition (flatwork, underground pipe, curb & gutter, asphalt, and clearing and grubbing), excavation for the 10x10 culvert, grading for the trail and bridge, 18" and 48" storm pipes for localized drainage, lighting in the underpass, boulder retaining walls, and revegetation. A flood control wall is also required to keep the underpass dry except during major storm events. A portion of the traffic control for the Broadway (street closure one half at a time) and detour is applied to the underpass project.

The open space on the west side of Broadway is anticipated to be terraced with flatter areas using the dirt generated from the excavation for the underpass. While not part of the proposed project, these flatter areas are planned for future improvement such as benches, shade structures, interpretive/educational signage, or other uses. The proposed project and planned future project will improve trail connectivity, preserve and activate unused open space, and provide educational opportunities.

#### **Question 2\***

Describe the community/neighborhood and user groups the project will serve. Discuss the type of users (children, families, seniors, etc.), and estimate the number of users that will benefit annually. How did you arrive at this estimate? *Include up to five community support letters in the Attachments section. Support letters should come from users, working groups, community members, volunteers, schools, etc. Letters should be dated within the last six months.* 

The Lee Gulch Trail is approximately 4.3 miles long extending from S. Clarkson St in Centennial to the Mary Carter Greenway in Littleton. It intersects the High Line Canal approximately 700 feet northwest of the proposed underpass, near mile marker 20. Based on trail counts conducted by South Suburban, this area of the trail is used by approximately 92,000 people annually.

South Suburban's analytics software shows users stay on the trail for an average of 48 minutes per visit and tend to be traveling between parks. The most common destination after using the trail is Ashbaugh Park, followed closely by Charley Emley Park and Reynolds Landing. The most common places for people to come from prior to using the trail are Charley Emley Park, Ridgewood Park Lower, and Ashbaugh Park. This data highlights the significant role that Lee Gulch Trail plays within the broader recreation network, demonstrating its importance as a vital connector between multiple parks and natural spaces.

The Lee Gulch Trail is a safe route to school connection for children and families traveling to Powell Middle School (0.6 miles east), Runyon Elementary School (0.7 northwest), Heritage High School (0.9 miles northwest), and Euclid Middle School (1 mile north via the High Line Canal Trail). The Littleton YMCA and RTD bus stop are located approximately 600 feet directly north of the project site. It is 850 feet north of the

emergency department entrance to the AdventHealth Littleton Hospital. The surrounding area is a combination of single and multi-family housing and commercial uses.

#### **Question 3\***

Discuss the need and urgency for this project and why it is a priority. Was the project prioritized in a master plan or other planning document (including County Comprehensive Plan, County Open Space Master Plan, etc.), an independent community planning process, a working group, etc.? Is this part of a larger phased project? What opportunities will be lost if this project is not funded now?

The imminent need to replace the deteriorating 66" stormwater pipe under Broadway to prevent road failure and flooding concerns creates urgency and elevates the priority of the project. The 2024 Broadway Corridor Study identified the street as a major barrier for pedestrians and bicyclists because of its width and limited number of grade-separated crossings. The underpass construction cost is reduced by approximately \$2 million due to the efficiency of concurrent construction and shared excavation for the 66" diameter storm pipe. (Based on the preliminary cost estimate of \$6 million for a proposed High Line Canal Trail concrete box culvert underpass south of Arapahoe Road.)

If project funding is not available now, a future underpass will not be feasible in the foreseeable future. Construction resulting in lane closure on Broadway significantly impacts area travel. The cost of the work is significantly higher when the street isn't not being open cut for another purpose, and Littleton has no other maintenance or capital improvements in this area that requires major excavation in the street.

Other plans that support the installation of the underpass include, as the result of public outreach, are: 1978 Lee Gulch Little Creek Major Drainageway Plan envisioned the corridor as a linear park including a multimodal access trail constructed along all reaches.

2019 The Plan for the High Line Canal identifies this as location as an "Opportunity Area".

2022 South Suburban Park and Recreation District Master Plan identifies trails as the most requested priority for improvement and includes the Guiding Principle of "Connect Community" through close-to-home trails that contribute to meaningful quality of life.

2024 Broadway Corridor Study identifies the objective to fully and safely connect the walking and biking network along the corridor.

2025 Root and Renew Plan Draft Findings (Littleton's Parks, Open Space, and Trails Vision Plan) identifies trails as one the top four priorities for investment and a need for safer connections.

#### **Question 4\***

Summarize any planning completed prior to submitting this Joint Project proposal. Is design and engineering complete? Does the project necessitate a zoning change? List any permits that need to be obtained and status of obtaining those permits (Federal 404, County or City, Storm Water Drainage, etc.).

Due to the emergent need to replace the 66" culvert, the planning for the project is accelerated. Using a design build project method, the design and engineering project is nearing completion, and an on-call contractor is slated to do the work and has already prepared construction estimates for budgeting purposes.

The project is located with natural open space or street right of way owner or controlled by Littleton. A US Army Corp of Engineers 404 permit is required and permitting is underway. All other permits will be issued by Littleton including right of way, drainage, grading, and building permits. No change in zoning is required.

#### **Question 5\***

Describe the timeframe needed to complete the project. Discuss the agency's capacity to complete the project, including project management, resources, and experience implementing similar projects.

Work related to the replacement of the 66" diameter storm pipe (not part of the project) will start in March, but construction of the project elements will start in May 2025. All work will be complete in May 2026. The City of Littleton and Mile High Flood District have extensive experience, project managers, and resources for the construction of drainage and heavy civil work such as the roadway, underpass, and bridge. South Suburban will provide support to Littleton for the construction of the underpass, bridge and trail. Littleton is confident the work will be complete within 2 years of a grant award.

