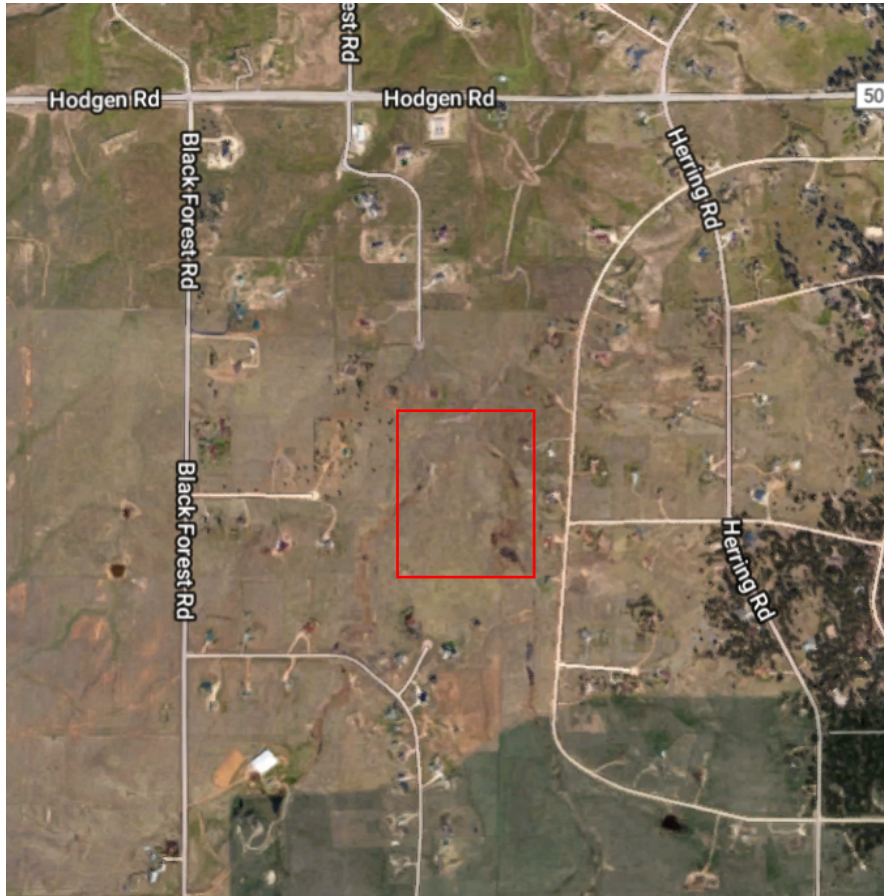


Terra Ridge North
Residential Community
Letter of Intent
Final Plat



VICINITY MAP

Property Address:

15630 Fox Creek Lane
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Prepared By:

Lodestar Engineering, LLC

For:

Phillip & Jennifer Miles
15630 Fox Creek Lane
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

SF-2239

Developer/Owner:
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RMG – Rocky Mountain Group
2910 Austin Bluffs Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
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Surveyor:
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Colorado Springs, CO 80920
(719) 649-9243

Development Request:

Phillip S. Miles and Jennifer Miles requests approval of the Final Plat

1. The lots 5 & 6 in Terra Ridge Estates will be replatted and become part of Terra Ridge North. They will remain at above the minimum size of 5.0 acres.
2. Current zoning is RR-2.5
3. Total subdivision size will be 52.34 acres made up of 13 single family residential lots at a minimum lot size of 2.5 acres comprising 95.5% of the subdivision.
4. 0.7 acres of open space comprising 0.2% of the subdivision
5. 1.66 acres of roadway compromising 1.0% of the subdivision
6. Minimum lot size - 2.5 acres
7. Average lot size - 3.7 acres
8. Gross Density – 0.25 units per acre

Justification For Request

This application it is consistent with the goals and objectives of the El Paso County Land Development Code and Engineering Criteria Manual.

