

July 31, 2014

Craig Godbout  
Program Manager  
Water Supply Planning Section  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80203

RE: *8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 20<sup>th</sup> Street In-River, Recreation and Environmental Improvements and Floodplain Mitigation, Denver* WSRA application

Dear Mr. Godbout:

The Metro Roundtable (MRT) has determined that undertaking the *8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 20<sup>th</sup> Street In-River, Recreation and Environmental Improvements and Floodplain Mitigation, Denver* design plan is an important element in addressing the state's non-consumptive needs and addressing urgent flood mitigation issues in this reach of the South Platte River.

The *8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 20<sup>th</sup> Street In-River, Recreation and Environmental Improvements and Floodplain Mitigation, Denver* proposal submitted by The Greenway Foundation will undertake 60 percent design of multi-objective river access, recreational enhancements and environmental and habitat improvements included in the River North (RINO) and River South (RISO) Greenway master plans and the subsequent (adopted) South Platte River Vision Implementation Plan (SPRVIP) and Confluence Park plan for the South Platte River corridor in Denver. If approved, this Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) grant will answer needs identified in the Metro Basin Needs Assessment Report (March 2011) by addressing non-consumptive needs, specifically targeting habitat restoration, recreation and floodplain mitigation. This water activity will progress design of the mitigation of a floodplain problem that impacts the area from the I-25 bridge across the South Platte River near Mile High Stadium downstream to 20th Street as presented in the 2014 McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group South Platte River Floodplain memoranda. It will address extensive deposition of sediment in the one-mile reach upstream of Confluence Park that contributes to an increase in the 100-year floodplain limits when compared to the 2012 LOMR. New information places student housing at Auraria Higher Education Center and Pepsi Center in the floodplain.

At the July 14, 2014 MRT meeting, a motion was made, seconded and adopted to provide \$150,000 of support from the Metro Basin WSRA funds. The motion also endorsed The Greenway Foundation's request for Statewide funds in the amount of \$300,000. There was a quorum present at the July meeting and the vote was unanimous in favor of the funding request.

Sincerely yours,



Mark Koleber  
Chair  
Metro Roundtable