

# CITY DITCH PROJECT AGREEMENTS

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# OVERVIEW

History of City Ditch

Costs to Repair or Stabilize

Overview of Project Agreements

Upcoming Milestones

Staff Recommendation

# CITY DITCH

- 26 mile irrigation canal
- Capitol Hydraulic Company constructed the ditch
- Began in 1861 in a location about 4 miles upstream
- Construction restarted in 1864 and was completed in 1867



# CITY DITCH

- Richard Little hired to survey the ditch
  - Resurveying found that the original start of the ditch was ineffective
- City Ditch allowed for greater development in the region
- Little opened the Rough and Ready Mill and founded Littleton
  - The mill utilized the abandoned 1861 ditch



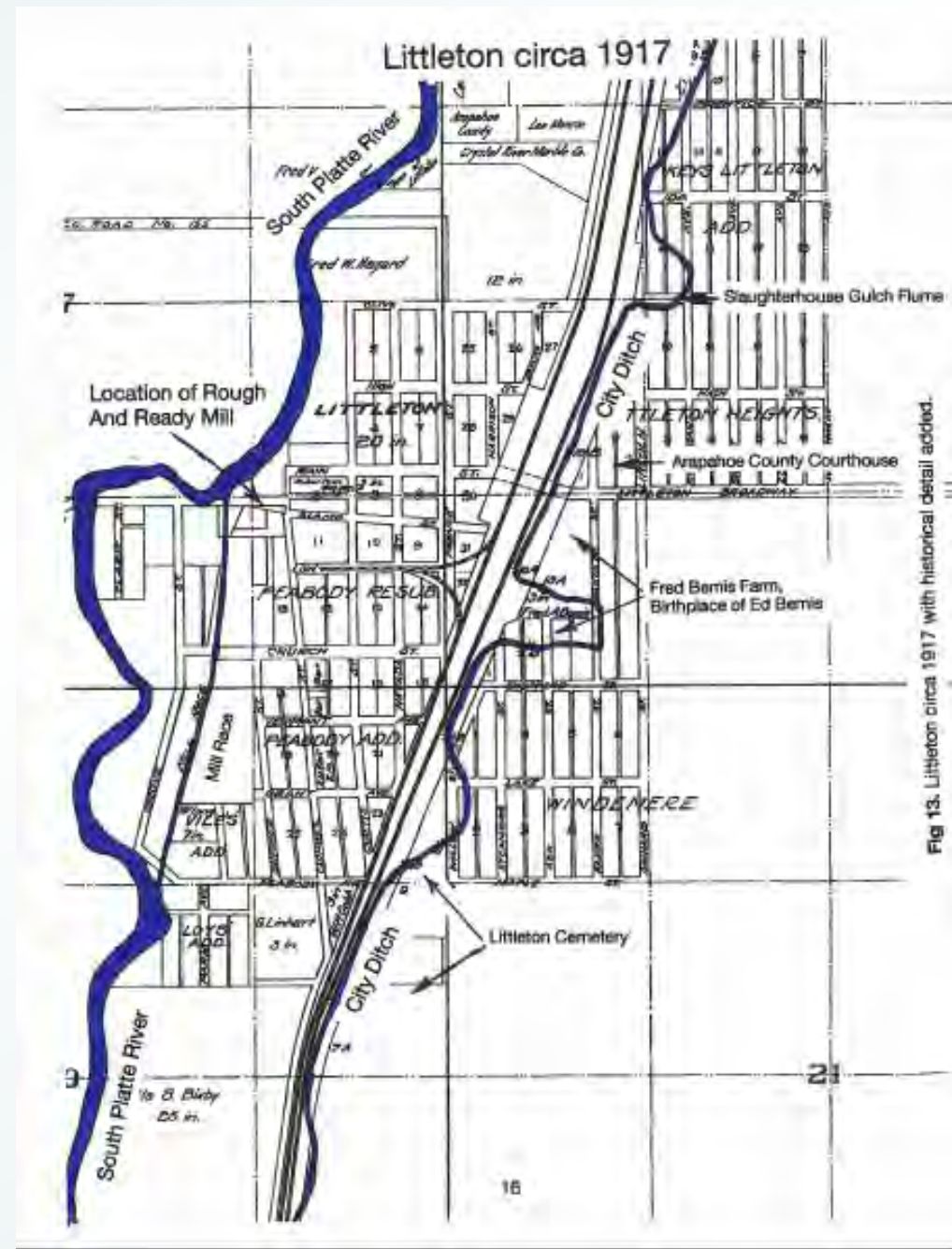


Fig 13. Littleton circa 1917 with historical detail added.



