

Public Open House for Fourmile Canyon Dr. & Fourmile Creek Flood Recovery (Salina Junction to Sunset) Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 5:30-7:30 PM Fourmile Canyon Firehouse, 1740 Fourmile Canyon Drive

This summary includes an overview of the purpose and format of the meeting, and questions from the full group discussion. Individual comments shared at the meeting and after the meeting will be evaluated and considered for implementation by both Boulder County and the design team.

The roadway 30% project designs are available at:

Upper Fourmile Canyon & Gold Run Road Reconstruction:

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/roads/pages/upperfourmilecanyon.aspx>

More information on the creek restoration is available at:

Fourmile Creek Recovery and Restoration:

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/flood/creekrestoration/pages/fourmilecreek.aspx>

Purpose and Format

The purpose of the community meetings was to share updates on the designs since the last meeting and obtain input on the 30% roadway and 15% creek designs. Community members were asked to respond to questions such as:

- Are there additional impacts that need to be considered (e.g., road safety, driveway access, drainage, grading)?
- Do you have any visual or other preferences that we should try to incorporate to reflect the future you envision for the area (e.g., trees, retaining walls)?
- Do you have feedback on the recommended creek alignment?

The meeting began with a brief presentation, which is available on the project websites listed above. It included a review of the policy and funding context and input received to date, updates to the roadway and creek designs, and a review of expected next steps and schedule. After a full group discussion (see questions below), the group broke into reach-specific groups to review the designs for their area. This was an opportunity for individuals to talk directly with technical team members to ask questions and share input. Feedback was recorded on maps and comment cards, all of which will be reviewed closely by the Project Team and incorporated into the Plan as appropriate.

Community members were encouraged to continue to contact Andrew Barth at Boulder County with feedback, questions or to be added to the community list serve. His contact information is 303-441-1032 or abarth@bouldercounty.org. They can also contact Maya MacHamer at the Fourmile Creek Watershed Coalition at 303-449-3333 or fourmilewatershed@gmail.com.

Large Group Discussion Questions

The following questions were asked.

What are the plans for drainage at Emerson Gulch and Long Gulch?

The design includes adding a box culvert at Long Gulch (12 ft. by 4 ft.) and Emerson Gulch (7 ft. by 4 ft.). Note that Emerson Gulch is approximately ¼ mile East of Emerson Gulch Road.

The bottom of Emerson Gulch Road gets very icy in the winter. In order to address this, the design will include modifying the cross slope of the road so that water drains to one side of the road instead of on

the road. Two new elliptical culverts will be placed on either side of Emerson Gulch Road to convey runoff from the ditches on either side of Emerson Gulch Road to Fourmile Creek. There will also be a guardrail at the bottom on Emerson Gulch Road, on the creek side of Upper Fourmile for safety. A request was made to have gravel added to the bottom of Emerson Gulch Road to prevent ice in the winter, and this will be shared with the Boulder County maintenance team. A retaining wall will be added to stabilize the creek and prevent it from running into the road.

Community members noted that culverts do fill with ice in the winter. As long as there is some flow, culverts will still work, but it is helpful to let the design team know which culverts tend to freeze. Community members also noted that the runoff comes from the mine site and requested that this be considered.

Is it possible to add a turnaround at the end of Sunset for snow plows? A community member's fence was accidentally knocked down by a maintenance vehicle recently. Boulder County staff will talk to maintenance about what they currently do in the area. One challenge is right-of-way so this would have to involve coordination with private property owners.

Is it possible to limit traffic to residents only during construction? Boulder County will look into this. It's a public road, though sometimes it is possible to limit traffic if there are other ways for people to access public amenities (e.g., Switzerland Trail and Assay Office). Boulder County will absolutely ask cycling groups not to use the area when there is a lot of work being done. Signage will be clear about hours for construction. "Engine mufflers required" signage was also requested. Construction updates will be shared via the listserv.

What percentage of the creek restoration is along public land (as opposed to private land)? Until the Assay office almost all of the land is private, then there is an area owned by Parks and Open Space, and then it is private again. Boulder County will be working with private property owners to obtain consent for work on private property.

Will you be working with private property owners on look of retaining walls? Yes. Boulder County will consult with individual, affected parties. They will be looking at the retaining walls the most so it's important that they have an opportunity to share feedback on what they should look like.

What is the status of the house buyout program? Once the buyout program is completed, Boulder County will work with contractors to deconstruct the houses and then put the land back as close to how it was before. This land will be managed by the Parks and Open Space Department.