#### **Question 6\***

Summarize any efforts to obtain public input, disseminate information to the public, develop partnerships, and garner community support for this project. List the stakeholders that are involved. Discuss any known or anticipated opposition to this project and how this will be addressed. *Include letters, petitions, news articles, or other documents evidencing opposition in the Attachments section.* 

Because this opportunity is in response to the emergent need to replace the 66" diameter storm pipe, there has no public outreach specific to the crossing of the Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway. However, Littleton completed public outreach for the 2025 Root and Renew Plan that is scheduled for review and possible adoption by the City Council in March. South Suburban completed extensive public outreach in Littleton for the 2022 South Suburban Master Plan. Strong public support for trail connectivity, development, and improvement is documented as a core community value and high priority in both plans.

Project stakeholders are Mile High Flood District for the 66" culvert (not included in the project cost) and South Suburban for the underpass, trail, and bridge improvements. The project is supported by the High Line Canal Conservancy. There is no known or anticipated opposition.

#### **Question 7\***

How much of your planned cash match is secured? If applicable, what are your plans for raising additional funds? Describe cash and in-kind match partnerships established for the project. Explain if partnerships were not possible or necessary for this project. *Include partner support letters in the Attachments section and include match from partners on the Budget Forms. Joint Project recipients are responsible for project cost overruns.* 

Funding for the underpass, trail, and bridge are not fully secured. Littleton has identified potential funds and is working to secure the funds by March 2025. South Suburban's staff is requesting funds as part of the 2025 Budget Amendment that will be presented to their Board of Directors on March 12, 2025.

#### **Question 8\***

Describe any scenic, historic, or cultural values associated with the project site. Will they be preserved or restored? Discuss specific natural resources at the site (including habitat, water, wildlife, and vegetation) and impacts to these resources as a result of this project. If applicable, discuss environmental sustainability benefits of this project (such as energy or water conservation, water quality improvement, etc.).

The Lee Gulch corridor is in a suburban area that is surrounded by established housing and commercial uses. There are no known scenic, historic, or cultural values tied trail or open space. Many species native to Colorado are likely present in the area, including fox, coyotes, various species of birds, squirrels, etc. These species are well acclimated to people and the existing developments in the area, it is not likely they will be impacted by the proposed improvements. The corridor is a natural resource and provides habitat for these animals. There will be temporary impacts to wildlife while construction occurs, and this will be offset by restoration of the area the work is complete.

#### **Question 9\***

Discuss ownership and legal access at the proposed project site. Detail any third-party rights, easements, or other encumbrances that exist.

The property is owned by the City of Littleton. South Suburban is the park and recreation provider for Littleton and is responsible for operations and maintenance of parks, trails, and open spaces through an Intergovernmental Agreement. There are other utilities within the street right of way including underground electric and fiber optic lines. The underpass will not impact these structures, and coordination is occurring with the utility owners.

#### Question 10\*

Describe long-term plans for maintaining the project. Who will be responsible for maintenance? Estimate annual costs to maintain the site, and explain how maintaining this project site affects your agency's budget.

South Suburban Park and Recreation District is responsible for maintaining the underpass, bridge, trail, and surrounding open space. Expenses related to operations and maintenance will be paid for from South Suburban's operating budget. The estimated additional annual maintenance cost is \$7,680.

#### Question 11\*

If applicable, describe how this project will address inclusivity per Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

The project will meet all ADA standards for trails. The trail connection, pedestrian underpass, and bridge are all planned with a maximum of 4.5% running slopes and 2% cross slopes, and the concrete trail provides a firm, stable, and slip resistant surface, all of which complies with ADA standards for trails.

#### Question 12\*

If successful in obtaining Joint Project funding, how will the agency use this project to inform citizens about the value of the Arapahoe County Open Space Sales and Use Tax? Discuss plans for public outreach, signage, celebration, dedication, etc. *You are required to inform the County of any press about the project and any related events (ribbon cutting ceremonies, etc.).* Additionally, acknowledgement of County support must be included in any press about the project.

This project will acknowledge the value of the Arapahoe County Open Space (ACOS) Sales and Use Tax in several ways. Temporary signage promoting improvements in the area will recognize all three partners and permanent signage installed along the trail as part of the project will similarly include logos for all three partners. A project celebration will be held upon completion of the amenity area and ACOS will play a central role in the event.

## **Attachments**

#### Attachment 1: Evidence of Support from Highest Authority\*

Please attach evidence of support from the agency's highest authority (official letter or resolution) as a PDF document. At a minimum, this document <u>must</u> include: project title, amount of grant funds requested, statement that matching funds are secured and/or efforts to secure funds are underway (include the amount of matching funds committed), and certification that the project will be open to the public or serve a public purpose upon completion. *A sample resolution is available on the Open Space website.* 

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_SupportfromHighestAuthority.pdf* Applicant\_CertificationandAuthorizedSignatureForm.pdf

#### Attachment 2: Evidence of Community Support

Please attach letters of support from users, working groups, community members, volunteers, schools, etc. (maximum of 5) as a single PDF document. Letters should be dated within the last 6 months.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_CommunitySupport.pdf* 

Littleton\_CommunitySupport.pdf

#### **Attachment 3: Documentation of Opposition**

Please attach documentation of opposition as a single PDF document. If there is no known opposition to this project, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant\_Opposition.pdf

