

#### **ABOUT**

# CLEAR CREEK CORRIDOR PLANNING

## **Project Management**

Adams County Parks & Recreation

## Planning and Outreach Team

Wenk Associates
Zoeller Consulting, LLC
Merrick Engineering
Entelechy
CORVUS Environmental Consulting

## **Technical Advisory Committee**

Urban Drainage and Flood Control District

Adams County Transportation

Clear Creek Watershed Foundation

Adams County Long Range Planning Adams

County Community and Economic Development

Adams County Parks and Recreation

Hyland Hills Parks & Recreation District







## **GENERAL COMMENTS**

Clear Creek Corridor

total recommendations 320

top areas of interest Delinquency concerns (18%)

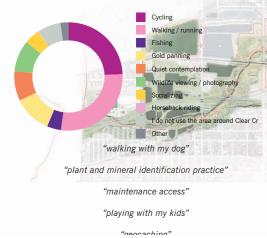
Maintenace concerns (13%)

Access / circulation (12%)
Gold panning (12%)

Parking (9%) Wayfinding (6%)

Dog park (4%)

How do you currently use the Clear Creek Corridor from Sheridan Boulevard to the South Platte River?





"better access and signage for gold panning"

"cleanup and reopen Lowell Ponds"

"off-leash dog park that has trees for shade"

lighting"

"improvements to under-bridge paths for when they get flooded"

"parking and a portolet"

"better safety and more police patrolling in the area"

"fix cycling path, wide, add lanes and signage"

"more trees, more wildlife habitat, safer access/egress for non human inhabitants needing water to survive"

"picnic spots, signate for recycling/trash bins"

"cyclocross racing venue"

"interpretive signing (history/ecosystems) coordinated among various jurisdictions"

What would you like to see in the future along the Clear Creek Corridor from Sheridan Boulevard to the South Platte River?



Places for active recreation (playgrounds cycling, jogging, hiking, etc.)

Places for passive recreation (meditation or reflection,

Safe public access to the river

Places for water recreation (kayaking, tubing, paddle-boarding)

Better connectivity to neighborhoods

Better wayfinding / signage

Better visibility

Soft trail for horseback riding

| Soft trail for mountain biking / running /
walking
| Improved plant and animal habitat areas

Improved plant and animal habitat areas
Organized special events (festivals, races

No improvements needed

Other



If you've ever felt uneasy along the Clear Creek trail, please select your top three concerns that have made you feel unsafe.



"homeless/transient camping along the river and trail"

"not enough visibility / interconnection into neighborhoods"

"bicyclers disrespectful to other trail users"

"lack of wayfinding signage and not certain I am headed in the right direction. lack of confidence = lack of perceived safety and anxiety-inducing

"no bathrooms close to the river"

"lack of law enforcement presence"

"too much trash, after spring floods the paths take months to be cleared"

"lack of nearby public parking"

"needs more population density - additional use which creates more safety"

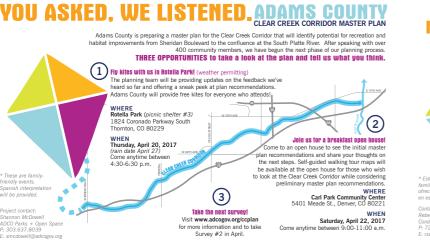
"dog off leash and dog waste, no enforcement"

"trash, tall weeds and grass"

#### **ENGAGEMENT PROCESS**

ROUND 1: PUBLIC MEETING, ONLINE SURVEY #1







## **PHASE 2 - SETTING PRIORITIES**

WHICH RECOMMENDATIONS ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

PHASE 2 INCLUDED

236 SURVEY RESPONSES54 PUBLIC MEETING GUESTS2 PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENTS

what we heard in Phase 2

## The Most Important Improvements are:

## BASIC NEEDS

- 1) Improve regional trail and transportation connections
  - 2) Dedicated ranger patrols3) More trailheads

## CIRCULATION + ACCESS

- 1) Commerce City Station connection
- 2) Trail connections at Lowell Boulevard
- 3) South Platte River trail integration

## RECREATION PLANNING

- 1) South Platte River Confluence Open Space
- 2) Clear Creek Ecological Area at Lowell Ponds
- 3) Ralston Creek Confluence Regional Open Space

### **ENGAGEMENT PROCESS**

ROUND 2: OUTREACH EVENTS, ONLINE SURVEY #2







DEDICATED TRAIL SECURITY PATROL



GRAFFITI-RESISTANT
INTEGRATED SIGNAGE PROGRAMS



HUMAN-ACTIVATED SIGNALIZED CROSSWALKS ("HAWK" CROSSINGS)



IMPROVED LIGHTING AT UNDERPASSES AND TRANSIT STATIONS

## BASIC NEEDS SAFETY

## Ranger / Patrol Program

in Cooperation with Adams County Sheriff's Department

## Integrated Signage Programs

Urban Drainage and Flood Control District
Adams County Transportation
Clear Creek Watershed Foundation
Adams County Parks and Recreation
Hyland Hills Parks & Recreation District

