

Trail Connectivity Analysis and Plan

2021 Planning Grant Application

City of Littleton

Mrs. Laura Brindle

M: 303-386-6789

Mrs. Laura Brindle

2255 West Berry Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120

lbrindle@littletongov.org
O: 303-795-3701
M: 303-386-6789

Application Form

Application Summary

Primary Contact Information*

Please provide information for the primary contact for this project in the following format.

Agency:

Name:

Title:

Telephone:

Email:

City of Littleton
Kelsey Stansfield
Manager of Grounds, Open Space & Natural Resources
303-795-3766 (Office)
kstansfield@littletongov.org

Grant Category*

Select One:

- **Planning Grant:** \$1,000 - \$100,000, requiring a minimum of 10% total project cost cash match

Planning Grant

Project Title*

Trail Connectivity Analysis and Plan

Project Address*

If this is an agency or system plan, please use agency's main address.

2255 West Berry Ave. Littleton, CO 80120.

Project Location*

Select a Jurisdiction or Unincorporated Arapahoe County:

If this is an agency or system plan, please use agency's main address.

Littleton

GPS Coordinates (Latitude in Decimal Degrees)*

If this is an agency or system plan, please use coordinates for agency's main address.

Example: Dove Valley Regional Park

Latitude: 39.577303

39.6230656

GPS Coordinates (Longitude in Decimal Degrees)*

If this is an agency or system plan, please use coordinates for agency's main address.

Example: Dove Valley Regional Park

Longitude: -104.828850

-105.0017792

Grant Request Amount*

\$100,000.00

Cash Match Amount*

\$25,000.00

Total Project Amount*

Total project amount includes grant request and cash match only. Please do not include in-kind match.

\$125,000.00

Cash Match Percentage*

Calculate cash match as % of total project cost.

25

Project Partners

List partner agencies if applicable.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation

Executive Summary*

Highlight key points of your proposal, such as project description, goals, need, partnerships, deliverables, etc.

The city of Littleton requests \$100,000 for the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan. The vision for the project is a trails master plan for citywide connectivity for both commuting and recreation, that also supports

economic development, tourism, and wellness. The goal of the master plan is to understand the existing trail system, locate any gaps, identify trail improvements, accessibility compliance (ADA), community priorities, and new connectivity opportunities within the City (and for connections to trails within Arapahoe County and adjacent communities). This Trail Connectivity Plan will be the first step in bringing the community's aspiration to reality.

Littleton's planning approach aims to identify community goals and have a public engagement process that assesses existing trails, needs, and priorities. Project partners include South Suburban Parks and Recreation and Arapahoe County Open Spaces. This planning project will include public engagement, a study of alternative trail alignments and improvements, formulation of a clear, concise master plan based upon community and stakeholder input and the development of an action plan for Littleton's trails with specific projects that can be implemented over time. The master plan and cost estimates positions Littleton to complete final bid documents and then construction. Initial ideas for improvements may include trail connections to fill gaps, creation of walking loops, new east/west trail alignments to provide greater connectivity within the city, neighborhood connections to regional trails, safety improvements such as crosswalks and signage, ADA improvements, and wayfinding.

Deliverables for the project include:

Presentation materials for public engagement, analysis plan identifying gaps and needed improvements, draft conceptual master plan and narrative with photo images or sketches to illustrate ideas, a roster of specific projects, preliminary estimate of probable cost, and a summary of community priorities.

Next steps include preliminary design plans for various projects (selected from the roster of projects), Sketch Plan Submittal to the City of Littleton, final construction plans, specifications, and bid documents.

Minimum Qualifications and Eligibility

Question 1*

Is the applicant in good standing with Arapahoe County Open Spaces? Please list your agency's ongoing Arapahoe County Open Spaces grant projects.

Littleton is in good standing with the Arapahoe County Open Spaces and has a history of partnership with ACOS. ACOS has helped Littleton upgrade playgrounds, build new playgrounds, add amenities to trail heads, and add ADA access to parks. The city also partners with South Suburban Parks and Recreation District and Littleton Public Schools to preserve and improve on the city's outdoor features and recreational options.

Currently the City of Littleton has four open grants with ACOS including:

Reynolds Landing Phase 2 Park Improvements (2019 planning grant)
Superchi Parcel at Reynolds Landing Park (2020 planning grant)
Slaughterhouse Gulch Park Trail Connection Project (2020 standard grant)
Jackass Gulch Stabilization and Design Project (2020 planning grant)

The City of Littleton recently closed out two awards in 2020 and 2021 including:

Options Secondary at Whitman School Playground Renovation (2019 standard grant).
Field Elementary School Playground Improvements (2018 standard grant)

Littleton is also submitting two other planning grants for the 2021 application round.

