



COMMISSIONERS:
MARK WALLER (CHAIR)
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR. (VICE CHAIR)

STAN VANDERWERF
HOLLY WILLIAMS
CAMI BREMER

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARKS OPERATIONS ~ PLANNING ~ CSU EXTENSION ~ COMMUNITY OUTREACH
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ VETERANS SERVICES ~ RECREATION / CULTURAL SERVICES

August 9, 2019

Nina Ruiz
Project Manager
El Paso County Planning & Community Development Department
2880 International Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Subject: Colorado Centre Metropolitan District Amendment Review (ID-19-007)

Dear Nina,

The Planning Division of the Community Services Department has reviewed the Colorado Centre Metropolitan District Amendment application and has the following comments on behalf of El Paso County Parks.

The El Paso County Parks Master Plan (2013) shows numerous proposed trails and bicycle routes intersected by or located within the metropolitan district service area. The 4,175 acre project site is located in a large area around the intersection of Bradley and Marksheffel Roads, north of Fontaine Boulevard and south of Drennen Road. The City of Colorado Springs' and El Paso County Parks' proposed Jimmy Camp Creek Regional Trails are located along the Jimmy Camp Creek stream corridor. The City branch is located adjacent the creek, while the County branch runs to the northeast along a branch of Jimmy Camp Creek. As this application is in regards to a metropolitan district service plan amendment, no trail easements are being requested at this time, but the applicant should note that easements may be requested in the future as part of subdivision platting processes.

Furthermore, the proposed Curtis Road, Marksheffel Road, and Fontaine Boulevard Bicycle Routes are located either within or immediate adjacent the metropolitan district. Public right-of-ways already exist along the aforementioned bicycle routes; however, the applicant is advised that multi-modal transportation options may be developed within the right-of-ways in the future.

The Open Space Master Plan of the Parks Master Plan shows the Fountain Creek and Jimmy Camp Creek Candidate Open Space Area within the metropolitan district service area. Natural resource values here include wildlife habitat, including for the Arkansas Darter (a State Species of Concern), wetlands and riparian vegetation. Water quality protection is a concern in this area that drains to Fountain Creek and where the Widefield aquifer is close to the surface. The project would not be in conflict with the plan, as long as operations do not adversely affect water quality.



As the project site encompasses a proposed City of Colorado Springs trail, Parks staff recommends that the applicant consult the City of Colorado Springs Parks staff. Dave Dietemeyer would be a good contact there.

These comments are being provided administratively, as this application does not require Park Advisory Board consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Williams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ross A. Williams
Park Planner
Planning Division
Community Services Department
rosswilliams@elpasoco.com

