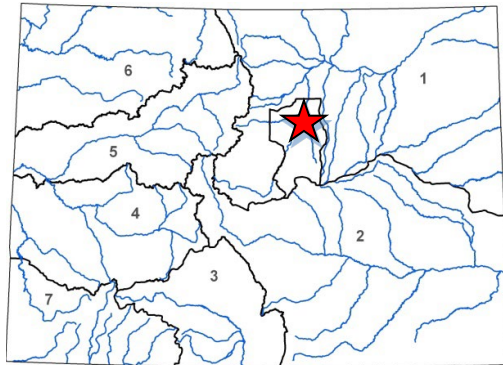




September 2023 Board Meeting

## Water Plan Grant Application



### LOCATION

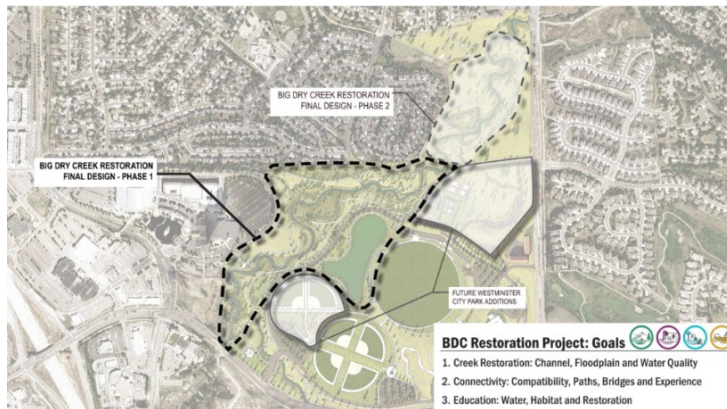
County: Jefferson

Drainage Basin: Metro

### DETAILS

Total Project Cost:	\$1,300,000.00
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$650,000.00
Recommended amount:	\$650,000.00
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$325,000.00
Applicant Match:	\$325,000.00
Project Type:	Construction/Implementation
Project Category:	Watershed Health & Recreation
Measurable Results:	4,958ft of stream restored or protected; 26 acres of restored or preserved habitat; removes excess sediment contribution from erosion in Big Dry Creek

The City of Westminster is requesting funding to restore Big Dry Creek through Westminster City Park in Westminster, Colorado, specifically, for native planting, seeding, and in-channel structures. The need for the project was identified in the 2007 City of Westminster Storm Drainage Study, the 2012 Major Drainageway Plan conceptual Design Report, and the 2018 City of Westminster Drainageway Study. Big Dry Creek through Westminster City Park is characterized by high, vertical cut banks. The channel was straightened in the past during the construction of City Park and some meanders have naturally cut off since the construction of the park. The City of Westminster evaluated the entire reach between 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard and focused the design on a 0.9-mile reach.



The overall project goals include stabilizing the channel; reestablishing channel sinuosity; improving water quality, habitat, and ecological value of the reach; improving the trail system through Westminster City Park and its connectivity to the creek; and providing educational opportunities for nature and the elements of the project. Project goals will be met by realigning the channel to reclaim area and sinuosity previously lost to a water quality pond, constructing vegetated benches to support wetlands vegetation, constructing water quality

ponds, reconnecting the floodplain to the channel, adding trails, pedestrian crossings, constructing a boardwalk to connect the community to the creek, and incorporating educational spaces. Revegetation efforts will include a focus on establishing and improving a pollinator corridor through the project reach. Improving habitat for known wildlife, such as turtles, will be incorporated in the project. The project will enhance recreational experience for the park and regional trail users. Vegetation and water quality monitoring will be a critical task and measure project success.

The overall Phase 1 restoration effort is expected to cost \$13.6M. The applicant is only seeking funding for a portion of Phase 1. The applicant has secured the appropriate match funding from Mile High Flood District.

**Funding Recommendation:** This project is recommended for full funding of the \$650,000.00 requested.



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**Water Plan**

**Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Westminster, City of
Name of Water Project	Big Dry Creek Channel Restoration-Phase 1
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$650,000.00</b>
Primary Category	\$650,000.00
<i>Watershed Health &amp; Recreation</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$325,000.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$325,000.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$325,000.00</b>
<i>Mile High Flood District</i>	\$325,000.00
Total Project Cost	<b>\$1,300,000.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Westminster, City of  
Mailing Address: 6575 West 88th Avenue, Annex Westminster CO 80031  
FEIN: 846,000,726