Question 2*

How does this project align with the Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan, Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, an agency master plan, or other approved planning documents?

The Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan project is aligned with priorities described in the Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan including connecting trails and communities, enhancing the quality of life for current residents and future generations, promoting safe public access to recreational opportunities, and enhancing the quality of outdoor access and recreation experience. Additionally, the project also aligns with the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan by mitigating barriers to connectivity with trail connections and increasing bicycle and walking activities.

The project also aligns with goals in City of Littleton master plans including:

Littleton Park, Recreation and Trails Masterplan (2016). This plan provides a cross-boundary, collaborative approach to service delivery coordinated with the South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPR). The Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan aligns with the objective of adding or improving trails and trail connectivity.

The Transportation Master Plan (2019) establishes the city's ultimate transportation system vision, the policies to support that system, and capital project priorities to help address the challenges of facilitating mobility and access. The project aligns with the goals of connecting people conveniently to the community, resources, and opportunities and promoting safety and supporting efforts to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle.

Question 3*

Describe how this project addresses specific objectives in the Arapahoe County Open Space Resolution #030381/#110637. *The resolution is available on the Open Space website.*

This project primarily addresses the Arapahoe County Open Spaces resolution #030381/#110637 objective to "provide, maintain and improve parks, open space, sports fields, picnic facilities, and biking, walking and multi-use trails." This Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan project primarily provides for the improvement and creation of multi-use trails, which are in open-space areas and facilities.

Certification and Authorized Signature Form*

Please attach completed Certification and Authorized Signature Form as a PDF document. Form must be signed by highest authority in agency or authorized individual. *Required forms are available on the Open Space website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_SignatureForm.pdf*

Littleton_Applicant_signatureform.pdf

Project Timeline

Project Timeline Form*

Please attach completed Project Timeline Form as a PDF document. *Required forms are available on the Open Space website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_TimelineForm.pdf*

Littleton_Timeline form .pdf

Project Budget

Budget Narrative*

Provide a clear and concise budget narrative. Include details about expenses in each budget category, justification for any unusual line items, and an explanation of how you arrived at these estimates. Include amounts and sources of cash/in-kind match.

The budget is separated into 4 categories including project management, community engagement, data collection, and design. Littleton had the costs estimated by a consultant currently under contract for several other planning efforts at the city of Littleton. The consultant has also completed several trails projects for the city.

The project management, includes stakeholder coordination, review of plans and comments, and meetings with the team. The second budget category is community engagement. This includes costs related to public and stakeholder outreach activities such as in-person or virtual meeting. There are also costs for other engagement efforts including a website or webpage for an overview of the project, feedback and survey development, discussion and comment forums, and consultant review of feedback. The third budget category is for data collection, which included the consultant collecting and synthesizing data and then presenting to the partners, and integrating appropriately into the design. It also includes GIS Mapping and aerial photos. The final budget category is design, which includes the draft Master Plan Graphic and summary report, Precedent photo images, Cross sections or sketches to illustrate concepts, Draft Roster of specific projects, and two Review Meetings. This final category also includes the final master plan, review meetings, and presentations to City Council.

The \$25,000 cash match is budgeted in the Littleton Open Space Fund.

Budget Forms*

Please attach completed Summary Budget Form and Detailed Expense Budget Form as a single PDF document. *Required forms are available on the Open Space website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_BudgetForms.pdf*

Littleton_Budget Forms.pdf

Project Narrative

Question 1*

What type of planning project are you proposing and why? Describe the vision, goals, and desired outcomes of the project. What deliverables will be produced?

The Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan will engage the public to determine needs and priorities for trail improvements. Based on public input, Littleton will work to develop a concept plan identifying specific trail improvements followed by estimates of probable costs.

Littleton envisions a collaborative process with South Suburban Parks and Recreation, Arapahoe County Open Space, other stakeholders, and the public to prepare a creative, well-conceived and useable 20-year (and beyond) action plan for Littleton's trails that identifies and prioritizes active transportation (pedestrian and bicycle) facilities and improvements for the community based on local needs, current planning projects, and existing site conditions.

The planning process and outcome of the plan will include:

- Assessment of the existing trail system including a gap analysis
- A cohesive vision for developing new trails opportunities for recreation and commuting
- Promotion of health and wellness
- Project recommendations with specific trail alignments, improvements, and cost estimates (roster of projects)
- Review of trail accessibility (ADA compliance)
- A successful public engagement with wide representation
- An action plan that is realistic and implementable

Completing the planning process will allow Littleton to identify and prioritize specific trail improvements based on community input, provides a better understanding of construction costs, and positions the city to move into preliminary design, final construction plans, and implementation of the project. This planning process includes public engagement to gather ideas, input, and identifies priorities. The final product is a trails master plan for adoption by Littleton City Council and South Suburban Parks Board.

