

A
RESOLUTION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
WITH THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE
REGARDING 2024 GRANT OF ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACE PROGRAM FUNDS
FOR QUINCY FARM POND HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, C.R.S. Section 29-1-203 authorizes governments to cooperate or contract with one another to provide any function, service, or facility; and

WHEREAS, Section 13.6 of the City of Cherry Hills Village Home Rule Charter authorizes the City Council, by resolution or by ordinance, to enter into contracts or agreements with other governmental units or special districts for receiving services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cherry Hills Village ("City") applied for a competitive grant from Arapahoe County Open Space to provide a portion of the necessary funding for habitat improvements at the pond at Quincy Farm ("Project") in the amount of Two Hundred Forty One Thousand Eighty-eight Dollars and No Cents (\$241,088.00) ("Application"); and

WHEREAS, the Open Space, Trails, and Advisory Board and the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners ("BOCC") approved the Application for the entire amount requested; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC approved the Application subject to the City executing an intergovernmental agreement ("IGA") to memorialize the terms of the grant and to facilitate the completion of the Project, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Attachment A**; and

WHEREAS, the City has committed Ninety Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$90,000.00) in matching funds for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to accept the grant, approve the IGA, and authorize the Mayor to execute the IGA on behalf of the City.

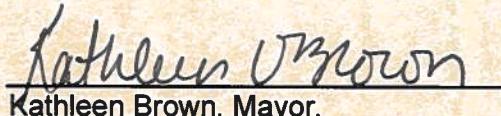
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado that:

Section 1. The City Council hereby: (a) accepts the grant and approves the IGA with the Board of Commissioners of the County of Arapahoe in substantially the same form as attached hereto as **Attachment A**; and (b) authorizes the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute the IGA on behalf of the City.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Introduced, passed and adopted at the regular meeting of City Council this 6th day of August, 2024, by a vote of 6 yes 0 no.

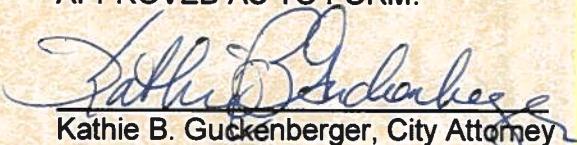
(SEAL)


Kathleen Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laura Gillespie, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Kathie B. Guckenberger, City Attorney

Attachment A

**Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of the County of
Arapahoe Regarding 2024 Grant of Arapahoe County Open Space Programs Funds**

Project Name: Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT REGARDING
2024 GRANT OF ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACE PROGRAM FUNDS
PROJECT NAME: QUINCY FARM POND HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS**

This Intergovernmental Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between **THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE, STATE OF COLORADO** (“County”), and the **CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE**, a municipality and political subdivision of the State of Colorado (“Grantee”) (collectively “Parties” and individually a “Party”).

RECITALS

- A. On November 2, 2021, the voters of the County permanently reauthorized, until repeal, a countywide sales and use tax to be deposited in the County Open Space Fund and used for specified open space purposes as set forth in County Resolution No. 21-263 (“Open Space Resolution”).
- B. The Open Space Resolution authorizes the County to award discretionary grants from its Open Space Fund to municipalities and special districts, as more fully set forth in the Open Space Resolution.
- C. On July 23, 2024, the County approved by resolution the Grantee’s grant proposal for the Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements (“Grant Project”), which is attached as Exhibit A, subject to the execution of an intergovernmental agreement.
- D. This Agreement is authorized by Article XIV, Section 18 of the Colorado Constitution and C.R.S. § 29-1-203.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, the County and the Grantee agree as follows:

1. Amount of Grant. The County awards Grantee an amount not to exceed \$241,088 (“Grant Funds”) for the Grant Project from the County Open Space Fund.
2. Use of Grant Funds. The Grantee agrees that it shall only use the Grant Funds for the Grant Project as described in Exhibit A.
3. Disbursement of Grant Funds. The County shall pay the Grant Funds via ACH transfer to the Grantee on a reimbursement basis upon receipt of the approved status report and documentation of expenditures as required by this Agreement and no more often than bi-annually. No more than 75% of the Grant Funds will be reimbursed prior to the final report approval. The final 25% of Grant Funds will be reimbursed following the Grant Project inspection and review and approval of the final report and Grant Project deliverables.

4. Time for Use of Grant Funds. The Grantee agrees that the Grant Project must begin within 60 days of the grant award notification. The Grantee agrees that the Grant Project will be completed and the Grant Funds will be expended no later than two years from the Effective Date, unless the County agrees in writing to a longer period of time. The Grantee understands and agrees that, if the Grant Project cannot be completed within the two-year period or by the end of the agreed-upon extension, the County may require that the Grant Funds be refunded to the County Open Space Fund, be re-distributed to another agency, and/or be used for another viable and timely project.
5. Interest on Grant Funds. The Grantee further agrees that, after receipt of the Grant Funds, the Grantee will use any interest earned on the Grant Funds only for the Grant Project.
6. Administration of Grant Project. The Grantee shall be responsible for the direct supervision and administration of the Grant Project. The County shall not be liable or responsible for any cost overruns on the Grant Project, nor shall the County have any duty or obligation to provide any additional funding for the Grant Project if the Grant Project cannot be completed with the awarded Grant Funds. Grantee also agrees to comply with all local, state, and federal requirements while completing the Grant Project unless specifically waived.
7. Grant Project Site Visits. Upon 24 hours' written notice to the Grantee, the Grantee agrees to allow the County to make site visits before, during, at the completion of, and/or after the Grant Project.
8. Acknowledgement of County by Grantee. The Grantee agrees to acknowledge the County as a contributor to the Grant Project in all publications, on-site construction signage, news releases, and other publicity issued by the Grantee related to the Grant Project and agrees to allow the County to do the same. If any events are planned in regard to the Grant Project, the County shall be acknowledged as a contributor in the invitation to such events. Grantee shall cooperate with the County in preparing public information pieces, providing photos of the Grant Project from time to time, and providing access to the Grant Project for publicity purposes. Event information, event materials, and press release information related to the Grant Project must be sent to the County Grants Program Administrator for review and filing.
9. Required Sign at Grant Project Site. The County agrees to provide a standard sign for the Grant Project. Grantee agrees to erect and permanently maintain at least one County sign in a publicly visible area in recognition of the grant from the Arapahoe County Open Space Program. If the Grantee wishes to use its own sign and design, the Grantee must submit the sign location, design, and wording to the County Grants Program Administrator for approval prior to manufacture and/or installation of such sign. Such sign shall be erected prior to the completion of the Grant Project or its public opening, whichever is earlier.
10. Report Requirements. On or before January 31 and July 31 annually, the Grantee agrees to provide the County with Grant Project Progress Reports that conform to the format provided by the County. Each Grant Project Progress Report shall include supporting financial documentation as requested in the form provided. Upon completion of the Grant

Project, the Grantee also agrees to submit to the County a Final Report that conforms to the format provided by the County; a final spreadsheet comparing the original budget to actual expenses that certifies Grant Funds used in compliance with the Open Space Resolution; supporting financial documentation as requested in the County report form; and high-resolution photographs of the progress and finished results of the Grant Project. The Final Report shall be submitted within three months of Grant Project completion unless the County agrees in writing to a longer period of time. The County shall be allowed to use information and images from these reports in publications, public information updates, and on the County's website.

11. Failure to Submit Required Reports. Upon written notice from the County's Open Space Grants Program Administrator informing the Grantee that it has failed to submit any required status report and/or final report, the Grantee shall submit such reports to the County's Open Space Grants Program Administrator within 30 days, and, if it fails to do so, the Grantee shall be deemed to be in violation of this Agreement.
12. Record-Keeping Requirements. The Grantee shall maintain a complete set of books and records documenting its use of the Grant Funds and its supervision and administration of the Grant Project. The County or any of its duly authorized representatives shall have reasonable access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Grantee that are pertinent to the Grant Project for the purpose of making an audit, examination, or excerpts. The Grantee shall keep all books, documents, papers, and records pertinent to the Grant Project for a minimum of three years from the Grant Project completion date. The Grantee agrees to report to the County any unexpended Grant Funds and consult with the County concerning proper accounting for unexpended Grant Funds.
13. Changes to Grant Project. The Grantee agrees and understands that its Grant Project, once it has been approved by the County, may not be changed without the County's prior written approval. Proposed changes must be formally requested using the applicable Grant Project Modification Form provided by the County. Changes may not begin until the County has issued a written approval, which may also require the execution of an amendment to this Agreement.
14. Maintenance. Grantee agrees to assume responsibility for continuous maintenance and public safety of open space lands, trails, recreation facilities, amenities, signage, and other projects funded by the Grant Funds for the useful life of the Grant Project, or a minimum of 10 years, in accordance with product warranties and/or the generally accepted standards in the parks/recreation community.
15. Change in Use. If Grantee wishes to dispose of or sell the property purchased with the Grant Funds or if the Grantee intends to use the Grant Project or property purchased with the Grant Funds for purposes other than the purposes specified in Exhibit A, Grantee shall provide written notice to the County. Grantee shall obtain the County's written consent prior to proceeding with such disposition, sale, or change in use. The County, in its sole discretion, may require Grantee to make a proportionate refund to the County based on the

value of the Grant Project or of the property purchased with the Grant Funds at the time of disposition, sale, or change in use.