Supporting Documents

The following reports are submitted in support of this Final Plat and are referenced in this Letter of Intent:

- Traffic Impact Study prepared by LSC
- Profile Pit Evaluation prepared by Geoquest
- Geology and Soils Study prepared by RMG & Geoquest
- Water Resources and Water Quality Report prepared by JDS Hydro
- Preliminary Drainage Report prepared by Lodestar Engineering, LLC
- Habitat Suitability Report prepared by Smith Environmental and Engineering
- Noxious Weed Report prepared by Smith Environmental and Engineering
- Water of the US Report prepared by Smith Environmental and Engineering

Site Location, Size, Zoning:

The site incorporates the existing Lots 5 & 6 in Terra Ridge Estates and a 39.72-acre undeveloped site making up a 52.34 acre subdivision. The property is bounded by Ridgeview Acres to the north, Whispering Hills Estates to the west Wildwood Village to the east, and Terra Ridge Estates to the south. All lots surrounding the subject property are all zoned RR-5. The entire 52.34-acre site within unincorporated El Paso County and is currently zoned RR-2.5.



Existing and Proposed Facilities and Structures:

Existing site characteristics: The existing vacant parcels consist predominantly of native shrubs and prairie grasses. The site contains rolling hills with East Cherry Creek and a tributary extending from the south side of the property to the northeast corner. The East Cherry Creek channel and tributary beds extending through the site consists of native grasses and willows. The FIRM map indicates the site is located in Zone X which is outside the floodplain. Approximately, 500 feet of the tributary extending from the southwest corner to the northeast corner will be located 80 feet to the west to accommodate the proposed cul-de-sac.

Total Number of Residential Units, Density and Lot Size: The current zoning of parcel 5129300002 is RR-2.5, Residential Rural 2.5-acre lots. The current zoning of parcels 5129302011 & 5129302012 are RR-5, Residential Rural 5-acre lots. The development proposes the site be subdivided into 11 - 2.5-acre and 2 – 5-acre single family residential large lots.

Proposed Infrastructure and Utilities: The proposed development will include public ROW and utility improvement including gas and electric. All lots will have domestic water provided via a well and wastewater will be treated using individual lot onsite wastewater treatment systems.

Utility and public services will be provided by the following associated districts:

1. Water: onsite well
2. Wastewater: onsite wastewater treatment system
3. Gas: Black Hills Energy
4. Electric: Mountain View Electric
5. Fire: Black Forest Fire Protection
6. Police Protection: El Paso County Sheriff's Department
7. School: Monument School District No. 38

An extended detention basin will be located near the north end of the development in a dedicated tract to detain stormwater from impervious areas prior to offsite release. The detention and release will have no effect on downstream facilities.

Final Plat

The request is for a Final Plat approval for Terra Ridge North, a single family-development of 13 lots on approximately 52.34 acres, stormwater detention facility and associated infrastructure.

Traffic and Proposed Access Locations: The main access to the project will occur by the extension of Fox Creek Lane from the south-central portion of the property extending north approximately 1100 feet. This access will be constructed in a 60-foot improved public ROW. The roadway within the development will be constructed to meet the requirements of an El Paso County Local Rural roadway. Ten of the 13 lots will have a minimum of 30 feet of frontage to Fox Creek Lane. Three of the 13 lots will share a common driveway. The proposed ROW extension commencing at the end of the existing Fox Creek Lane cul-de-sac is the only access into the property in conformance with the El Paso County Engineering Criteria Manual. Without the access provided by the extension of Fox Creek Lane, the property cannot be accessed with a 60' ROW and would be limited to a private driveway. According to the traffic study performed by LSC, sight distance at the existing Black Forest Road/Terra Ridge Circle exceeds the 555 feet requirement, no modifications of the existing Black Forest Road/Terra Ridge Circle intersection will be required, and no modifications to the existing laneage of any of the roadways are necessary.

The four northern most lots will be accessed by a private driveway that will extend north from the proposed cul-de-sac.

Regional Open Space:

There are no Regional Open Space planned for this area. The proposed development will not impact any existing Regional Open Spaces. A soft, walking path is planned to extend around the perimeter of the proposed subdivision and connect to Wildwood Estates, Terra Ridge and out to Black Forest Road.

Drainage:

The Final Drainage Report prepared by Lodestar Engineering analyzes the existing drainage characteristics of the site and any required improvements. The proposed Terra Ridge North project is part of the East Cherry Creek drainage basin. The report notes that the onsite existing basin drainage patterns are generally from the South to the northeast by way of existing drainage channels. According to the report, the proposed development will not adversely affect the on or offsite drainage ways or

surrounding developments. In order to safely convey flow through into East Cherry Creek, a detention pond will be constructed to released develop flows at historic rates. These flow rates will be in accordance with the El Paso County drainage criteria requirements.

