

December 12th Community Meeting Focus: Review and Respond to Ideas to Fix Flooding, Erosion and Debris Issues Along Camp Creek

Five ideas or concepts for improving drainage conditions throughout the Camp Creek drainage corridor were the primary topics of discussion at the December 12 community meeting.

About 60 people attended the meeting. Following a presentation of the concepts by the project team, participants worked in small groups to review and provide comments about what they liked and didn't like about the concepts.

Important Decisions Ahead at February 25th Community Meeting

Don't miss the third in a series of community meetings about the Camp Creek Drainage Improvement Project:

- ◆ **6 p.m. Tuesday, February 25th**
- ◆ **in the cafeteria at Coronado High School, 1590 W. Fillmore Street.***

At the meeting, you'll review and respond to revised alternative designs. The community's responses to the concepts presented in December are being used in the development of the alternatives that will be the focus of the February 25th meeting.

The results of the February meeting will have a direct impact on the solution that is recommended by the project team. If you want to have an influence on that recommendation, it's important that you attend the meeting.

*These activities will take place on property that Wilson and Co. has licensed from Colorado Springs School District Eleven pursuant to Board of Education Policy KF. Our group has paid a full fee for the facility and, therefore, our rental of the facility is not supported by tax dollars identified for school use. Our use of a District facility represents neither agreement nor disagreement with our group's goal, purpose, or statements by the Board, Administration, or the District.

All of the concepts presented and reviewed at the meeting would achieve the following:

- Reduce the area of the Pleasant Valley neighborhood that is at risk of flooding during large flood events
- Remove 224 residential properties and 13 commercial lots from the 100-year floodplain
- Reduce the amount of water flowing on 31st Street during large flood events
- Provide sediment collection improvements at the north end of Garden of the Gods (with sediment removal performed on an as-needed basis)
- Manage erosion of the natural channel in the Garden of the Gods
- Reduce risk that Gateway Road would be over-topped by water during large storm events
- Improve pedestrian and traffic safety
- Improve emergency access by reducing the potential for water on roadways during larger flood events
- Not impact existing on-street parking
- Not require residential property acquisition
- Have an option to realign Camp Creek near the confluence with Fountain Creek in conjunction with adjacent projects.

A full description of the features of each of the concepts and meeting participants' responses to them may be found on the following three pages.

Project engineers are being guided by participants' responses as they prepare alternative design solutions for your review and response at the February 25th community meeting.

Detailed graphic illustrations of the five concepts, the Power Point presentation, all meeting materials and word-for-word small group responses can be found on the project website at:
www.springsgov.com/campcreek.

For more information, please contact City Project Manager Mike Chaves at (719) 385-5408 or mchaves@springsgov.com.

(See a summary of all the Concepts presented at the December 12th meeting on the next two pages)

The following table summarizes the five Concepts that were presented by the Project Team and reviewed by participants in the December 12th community meeting. While all the Concepts have common elements which are listed on page 1, each of them also has distinct features and related implications. All meeting participants were provided this information as well as graphic illustrations of the Concepts.