16. Failure to Comply and Reimbursement of Grant Funds. The Grantee understands and agrees that the County may require the Grantee to reimburse the County if any portion of the Grant Funds is not used in accordance with its approved grant proposal and this Agreement. Failure to comply with this Agreement shall result in default, and the Grantee shall be ineligible for any future grants until the violation is remedied or after such other time period as determined by the County in its sole discretion.
17. Remedies. The rights and remedies of the County as set forth in this Agreement shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights or remedies provided by law.
18. No Waiver of Rights. A waiver by either Party of the breach of any term or provision of this Agreement shall not operate or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach by either Party.
19. Relationship of the Parties. The Grantee shall perform all duties and obligations under this Agreement as an independent contractor and shall not be deemed by virtue of this Agreement to have entered into any partnership, joint venture, employer/employee, or other relationship with the County.
20. No Third-Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Agreement shall give or allow any claim or right of action whatsoever by any third party, including, but not limited to, any agents or contractors of the Grantee.
21. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any portion or previous version of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other portion or provision. Any invalid or unenforceable portion or provision shall be deemed severed from this Agreement and, in such event, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to replace such invalidated provision in order to carry out the intent of the Parties in entering into this Agreement.
22. Written Amendment Required. This Agreement may be amended, modified, or changed, in whole or in part, only by written agreement duly authorized and executed by the Parties.
23. Venue. Venue for any legal action arising out of this Agreement shall be in Arapahoe County District Court, pursuant to the appropriate rules of civil procedure.
24. Notices. Notices under this Agreement shall be sent to:

COUNTY: Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County
 5334 South Prince Street
 Littleton, CO 80120-1136
 and
 Arapahoe County Attorney

5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120-1136

and

Arapahoe County Open Spaces Grants Program Administrator
6934 S. Lima St., Unit A
Centennial, CO 80112

GRANTEE: City of Cherry Hills Village
2450 E. Quincy Avenue
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

25. Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado.
26. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together will constitute one and the same agreement.
27. Incorporation of Exhibits. Unless otherwise stated in this Agreement, any exhibits, applications, resolutions, or other documents referenced in this Agreement shall be incorporated by reference into this Agreement for all purposes. In the event of any conflicts between this Agreement and any attached documents, this Agreement shall control.
28. Section Headings. The headings for any section of this Agreement are only for the convenience and reference of the Parties and are not intended in any way to define, limit, or describe the scope or intent of this Agreement.
29. Assignment. The rights, or any parts of this Agreement, granted to the Parties in this Agreement may be assigned only with the prior written consent of the non-assigning Party.
30. Extent of Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the Parties related to the Grant Project. The Parties agree that there have been no representations made regarding the subject matter of this Agreement other than those, if any, contained in this Agreement, and the various promises and covenants contained in this Agreement are mutually agreed upon and are in consideration of one another.
31. Signatures. The signatories to this Agreement represent that they are fully authorized to execute this Agreement and bind their respective entities.
32. Effective Date. This Agreement will become effective on the date of the Grantee's signature ("Effective Date").

Signature pages follow

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County and the Grantee have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE
STATE OF COLORADO

By: _____
Margina Pingenot, Director, Open Spaces
Pursuant to Resolution No. 24-077

EXHIBIT A

Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements

2024 Standard and Small Grant Application

City of Cherry Hills Village

Emily Black

eblack@cherryhillsvillage.com

Application Form

Application Summary

Primary Contact Information*

Please provide information for the primary contact for this project in the following format.

Agency:

Name:

Title:

Telephone:

Email:

Agency: City of Cherry Hills Village

Name: Emily Black

Title: Parks Project & Operations Manager

Telephone: (303) 783-2742

Email: eblack@cherryhillsvillage.com

Grant Category*

Select One:

- **Standard Grant:** \$150,001 - \$600,000, requiring a minimum of 25% total project cost cash match
- **Small Grant:** \$1,000 - \$150,000, requiring a minimum of 10% total project cost cash match

Standard Grant

Project Type*

Select One:

- **Trail Project:** Trail/trailhead construction or improvement, including stream/road crossings and trailhead amenities (such as parking or shelters); on-street trails and sidepaths for the purposes of (a) connecting an isolated neighborhood or activity center to a park, trail, open space, or school, and (b) connecting to a trail system included in a regional, County, or special district planning document
- **Site Improvement Project:** New construction, improvement, repair, or replacement of outdoor recreation facilities or amenities (such as playgrounds, shelters, sports fields, restrooms, or interior trail connections)
- **Environmental/Cultural Education Project:** Eligible projects include outreach materials (such as printed materials, video, or displays), installations (such as signage), or associated outdoor amenities (such as shelters or native landscaping)
- **Acquisition Project:** Eligible projects include fee simple acquisition of land for public open space, parks, or trails; or acquisition of a trail or conservation easement. *Additional application materials are required. Contact grants program staff to discuss projects in advance.*
- **Other Project:** Other allowable projects include stream/habitat restoration, natural re-vegetation, and water quality improvement. *Contact grants program staff to discuss projects in advance.*

Other Project (consult with Grants Program staff before selecting this project type)

Project Title*

Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements

Project Address*

4400 E. Quincy Ave., Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

Project Location*

Select a Jurisdiction or Unincorporated Arapahoe County:

Cherry Hills Village

GPS Coordinates (Latitude in Decimal Degrees)

Example: 39.5773033 (Dove Valley Regional Park)

39

GPS Coordinates (Longitude in Decimal Degrees)

Example: -104.828850 (Dove Valley Regional Park)

-104

Grant Request Amount*

\$241,088.04

Cash Match Amount*

\$90,000.00

Total Project Amount*

Total project amount includes grant request and cash match only. Please do not include in-kind match.

\$331,088.04

Cash Match Percentage*

Calculate cash match as % of total project cost.

27

Project Partners

List partner agencies if applicable.

[Unanswered]

Executive Summary*

Provide a brief summary highlighting key points of your proposal, such as project description, goals, need, partnerships, etc.

Quincy Farm is a historic farm property located in the heart of Cherry Hills Village. The National Register of Historic Places lists it as "a rare agricultural complex that has all but disappeared from urban Arapahoe County". Its 17.55 acres provide an example of early farm life dating from the 1890's. In 2007, Quincy Farm was preserved as a public open space when owner Catherine ("Cat") H. Anderson placed a Conservation Easement on the property. She then donated it to Cherry Hills Village subject to a Life Estate. Cat passed away in June 2016, and ownership of Quincy Farm transferred to the City of Cherry Hills Village.

The property features historic houses, barns and other farm buildings, mature trees, gardens, and pastures. The High Line Canal bisects the farm, adding to its historic significance. Directly adjacent to the Canal trail is a man-made pond that provides important wildlife habitat in an increasingly urban area. The pond has filled with sediment over the years and become very shallow. When the City began managing the Farm in 2016, the pond was suffering from extreme algae blooms. For the past few years, the City has contracted with an ecological consultant to improve the pond's health. This contractor visits March-November and provides treatments with algaecide and beneficial bacteria. This has provided some relief, but assessments have determined that the pond is simply too shallow to be healthy.

Using this grant, the City plans to dredge the pond to make it smaller and deeper to improve the water quality and create an improved habitat for wildlife. The City Engineer has created a design; since the pond is such an important habitat location, we have hired Matrix Design to work alongside the engineer to provide ecological recommendations as well. The final design and planting plan will ensure that the pond will have improved water quality, less evaporation, and provide better habitat for nesting and migrating birds. As one of the most heavily visited sections of the High Line Canal, this will provide ample opportunities for trail users to view and enjoy the wildlife that frequents the pond. Improvements to the pond will ensure its future long-term health and continue to provide educational opportunities to everyone on the High Line Canal trail.

Minimum Qualifications and Eligibility

Eligibility Question 1*

Please list your agency's ongoing Arapahoe County Open Spaces grant projects.

The City has no open grant projects with Arapahoe County Open Spaces. Past successful applications and projects include: High Line Canal Bridge at the Hampden Underpass (joint project application), John Meade Park Redevelopment, and a previous grant for Quincy Farm to complete hazard tree work and replace the failing irrigation system.

Eligibility Question 2*

How does this project align with the Arapahoe County Open Spaces Master Plan, Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, an agency master plan, or other approved planning documents?

Please refer to the current Arapahoe County Open Spaces Master Plan adopted in June 2021. Plans are available on the ACOS website.

This project is most closely aligned with Objective 2 of the Arapahoe County Open Spaces Master Plan: "Maintain ecosystem health and resilience". The length of the High Line Canal through Cherry Hills Village is identified as a Wildlife Habitat Priority Area in the ACOS Master Plan, with the goal to "(r)estore and maintain wildlife corridors in urban areas through management and partnership efforts" (pg. 116). Quincy Farm is also called out in the 2019 Plan for the High Line Canal as a project area for future enhancement along the trail. The pond was identified in the City's original 2017 Management Plan for Quincy Farm as an important element to preserve. The plan stated: "The Pond is a defining characteristic of the property and contributes to the historic designation. Because the Pond provides important habitat for the many animal species, the Village plans to investigate solutions to engineering, water, and financial challenges that would allow the maintenance of the pond in perpetuity." Dredging the pond and improving the area's habitat satisfies the goals in the ACOS Master Plan, the Plan for the High Line Canal, and our local community's plan and vision for the Farm.

Eligibility Question 3*

How does this project address specific objectives in the Arapahoe County Open Space Resolution #21-263?

Please note that this resolution replaces the previous Open Space Resolutions #030381/110637. The resolution is available on the ACOS website.

This project addresses three of the objectives in the ACOS resolution. One of the goals included in the ballot language is "protecting and maintaining natural areas, wildlife habitat, and open space". The work to improve the pond will create significant benefit to the surrounding and migrating wildlife, providing them higher quality water, vegetation, and food sources. Another goal is "providing, maintaining, and improving regional and neighborhood parks and trails". This work will be an improvement that benefits all passing users of the High Line Canal trail, since the pond is directly adjacent to one of the busiest sections of this regional trail. Finally, one of the goals in the ballot language was "maintaining and preserving historic sites". Most of Quincy Farm's structures (including the irrigation pond) date from the 1930's; the pond is part of the historic fabric of the area and showcases the former irrigation use of the High Line Canal. It is a "contributing feature" within the farm's designation on the National Register of Historic Places.

