



# COLORADO

## Department of Transportation

Region 2

Traffic & Safety - Access Permits

I-25 / Palmer Ridge Road  
El Paso County

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El Paso County Planning & Community Development  
2880 International Circle  
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RE: Monument Ridge East Filing No. 1 (SF2514)  
Monument Ridge Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (ID245)

Kylie,

I am in receipt of a referral request for comments for Monument Ridge East Filing No. 1 (a residential development) and Monument Ridge Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (establishment of the metropolitan district). The property for both the subdivision and metropolitan district has the tax schedule Nos. 7102200006, 7102200008, 7102200010, 7102200013, 7102201001, and 7102201014. The proposed Metropolitan Districts will help fund the design, construction, and ongoing operation of infrastructure and services to support residential development of the subject property which is concurrently proposed to be zoned to RM-12 and RS-6000 pursuant to the El Paso County Land Development Code and subdivided as depicted on the Monument Ridge East plan.

The Final Plat is for the six parcels listed above which comprise a total of 59.48 acres. The plat depicts 37 lots (Monument Ridge East Filing No. 1) and 13 tracts for open space, detention, and future developments. The property is located on the east side of Interstate 25, south of County Line Road and is bisected by the planned extension of Misty Acres Boulevard. Additionally, the northern portion of Monument Hill Road is planned to be removed and diverted through the development. The existing connection of Monument Hill Road with Palmer Divide (County Line) Road will now be Misty Acres Blvd.

### Traffic

- The following Highway improvements are required at this time:
  - A northbound right-turn lane on the northbound off-ramp at I25 and County Line Rd, including a median corner island.
  - An eastbound right-turn deceleration lane on County Line Rd at Misty Acres Blvd.
  - An eastbound left-turn pocket on County Line Rd at Misty Acres Blvd.
  - A westbound left-turn deceleration lane on County Line Rd at Misty Acres Blvd.
  - A northbound right-turn deceleration lane on Misty Acres Blvd at County Line Rd.
  - An escrow payment for the future traffic signal at County Line Rd and Misty Acres Blvd for the proportional amount of volume contributing to the signal warrant.

### Hydraulics

- Previous comments have been resolved.

### Environmental

- The Development Plans have a new access from the I-25 Frontage Road. This access is north of the existing deer guard (labeled as a "Cattle Guard" in the plans). If the access (labeled as "Catch slope") is to be constructed, the new driveway will require a new deer guard (similar to the deer guard present) to prevent animals from entering the I-25 corridor. A new deer guard would need to be adequately sized in accordance to the new driveway width. Also, the current placement of the deer guard was solely placed to access this property.



- Will the proposed development have the perimeter fenced? CDOT's I-25 / Frontage Road Escape Ramps allow animals to escape the transportation corridor. When Animals use the ramps and exit the interstate corridor, they could be trapping in the development.
- CDOT has a substantial wildlife underpass less than ½ mile south of the development. Perimeter fencing would restrict elk, deer, and bear movement in the area. If perimeter fencing is included in the development, there should be strategic openings or escape ramps included to maintain animal passage.
- If there is fencing on the east side of the development area, animals will be trapped in the development.
- Dark Skies compliant lighting shall be part of the development. This would reduce impacts to migrating deer and elk and maintain their extensive usage of a wildlife underpass ½ mile south of County Line Road. Any development north of the wildlife crossing should look to incorporate dark sky compliant lighting and also minimize or avoid any break or gaps in the wildlife fence (deer guards may be required to control gaps in the wildlife fencing).
- The Development's connection to East Palmer Divide Ave (not the frontage road) appears to be directly on the existing Deer Guard. This is not shown in the plans. The double CMP are shown, but not the deer guard. The deer guard shall remain in place. A new deer guard is suggested since the driveway will create a new access point for deer and elk to enter the highway corridor. This Deer Guard is owned by El Paso County.
- There are no details of how the new proposed access points will connect to the existing wildlife fence.
- Cannot see details or how the new driveway on the north end of the property will accommodate the Monument Hill Road Frontage Road. Looks to be a traffic conflict with driveways being very close.

Address the above comments and resubmit documents as necessary.

#### Access

- A CDOT Access Permit is required for this development to document the required improvements. If a benchmark access permit application is submitted, the Traffic Impact Study shall document the timeline of improvements and traffic volumes for each phase of the development.
- The required roadway improvements noted above will be detailed in the terms and conditions of the access permit.

CDOT respectfully requests that county approvals for this development be held until the above-requested documents have been received and approved by CDOT, in accordance with the State Highway Access Code.

Please contact me at 719-248-0318 or [teresa.guagliardo@state.co.us](mailto:teresa.guagliardo@state.co.us) with any questions.

Sincerely,

*Teresa Guagliardo*  
Teresa Guagliardo  
CDOT R2 Access Manager

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