## Pedestrian Safety Guidelines





EXPANDED PARKING AREAS AT TRAILHEADS



IMPROVED REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTIONS



**BIKE SHARE LOCATIONS** 



MAINTAINED PORTOLETS ALONG TRAIL

## BASIC NEEDS ACCESS

Trailhead Resources

**Integrated Trail Programs** 





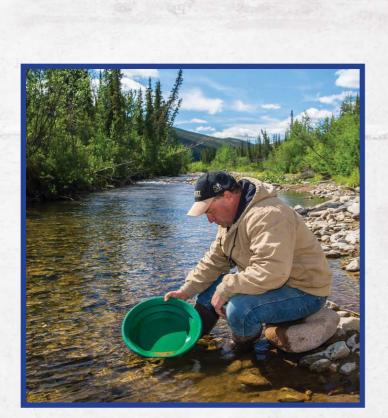








**ECOLOGICAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** 



SAFE RIVER ACCESS, INCLUDING AREAS FOR NON-MECHANIZED GOLD PANNING



COOPERATIVE CLEANUP PROGRAMS
WITH COMMUNITIES AND INTEREST
GROUPS



**EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE** 

## BASIC NEEDS STEWARDSHIP

## Potential Partnership Opportunities

Adams County Schools

Neighborhood Organizations

Clear Creek Watershed Association

Department of Fish and Wildlife

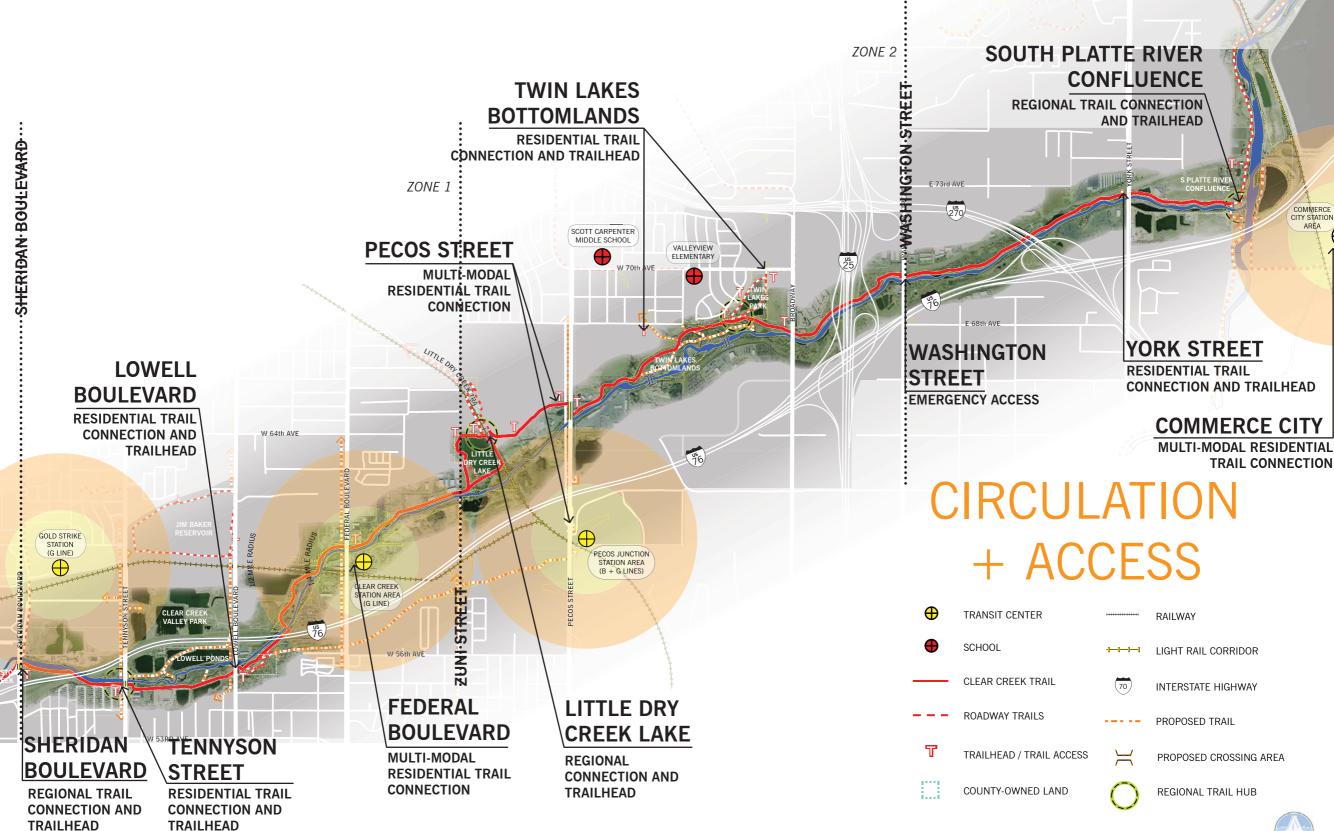
National Audobon Society

Colorado Department of Transportation
(CDOT)