Certification and Authorized Signature Form*

Please attach completed Certification and Authorized Signature Form as a PDF document. Form must be signed by highest authority in agency or authorized individual. *Required forms are available on the ACOS website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_SignatureForm.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_SignatureForm.pdf

Project Timeline

Project Timeline Form*

Please attach completed Project Timeline Form as a PDF document. *Required forms are available on the ACOS website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_TimelineForm.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_Timeline.pdf

Project Budget

Budget Narrative*

Provide a clear and concise budget narrative. Include details about expenses in each budget category, justification for any unusual line items, and an explanation of how you arrived at these estimates. Include amount and sources of matching funds.

The budget is based on the engineer/ecology team's Opinion of Probable Cost. Staff included \$90,000 in matching funds in the city's 2024 Capital Fund. Within the project budget, about \$43,000 is included for surveying, utility coordination, mobilization, and dewatering. Dredging is the largest category: excavation and fill on site (\$95,200.00, allocated from ACOS funds) and excavation and haul off site (\$41,800, split evenly between the grant and the City's matching funds). \$58,500 will be paid by the city for a bentonite clay liner, to maintain the water level by slowing seepage out of the pond. A solar-powered aerator (\$14,000) is budgeted with grant funds to oxygenate the pond.

The last category is Ecological Restoration (\$66,423.00), all allocated from grant funds. The largest expenses are for trees (\$10,175) and wetland plugs (\$9,525) to revegetate around the pond. The banks will be planted with willows to provide cover for animals at the banks of the pond. A floating island will be added and planted with appropriate vegetation to provide a refuge for birds. (A floating island was chosen since the pond's water level will vary; this avoids a "bathtub ring" around the edge of a true island). Nesting boxes for birds and a bat box will encourage these animals to take up residence around the pond. Other habitat features include submerged brush, a rock jetty, and logs for perches. The combination of new vegetation and amenities will make a much more hospitable habitat.

Budget Forms*

Please attach completed Summary Budget Form and Detailed Expense Budget Form as a single PDF document. *Required forms are available on the ACOS website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_BudgetForms.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_BudgetForms.pdf

Project Narrative

Question 1*

Describe the project goals, scope, and expected results. Describe project elements, including useful life. Discuss the current condition of the project site and the improvements that are proposed. Discuss how this project improves access to the outdoors, connectivity, and/or educational opportunities.

Project Site: Present Conditions

At Quincy Farm, there is a historic (1930's) irrigation pond. It can be filled using water from a well on the property or from High Line Canal irrigation runs. Since the High Line Canal is an inefficient water delivery system, it is expected to transition soon to a stormwater amenity. Therefore, the City anticipates continuing to fill the pond from the well. The pond's original purpose was for irrigation, and it continues to serve this purpose. Water from the pond can be pumped to other areas of the Farm to irrigate the gardens and trees.

The pond is separated from the rest of the property; it is south of all of the buildings, and can only be accessed via the High Line Canal Trail. The pond is oval-shaped, and the long side of the pond is immediately adjacent to the path; the pond is visible to all trail users. There is a stone bench alongside the path next to the pond that serves as a resting place or bird-watching stop for those on the trail. The pond provides many opportunities to view wildlife. It is the first documented breeding site of Hooded Mergansers in Colorado. In recent years, game cameras located at the pond have captured American White Pelicans, Black-Crowned Night Herons, Double-Crested Cormorants, Great Blue Herons, Snowy Egrets, and many ducks and geese.

The pond has filled with sediment over the years and become very shallow. When the City began managing the Farm in 2016, the pond was suffering from extreme algae blooms due to the shallow depth and lack of aeration. For the past few years, the City has contracted with an ecological consultant to improve the pond's health. This contractor visits monthly March-November and provides treatments with algaecide and beneficial bacteria. These treatments have provided some relief, but the pond is simply too shallow and clogged with silt to provide quality habitat.

To understand the pond's condition, the City had an assessment done on the pond by Blue Earth Solutions in 2017 (attached under "Other Attachments"). The recommendations from the assessment state; "In general, we believe a relatively small, deep-water pond with adjacent wetland areas will provide the most diverse habitat, potential for wildlife viewing, and visitor enjoyment. Creating this habitat within the existing pond would also minimize capital improvement and maintenance costs. Additionally, by limiting the extent of pond excavation, potential hazards associated with the dam embankment can be avoided." The proposed project specifically addresses and implements these recommendations.

Project Scope

A grading design to improve the pond's health has been developed with the City's engineer. Since the pond is such an important habitat location, ecologists from Matrix Designs are working alongside the engineer to provide recommendations for depths and vegetation as well. The plans recommend dredging the pond to make it smaller and deeper, with a temporal wetlands area at the southern end. The pond will have a minimum water level that will be maintained to ensure the health of the aquatic ecosystem and the surrounding vegetation. The new depth will keep the pond from freezing solid in the winter, which is one of the problems it faces now. A solar aerator will be installed to improve circulation of water and air, providing oxygen to increase water quality. A floating island will provide shelter for nesting birds, and nesting boxes and a bat box will invite these animals to take up residence here. Invasive species like Russian olives will be removed, and trees, willows, and wetland plugs will be planted to further improve habitat and provide cover for many species.

The final design and planting plan will ensure that the pond will have improved water quality, less evaporation, and provide better habitat for nesting and migrating birds. Improvements to the pond will ensure its future long-term health and continue to provide recreational and educational opportunities to everyone on the High Line Canal trail. In future project phases, we plan to install a small viewing platform/bird blind adjacent to the High Line Canal to provide a designated wildlife viewing area and

discourage visitors from walking down to the pond itself. (This appears on the plans as an example, but is outside the scope of this project and grant application.)

Project Goals

Goals identified for this project, in consultation with the ecological team, include:

- a. Water quality improvements
- b. Enhancements to biodiversity
- c. Increase ecological resilience

These goals are explained more fully in Question 8.

Educational Opportunities

In 2021, the City entered into a formal partnership with the Cherry Hills Land Preserve, a local nonprofit. CHLP's mission for Quincy Farm is "to provide educational and recreational experiences that inspire curiosity and learning about nature, conservation, and the history of the local area". They provide programming for children, adults, and families at the Farm. Recent programs have included beekeeping education, nature-focused book clubs, Earth Day celebrations, seed to harvest gardening classes, and bird-watching walks in partnership with the Denver Audubon Society. Programs are open to all members of the public.

CHLP also helps the City solicit community input when developing an Annual Plan for Quincy Farm each year, which is created in partnership with City staff and approved by City Council. The pond dredging and habitat improvements were identified as a priority in the 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan, which was approved by City Council on November 7, 2023 (The plan is attached under "Other Attachments"). Ten members of the public spoke in support of the plan at that meeting.

By completing this project, creating improved wildlife habitat and future educational opportunities, the community can hopefully find a stronger connection to nature and inspire a future generation of resource stewards.

Question 2*

Describe the community/neighborhood and user groups the project will serve. Discuss the type of users (children, families, seniors, sports leagues, etc.), and estimate the number of users that will benefit annually. How did you arrive at this estimate? Describe how this project will address inclusivity per Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

Community support letters are encouraged; include up to five in the Attachments section.

High Line Canal Users

Since the pond is located alongside the High Line Canal trail, everyone passing on the path sees the pond. In addition to Cherry Hills Village residents, Quincy Farm serves a diverse population of people using the High Line Canal. The High Line Canal Conservancy has conducted user counts recently in the miles immediately north and south of Quincy Farm. This is one of the most heavily visited sections of the High Line Canal; on an annual basis, 177,281 users access mile 34 to the south, and 97,528 visiting mile 36 (north of the Farm).

There are ample opportunities for trail users to view and enjoy the wildlife that frequents the pond. Many residents of Arapahoe and Denver counties use this section of the trail, including children, adults and seniors; trail users pass by on foot, bicycles, and horseback. Additionally, it is regularly used by sports leagues and youth groups from nearby schools for exercise and access. Kent Denver School is adjacent to Quincy Farm and this section of the canal, so many of their teams use the trail for training.

Nonprofits & Schools

Since 2016, various organizations have incorporated the pond into their programming. Kent Denver School summer camps and the Denver Audubon Society have brought students for nature learning and birdwatching. Since 2021, the City has partnered with local nonprofit the Cherry Hills Land Preserve (CHLP). CHLP programs are open to all members of the public and available for signup on their website,

www.quincyfarm.org/programs . CHLP has expressed interest in expanding programming opportunities associated with a healthier pond environment. Future stages with a viewing platform and better-quality habitat will provide much better opportunities for bird-watching in this area.

User Estimates

Based on the number of High Line Canal users and future programming associated with the pond, the estimated number of annual users who will experience the pond is over 100,000 people. This is an incredibly busy section of the High Line Canal due to its beautiful tree canopy and excellent views. We hope to add another amenity for trail users with these improvements at Quincy Farm.

Inclusivity

The planned boardwalk and viewing platform (planned for a future phase of the project in 2025) will comply with all ADA standards. The City will provide a safe and accessible recreational facility that can be enjoyed by all members of our community.

Question 3*

Discuss the need and urgency for this project. Is this part of a multiphase project? If so, describe the work already completed and plans for future phases. What opportunities will be lost if this project or phase is not funded now?