Deliverables include:

- Presentation materials for public engagement (either in person or through on-line)
- Website information and materials for public input
- Memo of findings from community engagement
- Existing conditions and site analysis map
- Draft master plan graphic and summary report
- Precedent photo images
- Cross sections or sketches to illustrate concepts
- Draft roster of projects
- Preliminary estimate of probable cost
- Final master plan for review and adoption

Next Steps include:

- Preliminary design plans
- Sketch plan submittal for City of Littleton
- Final construction plans and specifications
- Updated estimate of probable cost

Question 2*

Describe the community/neighborhood and types of users that the project will serve. Estimate the number of users that will benefit annually. Discuss the benefits of the planning effort to users, the community, and the agency.

Include up to five community support letters in the Attachments section.

The City of Littleton is located in central Colorado, within the Front Range of the Southern Rocky Mountains. The South Platte River flows from south to north through Littleton, with additional tributaries also running through the city. Littleton is the county seat of Arapahoe County, with the majority of the city located within Arapahoe County and small portions located in Douglas and Jefferson counties. Littleton is part of the greater Denver metropolitan region and is approximately nine miles south of Downtown Denver.

Littleton is accessible via two Regional Transportation District (RTD) light rail stations, Downtown and at Mineral Avenue, and is home to the main campus of Arapahoe Community College. The city limits encompass a total area of approximately 13.8 square miles. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Littleton had a 2010 population of 41,737 and an estimated 2017 population of 47,734.

Given its location along the South Platte River and extensive open space, parks, and trails, Littleton is home to a range of recreation activities. In the city-wide plan, Envision Littleton, citizens prioritized the active guiding principle, meaning Littleton will always be a community of active people who make the most of their city's cultural and natural resource abundance. As part of this guiding principle, community support to maintain and enhance the trail system is significant. The city has established a commitment to developing and maintaining a robust, extensive multi-modal transportation system.

There are 51 miles of regional and local trails that provide excellent bicycle facilities throughout Littleton. Two main trail corridors are established in the Highline Canal Trail and the Mary Carter Greenway. Many users regularly enjoy existing trails and loop walks within parks. Users of the Highline Canal are estimated to be 500,000 per year while the Mary Carter Greenway is near 600,000. Furthermore, links to the regional trail system provide a total of 220 miles of trails in and within 3 miles of Littleton. Because of the use of the regional trail system, Littleton expects between 600,000-800,000 people to benefit annually from the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan.

The benefits of this planning efforts to users and the community include:

1. Increased public safety, including safe access to and from park and other public spaces, and personal security while enjoying trails.
2. Improved connections between downtown/river corridor/parks/trails.
3. More active transportation options from potential expansion of Littleton's trail network.
4. Improve multimodal connections between commercial locations/residential developments.

Question 3*

What specific steps will you take to complete the planning project? How will you obtain public input, engage stakeholders, and handle opposition to the project? What is your agency's process for adopting a final plan?

If applicable, include documentation of opposition and/or evidence of any public input received to date in the Attachments section.

The City will engage a consulting firm to manage the project planning, public input, stakeholder engagement, analysis and conceptual design plans. A specific project schedule will be developed with meeting dates, plan reviews and critical milestone for deliverables. The plan will be a very collaborative process, obtaining ideas and input from the community and engaging stakeholders such as South Suburban Parks and Recreation and Arapahoe County Open Spaces.

Ideally, the city would engage community members in person to discuss their ideas, concerns, and aspirations for this project. With continued concerns due to COVID-19, the city has developed an alternate on-line method for public feedback because there may be a level of apprehension by community members to meet in large groups. The city is prepared for this likelihood with an alternate plan for attaining public feedback via an elaborate internet/website driven input process. This process is beneficial in several ways:

- Convenience to the public – People have less availability because of effects from the pandemic. The city of Littleton will ensure the engagement process is easier on the public, taking into account availability to review the project and allowing flexibility in feedback deadlines.
- Social Distancing – Numerous recent studies show that the general public may not be quick to return to their pre-COVID-19 social habits so a level of social distancing will be continued.
- Moving to a web-based public feedback process, which will provide multiple avenues of public feedback and offer convenience through thoughtful, engaging websites. This could include prerecorded presentations, Q&A sessions, online surveys, visual options for voting, and discussion and comment forums.

Public comments, ideas, and concerns will be addressed during the public engagement process. Comments will be considered, analyzed, and then integrated into the design in the best possible way while still achieving the overall community vision.

Adoption of a master plan involves a four step process 1) presentation of a draft master plan to the South Suburban Parks Board for review and comment in a public meeting, 2) a second presentation to the South Suburban Parks Board, addressing comments and obtaining approval, 3) presentation to the City Council at a public meeting, addressing any questions, 4) a final presentation to the City Council addressing any comments and obtaining adoption of the plan.

