



November 19, 2015

Dear Saint Vrain Creek Coalition:

On behalf of the Access Fund we are writing a letter to show our support for SVCC's "Watershed Assessment of Recreational Use and Planning" planning grant application.

The purpose of the Planning Study is to provide a comprehensive analysis of current and projected recreational use and infrastructure throughout the Saint Vrain Creek Watershed. It will evaluate all types of recreational use related to and adjacent to the creek (e.g., trails, angling, boating, parks, climbing, nature preserves). The Study will also evaluate alternatives to improve existing recreational infrastructure and/or create new resilient infrastructure that reduces hazards to life and property, and meets community demand for recreational connectivity to the creek. Existing recreational plans developed by local municipalities will be incorporated into the Study.

It is our understanding that funds for this planning grant are being awarded through Colorado's Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program.

The Access Fund is a national advocacy organization whose mission keeps climbing areas open and conserves the climbing environment. A 501(c)(3) non-profit supporting and representing millions of climbers nationwide in all forms of climbing-rock climbing, ice climbing, mountaineering, and bouldering- the Access Fund is the largest US climbing advocacy organization with over 11,000 members and 100 affiliates. The Access Fund provides climbing management expertise, stewardship, policy and educational outreach.

A significant number of the Access Fund members live and climb in Colorado, particularly in the Front Range and Boulder Canyon. There are approximately 82 different climbing areas within the Boulder Canyon corridor, containing over 1,300 climbs. The exploding popularity of rock climbing has led to a growing demand on the climbing area, and an increased use of access trails on fragile steep slopes leading to a potential for increased erosion. Erosion can cause access issues as well as impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat in Boulder Creek. A comprehensive analysis of the Saint Vrain Creek Watershed would greatly help us improve existing recreational infrastructure throughout Boulder Canyon.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brady Robin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.