This is part of a two-phase project. This project to dredge the pond and improve habitat is Phase 1. Phase 2 is planned to be completed in 2025; that phase will involve the installation of a boardwalk and observation platform at the edge of the pond that can be utilized as an outdoor educational area. Preliminary plans are included in the engineering design to ensure that this will be feasible with the new layout of the pond. This area will create a designated location for visitors to access, preserving the newly vegetated banks and discouraging the creation of social trails. Initial plans include a roof for shade, so small groups can visit and learn in a more comfortable way, and a possible bird blind for optimal bird-watching with minimal disturbance to animals. The City anticipates that our partners (the Cherry Hills Land Preserve) will assist with fundraising for Phase 2 of the project in 2025. (This year, their major fundraising campaign is focused on the Big Barn at the farm, which needs stabilization and restoration work.)

If the City does not complete Phase 1 this year, the pond's health will continue to struggle. Since it does not have a natural inflow, there is not a reliable source of oxygen, so the water is very stagnant. It is so shallow that it sometimes freezes solid during the winter, which kills amphibians and fish, destroying important food sources for birds. Each year, the pond becomes increasingly less healthy; the treatments of beneficial bacteria and algaecide that the city's contractor applies can only do so much. Ideally, this work could be completed this fall into next spring, so that the pond can be in a much healthier condition for the many migrating and nesting birds that will visit the following spring.

Question 4*

Summarize any planning completed prior to submitting this grant proposal. Is design and engineering complete? Does the project necessitate a zoning change? List any permits or approvals that need to be obtained (county or city planning, stormwater, federal 404 permit, etc.) and their status.

Include any time needed for these efforts in the Project Timeline. Planning costs incurred up to 6 months prior to application submission may be eligible for inclusion in match with prior approval from grants program staff.

Engineering is currently at 30% completion; all design will be completed by the end of June. The project will go out to bid over the summer, so that a contractor can be selected and ready to start construction during the fall, when water is lowest in the pond. This project does not require a zoning change.

The pond has no natural inflows or outflows. The total volume of the pond will not change from the historic capacity; the pond is not being enlarged. The dam creating the pond is small enough that it is not a jurisdictional dam, so no permit is required through USACE. Public Works and Parks staff have already consulted with the City's Community Development staff. No permit will be required from that department due to the prior-listed qualities of the project.

Question 5*

Describe how the project will be completed within the required two-year timeframe. Discuss the agency's capacity to complete the project, including project management, resources, and experience implementing similar projects. This description should match the Project Timeline.

This project will be completed within the two-year timeframe. Staff plans to bid the project in August-September, with contract award expected in October. Site prep and dredging can take place during the winter months. Work to install the new irrigation intake, aerator, and bentonite liner will take place in early 2025. With all of this completed, the site will be ready for reseeding and replanting in March-May 2025. We expect the project to be complete by June 2025. The Parks Project & Operations Manager will be the project manager, with support from the Public Works Director; this team recently managed dredging for two ponds in John Meade Park (which involved a more complicated diversion and dewatering process), so staff is familiar with the process and potential challenges.

Question 6*

Summarize any efforts to obtain public input, disseminate information to the public, develop partnerships, and garner community support for this project. Evidence of a transparent public process will be required. List the stakeholders that are involved. Discuss any known or anticipated opposition to this project and how this will be addressed.

If applicable, include letters, petitions, or other documents evidencing opposition in the Attachments section.

The pond project was first publicly disseminated in August 2023 as part of the draft 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan. In September 2023, the Cherry Hills Land Preserve and city staff presented the draft plan at a City Council meeting study session to collect Council's feedback. These meetings are open to the public, livestreamed, and available as a recording online once the meeting has concluded. The pond work was one of the proposed projects presented, and the plan was positively received by City Council. The final version of the Annual Plan was reviewed and approved by City Council at their meeting on November 7th, 2023. During the public comment period, ten residents spoke in favor of the plan and of Quincy Farm's importance to the community, and no public comment was made in opposition to the plan.

In addition to these public meetings, articles and a Mayor's Report have been published about the 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan in the Village Crier, the City's newsletter that is delivered to all residents (either through the mail or electronically). Updates about each of the major projects from the 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan are also posted on the Quincy Farm News page of the City's website. The City has not received opposition to the pond project at this time. City staff is dedicated to maintaining an open dialogue with the community and will continue to publish articles and website updates notifying the community of the progress at Quincy Farm.

In addition to efforts by the City, the Cherry Hills Land Preserve maintains their own email list (approximately 1,200 subscribers) to which they send newsletters about what is happening at Quincy Farm. They also run a Quincy Farm Ambassador program, so that interested individuals in the community can become very involved and knowledgeable about what's going on at the farm. At this time, there are twelve active ambassadors. The Cherry Hills Land Preserve also presented to the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission in early 2024 to update the Commissioners about progress at the farm and upcoming projects.

CHLP has been an excellent partner to help city staff reach further into the community than has previously been possible.

Question 7*

How much of your cash match is secured? If applicable, what are your plans for securing additional funds?

Describe cash and in-kind match partnerships established for this project.

Include partner support letters in the Attachments section and include cash match from partners on the Budget Forms. Grant recipients are responsible for cost overruns.

The City's entire planned cash match is secured. It is included in the 2024 budget, which has been approved by City Council at a public hearing. The City does not have to raise additional funds or secure a financial partner, as the total cash match has been included in the Capital Fund budget. Cherry Hills Village understands that the City will be responsible for all cost overruns.

Question 8*

Describe any scenic, historic, or cultural values associated with the project site. Will they be impacted, preserved, or restored? Discuss natural resources at the site (habitat, water, wildlife, vegetation, etc.) and impacts to these resources as a result of this project. If applicable, discuss environmental sustainability benefits of this project (energy or water conservation, water quality improvement, etc.).

Quincy Farm's pond represents wildlife habitat in an increasingly urban area. It provides food, shelter, breeding grounds, and a migration corridor for several wildlife species. The property serves as natural habitat for several bird species, including waterfowl, shorebirds, hawks, owls and neo-tropical migrants. Preserving this varied habitat is a priority for Cherry Hills Village.

Water Quality

To improve water quality, the new design incorporates vegetated buffer strips around the pond's fringe. Aquatic vegetative species will be carefully considered and species that offset water quality concerns and have salinity resilience will be prioritized, in addition to species that increase the pond's oxygen levels and provide concentrated water filtration of stormwater runoff contributing to the pond. A solar powered aerator will also be installed to ensure proper oxygenation of the pond throughout the year, for vegetation health and to support aquatic life. The pond's east edge will be planted with short, woody shrubs and a thick vegetation community to deter public access along the water's edge. Limiting foot traffic and pets near the pond will directly improve water quality by removing the additional pressures of human disturbance.

Biodiversity

During the project, invasive species such as Russian Olive will be removed. The area will be replanted with thoughtfully selected native species that support diverse aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and populations including pollinators, birds, amphibians, and mammals. In areas where ground disturbance will occur, we will use native grasses and forbs matched to site soils and expected hydrologic conditions to improve diversity, resilience, and habitat quality. Enhancement strategies will also include inter-seeding areas outside of the disturbance footprint to improve native forb diversity without increasing the amount of soil disturbance. Wildlife diversity will be supported by revegetating the area with preferred forage species and installing a small floating island, submerged structures (rock jetties and woody material), nesting boxes and platforms, and bat boxes to support healthy populations.

Ecological Resilience

Sustainable vegetation and management practices that promote long-term health and resilience of the pond ecosystem are crucial. In the face of environmental stressors, water availability and pond temperature will not be guaranteed or consistent. The pond will be designed to sustain a minimal ecological depth of at least

six feet throughout all months of the year, with a fluctuation stage that will provide water to the wetland terraces. Pond management will use the pond fluctuation range throughout mid-April to early-June to support wetland vegetation and extend habitat for breeding species that utilize the pond.

Environmental Sustainability

The pond can be filled by two methods: High Line Canal (HLC) water or from a well. HLC water has not reached the property since 2017 and is not expected to continue in the future. Staff has worked for several years to ensure that the well remains a viable option to maintain the pond. In 2020, we lowered the depth of the well's pump by 84 ft. (as far as possible) to utilize the aquifer as long as possible into the future. The new pond design will result in less water loss from evaporation and seepage, as the pond will have a smaller surface area and the bottom will be lined with clay. We have also connected the irrigation system to city water, so the system can be switched away from well/pond water, preserving all available well water for the pond itself when needed.

Historic

In addition to its abundant natural resources, the pond is also historically significant. The farm is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the pond is identified as a contributing element in the designation. Preserving the pond and ensuring its future viability will educate visitors along the HLC about the area's history.

Question 9*

Discuss ownership and legal access at the proposed project site. Detail any third-party rights, easements, or other encumbrances that exist and their effect on the project.

Provide supporting documentation showing ownership, legal access, and/or permission from landowner in the Attachments section.

Quincy Farm transferred into City ownership as of June 2, 2016. There is a Conservation Easement on the property administered by Colorado Open Lands. The Conservation Easement does not have specific requirements for maintaining the pond; it allows the City to fill in the pond if it becomes too expensive to maintain. However, due to the benefits of the pond for wildlife, its function for irrigating other sections of the property, and its importance to the community, the City wishes to maintain and preserve the pond. The easement reads (the city is the Grantor/COL is the Grantee):

"...(3) Pond. At the time of granting of this Deed there exists a Pond, a pump house and a well near the south end of the West Area. Grantor may maintain, repair, replace or remove the pump house without further permission of Grantee. If Grantor determines that it is too expensive to maintain and fill the pond, upon notice to but without further permission of Grantee the pond may be drained, provided that the area shall be re-graded to a natural contour, by filling in the existing area without materially affecting the existing contour and slopes, and replanted and thereafter maintained in native or other non-invasive vegetation. In addition, the regrading and re-contouring must be accomplished in a manner that does not alter the existing natural drainage flow across the Property."