# SLAUGHTERHOUSE GULCH FLUME

- Flumes were used to “bridge” features like gulches or side streams
- Originally constructed from wood
- Current steel structure was likely built in the 1940s
- Located in Slaughterhouse Gulch Park – north of Powers Ave and North School



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

## 1. Preservation of the ditch and flume structure in place

- Experiencing the full structure and how it connected with the ditch provides a greater understanding of its function and allows interpretation to focus on both the structure's functionality and broader history within the city and region.

## 2. Saving only a piece of the flume structure in place

- Provides some opportunity to understand how the structure functioned, but the full picture is missing.
- The missing sections means there is more reliance on interpretation materials to tell “the story.”

## 3. Saving a piece of the flume, not in its original location

- Provides an opportunity to tell the history, but the full impact and importance of the structure is greatly reduced.
- Removes the opportunity to create a historic park as an amenity for residents and visitors.

# HPC STUDY SESSION & RECOMMENDATION

- HPC met with staff from Littleton and Englewood to discuss the history of the ditch and current project
- HPC noted they would appreciate involvement in projects dealing with potentially historic sites, structures, and buildings
- Final recommendation is to keep the flume structure in place to allow for further planning to determine how best to preserve and celebrate City Ditch and the flume structure in Slaughterhouse Gulch Park



# SUMMARY OF FLUME ASSESSMENTS



Slaughterhouse Gulch Park

Scenario		Slaughterhouse Gulch Flume		
		One time cost	Annual costs	Total 10-yr Cost
<b>Option 1</b>	Remove flume with Englewood project	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
<b>Option 2</b>	Repair & maintain flume in place	\$303,600	\$33,600	\$639,600
<b>Option 2a</b>	Stabilize in place	\$53,400	\$10,000	\$153,400
<b>Option 3a</b>	Relocate one flume span only	\$219,200	\$2,300	\$242,200
<b>Option 3b</b>	Relocate truss only	\$443,000	\$7,300	\$516,000
<b>Option 3c</b>	Relocate truss w/ three spans	\$655,400	\$14,200	\$797,400
<b>Option 3d</b>	Relocate full structure w/o abutments	\$1,079,600	\$30,700	\$1,386,600

# CONSIDERATIONS

- Costs to repair to be fully functional and maintain in place are high
- Some limited grant funding may be available to stabilize / restore
- Concerns around safety and ongoing restoration costs if left in place
- Costs to relocate flumes are even higher
- Any relocated structure would need to be secured for safety

# PROJECT AGREEMENTS

- Relinquishment and Grant of Permanent Easements
- Intergovernmental Agreement with Englewood
- Temporary Construction Easement
- Quit Claim Deed