Concepts Summary		
Concept	Unique Features	Unique Implications
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enlarges the 31st Street channel by making it deeper to increase capacity - Replaces existing culverts and bridges with larger bridges to minimize restrictions in the 31st Street channel - Channel lining similar to existing lining with rock bottom. May support some grass vegetation on bottom (similar to existing) - Includes walls along the outside edges of the channel for traffic safety and to achieve required channel depth without widening the top width of the channel - Has an option to raise Gateway Road and increase the size of its bridge to improve safe public access during large storm events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-year floodplain contained in channel through Pleasant Valley neighborhood - No change to existing bike lanes - No change to outside edges of street - Provides improved emergency access to Pleasant Valley neighborhood during a 100-year rainfall event - Requires less construction in Garden of the Gods and Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site than Concepts B, C, and E
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconstructs 31st Street channel section and lining to be similar to the existing channel section and lining with rock bottom. May support some grass vegetation on bottom (similar to existing) - Replaces culverts and bridges with larger bridges to minimize restrictions in the 31st Street channel - Includes a wall along the west side of the channel for 100-year flood conveyance and traffic safety - Includes a landscape strip along the east edge of the channel for flood conveyance, traffic safety and beautification - Moves street closer to sidewalk on east side to accommodate landscape strip along channel - Includes landscaped earthen detention basins in Garden of the Gods through raising Gateway Road to an elevation similar to adjacent 30th Street as it spans the Camp Creek Valley (16-foot maximum raise) and within Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site by adding 11-foot high berms with existing parking area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-year floodplain contained in 31st Street channel and streets through Pleasant Valley neighborhood - Improves emergency access during large flow events over the existing condition but doesn't provide flood-free vehicular and pedestrian access to all portions of Pleasant Valley neighborhood during a 100-year flood event - No change to existing bike lanes - Moves east side of 31st Street closer to sidewalk - Conveying a portion of the Camp Creek flow in the street during large storm events presents potential hazards to motorists and pedestrians along 31st Street - Requires more construction in Garden of the Gods and Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site than Concepts A and D

Concepts Summary

Concept	Unique Features	Unique Implications
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconstructs the 31st Street channel to be wider and have flatter slide slopes than the existing channel - Replaces culverts and bridges with larger bridges to minimize restrictions in the 31st Street channel - Replaces the existing on-street bike lanes with a paved trail within the channel - Channel side slopes lined with native grasses - Channel bottom lined with rock which may support some vegetation (similar to existing) - Includes walls along the outside edges of the channel for traffic and pedestrian safety and additional walls to achieve required channel depth and capacity - Includes landscaped earthen detention basins in Garden of the Gods through raising Gateway Road to an elevation similar to adjacent 30th Street as it spans the Camp Creek Valley (16-foot maximum raise) and within Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site by adding 11-foot high berms with existing parking lot area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-year floodplain contained in channel and streets through Pleasant Valley neighborhood - More natural appearance for 31st Street channel than Concepts A and B - On-street bike lanes replaced by trail within channel. Trail to be constructed with walls above the expected level of flow during a 2-year flood event - Provides improved emergency access to Pleasant Valley neighborhood during 100-year flood event - May require moving street closer to sidewalks - Trail in channel crosses streets at street level at bridges - Requires more construction in Garden of the Gods and Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site than Concepts A and D - Conveying a portion of the Camp Creek flow in the street during large storm events presents potential hazards to motorists and pedestrians along 31st Street
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Replaces the open 31st Street open channel with extensive underground box culverts - Includes a trail and native landscaping in the 31st Street median area over the box culverts - Eliminates the on-street bike lanes along 31st Street - Has option to raise Gateway Road and increase the size of its bridge to improve safe public access during storm runoff events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-year floodplain eliminated throughout the Pleasant Valley neighborhood - No on-street bike lanes - Provides trail connection between Garden of the Gods and Fountain Creek - No change to outside edges of street - Provides emergency access to Pleasant Valley neighborhood during 100-year flood event - More natural median appearance than Concepts A, B, C - Eliminates open channel safety risk along 31st Street - Requires less construction in Garden of the Gods and Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site than Concepts B, C, and E - Requires more extensive construction in Pleasant Valley neighborhood than Concepts A, B, C, and E
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Replaces the 31st Street open channel with underground box culverts - Includes a trail and native landscaping in the 31st Street median over the box culverts - Eliminates the bike lanes along 31st Street - Includes landscaped earthen detention basins in Garden of the Gods through raising Gateway Road to an elevation similar to adjacent 30th Street as it spans the Camp Creek Valley (16-foot maximum raise) and constructing an 19-foot high earthen landscaped dam in the northern end of the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-year floodplain eliminated throughout Pleasant Valley neighborhood - On-street bike lanes replaced by trail within native landscaped median area - Provides a trail connection between Garden of the Gods and Fountain Creek - No change to outside edges of street - Provides emergency access to Pleasant Valley neighborhood during 100-year flood event - More natural median appearance than Concepts A, B, and C - Eliminates open channel safety risk along 31st Street - Requires more construction in Garden of the Gods than Concepts B, C, and E