Organization Contact: Andrew Hawthorn  
Position/Title: Stormwater Utility Administrator Email: ahawthor@cityofwestminster.us  
Phone: 303.658.2428

Organization Contact - Alternate: Heather Otterstetter  
Position/Title: Senior Engineer/Floodplain Manager Email: hotterst@cityofwestminster.us  
Phone: 3036582370

Grant Management Contact: Andrew Hawthorn  
Position/Title: Stormwater Utility Administrator Email: ahawthor@cityofwestminster.us  
Phone: 303.658.2428

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Heather Otterstetter  
Position/Title: Senior Engineer/Floodplain Manager Email: hotterst@cityofwestminster.us  
Phone: 3036582370

**Description of Grantee/Applicant**

No description provided

**Type of Eligible Entity**

- ☒ Public (Government)  
☐ Public (District)  
☐ Public (Municipality)  
☐

- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☐ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

### Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects  
*Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.*
- ☐ Conservation & Land Use Planning  
*Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.*
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities  
*Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.*
- ☒ Watershed Restoration & Recreation  
*Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.*
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply  
*Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.*

### Location of Water Project

Latitude	38.891206
Longitude	-105.061667
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	Big Dry Creek
Basins	Metro
Counties	Jefferson
Districts	2-South Platte: Denver Gage to Greeley

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type

Type of Water Project                      Construction / Implementation

Scheduled Start Date - Design

Scheduled Start Date - Construction                      1/1/2024

Description

The project entails restoring Big Dry Creek through Westminster City Park. The need for the project was identified in a 2007 City of Westminster Storm Drainage Study, a 2012 Major Drainageway Plan conceptual Design Report, and a 2018 City of Westminster Drainageway Study. Big Dry Creek in the project reach is characterized by high, vertical cut banks that are actively eroding. The City of Westminster evaluated the entire reach between 104th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard and focused the design on a 0.9-mile reach, termed Phase 1.

The project goals include stabilizing the channel, reestablishing channel sinuosity, improving water quality and

habitat, and improving the trail system through Westminster City Park. The project goals will be met by realigning the channel to reclaim the area with the water quality pond, constructing vegetated benches to support wetlands vegetation, constructing water quality ponds, reconnecting the floodplain, adding trails, crossings, and a boardwalk to connect the community to the creek, and incorporating education spaces. Revegetation will include plantings that support pollinators to create a “pollinator highway” through the park.

Where the channel will be realigned, a multistage channel section will be established to support a variety of vegetation zones. Riffles and pools will be incorporated in the proposed reach, for grade control and bed form diversity.

### Measurable Results

	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
4,958	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
26	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
100,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
	Removes excess sediment contribution due to erosion from Big Dry Creek

### Water Project Justification

The project will improve watershed health and habitat in the Big Dry Creek project reach. The project meets the following goals from the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) and South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (BIP):

- Thriving Watersheds (CWP) and Protect and Enhance Watershed Function (BIP): The project will improve the water quality and function by reconnecting the floodplain, creating riffles and pools to improve habitat and natural stream function, laying back and vegetating vertical cut banks to reduce erosion and create habitat, improving riparian habitat, and restoring and enhancing native vegetation.
- Vibrant Communities (CWP) and Protect and Enhance Recreational Attributes, Maintain and Promote Reuse, and Broaden South Platte Communications, Outreach and Education Programs (BIP): The project includes trails that will provide increased connectivity to the creek along with classroom/outdoor education spaces that offer platforms for nature and climate education; a demonstration garden will highlight native species and planting design that encourages water-wise choices that also create habitat.
- Resilient Planning (CWP) and Protect and Enhance Environmental Attributes (BIP): Climate education and nature play are put center-stage, climate resilience and habitat restoration are celebrated in the design, reconnecting the floodplain and incorporating vegetated benches. Riffle pool bed form diversity will allow the creek to adapt and respond to storm events without the further degradation of vertical banks.
- Robust Agriculture (CWP) and Maintain and Promote Reuse (BIP): The existing reclaimed water pond in City Park will be modified to meet State of Colorado requirements and promotes the reuse of water, preserving additional water for agricultural uses. The Westin Pond, which provides water quality and detention, has a permanent water surface without a water right. It will be removed and replaced with a vegetated pond that will no longer store water and will provide better water quality treatment.

#### Related Studies

City of Westminster 2018 Drainageway Study; April 17, 2019; Enginuity Engineering Solutions.  
Big Dry Creek Major Drainageway Plan Conceptual Design Report; March 2012; Wright Water Engineers.  
2007 City of Westminster Storm Drainage Study; 2007; Muller Engineering.

#### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

None