(The full text of the Conservation Easement is available on the City's website.) The pond dredging is included in the 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan, which the city shared with Colorado Open Lands staff in November 2023 following City Council approval. The City will continue to communicate with Colorado Open Lands throughout the project as it progresses.

High Line Canal Ownership & Access

While the overwhelming majority of the High Line Canal is owned by Denver Water, a portion of the High Line Canal on the Quincy Farm property is owned by the City, with an easement granted back to Denver Water. That section poses no access issues. Equipment will have to cross a short section of the High Line Canal that is currently owned by Denver Water; that ownership is anticipated to change to Arapahoe County before the

project takes place. City staff will work with the Canal's owner to ensure proper access to the project. All staging and construction will take place on City property.

Question 10*

Describe long-term plans for maintaining the project. Who will be responsible for maintenance? Estimate annual costs to maintain the project site and explain how maintaining the site will affect the responsible agency's budget.

The maintenance of Quincy Farm is managed by the City's Parks Division. In-house staff currently maintain the well pump and other irrigation equipment. The City contracts with a pond management contractor to conduct water quality testing and provide treatments of beneficial bacteria and algaecide; we anticipate continuing this practice once dredging is complete to ensure that water quality continues to improve. Once the aerator is installed, this company will also be responsible for maintaining that equipment. We have real costs based on the City's other two ponds, located in John Meade Park. Each of these ponds is larger than the pond at Quincy Farm; they have historically cost a maximum of \$5,000 each annually for routine maintenance. Staff is confident that this amount can be consistently included in the Parks budget specifically for the Quincy Farm pond. Quincy Farm has been identified by City Council as a high priority that must be budgeted for and maintained in perpetuity.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Evidence of Support from Highest Authority*

Please attach evidence of support from the agency's highest authority (official letter or resolution) as a PDF document. At a minimum, this document must include: project title, amount of grant funds requested, statement that matching funds are secured and/or efforts to secure funds are underway (include the amount of matching funds committed), and certification that the project will be open to the public or serve a public purpose upon completion. *A sample resolution is available on the ACOS website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf

Attachment 2: Evidence of Community Support*

Please attach up to 5 letters of support from users, working groups, community members, volunteers, schools, etc. as a single PDF document. Letters should be specific to the project and dated within the last 6 months.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_CommunitySupport.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_CommunitySupport.pdf

Attachment 3: Documentation of Opposition*

Please attach documentation of opposition to the project (such as letters, petitions, articles, etc.) as a single PDF document. If there is no known opposition, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_Opposition.pdf*
CherryHillsVillage_Opposition.pdf

Attachment 4: Evidence of Commitment from Project Partners*

Please attach evidence of commitment from project partners (such as partner support letters, commitment to provide cash/in-kind match, or maintenance agreements) as a single PDF document. There is no maximum allowable number of partner support letters. If there are no partners for this project, please attach a page stating that this section is not applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_PartnerCommitments.pdf*
CherryHillsVillage_PartnerCommitments.pdf

Attachment 5: Primary Project Photo*

Please attach one high resolution photo in JPG format. Please choose the photo that provides the best overall representation of your project. This photo will be used for presentations and/or publications.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_PrimaryPhoto.jpg*
CherryHillsVillage_PrimaryPhoto.jpg

Attachment 6: Photos*

Please attach photos of existing conditions at the project site (including captions) as a single PDF document. Include conceptual drawings if applicable.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_Photos.pdf*
CherryHillsVillage_Photos.pdf

Attachment 7: Maps*

Please attach a site map and a vicinity map as a single PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_Maps.pdf*
CherryHillsVillage_Maps.pdf

Attachment 8: Site Visit Form*

Please attach a completed site visit form as a PDF document. *Required forms are available on the ACOS website.*

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_SiteVisitForm.pdf*
CherryHillsVillage_SiteVisitForm.pdf

Attachment 9: Evidence of Property Ownership/Access*

Please attach evidence of property ownership/legal access (ArapaMAP parcel information, title commitment, etc.) as a PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_EvidenceofOwnership.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_EvidenceofOwnership.pdf

Attachment 10: Other Attachments

Please attach additional supporting documentation (news articles, cost estimates, etc.) as a single PDF document.

Please name your file as follows: *Applicant_OtherAttachments.pdf*

CherryHillsVillage_OtherAttachments.pdf

Confirmation

Please click the "I Agree" button below to certify that your application is complete and ready to submit. Once submitted, applications are final and cannot be returned.*

I agree

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- CherryHillsVillage_SignatureForm.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_Timeline.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_BudgetForms.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_SupportHighestAuthority.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_CommunitySupport.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_Opposition.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_PartnerCommitments.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_PrimaryPhoto.jpg
- CherryHillsVillage_Photos.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_Maps.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_SiteVisitForm.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_EvidenceofOwnership.pdf
- CherryHillsVillage_OtherAttachments.pdf



ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACES

Certification and Authorized Signature Form

Please use this form for the Arapahoe County Open Spaces grant application.

By signing this form, I certify that:

- The information included in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.
- If funded, the applicant commits to completing the proposed project.
- If funded, the applicant accepts responsibility for any cost overruns necessary to complete the project.
- If funded, the completed project will be open to the public or will otherwise serve a public purpose.
- If funded, the applicant agrees to maintain the completed project site or to continue its maintenance agreement with a partner agency as outlined in the application.
- I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant.

Authorized Signature (highest authority in agency or authorized individual)

Date

Jim Thorsen, City Manager
Printed Name and Title

Quarry Farm Pond Habitat Improvements
Grant Project or Joint Project Name



ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACES

Project Timeline Form

Applicant: City of Cherry Hills Village

Project Title: Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements

Use the sample timeline below as a guide to complete your proposed project timeline. Rows or columns may be added as necessary to incorporate any milestones specific to your project. Timeline must be detailed, realistic, and coincide with details provided in the narrative portion of the grant application. Timeline must conclude within two years of project start date.

Task	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	June 2025
Grant Award Notification											
IGA Executed (Project Start Date)											
Solicitation of Vendors											
Project Bid Award(s)											
Ground/Site Prep											
Dredging											
Liner/Irrigation/Aeration											
Replanting											
Grand Opening											
Final Report											

Summary Budget Form - STANDARD Grants (25% minimum cash match)

Source of Funds	Date Funds Secured	Grant Request	Cash Match	Total Project Funds
Arapahoe County Open Spaces Grant	8/1/2024	\$241,088		\$241,088
Applicant Cash Match	12/7/2023		\$90,000	\$90,000
(Specify) Partner Cash Match/Other Funding Source				\$0
(Specify) Partner Cash Match/Other Funding Source				\$0
(Specify) Partner Cash Match/Other Funding Source				\$0
Totals		\$241,088	\$90,000	\$331,088

MATCH REQUIREMENTS	Total Project Cost:	\$331,088.04
	Cash Match % Required:	25%
	Cash Match % Budgeted:	27%
	Cash Match Amount Required:	\$82,772.01
	Cash Match Amount Budgeted:	\$90,000.00
	*match fields calculate automatically	

Applicant: City of Cherry Hills Village

Project Title: Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements

* Please do not include in-kind match on the Budget Forms

DETAILED EXPENSE WORKSHEET

	Budget	Line Item Detail	ACOS	Grantee	Partner	TOTAL
	Category	Description	Grant	Cash Match	Cash Match	
	Project Start-Up	Mobilization	\$17,251.43			\$17,251.43
		Dewatering	\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00
		Surveying	\$4,312.86			\$4,312.86
		Utility Investigation and Coordination	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
	Demo	Intake & irrigation line	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
	Dredging	Excavation (Muck) and fill on site	\$95,200.00			\$95,200.00
		Excavation (Muck) and haul off site	\$20,900.00	\$20,900.00		\$41,800.00
		Bentonite Clay (Import and Place)		\$58,500.00		\$58,500.00
		Aerator	\$14,000.00			\$14,000.00
	Irrigation Infrastructure	Intake structure - pumphouse		\$10,600.00		\$10,600.00
	Ecological Restoration	Floating island for nesting birds (10'x10' Biohaven)	\$6,500.00			\$6,500.00
		Bird and Bat Boxes	\$650.00			\$650.00
		Crimped Straw, mulch, and tackifier	\$3,718.75			\$3,718.75
		Seeding, wetlands / Riparian	\$4,800.00			\$4,800.00
		Seeding, upland	\$1,600.00			\$1,600.00
		Plug, wetland	\$9,525.00			\$9,525.00
		1-gal shrub	\$5,264.00			\$5,264.00
		5-gal tree	\$10,175.00			\$10,175.00
		Willow stake	\$1,272.00			\$1,272.00
		Cottonwood pole	\$1,800.00			\$1,800.00
		Biosol, humates, mycorrhizae	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00
		Habitat log	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
		Habitat brush (submerged)	\$3,500.00			\$3,500.00
		Type M Rock (Submerged rock jetty)	\$4,200.00			\$4,200.00
		Erosion control blanket, straw/coconut mix	\$6,419.00			\$6,419.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
	TOTALS		\$241,088.04	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$331,088.04

Applicant: City of Cherry Hills Village Project Title: Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements Date: April 10, 2024

CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

2450 E. Quincy Avenue
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113
www.cherryhillsvillage.com

Village Center
Telephone 303-789-2541
FAX 303-761-9386

April 2nd, 2024

Arapahoe County Open Space
6934 S. Lima St., Ste. A
Centennial, CO 80112

RE: 2024 Arapahoe County Open Space Grant Cycle

Dear OSTAB members,

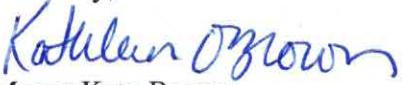
The Mayor and City Council of Cherry Hills Village strongly support the City's attached application for a standard grant in the amount of two hundred forty-one thousand eighty-eight dollars (\$241,088). This Council and the citizens of the Village are passionate about the protection and enhancement of the open space system within the Village and Arapahoe County. The City is submitting a grant application for Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements for the 2024 grant cycle.