Local and Regional Recreation Programs Local Interest Groups

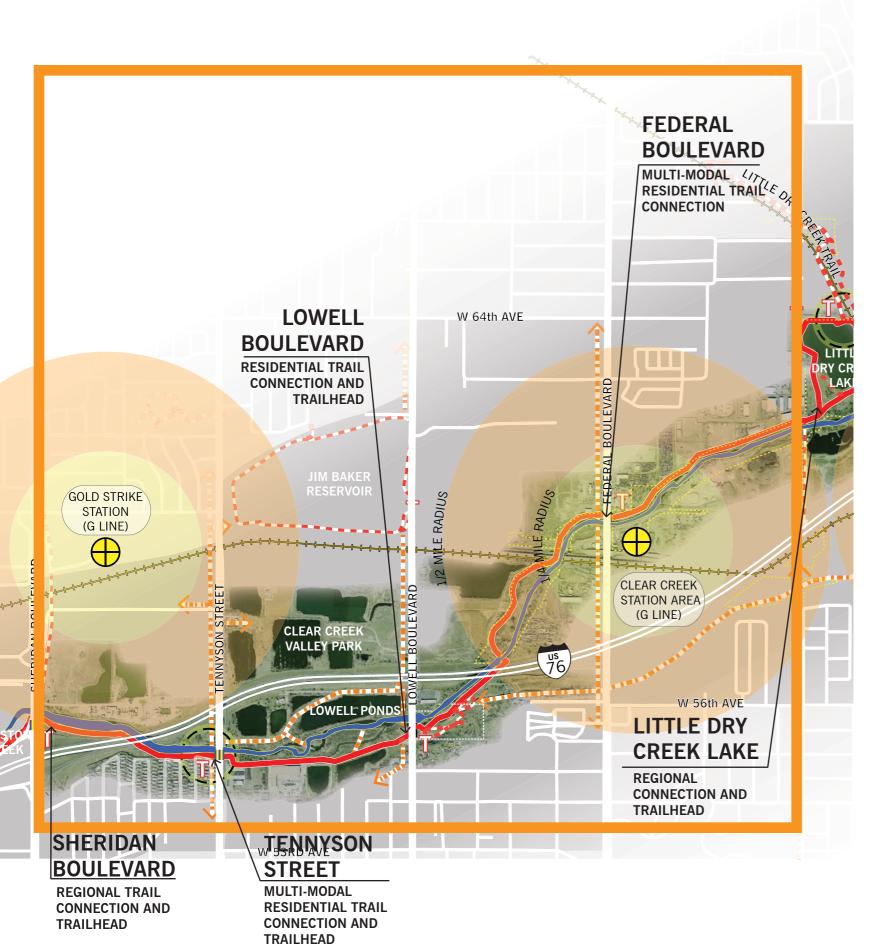








ZONE 3



#### **ACCESS PLANNING**

**ZONE 1** | SHERIDAN BOULEVARD TO ZUNI STREET

### SHERIDAN BOULEVARD

Improved connection with Gold Strike Park, neighborhood trail signage, safe pedestrian and cyclist crossings. Preferred bike share location.

#### **TENNYSON STREET**

Add safe pedestrian and bicycle connections to Arvada Gold Strike Station, Clear Creek Valley Park and Jim Baker Reservoir. Enhanced HAWK crossing at Clear Creek recommended, along with nearby neighborhood signage.

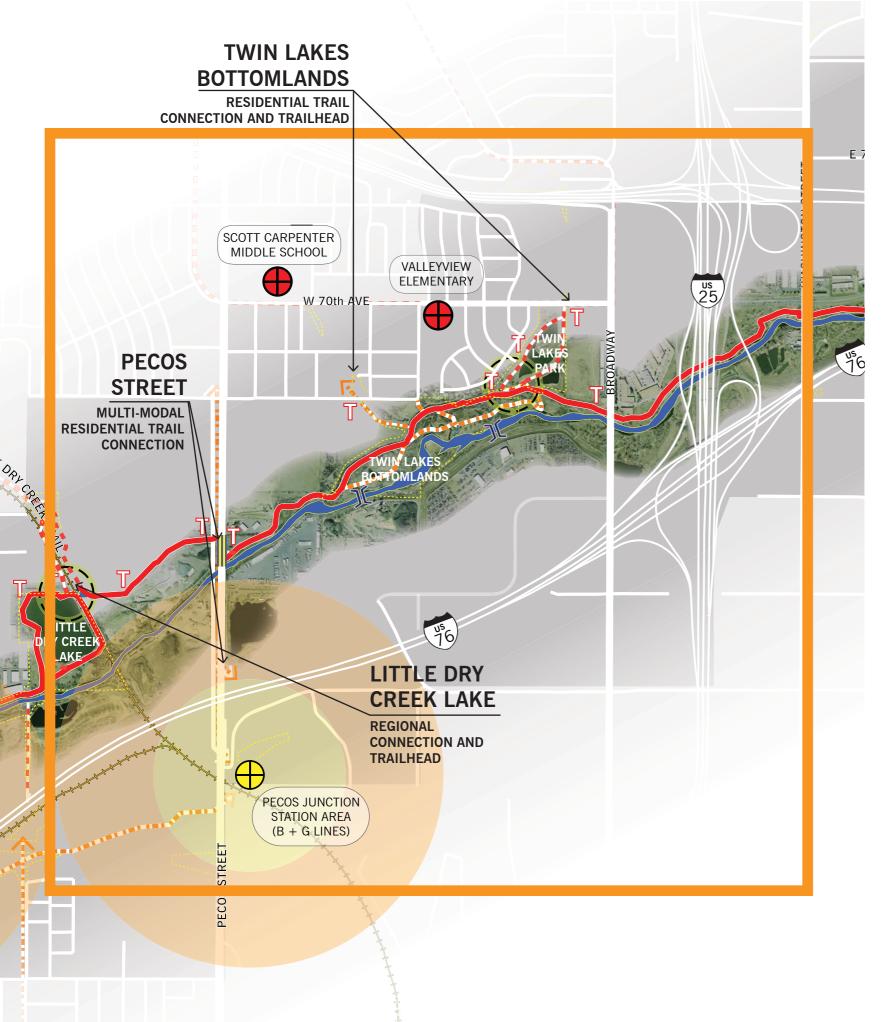
#### **LOWELL BOULEVARD**

Complete multi-use trail connections to Jim Baker Reservoir, Clear Creek Valley Park, Lowell Ponds and Carl Park Community Center. Neighborhood trail signage helps navigation from Westminster, Arvada and Aloha Beach, and from Berkeley and Regis University.

#### **FEDERAL BOULEVARD**

Planned improvements at underpass connect neighborhood routes with Clear Creek Station. Additional lighting, wayfinding and right-of-way enhancements for neighborhood cyclists recommended. Preferred bike share location.

ADAMS COUNTY



## **ACCESS PLANNING**

**ZONE 2** | ZUNI STREET TO WASHINGTON STREET

### **PECOS STREET**

Improved street and underpass crossings, pedestrian connection and neighborhood trail signage for Pecos Street Station, Berkley/Zuni and Sunnyside neighborhoods.