Question 4*

Describe how the project will be completed within the required two year time frame. Discuss the agency's capacity to complete the project, including project management, resources, and experience implementing similar projects.

In accordance with the project timeline the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan will be completed in the 2-year time frame. The planning phase will begin in September 2021 and conclude by December 2022. The project management of the grant is divided into five tasks:

Task 1: Stakeholder Coordination and Review

This includes discussion of scope of work, vision, goals, public outreach and stakeholder engagement for the project. The public engagement schedule will be determined during this phase.

Task 2: Public Engagement (virtual and possibly in-person)

As conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic are changing, there may be an opportunity for in-person public engagement to take place such as an open house or outdoor trailside exhibits.

Task 3: Data Collection/Mapping of Existing Conditions and Analysis

The consultant with the city of Littleton will gather available data, reports, associated master plans, GIS mapping and aerial photos for the project (Littleton City Limits) and prepare an existing conditions plan. We will identify opportunities and constraints, gaps in the trail system and new alignment possibilities.

Task 4: Concept Development and Preparation of Draft Master Plan

The city of Littleton with help of a consultant will engage in trails planning and will visit sites to identify, photograph and document trail opportunities for greater connectivity throughout the City. The conceptual master plan will be presented to the city of Littleton and other stakeholders.

Task 5: Final Master Plan

After gathering stakeholder and community input, the consultant will prepare a final master plan for approval. The master plan will be presented by Littleton for City Council approval.

The project management of the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan will be provided by the city of Littleton Public Works department. Kelsey Stansfield, Manager of Grounds, Open Space & Natural Resources will oversee the contract and process. The city has successfully completed several similar projects to the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan including:

1. The 2011 City of Littleton Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. This plan conducted extensive outreach, inventoried existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and made project and program recommendations for improving walking and bicycling in the City of Littleton.
2. The 2019 City of Littleton Transportation Master Plan. One of the five overarching goals that was studied in the plan was active transportation.
3. The 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan.

Question 5*

How much of your cash match is secured? If applicable, what are your plans for securing additional funds?

Describe cash and in-kind match partnerships established for this planning project.

Include partner support letters in the Attachments section and include match from partners on the Budget Forms. Grant recipients are responsible for project cost overruns.

The cash match of \$25,000 (25% of the total project cost of \$125,000) is secured in the city of Littleton's Open Space Fund and was planned for in the 2021 budget for this fund.

Future design and construction phases for strategies identified in the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan are expected to be funded from a combination of sources and partnerships including the City of Littleton Open Space Fund, private/public partnerships, additional Arapahoe County Open Space grant funds, and pursuing other grant opportunities such as Great Outdoors Colorado grants with partner South Suburban Parks and Recreation District.

Question 6*

What will you do to ensure that the plan is implemented once the planning effort is complete? Discuss strategy, timeline, funding, and partnerships for implementation. Identify possible barriers to implementation (consider ownership, legal access, and encumbrances at the project site; current zoning; necessary permits; sensitive natural, historic, or cultural resources; etc.).

If applicable, provide supporting documentation showing ownership, legal access, and/or permission from landowner in the Attachments section.

The planning process will allow Littleton to identify and prioritize specific trail improvements based on community input, provides a better understanding of construction costs, and positions the city to move into preliminary design, final construction plans, and implementation of the project.

One potential barrier to implementation to some of the projects that could be listed in the roster of projects is that the city of Littleton is already highly urbanized. Many of the remaining trail connections and sections may prove to be the most difficult to complete because of several factors including the highly urbanized and established development especially in the northern part of the city, which really lacks a true east/west connection. Providing the safety and convenience of off-street trails through existing neighborhoods or within established rights-of-way is often very difficult. Recognizing this and working with a variety of options will help to complete the system in the most strategic and economic way.

Question 7*

Discuss the agency's capacity to maintain the project once implemented. Who will be responsible for maintenance? Estimate annual costs to maintain the site and explain how maintaining this project site will affect the agency's budget.

Because the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan is a city-wide plan that examines the entire Littleton trail system it is unknown as this time what the annual cost of maintenance for suggested improvements. The detailed cost analysis will provide estimates related to maintenance.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District manages and operates many city parks in Littleton and manages Littleton's trails. As the recreation provider for Littleton, SSPR will be responsible for continuous and long-term trail maintenance. Based on the proven success of the SSPR maintenance program, we are confident the highest level of long term maintenance will be demonstrated. Maintenance functions will include trail surface upkeep, debris removal, weed and vegetation management, repair, patrol, snow removal, and other activities as needed.

