



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**Water Plan**

**Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Frisco, Town of
Name of Water Project	Town of Frisco Water Rate and Connection Fee Study
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
Primary Category	\$50,000.00
<i>Conservation &amp; Land Use Planning</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$65,170.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$65,170.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$0.00</b>
Total Project Cost	<b>\$115,170.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Frisco, Town of  
Mailing Address: PO Box 4100 Frisco CO 80443

Organization Contact: Christopher McGinnis  
Position/Title: Public Works Director/Town Engineer      Email: chrism@townoffrisco.com  
Phone: (970) 216-9659

Organization Contact - Alternate: Ryan Thompson  
Position/Title: Water Superintendent      Email: ryant@townoffrisco.com  
Phone:

Grant Management Contact: Christopher McGinnis  
Position/Title: Public Works Director/Town Engineer      Email: chrism@townoffrisco.com  
Phone: (970) 216-9659

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Ryan Thompson  
Position/Title: Water Superintendent      Email: ryant@townoffrisco.com  
Phone:

**Description of Grantee/Applicant**

Utility - Water utility associated with a municipal government

**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	39.575933
Longitude	-106.095821
Lat Long Flag	Municipal centroid: Coordinates based on centroid of municipal boundary
Water Source	The Town's current municipal water sources are surface water from North Ten Mile Creek, as well as three municipal groundwater wells located within the Frisco Town Boundaries.
Basins	Colorado
Counties	Summit
Districts	36-Blue River Basin

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Planning
Scheduled Start Date - Design	4/1/2025
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	

Description

The Town of Frisco seeks to develop a comprehensive Water Rate and Connection Fee Study to address critical water management goals. This study will establish a sustainable and equitable rate structure that:

1. Promotes Water Conservation: By incentivizing efficient water use through tiered and conservation-focused rates, aligning with Colorado's Water Plan and the Upper Colorado Basin Implementation Plan's conservation objectives.
2. Supports PFAS Mitigation: Rates will reflect the cost of addressing PFAS contamination, ensuring public health and compliance with regulatory standards per Colorado's Water Plan and CDPHE requirements.
3. Ensures Sustainable Water Resource Management: Revenue generated will aid in maintaining existing

infrastructure, acquiring water rights, and planning for future water demands, including large-scale projects like the Lake Hill workforce housing development.

The study will eventually integrate into a larger Water Master Plan encompassing a Water Resources Assessment and the forthcoming Water System Materials Condition Inventory. This alignment ensures comprehensive infrastructure planning and resiliency under changing climate and population conditions, per goals listed in Colorado's Water Plan.

This initiative will also include robust community engagement, supporting the Education Action Plan of the Colorado Water Plan to empower informed decision-making by residents and stakeholders.

The Town of Frisco has not completed a formal consultant-led water rate study before. Recently, a request for proposals was advertised for the project. The Town plans to wait to award the contract until grant award decisions are announced. A grant award would allow the Town to contract with an expert in water rates and financial models in order to optimize our water rates and financials and be more proactive further into the future in order to ensure the continuation of a safe water supply, expansion of the water system to meet workforce housing development goals, mitigate PFAS and other contaminants in the water supply, promote water conservation, and build a foundation for a greater water master plan to serve as a guiding document for the Town's water system.

### 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)  
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)  
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  
Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

#### Other

The Water Rate Study will deliver the following key outcomes:

1. Enhanced Water Conservation: Development of a tiered rate structure that incentivizes efficient water use, reducing overall consumption and supporting sustainable water resource management.
2. PFAS Mitigation Funding: Implementation of rates that account for PFAS mitigation costs, ensuring long-term water quality and regulatory compliance.
3. Sustainable Financial Planning: Establishment of equitable and robust revenue models to fund ongoing operations, infrastructure maintenance, and future water resource acquisitions.
4. Integration into a Comprehensive Master Plan: Incorporation of the study's findings into the Town's Water Master Plan, aligning with the Materials Condition Inventory and future infrastructure and resource planning.
5. Support for Community Growth: Rate structures will address the needs of future developments, such as the Lake Hill workforce housing project, while maintaining system sustainability. The Town of Frisco faces major affordable housing issues which are being addressed by many other plans and studies. The rate study will analyze rates to allow for the community growth, as well as analyzing the possibility of different rates for

workforce housing developments.

6. Community Engagement and Education: A transparent process with stakeholder input, empowering the public to make informed water use decisions, aligning with state education and outreach goals.

These outcomes will position Frisco as a leader in water resource sustainability, aligning with Colorado's Water Plan and ensuring resilience amidst environmental and population challenges.

### Water Project Justification

This project aligns with Colorado's Water Plan by addressing key goals, needs, and themes critical to sustainable water management, conservation, and public engagement. More specifically, it addresses goals of the following Colorado BIP themes listed in Section 4 of the Colorado BIP:

#### 1. Secure safe drinking water

Within the "secure safe drinking water" theme, the following goals are being addressed by the project:

- Secure water supplies to meet growing demand by developing and preserving in-basin supplies and expanding raw water storage supply.
- Raise awareness of current obstacles and efforts facing water providers, such as limited supply, degraded water quality, aging infrastructure, and funding.
- Protect drinking water supplies from natural impacts such as extended droughts, forest fires, and climate change.
- Ensure the ability to provide safe drinking water.

The proposed water rate study will analyze growing demand, proposed development, risks to the water supply, and then establish water rates adequate to address these challenges and ensure continued safe drinking water.

#### 2. Develop local water conscious land use strategies

The following goals are being addressed by the project:

- Build a culture of water conservation with the development community
- Encourage local authorities to implement conservation and growth strategies
- Recognize the shortage and limits of water supply and establish achievable and meaningful water conservation goals.

The water rate study will prioritize tiered rates which will encourage water conservation, as well as analyzing future development and existing water resources to recommend rates and other financial changes to encourage conservation and water conscious use.

#### 3. Encourage a high level of basinwide conservation

The following goals are being addressed by the project:

- Education and Outreach
- Voluntary and/or mandatory outdoor watering restrictions
- Integrating conservation land use planning and regulations
- Adopting best management land use practices for outside irrigation
- Adopting plans that require more xeriscaping.

The water rate study will accomplish many of the goals above by analyzing rates and methods to encourage reduced water use. The rate study will also include educational and outreach components. Additionally, the Town of Frisco is also currently completing a water inventory assessment and comprehensive plan. Both of these plans are considered beginning steps towards a Town of Frisco Water Master Plan which will further all of the above goals.

### Related Studies

The project complements several other Town studies, including the Town's water system condition assessment (currently being completed), Town's comprehensive plan (currently being completed), and Frisco Water Efficiency Plan (2018). The rate study will incorporate many items from these previous studies to create new rates and measures. Additionally, the Town plans to create a Water Master Plan in the future, and many of these studies plan to be incorporated into a future master plan.

#### **Taxpayer Bill of Rights**

No TABOR issues known not expected to affect grant money eligibility.