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From: Williams, Mark
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2009 9:00 AM
To: Sherman, Iris; Sanfacon, Garry
Cc: Malinowski, Joe; Lacy, Leslie; Zayach, Jeff; Epstein, Jessica; Flowers, Linda; Wallis, Christopher
Subject: RE: follow-up

Garry -

We now have a better understanding of the problem with the communities perception of the OWS enforcement issues at this critical juncture when you're trying to move forward with a solution on community-wide right-of-way vacations. Iris accurately represented our best thoughts from a week ago, but we now understand the compelling reasons to reconsider that stance.

We're willing to forego the OWS reviews of the properties involved in the Eldora vacations, at least relative to a formal review as part of that vacation process. After all, we already know which properties have unapproved OWS in the community, so the added perception of the Land Use action "triggering" an OWS enforcement could be counterproductive. That's not to say, however, that the Eldora community does not pose a particularly high priority for us with regard to public health concerns from OWS; but at this point we can separate that from the vacation issue.

We have a publicly stated objective to get all 4,000 or so unapproved OWS in the county approved by 2023. We've identified several strategies that will help us to reach that goal, and the referral process with our Land Use colleagues is a critical one. We've also done a lot of strategic planning toward identifying higher risk communities, and a need to prioritize our outreach efforts to them. Eldora ranks relatively high on that list.

I've attached a link to our web site that speaks to the strategies for getting OWS approved.

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/health/envIRON/water/septicSMART/about/strategies.htm>

To reiterate our position, Public Health will not require OWS compliance review as part of the County's current right-of-way vacations in Eldora. Eldora properties will be required to gain approval through one of the strategies as part of our Septic Smart effort so that we can meet the objective of approving all OWS in the County by 2023.

Best Regards,

Mark

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