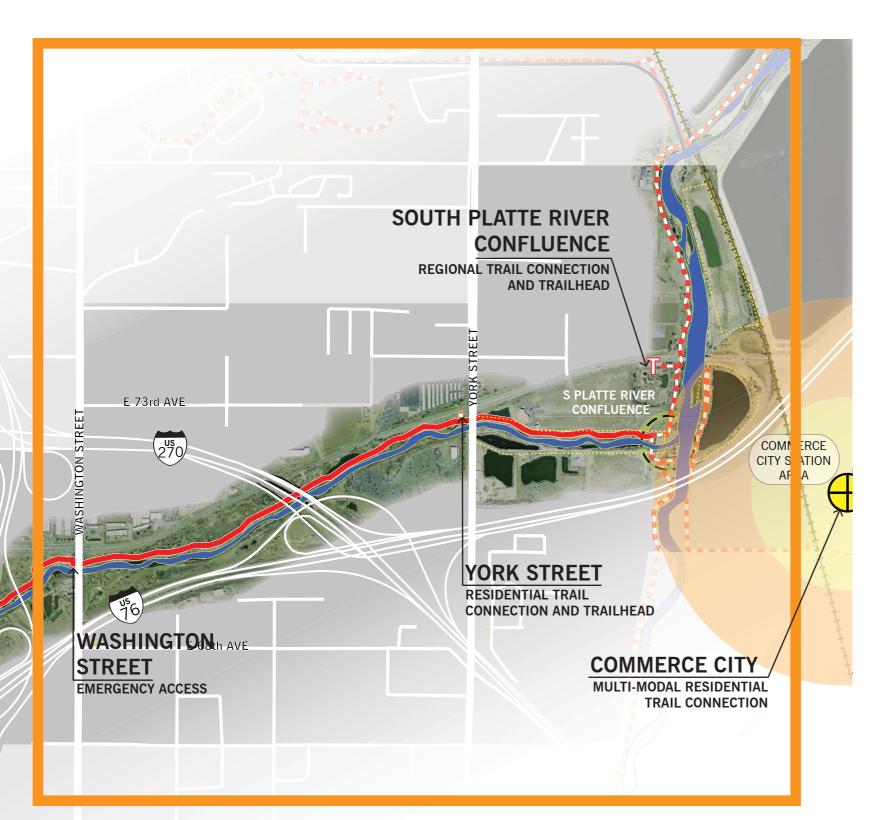
#### LITTLE DRY CREEK LAKE

A county-owned parcel with that connects the US-36 bikeway, Westminster Station, Arvada and Westminster. Recommend future expanded parking and trailhead amenities. Future connection along creek and across rail lines should be added if/when surface mining operations cease. Wayfinding improvements are needed until trail connects. Preferred bike share location.

#### TWIN LAKES BOTTOMLANDS

Trail connections from Scott Carpenter Middle School and Valley View Elementary open up new outdoor learning environments in the Twin Lakes Bottomlands. New walking trails provide access to wildlife areas while preserving wildlife habitats.





#### **ACCESS PLANNING**

**ZONE 3** | WASHINGTON STREET TO THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER

### **WASHINGTON STREET**

New access for Emergency Services. Potential connections to planned detached walk. Future development should seek to provide additional trail access.

#### **YORK STREET**

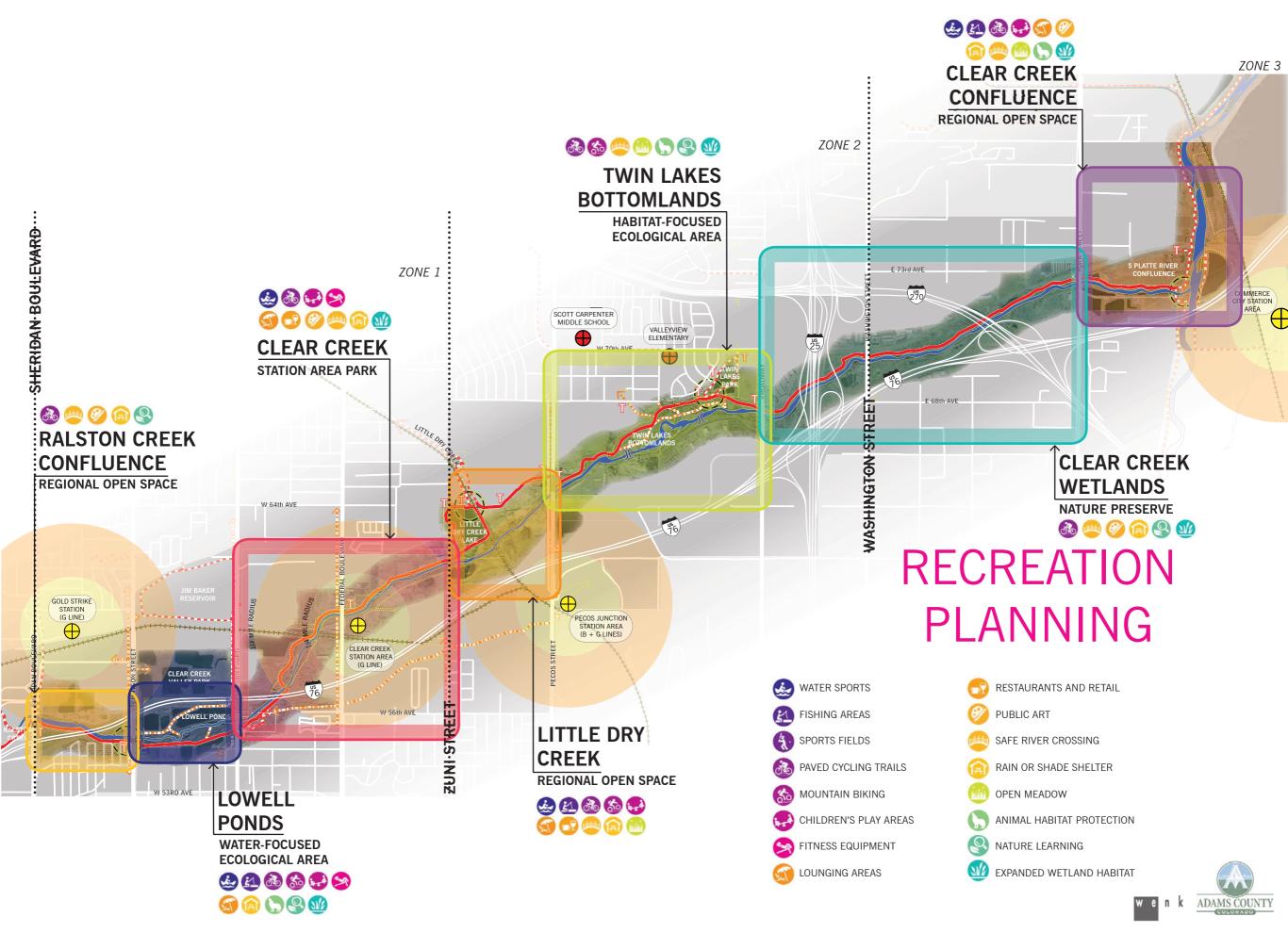
Planned improvements include a new sidewalk and trail connection. Additional neighborhood signage recommended.

