



# **WESTMINSTER**

**COLORADO**

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAY 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

- D. Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property Agreement with Jefferson County Follow-Up



## Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – 6.D.

City Council Meeting  
May 12, 2025



### **Strategic Priority 3: Community Health and Safety**

Invest in innovative and collaborative approaches to provide a continuum of services that preserve, promote, and protect the health, safety, and environment of Westminster.

**Subject:** Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property Agreement with Jefferson County  
Follow-Up

**Prepared By:** Aric Otzelberger, Parks, Recreation and Libraries Director

### **Recommended City Council Action:**

This report is for information only and requires no action by City Council.

### **Summary Statement:**

- On March 17, 2025, City Council authorized the Mayor to execute the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property Agreement with Jefferson County.
- As part of this action, City Council directed Staff to work with Jefferson County to pursue environmental and community protections related to the existing regional social trails along the northern part of the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property. An informational Staff Report with an update on the method to do so was provided to City Council on April 14, 2025.
- At the April 21, 2025, Study Session, City Council discussed the proposed protections related to the existing social trails and directed Staff to not pursue any improvements to the existing social trails on the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property. The attached letter was delivered to Jefferson County declining the improvements pursuant to City Council's direction.
- Staff will engage stakeholders on draft alternatives for signage on the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property and will return to City Council for consideration and direction on signage at a future meeting.

### **Background Information:**

City Council, the Jefferson Board of County Commissioners, and the Jefferson County Open Space Board approved the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property Agreement (Agreement) to resolve a dispute related to the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property (Property). Per the Agreement, Jefferson County re-deeded the Property to the City with the original 2019 reverter language. In exchange, the City agreed to not block public access to the Indiana Street bridge that is adjacent to the Property. The City also agreed that the existing social trails will be allowed to remain on the Property, and the City paid its outstanding invoice.

As part of action on the Agreement, City Council directed Staff to work with Jefferson County to pursue environmental and community protections related to the existing social trails. Staff provided an update on April 14, 2025 Staff Report. The item was agendaized to be discussed at the April 21, 2025 Study Session and City Council directed Staff at that meeting not to pursue any improvements to the existing social trails on the Property.

The City provided a letter to Jefferson County to decline improvements to the existing social trails. The letter also confirmed commitments per the recent Agreement between the City of Westminster and Jefferson County (Attachment 1).

Proposed signage text and design for the area is under development. Staff will engage stakeholders to draft alternative text for signage on the Property. Staff will then return to City Council for consideration and direction on signage on the Property at a future meeting.

This item supports the City's Strategic Plan priority of Community Health and Safety by supporting the well-being of Westminster residents.

Respectfully submitted,



Jody L. Andrews  
City Manager

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 – Letter to Jefferson County Declining Trail Improvements (dated 4/29/2025)



April 29, 2025

Tom Hoby  
Director of Jefferson County Parks and Conservation  
700 Jefferson County Parkway  
Suite 100, Open Space Building  
Golden, CO 80401

Dear Tom:

Thank you for your collaborative efforts that resulted in the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property Agreement (Agreement). I sincerely appreciate your partnership. I also appreciate the offer to perform trail improvements in support of environmental and community protection on the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Property (Property).

Following up on our verbal confirmation and coordination between our staff teams and other intergovernmental partners, this letter confirms that the City of Westminster is declining any and all trail improvements on the Property per City Council direction provided at the Study Session on April 21, 2025.

Per the recently approved Agreement, the City understands and agrees that it will not block or attempt to block access to the Indiana Street Bridge or the Property.

Also pursuant to the Agreement, the City understands and agrees that the portion of the regional trail which connects to the Indiana Street Bridge will be allowed to remain on the Property. The City will not directly or indirectly, temporarily or permanently, restrict, remove, or block public access to the Indiana Street Bridge from any portion of the Regional Trail, except as may be required pursuant to state or federal wildlife laws and regulations.

As outlined in the Agreement, the City also understands that trails may be closed for maintenance for not more than seven days unless otherwise agreed to by Jefferson County and the City of Westminster.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Kindly,

Aric Otzelberger  
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries Director

cc: Joe Kerby, Jefferson County Manager  
Jody Andrews, Westminster City Manager  
Barbara Opie, Westminster Deputy City Manager