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October 30, 2015

Ms. Dianne Hoppe, Chair, Colorado Water Conservation Board

Mr. Joe Frank, Chair, South Platte Basin Roundtable

1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721

Denver, CO 80203

RE: **SUPPORT FOR FORT COLLIN'S POUFRE RIVER DOWNTOWN PROJECT**

Dear Ms. Hoppe and Mr. Frank,

On behalf of the Greenway Foundation, I am writing in support of the City of Fort Collins' Water Supply Reserve Account grant requests of \$50,000 from South Platte Basin fund and \$250,000 from the Statewide Account.

Like the Greenway Foundation's projects along the the South Platte River watershed in the metro Denver area, the Poudre River Downtown Project proposed by the City of Fort Collins will leverage WSRA funds with significant local matching funds from multiple sources for this project. This grant will be matched with \$8.2 million in public and private funds and will spur economic development surrounding the Poudre River in downtown Fort Collins.

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 throughout its four decade tenure. We applaud Fort Collins' efforts to work through multiple issues and ensure the Poudre is a healthy working river for generations to come. Following the successful Josh Ames diversion removal project in 2013, this is the second major step towards implementing the grand vision illustrated in their Poudre River Downtown Master Plan 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

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

The Greenway Foundation is supported in part by a gift from the Estate of Robert V. and Billie Mae Behrent.

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TROUT UNLIMITED Chapter 010
www.rockymtnflycasters.org

October 19, 2015

Ms. Dianne Hoppe, Colorado Water Conservation Board
Mr. Joe Frank, South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: SUPPORT FOR WSRA GRANT FUNDS OF \$300,000 FOR CACHE LA
POUDRE RIVER DOWNTOWN PROJECT, REACH 3

Dear Members of the South Platte Basin Roundtable,

I am writing in support of the Cache la Poudre River Downtown project on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Flycaster's Chapter of Colorado Trout Unlimited, based in Fort Collins. Our TU Chapter is in support of the Fort Collins' grant request of \$300,000 to fund a portion of the \$8.5 million Poudre River Downtown project between College Avenue and the BSNF Rail Road. This project will remove the Coy Diversion which is a barrier to fish migration and also backs up flood flows that overtop College Avenue during major flood events. The project will also improve access to the river for pedestrians, anglers and whitewater enthusiasts. The project includes whitewater wave features which are being paid for by private donations.

We understand the City is working with S2O Engineers to design the whitewater features. The S2O engineers are working closely with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to ensure the design supports their aquatic and terrestrial habitat goals through this reach of the Cache la Poudre River.

We applaud the ambitious vision of the City of Fort Collins to restore connectivity and aquatic habitat throughout the Poudre River corridor across the breadth of the city. This project is a major step towards implementing a multi-purpose project that will improve recreational fishing experiences in the heart of the City for future generations of Coloradoans.

Sincerely,

Wil Huett, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter, Colorado Trout Unlimited

cc CarolineBradford@wildblue.net



TROUT UNLIMITED's MISSION
To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.
645 Whedbee St, Ft Collins, CO 80524