Quincy Farm is a 17.5-acre historic property located in the heart of our City. The farm was graciously donated to the City by Catherine H. Anderson. Community members have dedicated significant time through the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee and the Quincy Farm Committee to envision future uses and needs for the farm. Today, the Cherry Hills Land Preserve is the City's nonprofit partner organization providing programming and outreach for the Farm in formal partnership with the City.

At Quincy Farm, there is a historic 1930's irrigation pond adjacent to the High Line Canal. In addition to providing irrigation to the west side of the Farm, it provides habitat for area wildlife. The pond has filled with sediment over the years and become very shallow. Various plans and studies conducted over the years (starting with the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee in 2014) have anticipated improving the health of the pond so it can be an amenity for the community and continue to serve birds, amphibians, deer, and other wildlife. Funding from ACOS and the City's cash match will allow the pond to be dredged, invasive species to be removed, and the area to be replanted with beneficial trees, shrubs, and grasses. The pond improvements will benefit all users of the High Line Canal trail, who will be able to observe the improved habitat and visiting wildlife throughout the seasons.

The proposed work is considered a priority for the City, as it creates an opportunity to preserve Quincy Farm's distinct and historic agricultural nature and provides an opportunity for wildlife viewing along the High Line Canal. The City is prepared to complete the work if the funding request is approved and will provide a \$90,000 cash match. Cherry Hills Village is prepared to cover any cost overruns that may result from the project. I authorize the City Manager to sign the grant agreement and all related grant administration materials. I appreciate your kind attention to and consideration of this important work.

Sincerely,


Mayor Katy Brown
City of Cherry Hills Village



April 8, 2024

Dear Grant Committee,

Cherry Hills Land Preserve (CHLP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded in 2005 to inspire nature conservation and open space stewardship in Cherry Hills Village. Since 2021, CHLP has worked with the City under a Memorandum of Understanding to provide programming and outreach for Quincy Farm. Programs are open to the general public and are posted at www.quincyfarm.org/programs. They include nature and agricultural programs for families, including bird walks, beekeeping classes, raptor demonstrations, and more. Average attendance last year was about fifty percent Cherry Hills Village residents and fifty percent residents from neighboring communities, including Littleton, Englewood, and Denver.

Each year we work with city staff to create an annual plan for the farm. One of the key components of the 2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan is dredging the farm's pond. We believe this work is essential.

- **Wildlife** – The pond is important to many wildlife species in the area. Dredging the muck from the pond and creating a wetlands area will create a much better habitat for the migrating birds that visit.
- **Historic** – The pond dates from the farm's early years and originally served only as an irrigation facility. Maintaining its existence and use lets us continue to showcase the area's history to all trail users passing on the High Line Canal trail. It is an opportunity to show the importance of water to the area's history.
- **Nature Education** – CHLP offers programs to the community to connect kids (and adults!) to the wonders of the natural world. A future phase of the pond work planned for 2025 includes a small platform or bird blind. This area will be open to trail users and will also provide a location to hold future formal programs.

Thank you for your consideration in helping us care for Quincy Farm's pond. We look forward to continuing to connect the community to this wonderful property, our area's history, and the natural world.

Sincerely,

Ellen Thompson

Executive Director

Cherry Hills Land Preserve

Laura Christman

Board President

Cherry Hills Land Preserve



CHERRY HILLS LAND PRESERVE



May 7, 2024

Arapahoe County Open Space
6934 S. Lima St., Ste. A
Centennial, CO 80112

RE: Grant Request for Quincy Farm Pond

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the High Line Conservancy, a nonprofit organization formed to harness the region's commitment to the future of the Canal, it is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the City of Cherry Hills Village's request for an Arapahoe County Open Space (ACOS) grant for the pond at Quincy Farm. If funded, this project will enhance this historic amenity located on the High Line Canal.

The High Line Canal is an important recreational amenity that provides 71 miles of linear greenway through multiple communities in the Denver Metro area. Thousands of people enjoy the unique urban and suburban experience that the High Line Canal creates on an annual basis. Quincy Farm spans both sides of the High Line Canal in Cherry Hills Village, in an area with one of the highest user counts along the trail. This historic property is an asset to the High Line Canal corridor. It is specifically identified in the Plan for the High Line Canal as a priority area for enhancement.

Investing in the health of Quincy Farm's pond, which is so visible from the trail, will enhance the experience of the thousands of Canal users each year. The improvements to water quality and habitat will provide greater opportunity for wildlife viewing along the trail. The project closely aligns with the priorities identified in the Plan for the High Line Canal, including "Environmental health - ensuring the Canal is a thriving natural corridor" and "Honoring the Canal's history and educational potential".

Thank you for your consideration of this important grant request. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harriet".

Harriet Crittenden LuvMair
Chief Executive Officer
4010 E. Orchard Road, Centennial, CO 80121
(p) 720.767.2452 | (c) 720-217-2056
harriet@highlinecanal.org | www.highlinecanal.org

Attachment #3
Documentation of opposition

The City of Cherry Hills Village has not received any input in opposition of the pond improvements proposed in this grant.

Attachment #4
Partner Commitments

The City of Cherry Hills Village does not have financial partners for this project; a letter from the Cherry Hills Land Preserve is included under Community Support.





Quincy Farm Conceptual Design

Concept Plan Graphic

April 2024

20
0
10
20
SCALE: 1" = 20'

Quincy Farm Conceptual Design

View Toward Pond from Trail

April 2024





Center view of pond from High Line Canal trail



View of north end of pond from High Line Canal trail – includes intake structure and existing duck house



View of existing bench at trail's edge (bench will remain in place)

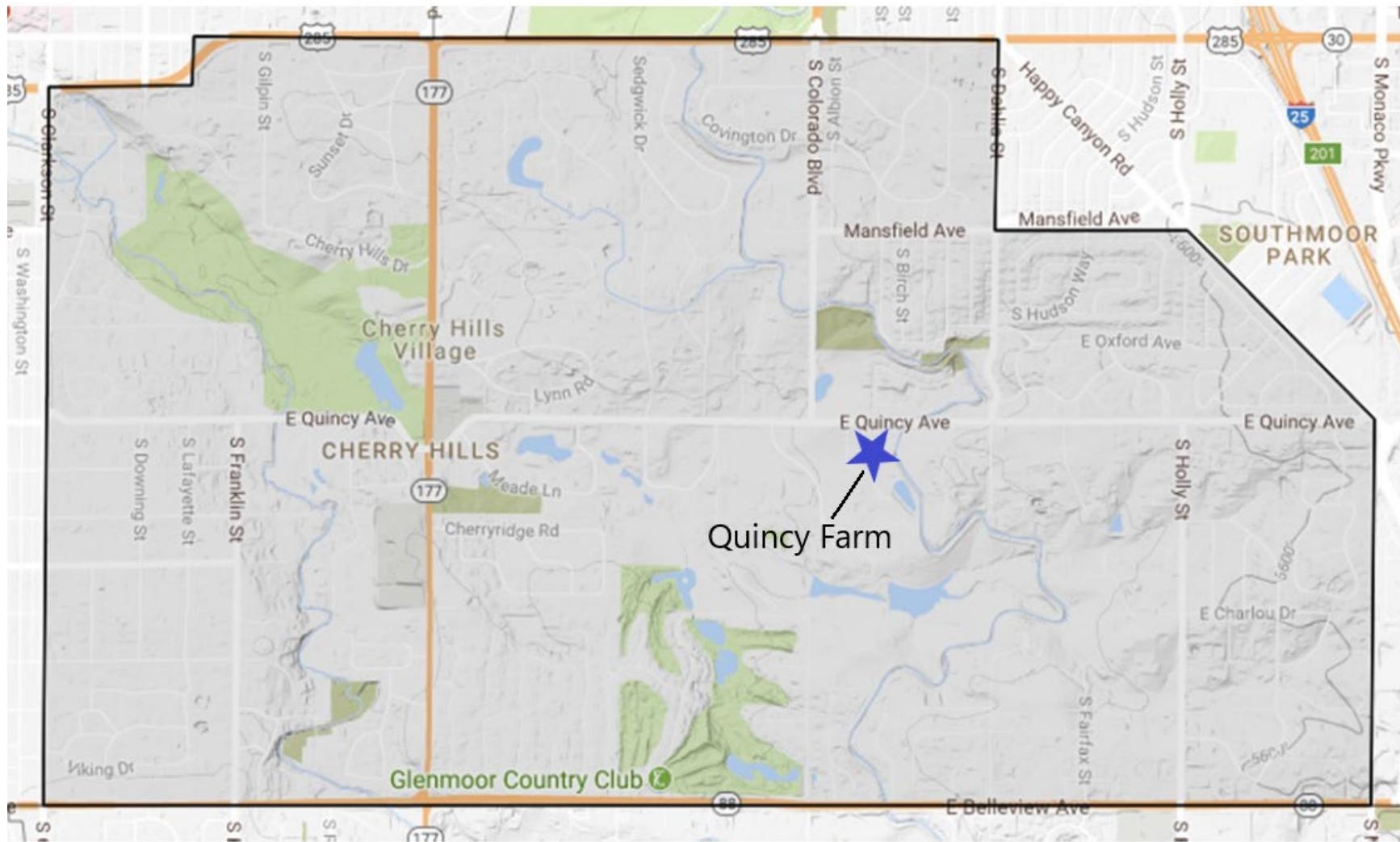


View of south end of pond from the dam – High Line Canal trail in the background/on the right

Photos from game cameras on the pond (these all date from 2018) – Snowy Egrets, Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night Herons, and American White Pelicans are frequent visitors to the pond