Littleton\_OppositionDoc.pdf

#### **Attachment 4: Evidence of Commitment from Project Partners**

Please attach evidence of commitment from project partners (such as partner support letters or commitment to provide cash/in-kind match) as a single PDF document. There is no maximum allowable number of partner support letters. If there are no partners for this project, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_PartnerCommitments.pdf* Littleton\_PartnerSupport.pdf

#### Attachment 5: Primary Project Photo\*

Please attach one high resolution photo in JPG format. Please choose the photo that provides the best overall representation of your project. This photo will be used for presentations and/or publications.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_PrimaryPhoto.jpg* Sunrise at Lee Gulch .jpg

#### **Attachment 6: Photos**

Please attach photos of existing conditions at the project site (including captions) as a single PDF document. Include conceptual drawings if applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_Photos.pdf* Attachment 6 - Photos.pdf

#### Attachment 7: Maps\*

Please attach a site map and a vicinity map as a single PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant\_Maps.pdf* Littleton\_Maps\_reduced.pdf

#### **Attachment 8: Other Attachments**

Please attach additional supporting documentation (news article, cost estimate, appraisal, title commitment, etc.) as a single PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant\_OtherAttachments.pdf

## Confirmation

Please click the "I Agree" button below to certify that your application is complete and ready to submit. Once submitted, applications are final and cannot be returned.\*

I agree

# File Attachment Summary

## Applicant File Uploads

- Applicant\_CertificationandAuthorizedSignatureForm.pdf
- Littleton\_Lee Gulch Underpass Timeline Form.pdf
- Littleton\_Budget Forms\_Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass.pdf
- Applicant\_CertificationandAuthorizedSignatureForm.pdf
- Littleton\_CommunitySupport.pdf
- Littleton\_OppositionDoc.pdf
- Littleton\_PartnerSupport.pdf
- Sunrise at Lee Gulch .jpg
- Attachment 6 Photos.pdf
- Littleton\_Maps\_reduced.pdf



## **Certification and Authorized Signature Form**

Please use this form for the Arapahoe County Open Spaces grant application.

By signing this form, I certify that:

- The information included in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.
- If funded, the applicant commits to completing the proposed project.
- If funded, the applicant accepts responsibility for any cost overruns necessary to complete the project.
- If funded, the completed project will be open to the public or will otherwise serve a public purpose.
- If funded, the applicant agrees to maintain the completed project site or to continue its maintenance agreement with a partner agency as outlined in the application.
- I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant.

-DocuSigned by:

Brent Soderlin

Authoofiee ക്രൂപ്പെ (highest authority in agency or authorized individual)

2/5/2025

Date

Brent Soderlin, Director of Public Works Printed Name and Title

Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass Grant Project or Joint Project Name



Applicant: City of Littleton

Project Title: Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass at Broadway

Task	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026	June 2026
Grant Award															
Notification															
IGA Executed															
Issue															
Construction															
Contract															
Demolition															
Excavation															
and Grading															
Underpass &															
Storm Pipes															
Trail and															
Bridge															
Revegetation															
Opening															
Celebration															
Final Report															

## Summary Budget Form - STANDARD Grants (25% minimum cash match)

Source of Funds	Date Funds Secured	Cash Match	Total Project Funds	
Arapahoe County Open Spaces Grant	8/1/2025	\$2,108,079		\$2,108,079
Applicant Cash Match	2/3/2025		\$1,054,040	\$1,054,040
South Suburban Parks & Recreation	2/3/2025		\$1,054,040	\$1,054,040
Totals		\$2,108,079	\$2,108,080	\$4,216,159

Ś	Total Project Cost:	\$4,216,159.00
L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L	Cash Match % Required:	50%
MATCH	Cash Match % Budgeted:	50%
a	Cash Match Amount Required:	\$2,108,079.50
Ř	Cash Match Amount Budgeted:	\$2,108,080.00

\*match fields calculate automatically

Applicant: City of Littleton

Project Title: Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway - Pedestrian Underpass

\* Please do not include in-kind match on the Budget Forms

Budget	Line Item Detail	ACOS	Grantee	SSPRD	тот
Budget			Cash Match	Cash Match	101
Category	Description	Grant	Cash Watch		
Professional Services					
	Surveying			\$9,521.00	
	Traffic Control			\$111,014.00	\$1
	CM Services	\$168,048.00			\$1
	Establishment		\$67,219.00		\$
Mobilization/GESC					
	Mobilization		\$48,725.00		\$
	Temporary Erosion Control			\$38,084.00	\$
Demolition					
	Clearing and Grubbing			\$9,013.00	
	Tree Removal			\$5,920.00	
	Asphalt/Concrete/Trail Removal			\$97,412.00	\$
	Storm Sewer Removal			\$20,556.00	\$
Earthwork/Drainage					
	Earthwork - Cut and Fill		\$495,823.00		\$4
	Drainage Pipes & Manhole Access			\$327,131.00	\$3
	Retaining Wall & Flood Wall			\$207,896.00	\$2
Sitework/Hardscape					
	Road Asphalt Repair			\$141,700.00	\$1
	Concrete Trail and Box Culvert	\$1,841,673.00			\$1,8
	Boulder Retaining Wall		\$153,816.00	\$47,814.00	\$2
Furnishings & Misc					
	Prefabricated Pedestiran Bridge 65LF	\$98,358.00	\$288,457.00		\$3
Lighting					
	Underpass Lighting			\$20,000.00	\$
Landscape					
	Topsoil, Excavate, Stockpile, and Replace			\$12,679.00	\$
	Final revegetation			\$5,300.00	
		\$2,108,079.00	\$1,054,040.00	\$1,054,040.00	\$4,2

Applicant: City of Littleton Project Title: Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway - Pedestrian Underpass Date: 2/5/25



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By signing this form, I certify that:

- The information included in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.
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- If funded, the applicant accepts responsibility for any cost overruns necessary to complete the project.
- If funded, the completed project will be open to the public or will otherwise serve a public purpose.
- If funded, the applicant agrees to maintain the completed project site or to continue its maintenance agreement with a partner agency as outlined in the application.
- I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant.