Question 8*

Describe how this planning effort will address inclusivity per Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

Self-evaluation enables local governments to pinpoint the facilities, programs, and services that must be modified or relocated to ensure that local governments are complying with the ADA. Transition plans are also required to implement needed changes identified during the self-evaluation process. Ongoing self-evaluation, development, and implementation of a comprehensive transition plan is a high priority of the City of Littleton and its partner South Suburban Parks and Recreation.

Through Littleton's ADA Transition Plan, the city has identified nearly 4,000 locations (facilities, parks, bike and pedestrian lanes, crosswalks, etc) as needing accessibility improvements. The Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan will help identify capital improvements that can be made to Littleton's trail system to improve ADA accessibility. The plan will consider results of the current ADA transition plan to ensure safe trail crossings and continue to make improvements identified by that plan. This includes, trail parking areas, trail crossings, slopes, grades, and widths as well as ADA compliant signage.

Question 9*

If successful in obtaining this grant, how will the agency use this project to inform citizens about the value of the Arapahoe County Open Space Sales and Use Tax?

The City of Littleton will educate citizens about the importance of the Arapahoe County Open Space Sales and Use Tax through signage and outreach. The city will use its communication department to develop promotional materials and press releases related to the project. The grant will be publicized at all public engagement meetings, on surveys, and at any focus or working groups. The grant and project progress will also be promoted through the Littleton Report, which is a monthly news report published by the Communications Department, featuring all the latest city news, events, and videos.

The city will work with the ACOS to display any promotional signage or other promotional requirements of the grant. Littleton will submit all press and recognition materials to ACOS for review prior to print, distribution, and/or fabrication. The final trail connectivity analysis plan will display the ACOS logo and contain recognition for the grant.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Evidence of Support from Highest Authority*

Please attach evidence of support from the agency's highest authority (official letter or resolution) as a PDF document. At a minimum, this document must include: project title, amount of grant funds requested, statement that matching funds are secured and/or efforts to secure funds are underway (include the amount of matching funds committed), and certification that the project will be open to the public or serve a public purpose if implemented. *A sample resolution is available on the Open Space website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf*

Littleton_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf

Attachment 2: Evidence of Community Support*

Please attach up to 5 letters of support from users, working groups, community members, volunteers, schools, etc. as a single PDF document. Letters should be specific to the project and dated within the last 6 months.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_CommunitySupport.pdf*

Littleton_CommunitySupport.pdf

Attachment 3: Documentation of Opposition*

Please attach documentation of opposition to the project (such as letters, petitions, articles, etc.) as a single PDF document. If there is no known opposition, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_Opposition.pdf*

Littleton_Opposition.pdf

Attachment 4: Evidence of Commitment from Project Partners*

Please attach evidence of commitment from project partners (such as partner support letters, commitment to provide cash/in-kind match, or maintenance agreements) as a single PDF document. There is no maximum

allowable number of partner support letters. If there are no partners for this project, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_PartnerCommitments.pdf*

Littleton_Partner Commitment.pdf

Attachment 5: Primary Project Photo

Please attach one high resolution photo in JPG format. Please choose the photo that provides the best overall representation of your project. This photo will be used for presentations and/or publications.

A photo of existing conditions is required for site plan applications.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant_PrimaryPhoto.jpg

Attachment 6: Photos

Please attach photos of existing conditions at the project site (including captions) as a single PDF document.

Include conceptual drawings if applicable.

Photos are required for site plan applications.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant_Photos.pdf

Littleton_Photos.pdf

Attachment 7: Maps

Please attach a site map and a vicinity map as a single PDF document.

Maps are required for site plan applications and system plan applications as appropriate.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant_Maps.pdf

Littleton_Maps.pdf

Attachment 8: Site Visit Form

Please attach a completed site visit form as a PDF document. *Required forms are available on the Open Space website.*

Site visit forms are required for site plan applications and system plan applications as appropriate.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant_SiteVisitForm.pdf

Attachment 9: Evidence of Property Ownership/Access

Please attach evidence of property ownership/legal access (legal documentation, ArapaMAP, etc.) as a single PDF document.

Evidence of property ownership/legal access is required for site plan applications and system plan applications as appropriate.

Please name your file as follows: Applicant_PropertyOwnership.pdf

Attachment 10: Other Attachments

Please attach additional supporting documentation (news articles, related planning documents, etc.) as a single PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_OtherAttachments.pdf*

Confirmation

Please click the "I Agree" button below to certify that your application is complete and ready to submit. Once submitted, applications are final and cannot be returned.*

I agree

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Littleton_Applicant_signatureform.pdf
- Littleton_Timeline form .pdf
- Littleton_Budget Forms.pdf
- Littleton_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf
- Littleton_CommunitySupport.pdf
- Littleton_Opposition.pdf
- Littleton_Partner Committment.pdf
- Littleton_Photos.pdf
- Littleton_Maps.pdf

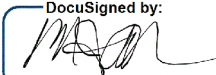


Certification and Authorized Signature Form

Please use this form for the 2021 Arapahoe County Open Spaces grant application.

