



THE GREENWAY FOUNDATION

Planning, Funding, and Design • Environmental Education • Riverside Events • Youth Employment

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May 23, 2013

Mr. Mark Koleber, Metro Roundtable Chairman

Mr. Alan Hamel, Chairman of the Board
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: **SUPPORT FOR COLORADO WATER TRUST'S POUDRE RIVER PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Hamel and Mr. Koleber,

On behalf of the Greenway Foundation, I am writing in support of Colorado Water Trust's Water Supply Reserve Account grant requests of \$25,000 from Metro Basin fund, \$75,000 from South Platte Basin fund and \$200,000 from the Statewide Account. We appreciate the past support of the Greenway Foundation's projects in Denver by the members of the South Platte Basin Roundtable and we encourage the members of the Metro Basin Roundtable to support this important project in Fort Collins.

Like the Greenway Foundation, the Colorado Water Trust and City of Fort Collins propose to leverage WSRA funds with significant local matching funds from multiple sources for this project. This grant will be matched with \$1.1 million. Other partners are simultaneously implementing additional project elements at the site at a cost of \$7.2 Million. This is terrific leverage of State resources.

The WSRA funds will help implement an ambitious restoration of one half mile of the Poudre River including removal of the old Josh Ames check dam and diversion structure. The community of Fort Collins has many diverse interests all working together to find ways to turn replicate the sort of collaborative approach the Greenway Foundation has accomplished on the South Platte River. We applaud their efforts to work through multiple issues and address this working urban river as a whole in partnership with downtown businesses. This is the first step towards implementing the grand vision of connecting the people of Fort Collins with the Poudre River. The Greenway Foundation is confident the State of Colorado will reap the rewards of enhanced economic development that we have demonstrated follows restoration of an urban river corridor.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Shoemaker
Executive Director

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"A RIVER IS MORE THAN AN AMENITY, IT IS A TREASURE" - JUSTICE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

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