-DocuSigned by:

Brent Soderlin

Authoofiee ക്രൂപ്പെ (highest authority in agency or authorized individual)

2/5/2025

Date

Brent Soderlin, Director of Public Works Printed Name and Title

Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass Grant Project or Joint Project Name



TO:	Arapahoe County Open Spaces
FROM:	High Line Canal Conservancy
DATE:	February 4, 2025
SUBJECT:	Letter of Support for the Lee Gulch Trail Underpass at S. Broadway

#### The Organization

The High Line Canal Conservancy is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the 71-mile long High Line Canal in partnership with the public. The Conservancy was formed in 2014 by a passionate coalition of citizens to provide leadership and harness the region's commitment to protecting the future of the Canal--a 100-foot corridor comprising the canal channel, trail and adjacent vegetation. With support from local jurisdictions and in partnership with Denver Water, the Conservancy is working to ensure that the Canal is protected and enhanced as an ecological and recreational corridor for future generations.

#### **Community Outreach**

Beginning in 2016, the Conservancy and Denver Water, in close collaboration with a host of regional partners, has engaged with over 10,000 people in a far-reaching community outreach process to envision the future of the High Line Canal. The result was a Community Vision Plan and a subsequent framework plan, The Plan for the High Line Canal. Through this process, the public and partners have focused on a vital future for the Canal as a recreational and environmental resource for people that prioritizes improved connectivity and safety along the Canal.

#### The Resource

The High Line Canal Trail connects eleven different governmental jurisdictions and sees more than a million users annually. As it traverses the Denver metro area, the Canal beckons walkers, equestrians, families, nature-lovers, bicyclists and neighbors to recreate along its tree-lined banks. Today, the Canal is in a time of transition as Denver Water moves away from delivering irrigation water in the Canal. The Plan for the High Line Canal lays out a vision for a connected corridor for all communities. Key to achieving this connectivity are safe connections to the regional trail network.

#### **The Project**

The Conservancy is pleased to offer our full support to the City of Littleton's proposed underpass project for the Lee Gulch Trail at S. Broadway, just south of the connection between Lee Gulch and the Canal. The City of Littleton is home to over 5 miles of the Canal, including some of the best-used reaches of the trail anywhere in the region. The Canal's intersection with the Lee Gulch Trail is one of the busiest trail junctures along the Canal, connecting users to the regional trail network. As an organization committed to preserving and enhancing the Canal as recreational and ecological corridor, we recognize the value of improving connections between trails and ensuring safe, accessible routes for all users. The Lee Gulch Underpass at S. Broadway



represents an important step toward enhancing the safety and connectivity of the regional trail system and this improvement will provide significant benefits to the community.

The Conservancy, South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD) and ACOS recently completed the Lee Gulch Lookout, an improvement project at the Canal's juncture with the Lee Gulch Trail. This project improved the safety of the trail juncture, added amenities and interpreted the Canal's historic flume over Lee Gulch. Improving safe connections on the Lee Gulch Trail will support use of the Lee Gulch Lookout and enhance the connectivity between the two trails.

The Lee Gulch Trail is a key link in the broader regional trail network, providing access to other amenities beyond the Canal such as parks, schools, and residential neighborhoods. Connecting the Lee Gulch Trail to other trails, including the Canal, is important to promoting non-motorized transportation, recreational opportunities, and community health. An underpass in this location will make these connections safer and more seamless.

The Conservancy supports the City of Littleton's application for a Joint Project Grant from Arapahoe County Open Spaces. We are confident that the project will create lasting benefits for trail users and the surrounding community.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or comments at <u>josh.p@highlinecanal.org</u> or 720-767-2452.

Sincerely,

Josh Phillips, Director of Planning and Implementation High Line Canal Conservancy



2480 W. 26th Ave Suite 156-B | Denver, CO 80211 TEL 303 455 6277 | FAX 303 455 7880



February 4, 2025

Arapahoe County Open Spaces 6934 S Lima Street Centennial, CO 80112

RE: Letter of Support – Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass Project

Dear Open Space and Trails Advisory Board,

On behalf of the Mile High Flood District, I am writing to express our strong support for the City of Littleton's proposed underpass project for the Lee Gulch Trail at South Broadway. This project will eliminate the need for trail users to cross South Broadway by providing a pedestrian underpass, enhancing regional connectivity while improving storm drainage infrastructure and reducing flood risk in the area.

This project provides an important opportunity to create a more direct route across South Broadway which will improve the overall trail network by allowing for a more seamless connection between recreational and commercial areas, and residential neighborhood. Lee Gulch Trail provides access to numerous key locations, including Puma Park, Heritage High School, Carbone Park, Runyon Elementary School, Horseshoe Park, Heritage High School, and more. The underpass project will create a safer and more convenient way across South Broadway, further encouraging residents and visitors to utilize the trail system for recreation and transportation.