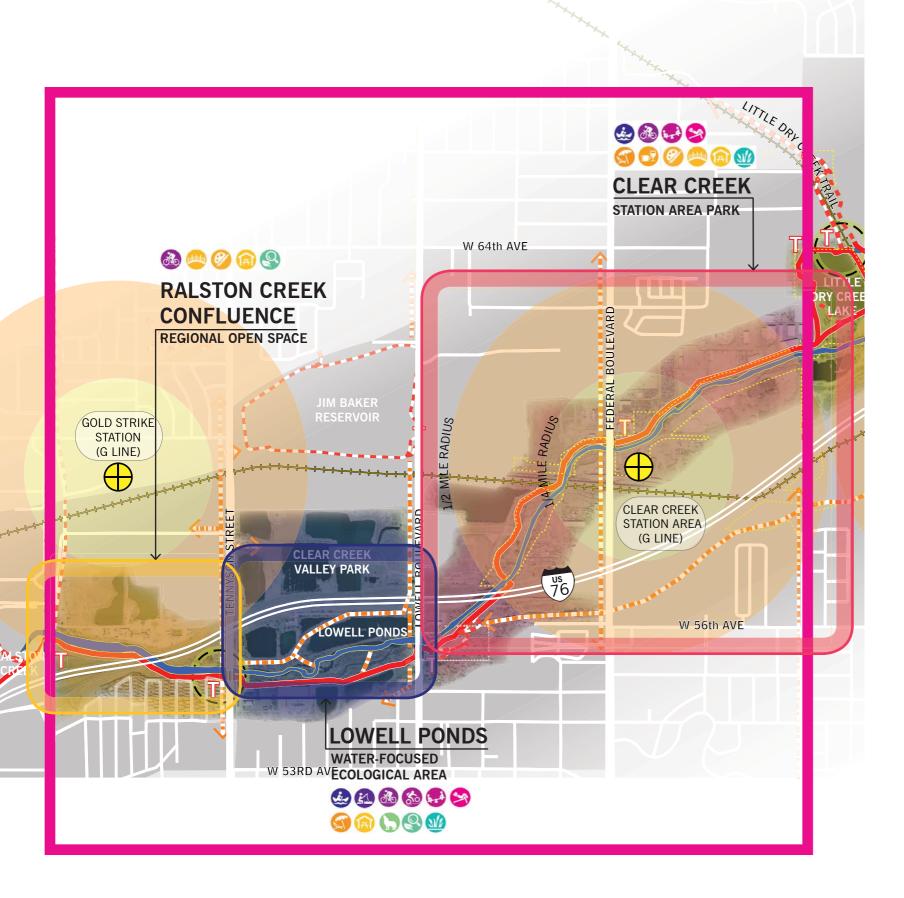
#### SOUTH PLATTE RIVER CONFLUENCE

Parking, restroom and pedestrian improvements recommended. Future development should expand pedestrian and bicycle access from South Platte River and Commerce City Commuter Rail. Preferred bike share location.









**ZONE 1** | SHERIDAN BOULEVARD TO ZUNI STREET

### **RALSTON CREEK CONFLUENCE**

An iconic connection between Arvada's Gold Strike Park and Adams County Open Space, including stream restoration, paved trails, public art, picnic areas, safe river access, informational signage about gold panning and the history of Clear Creek.

#### **LOWELL PONDS**

A diverse wetland and aquatic habitat area that includes educational signage, formalized paved and soft trails, wildlife viewing areas, and may also be a location for stocked fishing areas. This site is an opportunity for partnerships between Adams County, Colorado State Wildlife, and the Hyland Hills Recreation District.

#### **CLEAR CREEK STATION AREA PARK**

Soon to be a transit hub for recreationalists and commuters, Clear Creek Station area provides an opportunity for specialized water recreation and low-impact recreational retail such as rental and repair shops, coffee stands, etc. Wetland and floodway buffers areas are currently limited and should be restored.