Utilities:

Water: Water will be supplied by the construction of individual wells on each lot extending into the Dawson Formation in accordance with the JDS Hydro Water and Wastewater report. District Court, Water Division 1, decreed in Case No. 18CW3226 that 11 wells to be located on the 39.72 acre parcel locate in the SW ¼ of Section 29, Township 11 South, Range 65 West of the 6th P.M. El Paso County, Colorado. Lots #5 and #6 of the existing Terra Ridge Estates already have approved well permits or existing well permits pursuant to an existing augmentation plan decreed in Case No. 96CW68.

Sewer: Wastewater will be handled by the use of onsite wastewater treatment facilities in accordance with the RMG Engineering report.

Gas: A commitment letter was received from Black Hills energy to service the Terra Ridge North development. Services are presently available to meet the demands anticipated.

Electric: A commitment letter was received from Mountain View electric to service the Terra Ridge North development. Services are presently available to meet the demands anticipated.

Natural Features:

The topography of the site is rolling hills with two drainage ways extending from south to north through the property. The existing drainage ways are wide without a defined flow path and no erosion from the development is anticipated. A 100-foot-wide electric easement extends north to south along the eastern portion of the site.

Vegetation:

The existing site is covered with native grasses with a few randomly located ponderosa pines. A low earthen berm is located belong the western portion of the property that was constructed sometime in the properties history to control stormwater runoff. The majority of the property will remain undisturbed during and after construction of the lots.

Noxious weeds:

The site is unoccupied and undeveloped. Three B-list noxious species and one C-list specie existed on site. Canada Thistle, common mullein, musk thistle and spotted knapweed were all observed in low densities. A weed management plan has been composed by Smith Environmental and Engineering, dated January 22, 2021, and it stated a combination of chemical and mechanical means should be implemented to control the noxious weeds on site.

Floodplain:

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) numbers 08041C0305G and 08041C0315G dated December 7, 2018 this project is not located within a FEMA designated 100yr floodplain. Therefore, no map revisions will be necessary as a result of this project.

Site Stabilization:

No areas exist in the proposed development where slopes greater than 30% are present.

Wildlife:

The property has been used for rangeland for horse and cattle so minimal wildlife is found on the property. Smith Environmental and Engineering assessed the site and determined this area has been designated as a no build zone and will not be disturbed. Reptiles and amphibians are found around the drainage ways extending through the property. A clearance letter was issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in which it stated, "the Service concurs that the impacts resulting from the construction of the new residences, the access road, utility lines, and detention pond in the project area next to East Cherry Creek is not likely to adversely affect the Preble's mouse."

Wetlands:

The US Army Corps of Engineers issued a Nationwide Permit (NWP-29) Verification letter states "the project is authorized by NWP-29, Residential Developments."

Soils and Geology:

The soils and geology report prepared by RMG engineering dated September 3rd, 2019 and revised March 30, 2022. RMG noted that no geologic hazards were identified that would preclude development of the site. The report indicates that regional geologic conditions that impact the site include seismic and radioactivity that can be mitigated with engineering design and construction methods commonly employed in this area. Groundwater levels will vary with seasonal precipitation. Minimal amounts of earth work will be required for this development.

The Geoquest soils report dated November 16, 2018, noted over-excavation will be required for foundations installed in the Terra Ridge North development. It states, "The over-excavated area shall extend it to a minimum depth of 4 feet below the bottom of the foundation elevation and 4 feet laterally from the location of the foundation walls."

Wildfire Hazard Justification:

According to the Wildfire Hazard Potential GIS Database, developed by U.S. Forest Service and Fire Modeling Institute to help inform assessments of wildfire risk or prioritization of fuels management needs across large landscapes, the site is identified as 'Low'. The site is surrounded by 5-acre single family residences and has limited vegetation. The development will comply with County development standards for Fire Protection and standards of the Black Forest Fire Department.