Quincy Farm Site Map - Detailed

Report of the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee
Cherry Hills Village





ARAPAHOE COUNTY OPEN SPACES

Site Visit Form

City of Cherry Hills Village	Other
Applicant	Grant Category
Quincy Farm Pond Habitat Improvements	
Title of Grant Project	
Emily Black	
Site Visit Representative Name	ebblack@cherryhillsvillage.com ; (215) 262-0523

- Please provide the project address or the closest major intersection.**

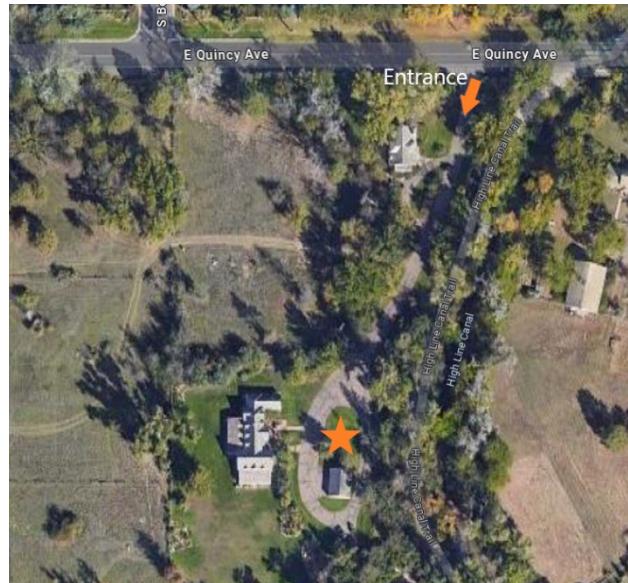
4400 E. Quincy Ave., Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

- Specify a meeting location at the project site.**

We will meet in front of the large farmhouse around the circular driveway – at the orange star.

- Provide other helpful information, for example parking instructions, availability of restrooms on site or nearby, necessary walking from parking to site, or other clarification. Driving directions from the ACOS office (6934 S. Lima St., Centennial) are not required, but may be included if the site is difficult to find.**

Please park around the circular driveway in front of the large farmhouse. (Please keep tires on the asphalt and don't pull onto the grass, to avoid damaging irrigation.) We will meet and walk south approximately 900ft. (0.16 mile) down the High Line Canal to the pond. There is a small flight of wide wooden stairs leading up to the High Line Canal trail. If these are not navigable for everyone, we can walk slightly further up the driveway to Quincy Ave. and access the canal trail at grade from the street. This addition adds about 400ft. of distance but requires no stairs. There are restrooms available on site in the farmhouse, but they do require some stairs (approx. five steps down or 2-3 steps up, depending on which entrance is used).



PIN: 034960066
AIN: 2075-07-2-00-016
Situs Address: 4400 E Quincy Ave
Situs City: Englewood

Full Owner List: City Of Cherry Hills Village
Ownership Type: Sole Ownership
Owner Address: 2450 E Quincy Ave
City/State/Zip: Englewood, CO 80113-4900

Neighborhood: Central/South Central Cherry Hills
Neighborhood Code: 404.00
Acreage: 17.3900
Land Use: Traditional
Legal Desc: That Part Of The Nw 1/4 Of Sec 7-5-67 Desc As Beg 30 Ft S & 494 Ft E Of The Nw Cor Of Sd Nw 1/4 Th E 1030 Ft M/L To A Pt On The Wly Line Of Highline Park Sub Th Sw 462.64 Ft & 219.53 Ft To A Pt On The Ely Line Of The Highline Canal Th Se 156.66 Ft Th Sw 100.65 Ft To The W Line Of Sd Canal Th Se 191.41 Ft Th Alg Curve Rt 102.3 Ft Th S 208.31 Ft To A Pt On The S Line Of The N 1/2 Of Sd Nw 1/4 Th W T

Notifications!

	Total	Building	Land
2023 Appraised Value	11,516,400	2,477,948	9,038,452
2023 Assessed Value	779,084	167,633	611,451

2023 Mill Levy: 90.658

Sale	Book Page	Date	Price	Type
	D607 2247	07-03-2016	0	

Building	Building	Attributes	Recorded
	1	Quality Grade Improvement Type Bedrooms Bathrooms Architectural Heat Method Cool Method Year Built Roof Fireplaces Exterior Wall Construction Type	Good Traditional 7.00 6.00 2 Story Forced Air Unit Central Air 1942 Wood Shake/Shingle Roof 1.00 Wood Siding D - Wood or Steel Studs Frame

Area	Building	Description	SqFt
	1	Covered Porch Basement Total Enclosed Porch First Floor First Floor Second Floor Second Floor First Floor Bldg Total Area:	56 1295 476 30 1537 472 842 1494 4375

Land Line	Units	Land Use
	17.3900 AC	Single Family Residential Acreage

Note: Land Line data above corresponds to the initial appraised value and does not reflect subsequent appeal related adjustments, if any.

* Not all parcels have available photos / sketches.

In some cases a sketch may be difficult to read. Please contact the Assessors Office for assistance. Measurements taken from the exterior of the building.

The Arapahoe County Assessors Office does not warranty the accuracy of any sketch, nor assumes any responsibility or liability to any user.

Although some parcels may have multiple buildings and photos, at this time our system is limited to 1 sketch and 1 photo per parcel number. Sorry for any inconvenience.

[New Search](#)



No. DATE

REVISIONS

APPR.

DRAWN BY: EP

DESIGNED BY: TTR

APPROVED BY: TTR

811

Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

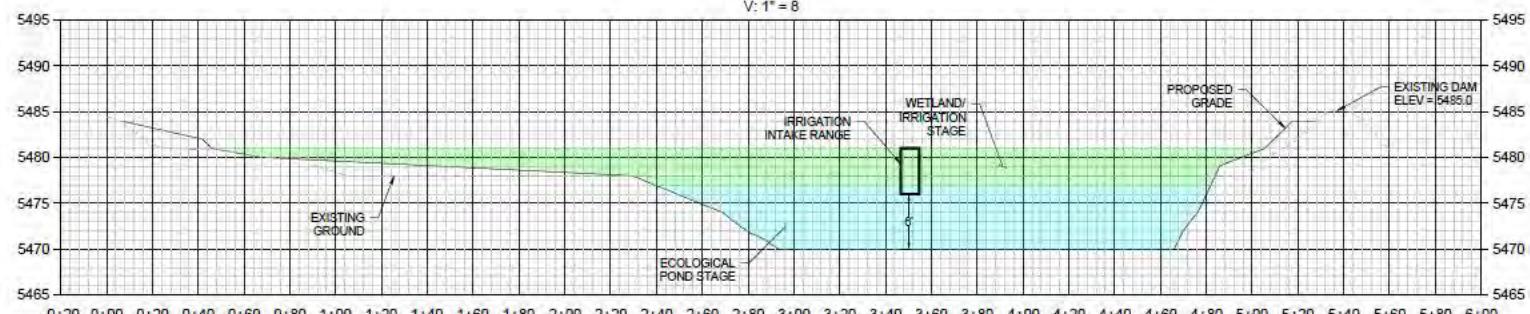
PREPARED FOR:
Cherry Hills Village
COLORADO

PREPARED BY:
ICON
ENGINEERING</b

0 30' 60'

PROFILE OF CROSS SECTION 1

H: 1" = 30
V: 1" = 8



PROPOSED STAGED STORAGE TABLE

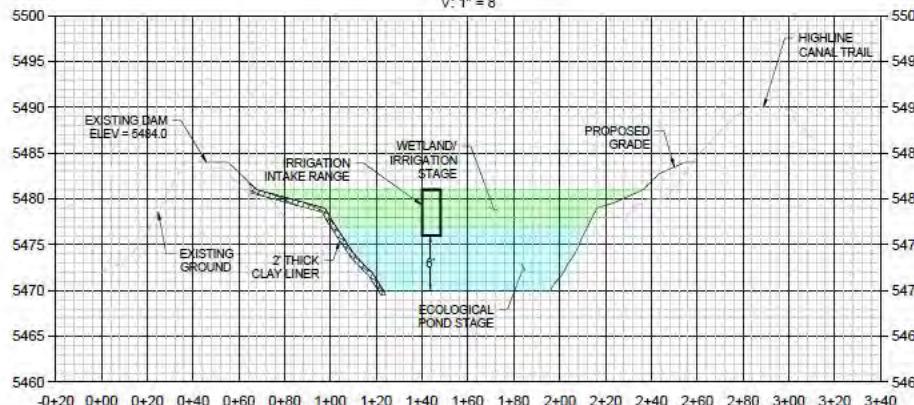
Contour Elev. (ft)	Surface Area (ft ²)	Contour Volume (ft ³)	Total Volume (ft ³)	Total Volume (acre-ft)
5470	8,425	0.00	0	0.0
5471	9,829	9,118	9,118	0.2
5472	11,403	10,606	19,724	0.5
5473	13,086	12,235	31,959	0.7
5474	14,879	13,973	45,932	1.1
5475	16,550	15,707	61,639	1.4
5476	18,339	17,447	79,086	1.8
5477	20,267	19,305	98,391	2.3
5478	22,291	21,271	119,662	2.7
5479	26,127	24,184	143,846	3.3
5480	40,511	33,057	176,903	4.1
5481	55,583	47,849	224,751	5.2
5482	60,846	58,195	282,946	6.5
5483	67,058	63,927	346,873	7.96