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- Littleton**



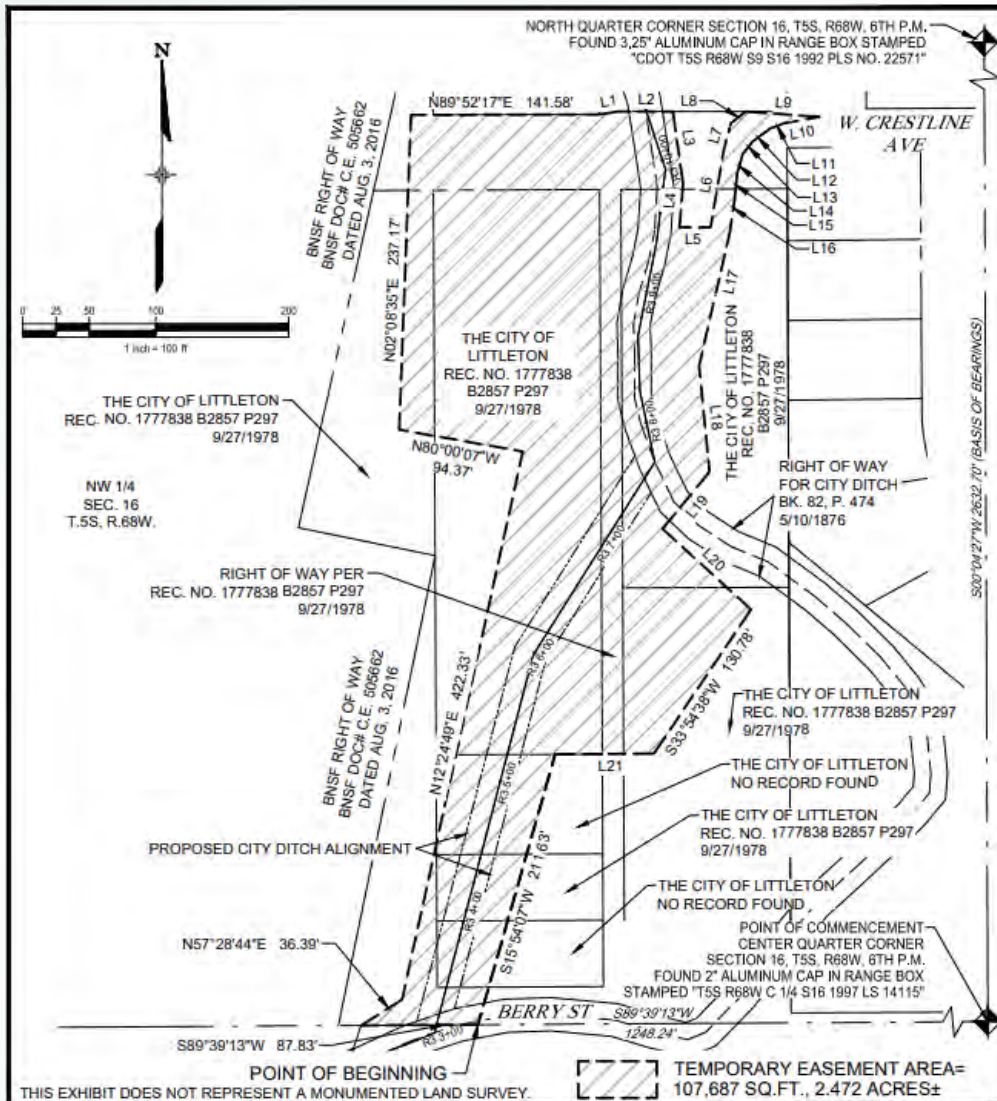
# INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT



## Slaughterhouse Gulch Park

- Effective during construction only
- Tree mitigation fee of \$216,500
- Stabilization of ditch bank
- Preserve section of flume & remove the remaining structure or reimbursement of up to \$100,000 by Englewood

# TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT



## Slaughterhouse Gulch Park

- Effective during construction only
- Grants access permission
- Grants permission for staging
- Insurance requirements
- Surface restoration requirements



# QUIT CLAIM DEED

## Slaughterhouse Gulch Park

- Records easement relinquishment
- Englewood releases all responsibilities of area to Littleton



# UPCOMING MILESTONES

- July 15<sup>th</sup>: Agreement resolutions planned for Council
- Summer 2025: Construction starts on project
- Summer / Fall 2025: Further discussion regarding preservation & commemoration of flume
- Late Fall 2025 / Early Winter 2026: Flume structure removal and preservation of piece if removed with Englewood project

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

- City staff recommend that City Council approve the following agreements via resolution
  - Relinquishment & Grant of Easements for City Ditch
  - IGA with City of Englewood for City Ditch Project
  - Temporary Construction Easement with City of Englewood
  - Quit Claim Deed for the City Ditch Project