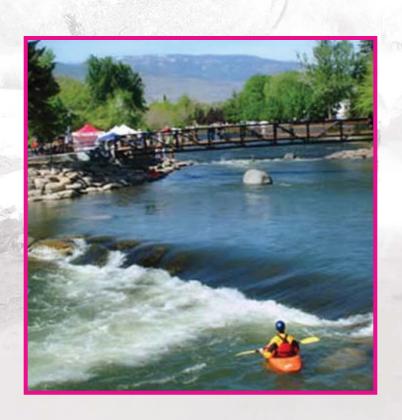
**RALSTON CREEK CONFLUENCE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE** 



**LOWELL PONDS ECOLOGICAL AREA** 



CLEAR CREEK STATION AREA PARK



**ZONE 1** | SHERIDAN BOULEVARD TO ZUNI STREET

## **RALSTON CREEK CONFLUENCE**











## **LOWELL PONDS**





























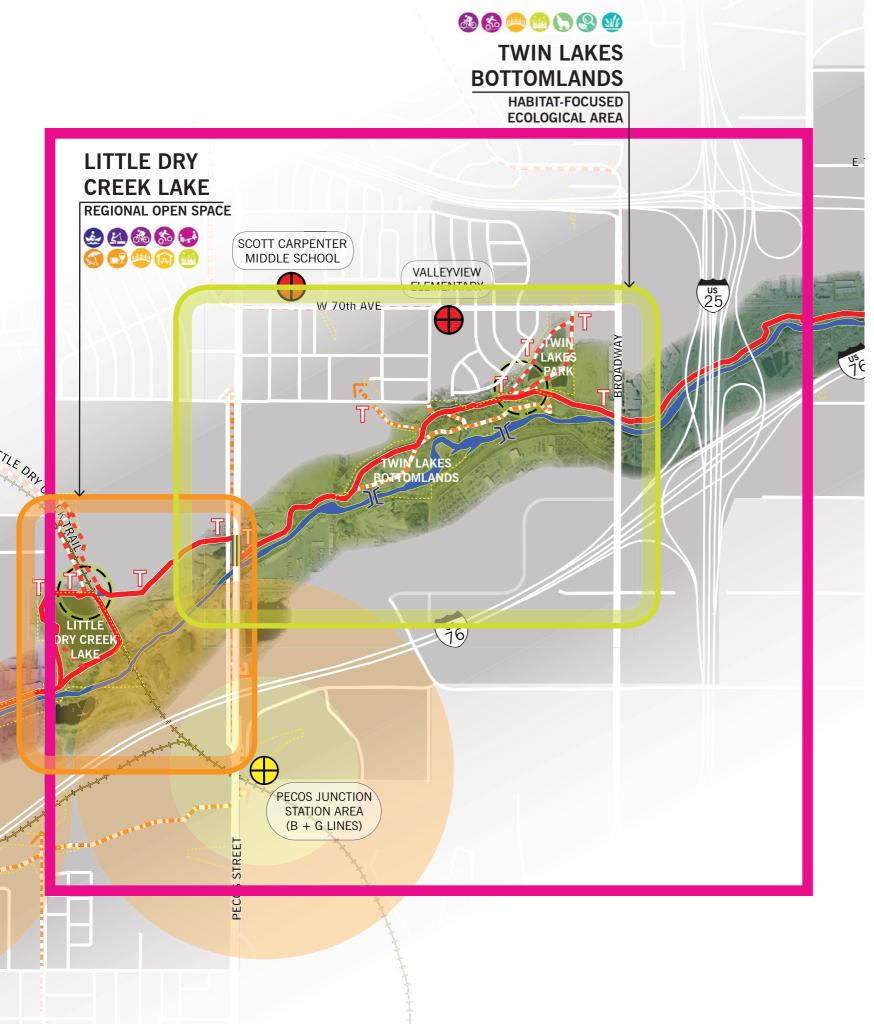












**ZONE 2** | ZUNI STREET TO WASHINGTON STREET

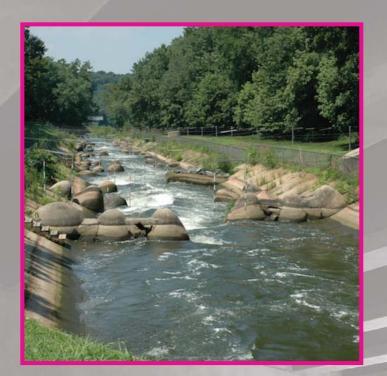
### LITTLE DRY CREEK

The intersection of the Little Dry Creek Trail and Clear Creek connects Jefferson and Adams counties and a number of transit areas nearby. River topography provides an opportunity for future development to incorporate water recreation such as tubing, kayaking and standup paddle boarding.

#### TWIN LAKES BOTTOMLANDS

This site is ecologically rich and uniquely diverse. Cleanup, revegetation and maintenance will enhance habitat. Stormwater networks create an opportunity for stormwater parks and wetland areas. Trail connections to Valley View Elementary and Scott Carpenter Middle School can connect these schools to outdoor classrooms and wildlife viewing areas.