By signing this form, I certify that:

- The information included in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.
- If funded, the applicant commits to completing the proposed project.
- If funded, the applicant accepts responsibility for any cost overruns necessary to complete the project.
- If funded, the completed project will be open to the public or will otherwise serve a public purpose.
- If funded, the applicant agrees to maintain the completed project site or to continue its maintenance agreement with a partner agency as outlined in the application.
- I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant.

DocuSigned by:

1CDF08FFC132401...

Authorized Signature (highest authority in agency or authorized individual) 4/9/2021

Date

Mark Relph, City Manager

Printed Name and Title

Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan

Grant Project or Joint Project Name



2021 Open Space Grants - Project Timeline Form

Use the sample timeline below as a guide to complete your proposed project timeline. Rows or columns may be added as necessary to include any milestones specific to your project. Timeline must be detailed, realistic, and coincide with details provided in the narrative portion of the grant application. Timeline must conclude within two years of project start date.

Task	Au g 20 21	Se p 20 21	Oc t 20 21	N ov 20 21	De c 20 21	Ja n 20 22	Fe b 20 22	M ar 20 22	Ap r 20 22	M ay 20 22	Ju ne 20 22	Jul y 20 22	Au g 20 22	Septe mber 2022	Oct obe r 2022	Nove mber 2022	Dece mber 2022
Grant Award Notification																	
IGA Executed (Project Start Date)																	
Stakeholder Meetings				*		*		*									
Community Engagement																	
Data Collection (Site Visits, Photos, GIS Mapping)																	

Applicant: Littleton_____ Project Title: _Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan _____

Conce pt Design and Draft Master Plan																	
Final Master Plan																	
Presen tation to Counci l and SSPR (appro vals)																	
Final Report																	

Summary Budget Form - SMALL and PLANNING Grants (10% minimum cash match)

Source of Funds	Date Funds Secured	Grant Request	Cash Match	Total Project Funds
Arapahoe County Open Spaces Grant	8/10/2021	\$100,000		\$100,000
City of Littleton/Open Space Fund Cash Match			\$25,000	\$25,000
				\$0
				\$0
				\$0
Totals		\$100,000	\$25,000	\$125,000

MATCH REQUIREMENTS	
Total Project Cost:	\$125,000.00
Cash Match % Required:	10%
Required Cash Match Amount:	\$12,500.00
Project Cash Match Budgeted:	\$25,000.00
<i>Minimum Met? Y or N</i>	

Applicant: City of Littleton

Project Title: Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan

** Please do not include in-kind match on the Budget Forms. Describe in-kind match in the budget narrative and project narrative if applicable.*

CITY OF LITTLETON, COLORADO

Resolution No. 20

Series, 2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LITTLETON, COLORADO, AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE
ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACES GRANT PROGRAM FOR A
PLANNING GRANT FOR A TRAIL CONNECTIVITY ANALYSIS PLAN**

WHEREAS, the city of Littleton as part of its mission statement acquires and improves land and conserves natural resources within city boundaries to develop and provide park and recreation facilities for the public; and

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County provides funding for such projects through distribution of its Open Space Grant monies; and

WHEREAS, the city of Littleton has requested \$100,000 for a Trail Connectivity Analysis plan project from Arapahoe County Open Spaces; and

WHEREAS, Littleton's trails are outdoor spaces open to the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF LITTLETON, COLORADO, THAT:**

1. The City Council of city of Littleton strongly supports the grant application for a trail connectivity analysis plan.

2. The City Council of city of Littleton has authorized sufficient appropriation for \$25,000 in matching funds for said Arapahoe County Open Space Grant and authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of the awarded grant.

3. The city commits to completing the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan project if the grant is awarded.

4. If the grant is awarded, the city of Littleton acknowledges responsibility of cost overruns for the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan project

5. If the grant is awarded, the city council of the city of Littleton hereby authorizes the city Manager to sign the grant agreement and grant records with Arapahoe County.

6. This resolution is in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Resolution No.20

Page 2 of 2

47 INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED at a regularly scheduled meeting of the
48 City Council of the City of Littleton, Colorado, on the 6th day of April 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at the
49 Littleton Center¹, 2255 West Berry Avenue, Littleton, Colorado.

50 ATTEST:

51 DocuSigned by:

52 Colleen Norton

53 CF35EE7F11B64D4...

54 CITY CLERK

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56 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

57 DocuSigned by:

58 Reid Betzing

59 B98911B336724F5...

60 CITY ATTORNEY

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DocuSigned by:

Jerry Valdes

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Jerry Valdes
MAYOR



¹ Due to COVID19, the City of Littleton is providing virtual coverage of city council meetings to protect the health of citizens, council members and staff. Citizens and participants will be limited to virtual participation until further notice.



