

## Clear Creek Management Plan Comments Summary (Feb 12 Open House)

### *Parking*

- Parking is a huge issue. I know it is expensive and there are not easy answers. A parking structure is the ultimate solution at the Recreation Center. Also, charge for parking in the garages we have now for special events. It would be slow but over time would help the bottom line. Also, consider the events that permit parking affects. Farmer's market, etc. There is little parking now. Good luck
- Keep parking free during Farmer's Market to get people here. I can handle the people from 1 to 1pm on Saturdays. Charge and permit all except downtown so people go there!
- Parking is still going to be a huge issue. Use off duty officers for creek and patrolling!
- I would very much like to see a study to determine the desired carrying capacity of the Clear Creek Park. I think one determined that information can be used to drive parking options.
- As a resident who walks the trail frequently, I would be willing to pay for a monthly permit to allow me to park along the creek. I walk my dogs; I do not like the idea of having to pay a daily fee like a non resident.
- Adequate and convenient parking is critical for the viability of the Fine Arts Festival and the Farmer's Market. Both events which enrich the quality of life and health of citizens.
- Do not add more parking at the creek, or add play areas. Please do not do anything that will encourage more people to come in and trash the creek. It would be different if the people who come use the creek actually spent money in Golden.
- A new parking lot in the park is simply a flawed solution.
- Parking permits may be a quick fix for this summer.
- The Farmers market takes place during baseball games and tournaments, creating traffic and pedestrian safety issues. Move it to a safer, less congested location. Enforcement is all. Where are the crossings for pedestrians?
- I appreciate the Open House but it would have been helpful to have a brief overview. It was a lot of information to try to truly understand and comment thoughtfully. Don't reduce the park at Maple and 10<sup>th</sup> and put in parking. I don't see many creek visitors in the summer or on weekends spending money in Golden but they do leave plenty of trash. Please no multiunit condos. It just adds to more traffic, burdens on existing infrastructure. I don't want Golden to start looking like so many overcrowded towns! No more play structures built. Leave the park!
- Thank you for considering the parking needs of events occurring along the creek and the value of close parking in these instances for visitors. The tax revenue and positive impression of Golden and the jobs that rely on these events.
- Parking spaces should be made available in the parking garages downtown and all 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> street should be for residents only. (Permit parking!)

- I like the idea of a kiosk with temporary parking permits. It allows those with disabilities to get closer to the creek and nature and enjoy it. Hard balance to strike of sharing the beauty of Golden and presenting the beauty of Golden.
- It is fantastic to improve and guide the use of the Creek Corridor. What is missing is a plan for parking that will continue to encourage the use of this jewel. One of the comments I receive at events is that they appreciate the close parking
- Has anyone considered that a fundamental measure of the use of the corridor or any segment of it is the number of people in it? When a reasonable maximum number has been determined, this can be used to determine appropriate levels like parking. And actual numbers can be adjusted by various indirect means like reducing parking directly. Each level or population can be visualized using a simple distribution model and edited photos. For example, this is what Lions Park would look like with 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, etc.
- Why are visitors more important than residents? Add resident satisfaction as a pro to a permit system. Add connecting cross streets for Farmer's Market specify Saturday 8-12
- Pay-permit parking in designated lots but not in permit-only residential areas. Do not provide shuttles
- When parking is full then park is full. Only want walk in at that point. Or Coors Tech Lot.
- I am a resident- I want to park on a public street
- This traffic also directs the foot traffic closer to the shops and businesses in downtown Golden.
- Parking at Ford and 11<sup>th</sup>. Lot is closer to downtown and creek paths
- After hours parking at the Library, Museum, and Visitors Center allowed?
- Parking structure with Mines on Snow Lot.
- Co-build parking structure with CSM for joint CSM ( weekday ) and City (weekend) use. Expand CSM parking regulations to summer  
Not on special events
- Negotiate with CSM for use of 150 space lot on South Side of Creek  
Consider tiered parking at GCC, perhaps upper entrance off 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Charge non-residents a parking fee. Events need free parking to continue to be successful  
Consider holding some events in New Loveland Mine Park, plenty of parking at Mitchell School

### *Creek Flow Management Strategy*

- Work on a low flow plan that preserves fish habitat and reduces stress during times of low water and high temperatures.
- Regarding creek usage, consider "kayak only" times or days and tubing only times or days
- In a low flow year, better creek bank barriers need to be erected. The orange fence concept is a joke; better rip rap along the creek bank would be a plus. During kayak season all tubing should be eliminated. The kayakers want more improvements to the course, they should fund it

- Create a tubing concession run by a private entity for a fee, tubes can be rented (or own used) and company provides put –in, pull-out and tub transport from end of creek back to start. Example, Hot Lava Springs, Idaho.
- High Water Permit for use of the river during high water levels. Would provide funding for search and rescue through fines for rescues without permits.
- Kayakers can “play” in features as low as 50 CFS. Don’t limit kayakers as we don’t do much harm to fish and banks.
- Kayakers stay in the river flow without damage to the river banks.

### *Signage*

- Signs – Green is informational, Brown is more information, if you want direct (prohibit) use red

### *Enforcement*

- Penalties for multiple citations should go up dramatically, “up the ante”. Some people get the message with one citation. Some people require multiple citations with escalating fines.
- As someone who lives on 9<sup>th</sup> Street and wants to enjoy the Clear Creek as much as possible, please consider getting bigger and more trash cans. And enforcing litter regulations. I am amazed at the amount of garbage left along the river after Sat or Sunday in the summer. It’s gotten out of control; a few citations might inspire to pick up trash.
- Rangers (and/or volunteers) should spend time moving people along or asking people not to take the whole trail as they move up the creek. Kayakers are pretty good about this, but tubers seem to be less considerate (or may be just unconscious)
- Creek users need to carry ID for safety and citation enforcement. It’s going to take more than rangers (someone with more authority, it’s a tough crowd)
- Who will enforce parking limits, pet issues, drinking and littering? Do we have enough man power?
- As for rangers, how about using Mines or Jeffco Sheriffs that are off duty?
- Allow cans but no bottles

### *Preservation*

- Consider limiting “hardscape” stream bank stabilization to formal access points only. Adequate fencing and soil amendment may promote native vegetation regrowth even in seriously degraded areas.
- Of a major concern is the flow of people and the extreme damage to the bank and environmental areas.

### *Trail Use*

- Keep skateboarders off the Clear Creek Trail

- Bike dismount during peak hours only  
Bike path on South Side does not connect to Hwy 6 Trail
- Would bike/walk side alternate? This works well on Platte River Trail. I'd vote for this or widen path with dotted mid-line. Tubers make biking or walking with kids impossible. Our family is pro-bike. We use them as transportation. We live on 8<sup>th</sup> and Illinois. Need this access

### *Other*

- Admire the City for having consultants to establish need and workable solutions!
- Thank you for hiring competent people to come up with alternative solutions.
- Chair, would have led some detail and discussion points. The information was basically voting for or against existing ideas. Input seems to be limited other than writing on comment cards. The concentration of people into this area (9<sup>th</sup>) seems to be more encouraged by this development. Can't we move people away from our neighborhood and increase spending money in Golden?
- The information posted at this meeting was helpful but I'd appreciate a speaker with the overview. Do we have enough time to set up some of these programs?
- For the Management Strategies, there was no way to vote against any idea. There was no negative column. Either we fully support change or we are neutral? What if the committee presented a poorly constructed idea to the community? That was never even considered. While most of the ideas had merit, it sure felt like the deck was stacked!