# What is City Ditch?

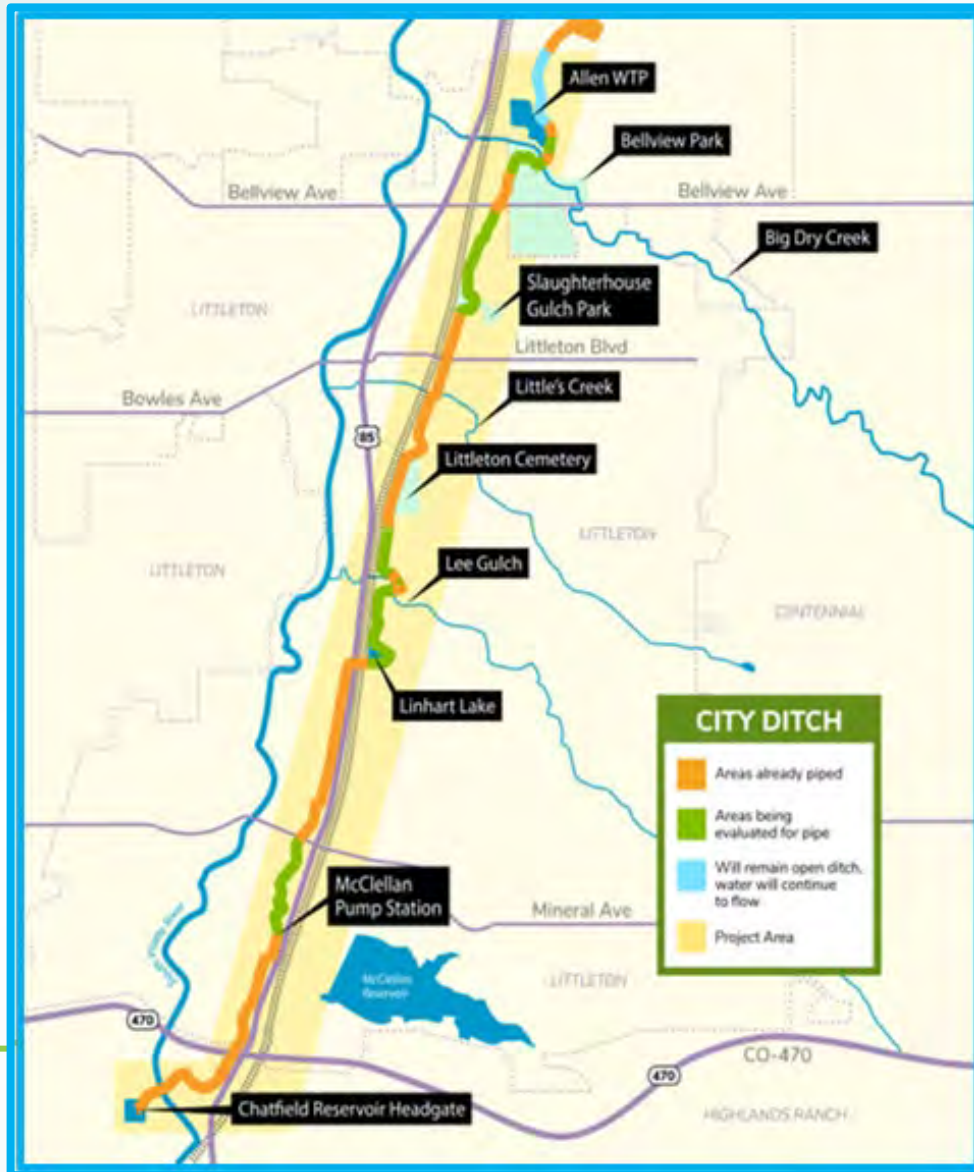
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- 150-year-old ditch built to provide water to Denver Metro area
- Englewood owns/operates from Chatfield Reservoir to Harvard Gulch Park
- Englewood's primary raw water conveyance system
- Delivers water to other users in Littleton, Englewood and Denver