Mile High Flood District wholeheartedly supports the City of Littleton's application for a Joint Project Grant through Arapahoe County Open Spaces and encourages your approval of this grant application. We believe it will provide significant benefits to the community and contribute to the overall quality of life for Littleton residents and trail users alike.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

eff Battit

Jeff Battiste, P.E. Senior Project Engineer jbattiste@mhfd.org

# There is no known opposition to this project.

Administration



4810 E. County Line Rd. Littleton, CO 80126 303.798.5131

February 5, 2025

Arapahoe County Open Spaces 6934 S Lima Street Centennial, CO 80112

RE: Letter of Support - Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass Project

Dear Open Space and Trails Advisory Board:

South Suburban Park and Recreation District fully supports the City of Littleton's application for an Arapahoe County Open Spaces Joint Project Grant to construct an underpass, bridge, and trail connection for the Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway. The City of Littleton is replacing the essential 66" diameter stormwater pipe underneath the roadway, which requires the entire width of the road to be open cut and excavated. We recognize the emergent need to replace the stormwater pipe to prevent failure of the road, and the unique opportunity it creates to construct a pedestrian underpass trail crossing at a significantly reduced cost. We are partnering with Littleton to take advantage of this opportunity.

Installing a pedestrian underpass will improve the overall trail network by allowing for a safer and more seamless connection between recreational, commercial, and residential areas. South Suburban feels this project presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to significantly improve the Lee Gulch Trail, and it aligns with our 2022 Master Plan goal to connect communities by providing strong trail network. Subject to approval by the Board of Directors, South Suburban may contribute up to \$1,054,040 in cash match for this project. Approval of funds will be considered as part of the 2025 Budget Amendment that will be presented to the Board on March 12.

South Suburban is the park and recreation provider for the City of Littleton and will continue to maintain the Lee Gulch Trail, including the underpass, bridge, and trail. South Suburban strongly supports the City of Littleton's application for a Joint Grant through Arapahoe County Open Spaces and respectfully requests approval of this grant.

Sincerely,

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Pam Eller Chair, Board of Directorsp





Lee Gulch Trail Pedestrian Underpass

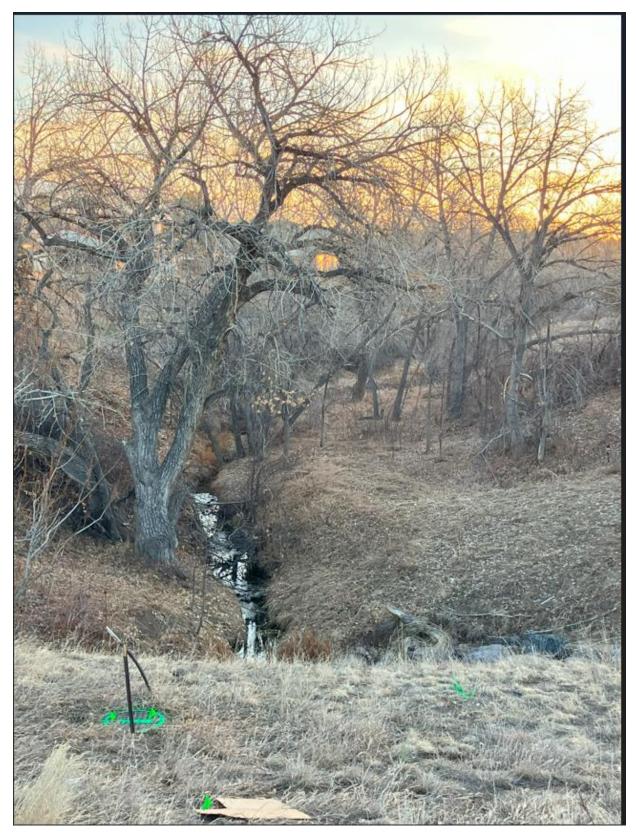
Photos

## Primary Photo – Sunrise at Lee Gulch





Looking North - no available crossing until traffic signal at Dry Creek (900 ft north)