The Colorado Forest Atlas portal was developed by the Colorado State Forest Service and was used to determine the burn probability and the wildfire risk for the subject area. Within the Wildfire Risk Viewer, the proposed development area is rated at 'Low Risk' for wildfire risk and 'Low to Low-Moderate' for the burn probability.

Fire Department Requirements:

An agreement is being sought with Black Forest Fire, Cherokee Metropolitan District and Flying Horse North to allow for the installation of a single fire hydrant in Terra Ridge North. The variance agreement with Black Forest Fire will allow for the postponement of the fire hydrant for a period of three years from the time the first structure is built until the hydrant installed. This will afford time for the water lines in Flying Horse North to be installed and placed in service which the proposed fire hydrant water line extension to be connected to. In the event, the water system in Flying Horse North is not accessible in the said three year period, a 45,000-gallon cistern will be installed in accordance with NFPA 1142 Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting. An easement will be granted for the installation, access and maintenance of the cistern.

Final Plat & Plan Approval

1. The proposed subdivision is not located in a designated Key Area. It is located north of the Key Area "Forested Area."
2. The proposed subdivision is in general conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of El Paso County Master Plan.
 - a. The proposed subdivision is located in the Large Lot Residential Placetype.
3. The subdivision is consistent with Large Lot Residential;
 - a. The Single-family Detached Residential lots will be 2.5-acre and larger.
 - b. Single-family detached homes oriented to the street.
 - c. Roads are paved when they connect to existing paved roads.
 - d. Attached and detached garages and accessory buildings that reflect the architectural style and scale of the surrounding residential.
 - e. Terra Ridge North has intertwined the natural environment without disruption or degradation.
 - f. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) will be compatible with the Large Lot Residential Placetype and will function in the context of the existing neighborhood.
4. The subdivision is in conformance with the subdivision design standards in any approved sketch plan;
 - a. There is no approved sketch plan for this property. The proposed subdivision is in conformance with the subdivision design standards. The subdivision design standards

set out in chapter eight of the land development code are met, including but not limited to;

- i. Adequate provision for traffic, drainage and open space
 - ii. Provision of properly designed roads to provide for safe and convenient vehicular circulation and identification of required road improvements
 - iii. Adequate provision for water, sewer and other utilities
 - iv. Ensuring that structures will harmonize with the physical characteristics of the site and the surrounding neighborhoods
5. A sufficient water supply has been acquired in terms of quantity, quality and dependability for the type of subdivision proposed as determined in accordance with the standards set forth in the water supply standards [C.R.S. § 30-28-133(6)(a)] and the requirements of EPC LDC chapter 8.
- a. The proposed subdivision is located in the Black Forest region of El Paso County near the Douglas County, El Paso County border and each lot will be serviced by a well extending into the Dawson Formation.
 - b. The confirmation of underground water rights was adjudicated in the approved water decree Case No. 22CS3066 (Ref. 18CW3226) for the Miles Wells Nos. 1 through 11.
 - c. The 300-year augmentation plan has been provided in the approved water decree Case No. 22CS3066 (Ref. 18CW3226).

Goal 1.1 – Ensure an adequate water supply in terms of quantity, dependability and quality for existing and future development.

Policy 1.1.1 – Adequate water is a critical factor in facilitating future growth and it is incumbent upon the County to coordinate land use planning with water demand, efficiency and conservation. Water demands and allocations have been estimated using El Paso County’s 300-year rule to establish annual withdrawals from all Denver Basin aquifers in this report.

Goal 6.0 – Require adequate water availability for proposed development.

Policy 6.0.1 – Continue to require documentation of the adequacy or sufficiency of water, as appropriate, for proposed development. All wells drilled to serve the proposed development will be equipped with totalizing meters which will be read and reported to the Colorado Division of Water Resources annually.

Policy 6.0.3 – Encourage water and wastewater infrastructure projects to be sited and designed in a manner which promotes compatibility with adjoining uses and provides reasonable mitigation of any adverse visibility and other environmental impacts. The water will be supplied by a well with minimal above ground structure, and the wastewater system will be below ground septic system.

Policy 6.0.7 – Encourage the submission of a water supply plan documenting an adequate supply of water to serve a proposed development at the earliest stage of the development process, as allowed under state law. The water supply plan should be

prepared by the applicant in collaboration with the respective water provider. A water supply plan has been provided in the JDS Hydro Water Resources and Wastewater Report outlining water usage and replenishment requirements.

