

February 9, 2009

Jeff Shoemaker
Executive Director
The Greenway Foundation
1040 South Gaylord Street, Suite 201
Denver, Colorado 80209

Dear Mr. Shoemaker:

On behalf of Douglas County, I am writing this letter in support of the South Platte River Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project effort. The project will create storage space for up to an additional 20,600 acre-feet of water in Chatfield Reservoir, which is owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colorado Water Conservancy Board serves as the local sponsor for the project.

The additional 20,600 acre-feet of water would be shared by upstream users, including South Metro Water Supply Authority, Centennial Water and Sanitation District, Town of Castle Rock, Mount Carbon Metropolitan District, Roxborough Metropolitan District, Castle Pines North Metropolitan District, Castle Pines Metropolitan District, Perry Park Country Club and Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District, and downstream users, including the City of Aurora, the City of Brighton, Colorado Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, Denver Botanic Gardens, Central Colorado Water Conservancy and Western Mutual Ditch Company.

In addition, the project's five instream partners – City and County of Denver, City of Littleton, Denver Water, The Greenway Foundation and Metro Wastewater, would potentially benefit from increased flows in the South Platte River resulting in environmental benefits to the South Platte. The downstream, upstream and instream users are jointly working together to achieve the goal of securing the much needed additional water storage at Chatfield.

The Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project will contribute to solving critical multi-use water supply needs in Colorado. This project enjoys broad support from municipal, agricultural and environmental interests, and would:

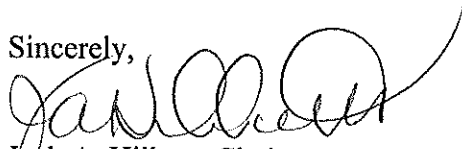
Jeff Shoemaker
The Greenway Foundation
February 9, 2009
Page 2

- Make use of an existing water storage facility
 - Not require construction of a new water storage facility
 - Allow water originating from snowmelt and stormwater runoff within the South Platte River Basin to be captured and stored in the Chatfield Reservoir
-
- Provide additional water for Northeast Colorado farmers to help meet critical irrigation needs
 - Help cities and special districts meet drinking water and other municipal needs both above and below Chatfield
 - Provide opportunities for environmental and recreational enhancements along the South Platte River in the 53-mile Denver urban river corridor from Chatfield Reservoir to below the Adams County-Weld County line

Douglas County is supportive of this project and the implementation of the mitigation measures needed to protect key recreational and environmental elements of Chatfield State Park.

Each of the upstream, instream and downstream groups and agencies involved in management and uses of the South Platte River have a stake in the success of the reallocation effort and are taking advantage of this once-in-a-generation opportunity to maximize the use of water and storage while improving the river and maintaining key assets in Chatfield State Park..

Sincerely,



Jack A. Hilbert, Chair
Board of Commissioners