TO: Arapahoe County Open Spaces

FROM: High Line Canal Conservancy
Harriet Crittenden LaMair, Executive Director

DATE: April 8th, 2021

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for the City of Littleton's Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan

The Organization

The High Line Canal Conservancy is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the 71-mile long High Line Canal in partnership with the public. The Conservancy was formed in 2014 by a passionate coalition of private citizens to provide leadership and harness the region's commitment to protecting the future of the Canal--a 100-foot corridor comprising the canal channel, trail and adjacent vegetation. With support from local jurisdictions and in partnership with Denver Water, the Conservancy is working to ensure that the Canal is protected and enhanced as a natural and recreational corridor for future generations.

Community Outreach

Beginning in 2016, the Conservancy and Denver Water, in close collaboration with a host of regional partners, has engaged with over 5,000 people in a far-reaching community outreach process to envision the future of the High Line Canal. The result was a Community Vision Plan and a subsequent framework plan, The Plan for the High Line Canal (The Plan). Through this process, the public and partners have focused on a vital future for the Canal as a recreational and environmental resource for people that prioritizes improved connectivity and access along the Canal.

The Resource

The High Line Canal Trail connects eleven different governmental jurisdictions and sees more than half a million users annually. As it traverses the Denver metro area, the Canal beckons walkers, equestrians, families, nature-lovers, bicyclists and neighbors to recreate along its tree-lined banks. Today, the Canal is in a time of transition as Denver Water moves away from delivering irrigation water in the Canal. The Conservancy has spent the last four years leading robust planning efforts, creating a community vision and a framework plan that envision a connected corridor for all communities. We are thrilled to write this letter of support, lending our endorsement to this critical trail construction project, which will close the largest remaining gap on the High Line Canal trail.

The Project

The City of Littleton is home to over 5 miles of the historic 71-mile High Line Canal. The High Line Canal was central to the growth of the City of Littleton, providing irrigation water to the growing



community, and remains an important historic, natural and recreational resource. Trail use in Littleton is amongst the highest of any jurisdiction along the Canal and Littleton residents were some of the most deeply engaged in developing the Community Vision Plan and The Plan for the High Line Canal. The Conservancy is excited to support the City of Littleton's Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan and looks forward to participating in the planning process.

During the planning effort for the High Line Canal, improved connectivity was a key theme, with community members interested in improving crossing safety and providing seamless connections across the region. Community members also expressed interest in improved access to the Canal and accessibility along its reach, making the resource available to all community members. The Canal serves as an important connector to parks and open spaces in Littleton, threading together Writers' Vista Park, Jackass Hill Park, Horseshoe Park, Grandpa's Acres and the future site of Ohlson Acres. Improved connections to the Canal and along its reach could be a catalyst for active lifestyles and improved mobility across the City of Littleton, making the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan a critical priority.

The Plan for the High Line Canal identifies several challenging crossings on the High Line Canal in Littleton that would benefit from further study and prioritization through the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan. Most notably, the Broadway Corridor was called out as an *Opportunity Area* in The Plan, one of the seven reaches along the entire corridor where substantial improvements were recommended. In this section, the Canal crosses Broadway three times within a mile and a half, creating a significant barrier between the City of Littleton and the City of Centennial. The Plan provides several recommendations, from building sidewalk connections to bypass these challenging crossings to installing underpasses at Arapahoe Road and Caley Avenue. The Plan also identifies crossing enhancements at Footbridge Park along Geddes Ave, where students from Heritage High School frequently connect to the trail and supports the City of Littleton's efforts to improve the safety of the crossing at Mineral Avenue. Finally, Littleton's ADA Transition Plan has identified numerous locations along the Canal where accessibility improvements are needed to enhance access and connectivity. The Conservancy is excited to see these improvements and more incorporated into the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan.

The High Line Canal Conservancy is strongly supportive of the City of Littleton's Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan and looks forward to participating. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or comments at harriet@highlinecanal.org or 720-217-2056.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harriet Crittenden LaMair". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Harriet Crittenden LaMair, Executive Director
High Line Canal Conservancy

March 31, 2021

Arapahoe County Open Space Department
6934 S. Lima Street, Unit A
Centennial, CO 80112

Dear Grant Review Committee,

As a resident of Littleton since 1994 and former RTD Director for District H which includes Littleton, I am proud to support the City of Littleton's grant application request for the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan. Trail connectivity is one key for the enhancement of residential neighborhoods throughout the City.