Summary of Meeting Participants' Small Group Responses to the Concepts

Concept	Like About	Dislike About
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appears cheaper • Keeps dimensions (width) the same • Deeper • High walls • Lessens impact on Garden of the Gods • Lessens impact on Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site • Safety features [walls] keep cars out of channel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ugly/same as what we have/not aesthetically pleasing • Steep walls create safety and drowning risk to children and animals • Walls on either side of ditch: generally dislike; create traffic sound • Still an open ditch • No detention ponds • Maybe include bike lane from 31st Street
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shallower • Detention/design of channel minimized because of detention upstream/add restoration of detention areas • Solves the 3-foot wall issue • Like the dip reduction on Gateway [Road] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts into parkway on east side of road • Safety of children and animals • General dislike of median strip/safety issues • Three-foot walls: dislike use; doesn't prevent west side flooding since opening for streets floods anyway • Impacts on Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site: major excavation; reduces parking for events • Impacts on Garden of the Gods: distracting, large detention ponds; potential impacts to the trail under 30th Street from the Visitor Center and to the Gateway Trail • People trapped on east side by flood waters • Sterile
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetically pleasing: attractive landscaping; grass slopes appealing; like green look; 31st Street look/feel • Treats water as a natural asset and does not try to hide the creek • Bike trail: love the bike trail; gets bicycles off 31st Street; location in channel • Safety better: wildlife • Side slopes: 3-to-1 slopes a good idea—usable space; recommend 4-to-1 side slopes for grass areas—less erosion • Like chance of additional funding for trail • Not wasted if over-designed • Like stop/start flat part 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about loss of parkway; loss of landscaped area • Maintenance: landscaped area will need; sediment on bike path • Impacts on Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site: major excavation; reduces parking for special events • Impacts on Garden of the Gods: distracting, large detention ponds; potential impacts to the trail under 30th Street from the Visitor Center and to the Gateway Trail • Walls: ugly; dislike; re-assess design flow to reduce size • Open ditch • Road crossing for bikes could be difficult • Like single span bridge crossings • Add additional width: don't need 9-foot parking area—can include 2 feet of gutter
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive aesthetics: landscaping; natural • No detention: lessens impacts to Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site and Garden of the Gods • Bike trail continues to bike system • Usable space; ability to walk across street • Maximizes water flow/capacity • No walls along median 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes creek from view/neighborhood identity • Potential cost: appears to be very expensive; high cost • Difficult to maintain, inspect and remove debris • Potential to clog and divert flow to neighborhood • Safety of children if they get inside tunnels • No water for wildlife • Concern about 30th Street being realigned into 31st Street • Don't like multi-barrel tunnel—use single span (3-sided box) • Springs have no place to exit
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive aesthetics: landscaping; natural • Detention: like it in north end of Garden of the Gods; least intrusive to Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site; raising Gateway Road • Bike trail continues to bike system • Usable space and ability to walk across street • Maximizes water flow/capacity • No walls along median • Separates bike trail from auto traffic • Eliminates bridges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes creek from view/neighborhood identity • Potential cost: appears to be very expensive; high cost • Difficult to maintain, inspect and remove debris • Potential to clog and divert flow to neighborhood • Safety of children if they get inside tunnels • Concern about 30th Street being realigned into 31st Street • Don't like multi-barrel tunnel—use single span (3-sided box) • Detention: impacts visitor access to Garden of the Gods from Visitor Center; want all retention ponds • Not many people would use creek • Bridges and walls are sterile; need street lights