Policy 6.0.10 – Encourage land use proposals to expressly declare water source(s), quality, quantity, and sustainability in terms of years and number of single-family equivalents. This has been provided in the JDS Hydro Water Resources and Wastewater Report.

Goal 6.2.1 – Increase regional water reuse and conservation to better optimize available water supplies.

Policy 6.2.1.1 – Support efforts by water providers to effectively and environmentally implement potable and non-potable water reuse, including augmentation.

6. A sewage disposal system has been established and, if other methods of sewage disposal are proposed, the system complies with state and local laws and regulations, [C.R.S. § 30-28-133(6) (b)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of this Code;
 - a. Individual on site wastewater treatment systems will be designed and installed on each lot per the RMG Engineers Wastewater Study dated March 30, 2022. The system complies with state and local laws and regulations.
7. All areas of the proposed subdivision, which may involve soil or topographical conditions presenting hazards or requiring special precautions, have been identified in the RMG Geology and Soils Study dated 3/30/22 and the proposed subdivision is compatible with such conditions.
8. Adequate drainage improvements complying with State law [C.R.S. § 30-28-133(3)(c)(VIII)] and the requirements of this Code and the ECM are provided by the design;
 - a. These matters are addressed in the
 - b. drainage report prepared by Lodestar Engineering, LLC. The proposed stormwater conveyance system was designed to convey the developed project run off to a proposed full spectrum water quality and detention pond via roadway drainage channels. The proposed pond is designed to release at near historic rates to minimize adverse impacts downstream. Treated water will outfall directly into the E Cherry Creek drainage way.
9. Legal and physical access is or will be provided to all parcels by public rights-of-way, acceptable to the County in compliance with this Code and the ECM
 - a. All the lots in the subdivision except for lots 5, 6 and 7 will have the minimum frontage required by 8.4.3.B.2.e.
 - b. Lots 5, 6 and 7 will share a private driveway extending off the north end of the proposed cul-de-sac. The waiver is being requested and the justification is located at the end of this document. Lot 4 will be able to access their property via the private driveway if they so choose due to the grading required to access their property.

10. The proposed subdivision has established an adequate level of compatibility with the Master Plan by (1) incorporating natural physical features into the design and providing sufficient open spaces considering the type and intensity of the subdivision and (2) incorporating identified environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to, wetlands and wildlife corridors, into the design.
 - a. A “No-Build Zone” has been established to prevent disruption to the environmentally sensitive vegetation.
 - b. The private driveway alignment was configured such that it minimized the impact to the environmentally sensitive vegetation.
11. Necessary services, including police and fire protection, recreation, utilities, open space and transportation system, are or will be available to serve the proposed subdivision.
 - a. A County compliant roadway, that will be dedicated to the County, will extend into the subdivision to provide the traveling public and emergency vehicles with the required means of ingress and egress.
 - b. Water will be provided by individual wells.
 - c. Sanitary sewer will be OWTS.
 - d. Gas will be provided by Black Hills Energy.
 - e. Electric will be provided by Mountain View Electric.
 - f. A walking path will be constructed around the perimeter of the subdivision.
12. The subdivision provides evidence to show that the proposed methods for fire protection comply with Chapter 6 of this Code.
 - a. A cistern will be installed in compliance with Section 6.3.3.

Waiver Request:

A waiver is being requested for the use of three to four private driveways to access the proposed private driveway extending from the north end of the proposed cul-de-sac.

- The waiver will nullify the intent of the purpose of the Code.
- No additional subsequent waivers will be needed.
- The waiver will not be detrimental to the public safety, health, or welfare or injurious to other property.
- The conditions upon which the request for a waiver is based are unique to the property and are not applicable to other property.
- A particular non-economical hardship would result from a strict application of the code.
 - The grading that would be required to extend the 60’ ROW with a 28’ roadway would remove a significant amount of environmentally sensitive vegetation.
 - The additional grading would eliminate one lot.

- The crossing of the existing swale would require a permanent structure which would render the project infeasible.
- The waiver will not in any manner vary the zoning provisions of the Code.
- The proposed waiver is not contrary to any provision of the Master Plan.