Littleton residents and the surrounding areas have access to an extensive bike and pedestrian trail system that is well-served by the regional facilities but can be impeded by arterial and collector street crossings as well as rail crossings. These and other barriers offer opportunities for improved design and modifications to existing infrastructure. The City recognizes the importance of partnerships like that proposed which may improve general connectivity and access. This Grant would further the ability of the City to provide safe and sustainable access and recreational opportunities for its citizens.

The plan will address the gap and connectivity issues within the 51 miles of regional and local bike and pedestrian trails and facilities throughout Littleton. The City also has nearly 4,000 locations that have been identified in Littleton's ADA Transition Plan as needing accessibility improvements and the plan will focus on these as well. The City's goal is to identify strategies to close each gap and provide a path forward for completing these trail enhancements to improve safety and enhance access for all citizens.

Sincerely, Kent Bagley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Bagley", written over a horizontal line.

Chair of the Littleton Transportation Mobility Advisory Board

March 31, 2021

Arapahoe County Open Space Department
6934 S. Lima Street, Unit A
Centennial, CO 80112

Dear Grant Review Committee,

As a native Coloradan and Littleton Resident since 2009, I wholeheartedly support The City of Littleton's grant application for the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan.

Littleton residents and the surrounding areas have access to an extensive bike and trail system that is well-served by the regional facilities. This system can be impeded by many types of barriers including highways, major thoroughfares, railroad and light rail crossings, rivers and all things in between, all the way down to something as simple as lack of a ramped curb can be a barrier to some of our citizens. Therefore, connection and access points need to be reviewed, improved and added to ensure access for all. These bike and pedestrian trails have become part of the fabric of living in the City of Littleton and are among the most important reasons that people enjoy living in and seek to reside in the City.

The importance of partnerships like this cannot be understated. In order to improve gaps in connectivity and access we must work together to identify, assess and improve access our trail system. Partnerships such as this are essential to the strategy of providing safe and sustainable recreation and transportation for our citizens.

The plan will address the gap and connectivity issues within the 51 miles of regional and local bike and pedestrian trails and facilities throughout Littleton. The City also has nearly 4,000 locations that have been identified in Littleton's ADA Transition Plan as needing accessibility improvements, these points will be a priority as well. The City's goal is to identify strategies to close each gap and to provide a comprehensive path forward for completing these projects to improve safety and improve access for all citizens to our trail system.

Thank You for Your Consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Radulovich", is written over a horizontal line.

Dan Radulovich
Vice Chairman, Transportation Mobility Advisory Board

There is no known opposition for the Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan at the time of grant application submission.

4810 E County Line Rd.
Littleton, CO 80126
303.798.5131

April 8, 2021

Arapahoe County Open Space Department
6934 S. Lima Street, Unit A
Centennial, CO 80112

Dear Grant Review Committee,

As the City's park and recreation provider, South Suburban Park and Recreation District supports The City of Littleton's grant application for a Trail Connectivity Analysis Plan.

Littleton residents and the surrounding areas have access to an extensive bike and trail system that is well-served by the regional facilities but can be impeded by barriers and the design of infrastructure. The City recognizes the importance of partnerships like this to improve such gaps in connectivity and access as an essential strategy to provide safe and sustainable recreation for system users.

The plan will address the gap and connectivity issues within the 51 miles of regional and local bike and pedestrian trails and facilities throughout Littleton. The City also has nearly 4,000 locations identified in its ADA Transition Plan that need accessibility improvements and will be an additional focus of this effort.

The goal is to identify strategies to close each gap and the path forward for completing these trails to improve safety and enhance economic vitality.

Sincerely,



Rob Hanna
Executive Director



Photo 1- Possible trail connection and trailhead to Littleton Community Trail (off Ridge Road)



Photo 2- Possible location of trail connection into Sterne Park along Spottswood St.



Photo 3- Possible trail connection to Littleton Community Trail with wayfinding near Depot



Photo 4- Possible trail connection along north side of Sterne Park



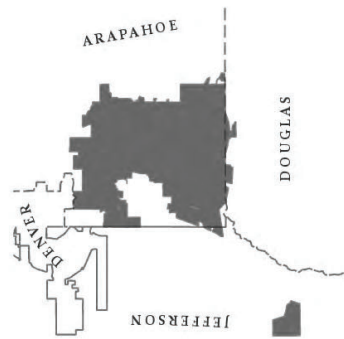
Photo 5- Possible formalized trail connecting Sterne Park to Littleton Community Trail



Photo 6- Possible walk widening to provide accessibility into playfields at Gallup Park

City of Littleton Trails, Paths, and Sidewalks

- Legend**
 - Trails and Paths
 - Bike Lanes
 - Crosswalk
 - Sidewalk
 - Lake
 - River
 - Railroad
 - Parks & Open Space
 - City Limits
 - County Boundary



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