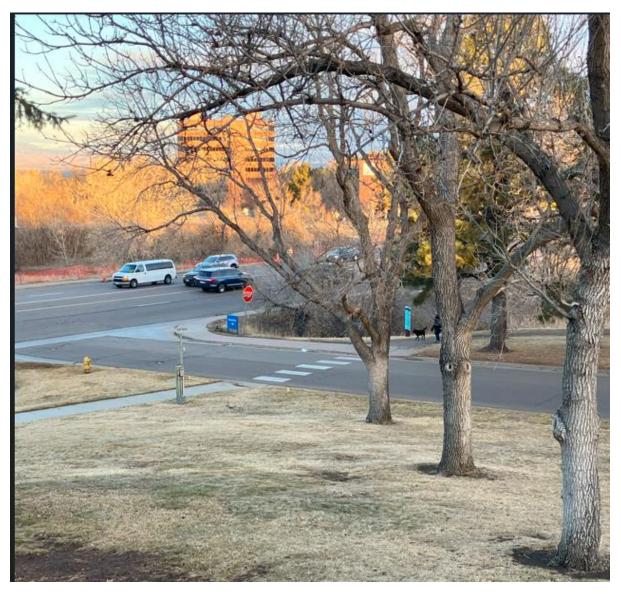
Lee Gulch – East Side



Lee Gulch flowing under Broadway



Lee Gulch Trail – redirected along east side



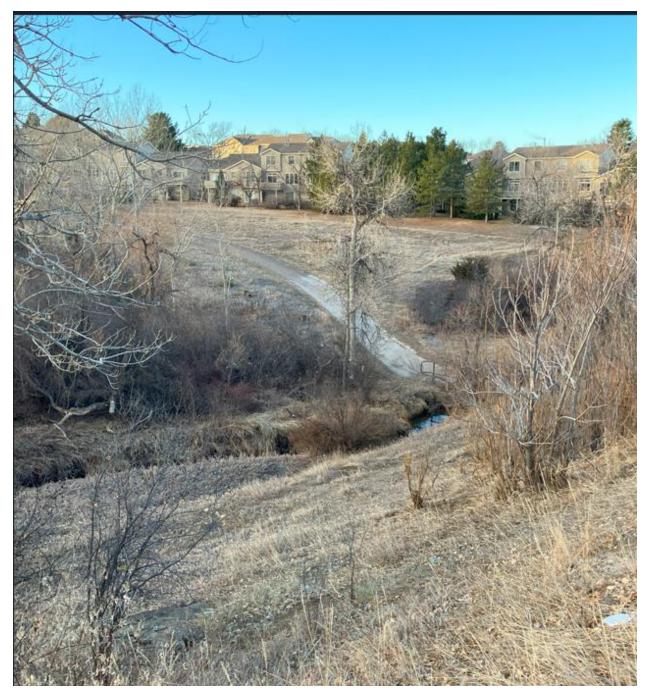
Walker taking east side detour



Trail detour along Littleton Adventist Hospital



Trail detour along Littleton Adventist Hospital



West Side - Lee Gulch Trail connection , slopes +7%



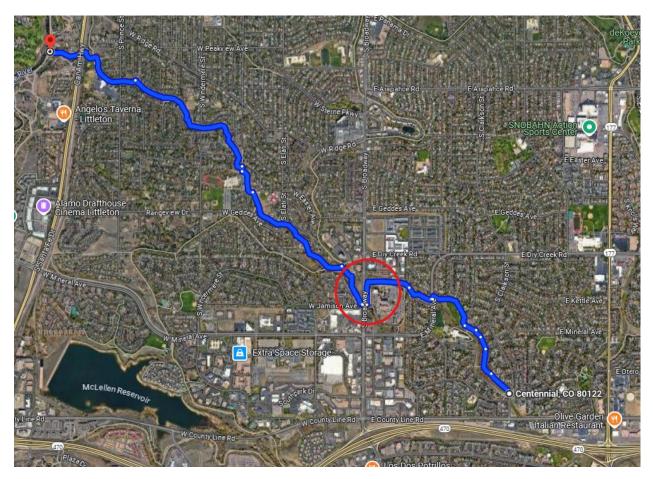
West Side – Lee Gulch Trail bridge crossing



Lee Gulch - West Side



Open Space on West Side of Broadway – potential for future nature connection areas