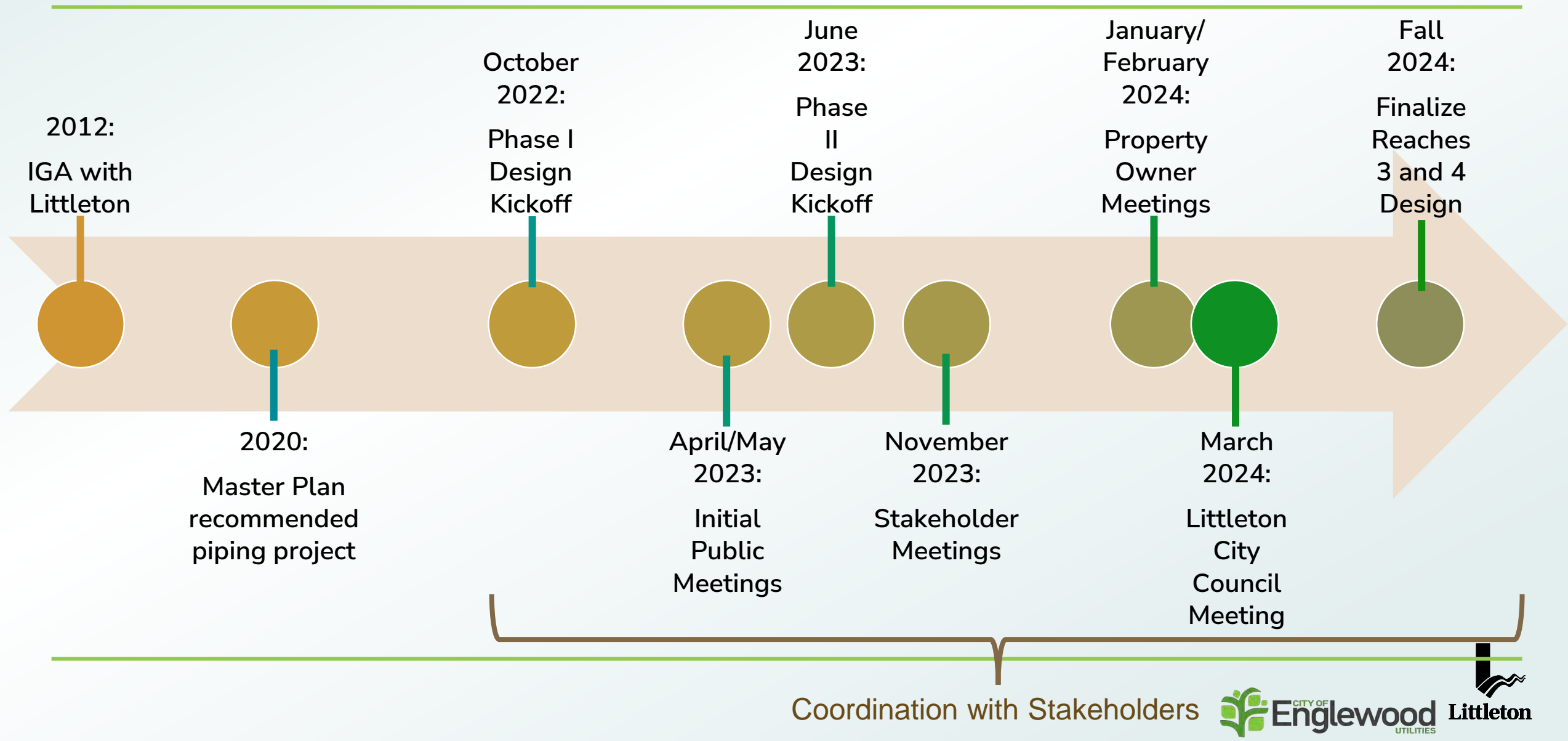
# Benefits of Piping City Ditch

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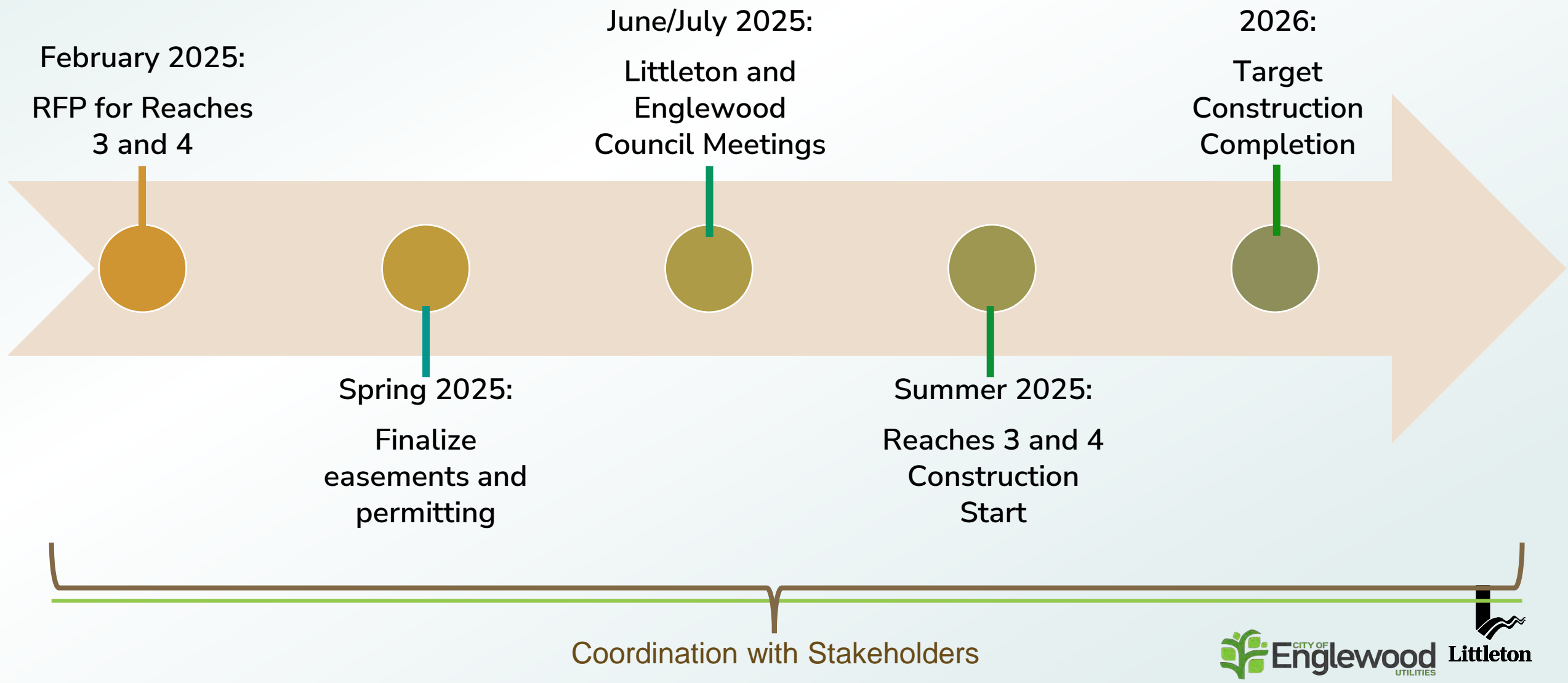
- Four stretches to be piped (~2.5 miles)
- Benefits
  - Source Water Quality and Protection
    - Chatfield Reservoir is better quality than South Platte River at Union Ave.
    - Eliminate urban stormwater runoff into ditch
    - Contamination events: train derailment
  - Sustainability
  - Resiliency
  - Safety
  - Reduced capital investment