LITTLE DRY CREEK LAKE **REGIONAL OPEN SPACE** 



TWIN LAKES BOTTOMLANDS **ECOLOGICAL AREA** 





**ZONE 2** | ZUNI STREET TO WASHINGTON STREET

## LITTLE DRY CREEK



















## TWIN LAKES BOTTOMLANDS









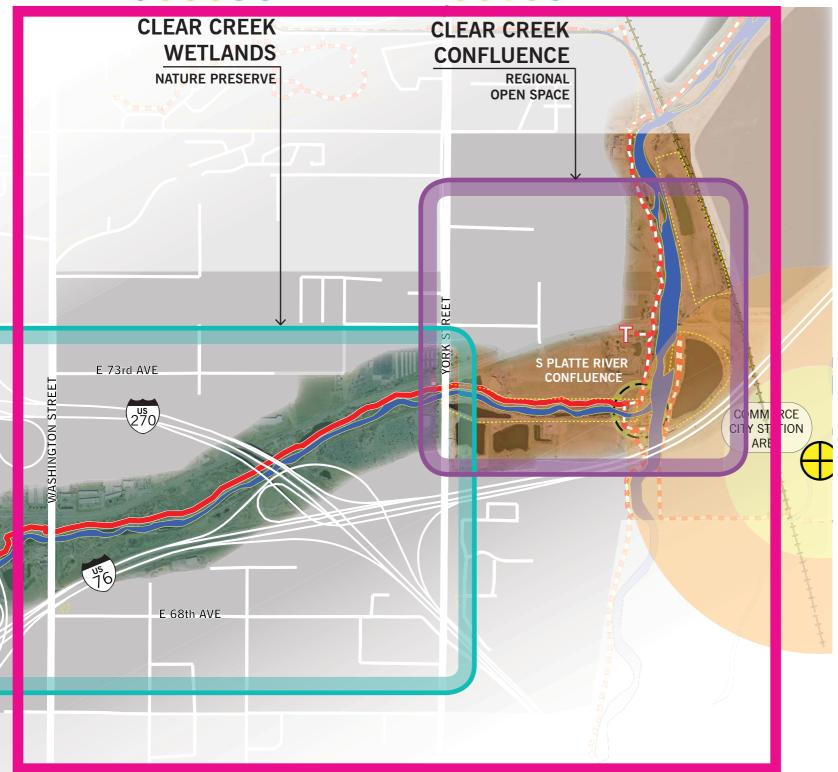












**ZONE 3** | WASHINGTON STREET TO THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER

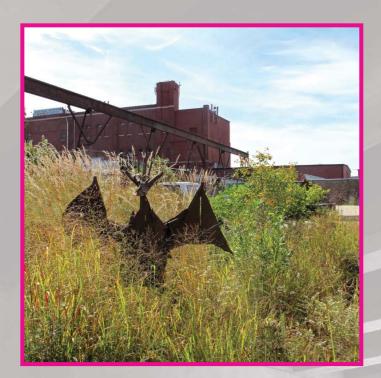
## **CLEAR CREEK WETLANDS**

Soft paved trails and educational signage guide visitors through a protected area with a restored floodway, enhanced wildlife and wetland habitats. County coordination with CDOT can increase management opportunities.

### **CLEAR CREEK CONFLUENCE**

An iconic destination that merges two regional trail corridors. Future development plans should engage both rivers and provide additional resources for specialized recreation and special events.

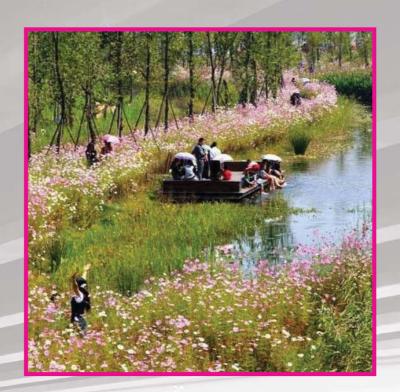




CLEAR CREEK WETLANDS NATURE PRESERVE



CLEAR CREEK CONFLUENCE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE





**ZONE 3** | WASHINGTON STREET TO THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER

### **CLEAR CREEK WETLANDS**

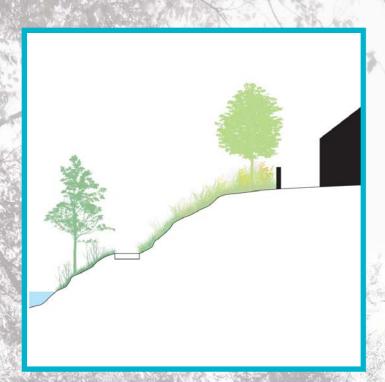
Soft paved trails and educational signage guide visitors through a protected area with a restored floodway, enhanced wildlife and wetland habitats. County coordination with CDOT can increase management opportunities.

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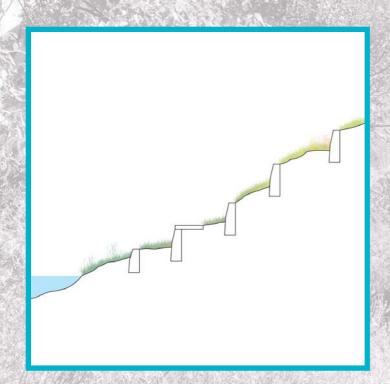




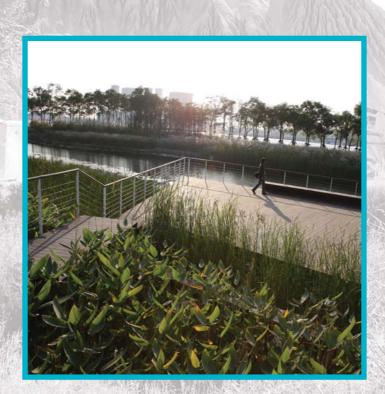
**VEGETATED SCREENING AT FENCED BOUNDARIES** 



**VEGETATED SCREENING AT FENCED BOUNDARIES** 



TERRACED SLOPES



TERRACED SLOPES

## **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

# SOFTENING CORRIDOR EDGES

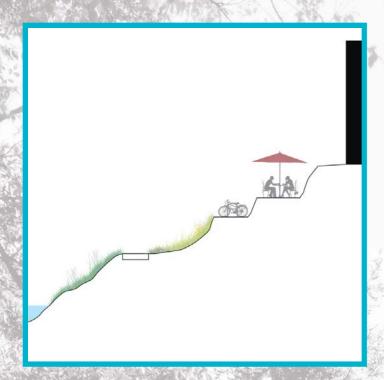
## Vegetated Screening at Fenced Boundaries

APPLICATIONS: existing parking lots, industrial, single-family residential

## **Terraced Slopes**

APPLICATIONS: areas in which <4:1 slope is not possible

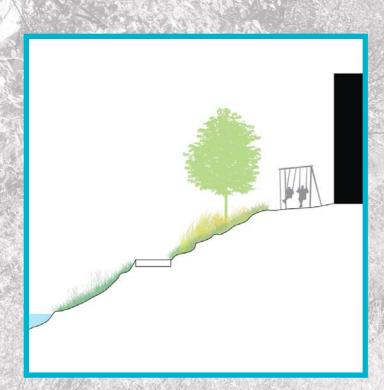




ENHANCED CREEKSIDE VISIBILITY APPLICATIONS: commercial, retail

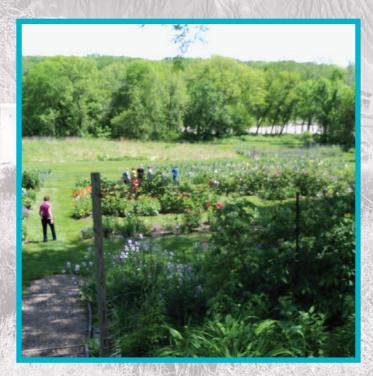


**ENHANCED CREEKSIDE VISIBILITY** 



INTEGRATED OPEN SPACE AREAS WITH LOW VEGETATION BUFFER

APPLICATIONS: multi-family residential, schools, community centers, other public buildings