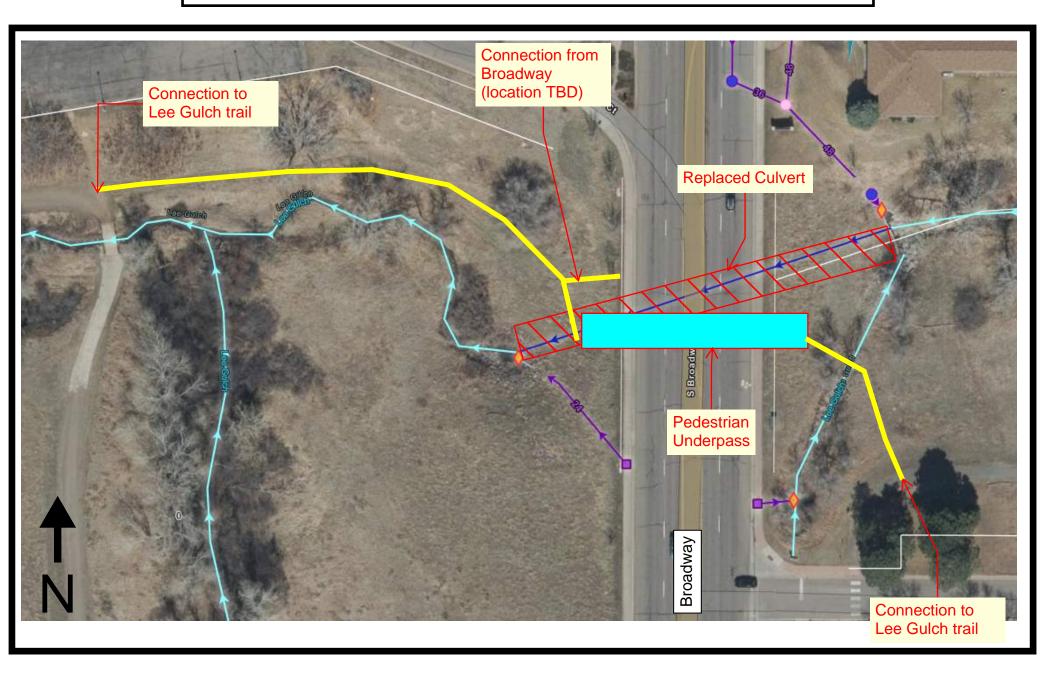


Trail Map showing detour at project location

# Vicinity Map - Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway - Pedestrian Underpass

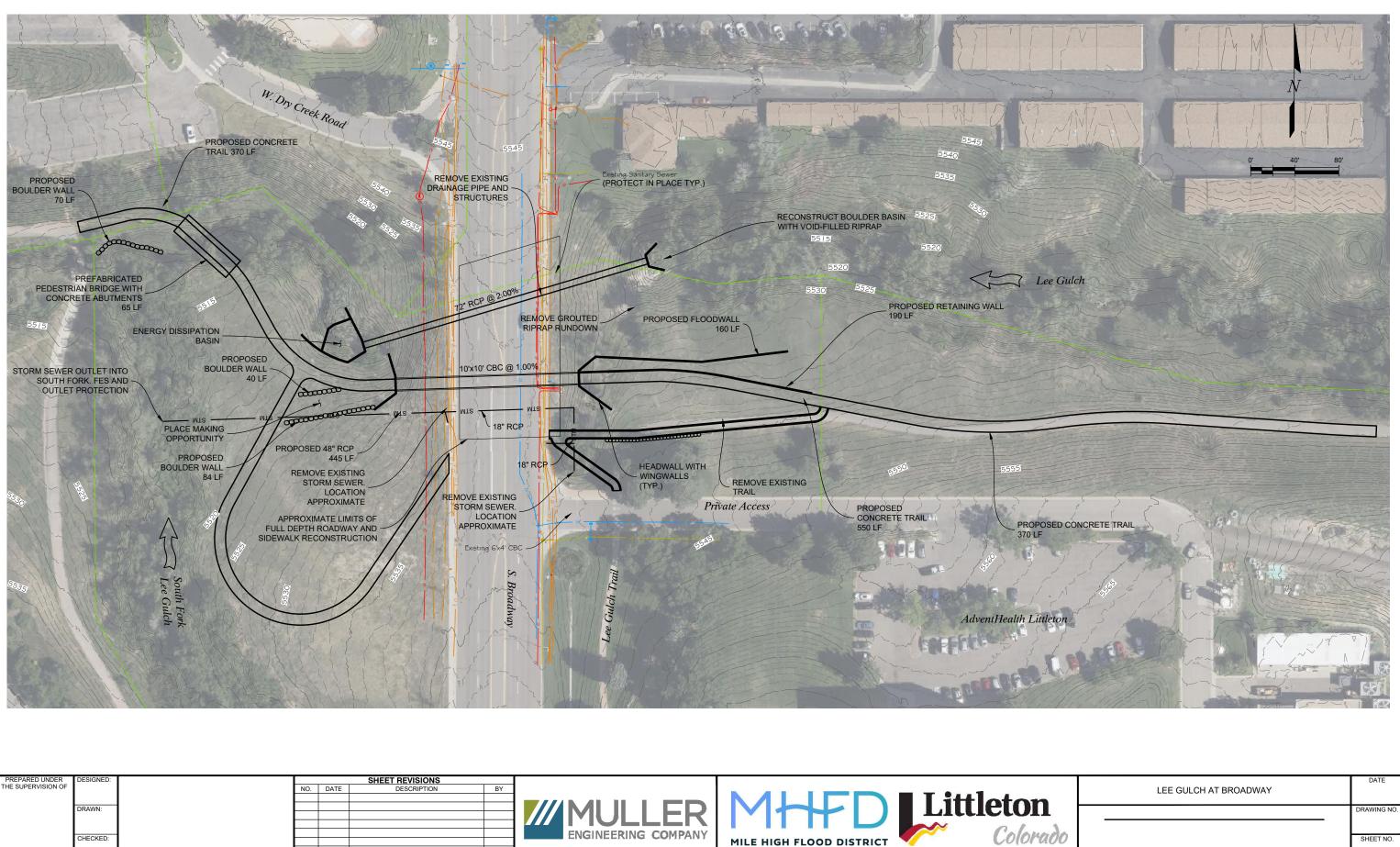


# Site Map - Lee Gulch Trail at Broadway - Pedestrian Underpass



Application supplemental questions Lee Gulch Pedestrian Underpass

- 1. How long will Broadway traffic be interrupted during construction?
  - Broadway will be partial closed approximately 4 months. At least 2 lanes of traffic will remain open at all times, one lane northbound and one lane southbound. Culvert repairs alone would impact Broadway traffic 2 months, the additional pedestrian underpass adds approximately 2 months of traffic interruption at Broadway.
- 2. What are plans for revegetating the site after construction is completed?
  - SSPRD standard seed mix will be used for all uplands area. The intent will be natural vegetation that does not need irrigation. MHFD seed mix for riparian corridors will be used adjacent to the drainageway.
- 3. Where will the new pedestrian bridge be located? We didn't see this identified on the maps.
  - Please see attached plans. (Apologies I missed this)
- 4. What is the overall cost for the entire project (road work + trail work)?
  - Total overall cost of the project is \$7,864,655.
  - Total project cost estimate is attached.
- 5. In the expense worksheet,
  - Who is performing construction management services? FYI, we can't fund agency staff time.
    - Construction management services are being completed by subcontractor Muller Engineering.
  - What does the line item for Establishment mean?
    - Establishment costs include the restoration final vegetation and temporary irrigation during regrowth. The line item of "final vegetation" is the material costs. Vegetation establishment involves preparing the soil, planting seeds, and caring for the plants until they are established over a 2-year restoration period.
  - Why does the budget include storm sewer removal? How does that relate to the trail/underpass portion of the project?
    - The existing inlets on Broadway currently outfall via storm sewer to Lee Gulch. The proposed location of the underpass require the storm sewer to be relocated. Culvert repairs do not require either the removal or relocation of the storm sewer and is an added cost strictly associated with the trail/underpass installation.