# Project Timeline





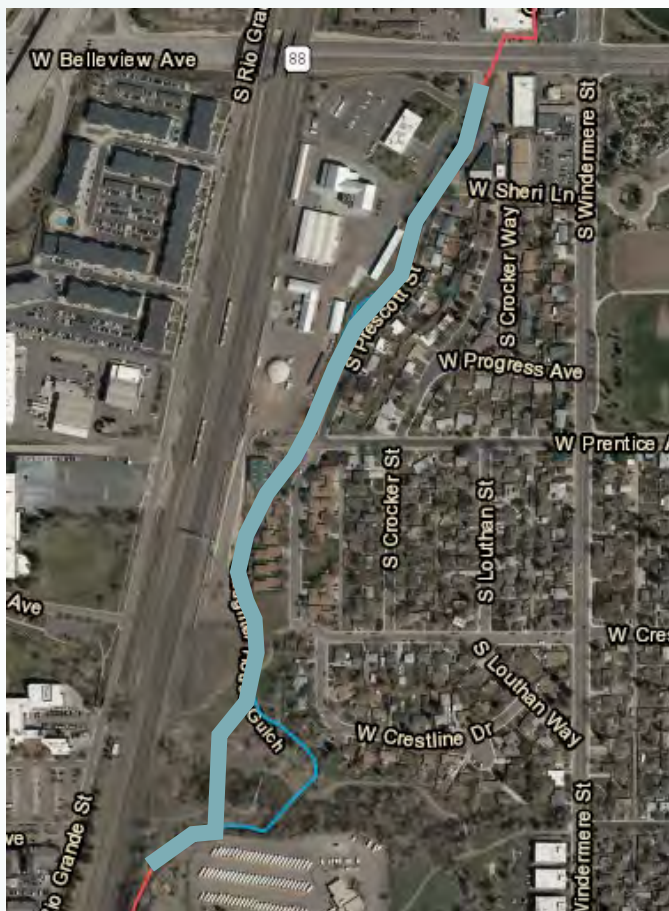
# Project Timeline (Continued)





# Reaches 3 and 4 Construction

## Reach 3



## Reach 4



# Stakeholder Engagement

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Englewood  
Engaged  
website

Public meetings

Collect public  
comments

Incorporating  
feedback when  
feasible

City of Littleton  
partnering

Historic group  
meetings

South Platte  
Working Group  
presentation

Adjacent  
property owner  
meetings

Project and  
construction  
fact sheets

Email  
communications

Littleton City  
Council  
Meetings

# Next Steps



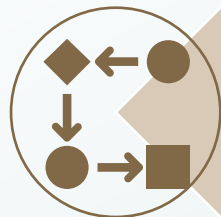
Littleton/Englewood approval of easements and agreements



Additional stakeholder communications



Reaches 3 and 4 construction



Reach 2 redesign completion, easement and agreement approvals, and construction