

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PARK OPERATIONS ~ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES

August 17, 2022

Kari Parsons
Project Manager
El Paso County Development Services Department
2880 International Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Subject: Town of Ramah Wastewater System 1041 Permit Application Review (AASI-221)

Hello Kari,

The Park Operations Division of the Community Services Department has reviewed the 1041 Permit Application for the Town of Ramah Wastewater System and has the following administrative comments of behalf of El Paso County Parks.

The El Paso County Parks Master Plan (2013) shows the proposed Rock Island Regional Trail located along the US 24 right-of-way. This trail is planned along US 24 from The City of Colorado Springs to the Elbert County line. Specifically near Ramah, the trail will provide a connection to the Town of Calhan. To accommodate this master planned trail, the County may require a trail easement in the future along the US 24 corridor. Specifically for this application, a trail easement may be required across the "proposed forcemain".

The El Paso County Parks Open Space Master Plan identifies the Big Sand Creek Candidate Open Space Area in the vicinity of this project. This area features is characterized as featuring cottonwood riparian woodland, plains cottonwood with peachleaf willow and coyote willow plant communities which are becoming increasingly rare. After reviewing the project site plan there does not appear to be any negative impacts to the candidate open space area since the project is proposing to develop evaporation ponds in an already developed agricultural field.

El Paso County Parks requests dedication of trail easements or other mitigation as allowed by the Land Development Code and applicable procedures if the El Paso County Parks Master Plan (an element of the County's statutory Master Plan) identifies a trail, route, open space, or park facility with the project area. Normally, El Paso County Parks would request dedication of a trail easement to facilitate construction of the regional trail, however, the width of the right-of-way along US 24 should accommodate the planned trail. Consequently, staff recommends that the trail be located within the road right-of-way but an easement would be needed in the future if there is an issue with the trail being located with the US 24 right-of-way in the location.

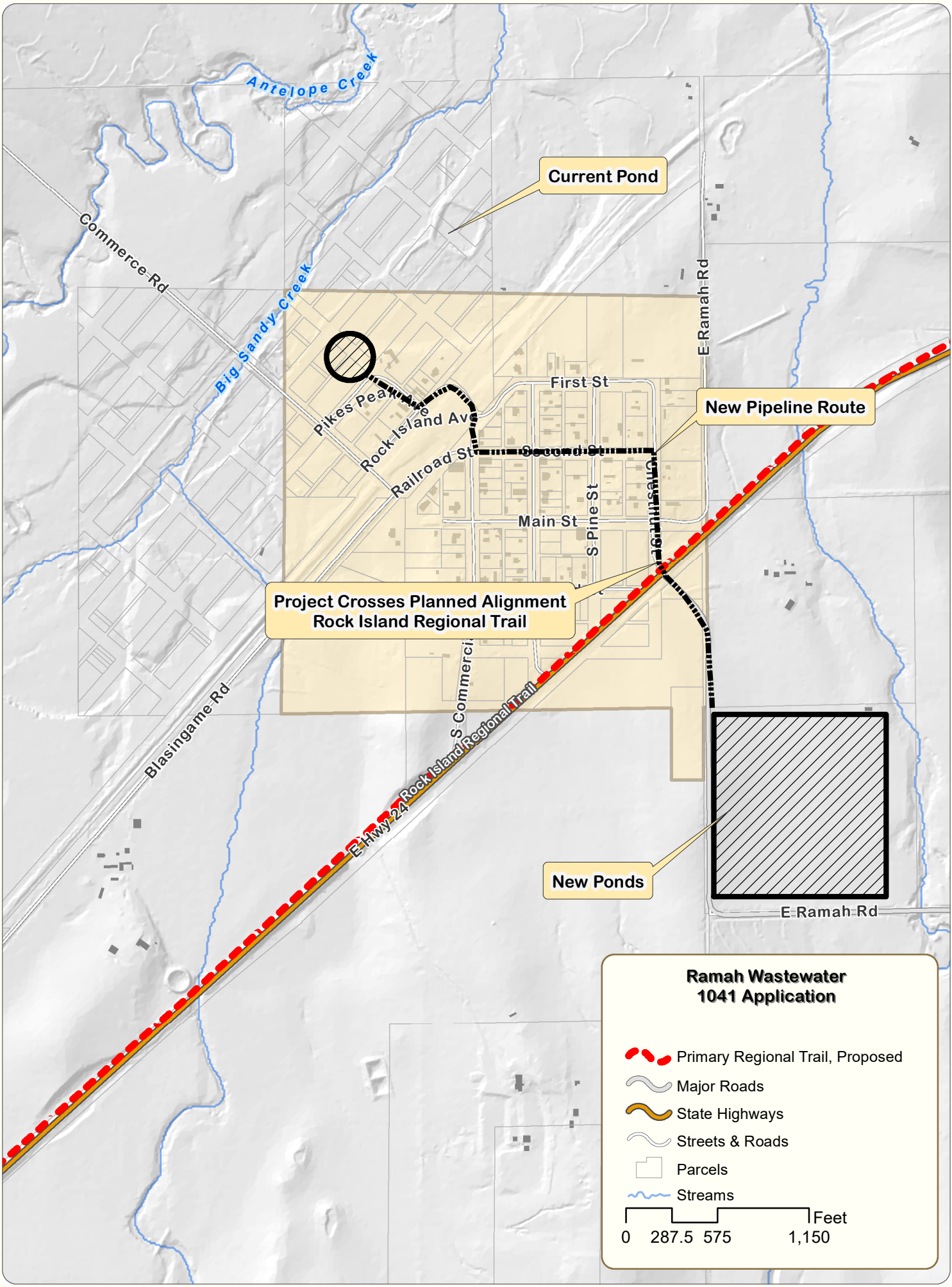


These comments are being provided administratively, as this application does not require Park Advisory Board consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Meyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

Jason Meyer
Planning Supervisor
Park Operations Division
Community Services Department
jasonmeyer@elpasoco.com









Current Pond

New Pipeline Route

Project Crosses Planned Alignment
Rock Island Regional Trail

New Ponds

**Ramah Wastewater
1041 Application**

-  Primary Regional Trail, Proposed
-  Major Roads
-  State Highways
-  Streets & Roads
-  Parcels
-  Streams

0 287.5 575 1,150 Feet