INTEGRATED OPEN SPACE AREAS WITH LOW VEGETATION BUFFER

## **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

## **ENHANCING EXPERIENCE**

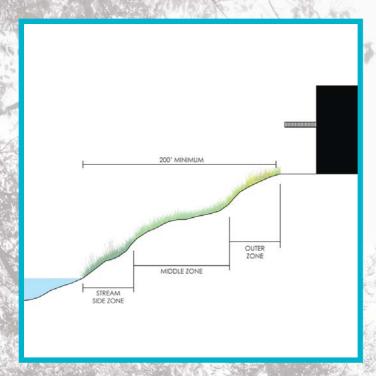
## **Enhanced Creekside Visibility**

APPLICATIONS: commercial, retail

## Integrated Open Space Areas with Low Vegetation Buffer

APPLICATIONS: multi-family residential, schools, community centers, other public buildings

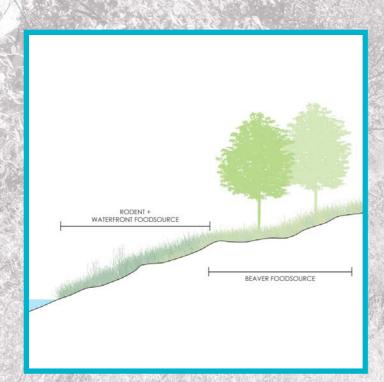




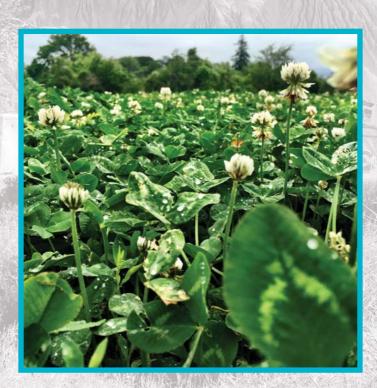
200'- MINIMUM 3-ZONE BUFFER



200'- MINIMUM 3-ZONE BUFFER



**ANIMAL FOODSOURCE PLANTINGS** 



ANIMAL FOODSOURCE PLANTINGS

## **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

## **REVITALIZING ECOLOGIES**

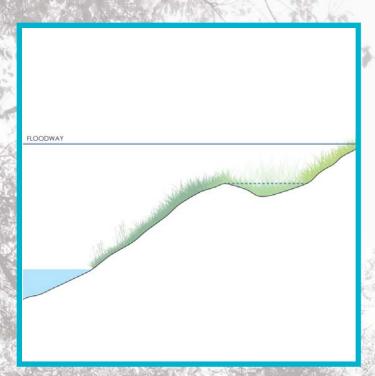
## 200' Minimum 3-Zone Buffer

APPLICATIONS: mid and high-impact development, stormwater outfall clusters, ecological areas and nature preserve areas.

## **Animal Foodsource Plantings**

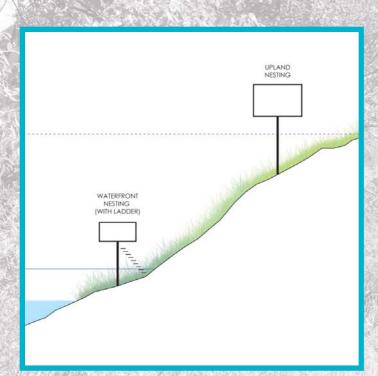
APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible.





**EPHEMERAL PONDING AREAS** 

APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible. areas.



SAFE NESTING AREAS

APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible.



**EPHEMERAL PONDING AREAS** 



SAFE NESTING AREAS

## **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

## **EXPANDING HABITATS**

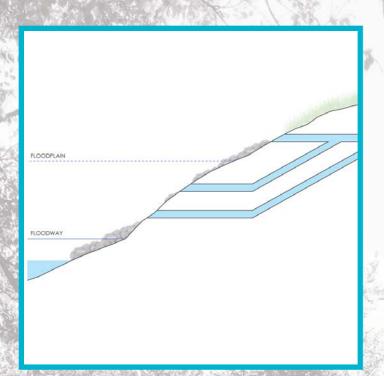
## **Ephemeral Ponding Areas**

APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible.

## Safe Nesting Areas

APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible.

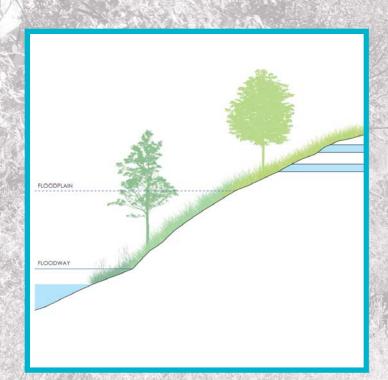




OUTFALL SETBACK
Above 5-year floodplain



**OUTFALL SETBACK** 



INTEGRATED STORMWATER PARKS



INTEGRATED STORMWATER PARKS

### **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

# INTEGRATING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

## Outfall Setback

APPLICATIONS: minimum requirement for future development

## Integrated Stormwater Parks

APPLICATIONS: ecological areas and nature preserve, other areas as possible.