\_OF \_

PREPARED UNDER	DESIGNED:				SHEET REVISIONS				
THE SUPERVISION OF			NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY			
	DRAWN:								<b></b>
	CHECKED:						ENGINEERING COMPANY		Colo
	CHECKED:							MILE HIGH FLOOD DISTRICT	
		PROJECT NO. 24-061.03							

	Project Cost Estimate _ Lee Gulch At Broadway Culvert and Pedstrian Underpass Project								
BID ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION OF BID ITEM	PAY UNIT	Qty		Unit Price	Total cost of bid item	Trail % Share		Trail \$ Share
1	Mobilization	LS	1	\$	97,450	\$ 97,450	50%	\$	48,72
2	Surveying	LS	1	\$	38,084	\$ 38,084	25%	\$	9,52 <sup>-</sup>
3	Temporary Erosion Control	LS	1	\$	76,168	\$ 76,168	50%	\$	38,084
4	Water Control	LS	1	\$	746,264	\$ 746,264	0%	\$	-
5	Clearing and Grubbing	AC	1.3	\$	13,866	\$ 18,026	50%	\$	9,013
6	Tree Removal	EA	10	\$	1,184	\$ 11,840	50%	\$	5,920
7	Traffic Control	LS	1	\$	222,028	\$ 222,028	50%	\$	111,014
8	Remove Asphalt Pavement	SY	1670	\$	95	\$ 159,318	50%	\$	79,659
9	Remove Curb and Gutter	LF	331	\$	41	\$ 13,604	50%	\$	6,802
10	Remove Concrete Sidewalk / Trail	SY	221	\$	99	\$ 21,901	50%	\$	10,951
11	Remove Boulder Rundown	SF	500	\$	50	\$ 24,925	0%	\$	-
12	Remove Storm Sewer	LF	115	\$	358	\$ 41,113	50%	\$	20,556
13	Remove 66" Culvert	LF	258	\$	416	\$ 107,315	0%	\$	-
14	Road, Asphalt	SY	1670	\$	170	\$ 283,399	50%	\$	141,700
15	Aggregate Base Course	SY	1670	\$	9	\$ 14,529	50%	\$	7,265
16	Concrete Sidewalk, 6-Inch Thick	SY	221	\$	265	\$ 58,565	50%	\$	29,283
17	Concrete Trail, 6-Inch Thick	SY	1824	\$	265	\$ 483,360	100%	\$	483,360
18	Concrete Curb and Gutter with 2-Foot Pan	LF	331	\$	106	\$ 35,086	50%	\$	17,543
19	Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP), Class IV, 66-Inch Diameter	LF	258	\$	1,802	\$ 464,800	0%	\$	-
20	Concrete Box Culvert, Precast, 10' W x 10' H	LF	185	\$	6,732	\$ 1,245,374	100%	\$	1,245,374
21	Concrete, Structural, Headwall / Wingwall	CY	80	\$	1,653	\$ 132,228	50%	\$	66,114
22	Type H Void-filled Riprap	CY	95	\$	293	\$ 27,835	0%	\$	-
23	Channel Stabilization	LF	300	\$	150	\$ 45,000	0%	\$	-
24	Boulders, Grouted, 42-Inch	SY	23	\$	2,696	\$ 62,015	0%	\$	-
25	Earthwork, Excavation and Fill On-Site	CY	333	\$	26	\$ 8,525	75%	\$	6,394
26	Earthwork, Excavation and Haul On-Site	CY	3943	\$	34	\$ 135,048	75%	\$	101,286
27	Earthwork, Excavation and Place On-Site	CY	5730	\$	26	\$ 151,272	75%	\$	113,454
28	Earthwork, Spoils and Haul Offsite	CY	4879	\$	78	\$ 379,586	75%	\$	284,690
29	Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP), Class III, 48-Inch Diameter	LF	450	\$	924	\$ 415,890	50%	\$	207,945
30	Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP), Class III, 18-Inch Diameter	LF	50	\$	575	\$ 28,725		\$	14,363
31	Flared End Section, Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP), with Toe Wall, 48-Inc	EA	1	\$	20,884	\$ 20,884	50%	\$	10,442
32	Cast in Place Manhole	EA	1	\$	29,447	\$ 29,447	50%	\$	14,723
33	Precast Manhole, 8-Foot Diameter	EA	1	\$	79,149			\$	39,57
34	Precast Manhole, 7-Foot Diameter	EA	1	\$	59,866			\$	29,93
35	Precast Manhole, 6-Foot Diameter	EA	1	\$	40,303	. ,		\$	20,15 <sup>-</sup>

BID ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION OF BID ITEM	PAY UNIT	Qty	Unit Price	Total	cost of bid item	Trail % Share	Tra	ail \$ Share
36	Type M Soil Riprap	CY	14	\$ 106	\$	1,484	0%	\$	-
37	Concrete, Structural, Retaining Wall	CY	86	\$ 1,246	\$	107,186	100%	\$	107,186
38	Concrete, Structural, Flood Wall	CY	95	\$ 2,120	\$	201,419	50%	\$	100,710
39	Single Stack Boulder Wall	LF	494	\$ 393	\$	194,364	100%	\$	194,364
40	Prefabricated Pedestrian Bridge, 65LF	LS	1	\$ 386,815	\$	386,815	100%	\$	386,815
41	Excavation, Muck, Replace with Approved Material	CY	100	\$ 158	\$	15,750	0%	\$	-
42	Final Revegetation	LS	1	\$ 10,601	\$	10,601	50%	\$	5,300
43	Topsoil, Excavate, Stockpile, and Replace	CY	1199	\$ 21	\$	25,359	50%	\$	12,679
44	Establishment, vegetation restoration	EA	1	\$ 134,438	\$	134,438	50%	\$	67,219
45	CM Services	EA	1	\$ 336,098	\$	336,098	50%	\$	168,049
46	Final Design*	EA	1	\$ 672,190	\$	672,190	0%	\$	-
	Total Costs				\$	7,864,624		\$	4,216,159
	*50/50 on design, but not an ACOS reimburseable cost		Total Pr	 Cost	¢	7 864 625			

\*50/50 on design, but not an ACOS reimburseable cost \*Contingency not an ACOS reimburseable cost

Total Project Cost	\$ 7,864,625
Contingency 15%	\$ 1,179,694
	\$ 9,044,319