EXISTING STAGED STORAGE TABLE

Contour Elev. (ft)	Surface Area (ft ²)	Contour Volume (ft ³)	Total Volume (ft ³)	Total Volume (acre-ft)
5478	43,224	0.00	0	0.0
5479	46,847	45,023	45,023	1.0
5480	55,529	51,127	96,150	2.2
5481	64,498	59,958	156,107	3.6
5482	69,434	66,951	223,058	5.1
5483	73,559	71,487	294,545	6.8

PROFILE OF CROSS SECTION 2

H: 1" = 30
V: 1" = 8



No.	DATE	REVISIONS	APPR.	DRAWN BY: EP
				DESIGNED BY: TTR
				APPROVED BY: TTR



PREPARED FOR:
Cherry Hills Village
COLORADO

PREPARED BY:
ICON
ENGINEERING
PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR
CONSTRUCTION

QUINCY FARM POND
PROPOSED CONDITIONS EXHIBIT
CROSS SECTIONS

DATE:
FEB 2024
SHEET
OF

the VILLAGE CRIER

December 2023 Newsletter



cherryhillsvillage.com



DECEMBER

Photo by City Staff

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Anne Marie Martinez / amgraphix1@gmail.com

ST. GABRIEL
episcopal church
CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Advent Quiet Day:** Saturday, December 2nd 8:30-11:30am
- **Advent Party:** Sunday, December 3rd 9:15-10am
- **Christingle Service and Christmas Pageant:** Sunday, December 17th at 4:30 pm
- **Special Service for the Homebound:** Friday, December 22nd at 10am
- **Greening of the Church:** Saturday, December 23rd at 9am
- **First Sunday in Advent:** Sunday, December 3rd at 8am and 10:15am
- **Second Sunday in Advent:** Sunday, December 10th at 8am and 10:15am
- **Third Sunday in Advent:** Sunday, December 17th at 8am and 10:15am
- **Fourth Sunday in Advent:** Sunday, December 24th at 9am
- **Christmas Eve Services:** Sunday December 24th at 4pm and 7pm
- **Christmas Day Services:** Monday, December 25th at 10am
- **First Sunday after Christmas Day, Christmas Lessons & Carols:** Sunday, December 31st at 9am



MAYOR'S REPORT

The end of the year, and beginning of a new year, is always a time for both reflection and anticipation. It's a time when we celebrate with friends and family and take a break before diving into our new year resolutions. In this final edition of the Crier for 2023 I thought I might share some of the City's celebrations from 2023 and our goals for 2024.

Overall, 2023 was a successful year for Cherry Hills Village. Beyond the daily work that we, as citizens, may tend to take for granted, like plowing the roads, approving building permits, and maintaining our parks, the City had several large initiatives this past year.

Public Safety – The safety of our community is consistently a top priority. While our police department has always done an amazing job protecting our community, this past year saw some effective new strategies including the development of a strategic plan for the department, and increased use of technology such as Flock cameras and a drone. The police department also developed a wellness initiative to take care of the brave men and women who protect and serve us every day.

Quincy Farm – In January, the east side of Quincy Farm was finally opened to the public. If you aren't aware, Quincy Farm is a 17 1/4 acre property that was donated to the City years ago. Of all of our public lands and open spaces in Cherry Hills Village, Quincy Farm most embodies the history and rural character of our community. The opening of the farm was followed by significant repairs and maintenance to revitalize the farm. If you haven't yet visited Quincy Farm I encourage you to check it out! It is located on the south side of Quincy at the High Line Canal crossing. The part of the property on the east side of the canal is open to the public daily between sunrise and sunset.

Sales Tax Updates – In November 2022, Cherry Hills Village voters approved changes to the city's sales tax code to collect sales

tax from remote sellers. Those changes were implemented early in 2023.

Defeat of Land Use Preemption – Successes aren't always good things that happened... sometimes they are bad things that didn't happen. Such is the case with the defeat of potentially devastating state legislation that would have taken away local control of zoning. The City was very involved in opposing that legislation which ultimately died on the floor at the end of the session. While that was a huge success for 2023, the governor and legislature are already planning their next attempt to preempt local control of zoning in 2024.

Cell Phone Coverage Study – The City Council heard very clearly that residents are frustrated with the terrible cell phone coverage in Cherry Hills Village (no pun intended!). We hired a consultant, researched the challenges and potential solutions, and gathered significant public input through surveys and meetings.

Finances – We expect to close 2023 with a significant annual operating surplus again this year. Our conservative budgeting and prudent management of funds left us with a surplus of \$3.4M.

As we look forward to 2024, we are guided by the priorities outlined in our updated Master Plan. Specifically, City Council and staff plan to address the following:

Cell Phone Coverage – I mentioned that we completed a thorough study in 2023. The study has identified several possible solutions and we are currently working with industry partners to determine the feasibility of those ideas. While any of these solutions would improve the quality of cell phone coverage in the Village, they would also have other impacts to our community and our budget. For that reason we will seek the approval of the community before proceeding with implementation.

Election – Of course you're aware that 2024 is a Presidential election year, but you may not know that we have three Council members who will be term-limited in districts 1, 3, and 5. That means there will be local candidates on the ballot next year. If you are interested in serving, I encourage you to look for information on the city's web site next July. Please remember to vote next November!

State Land Use Legislation – Speaking of elections, the governor and state legislature will make another attempt at preempting local governments' control of local land use decisions in the 2024 session. We have already heard of legislation that would require allowing accessory dwelling units on all single-family zoned lots and mandatory upzoning to multi-family uses on lots around transit stations. The question is not whether these are good ideas, but rather who should decide whether these are the right ideas for our community. I firmly believe that YOU should

decide; your voice carries more weight in local government than it does with the state. I encourage you to follow our representatives' positions on these issues, let them know how you feel, and factor their actions on any such measures into your vote in November. Cherry Hills is represented by Meg Froelich (who supported the last round of legislation) in the State House, and Jeff Bridges (who opposed the last round of legislation) in the State Senate.

Electrification – The City's plan for 2024 includes the installation of electric vehicle charging stations, acquisition of two electric vehicles as city vehicles, and the replacement of small maintenance equipment with electric alternatives (in advance of what is likely to be mandated anyway.)

Quincy Farm – Quincy Farm will see some big improvements in 2024 with the goal of making it a gathering space for our community. In partnership with the Cherry Hills Land Preserve, the City will refurbish the historic Big Barn, dredge and rehabilitate the pond, address concerns about the safety of the bridge across the High Line Canal, and open the west side of the property, including the existing nature trail, to the public. If you would like to be part of the exciting things happening at the farm please reach out to the Cherry Hills Land Preserve through www.quincyfarm.org to volunteer and/or donate.

High Line Canal – With all of the rain we saw this year, we were fortunate that we did not experience flooding like we did in 2015. Fortunately, the High Line Canal Conservancy has been working with Denver Water (owner of the High Line Canal), the various counties, and all of the jurisdictions along the canal to convert the High Line Canal into a green stormwater management system. The City has already completed a study of the work required along our stretch of the canal. Final design is planned for 2024 with construction to begin as early as 2025, starting with spillway construction at Blackmer Common.

Finances – As always, the City has developed a balanced budget for 2024 which includes the initiatives described above. Proposition HH would have reduced the City's property taxes and that reduction was incorporated into the 2024 budget. Since Prop HH did not pass, at the time of writing, we do not know what, if anything, the legislature will do to address the property tax increases expected for 2023. City Council is closely monitoring the situation and will consider the possibility of providing local property tax relief for our citizens if the legislature fails to do so.

I hope you all enjoy this holiday season and have an opportunity to spend time with the important people in your life. I also wish you a very happy new year and the best of luck with your own personal goals for 2024.

*Katy Brown
kbrown@cherryhillsvillage.com
303-860-0262*

the VILLAGE CRIER

April 2024 Newsletter



cherryhillsvillage.com



APRIL

Cherry Hills Village POLICE DEPARTMENT K9 UNIT

Meet K9 Tuco, the newest addition to the Cherry Hills Village Police Department.

The department announced the creation of its K9 unit in March. The department welcomes Tuco, a 14-month-old male Belgian Malinois from a long bloodline traced directly to Belgium.

Tuco's handler — Officer Darion Ives — spent a week bonding with his new four-legged partner before attending a 10-week police canine academy. Tuco will be trained as a dual-purpose

K9, which means he will be able to detect narcotics as well as track and apprehend suspects.

Although only with the Cherry Hills Village Police Department since January 2024, Ives is a highly experienced 10-year law enforcement veteran.

K9 Tuco was purchased with a generous donation from the Cherry Hills Village Police Foundation, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, the Greenwood Village Police Department and the Littleton Police Department. Among other surrounding agencies that have active K9 units.



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Anne Marie Martinez / amgraphix1@gmail.com



You're invited for some old-fashioned barnyard fun!

2nd Annual

EARTH DAY Celebration at Quincy Farm

Sunday, April 21
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Tickets \$5

- Meet our visiting animals...charming chickens, turkeys, horses, and goats
- Special guest! Oliver the Pig
- Complimentary Travelin' Tom's Coffee or Hot Chocolate included
- Learn about bees with the Jefferson County Beekeeper Association
- Plant sunflowers to take home in your own decorated starter pot

Registration
is required
to attend!

Sponsored by:

Lucy Buck

303-488-9822

lucy.buck.loz3@statefarm.com©



There's no better
place to experience
Earth Day than
Quincy Farm!

Register TODAY to save your spot at www.quincyfarm.org/programs



April 21 Earth Day Celebration at Quincy Farm — join us for some spring fun in the barnyard
May 9 Seed to Harvest — Vegetable Gardening with Deep Rooted Garden Design at Quincy Farm
May 30 Guest Speaker — High Line Canal Conservancy's CEO Harriet LaMair



Seed to Harvest at Quincy Farm
Join Devon Hukill of Deep Rooted Garden and Design for a workshop on planting, maintaining, and harvesting crops that thrive in Colorado's unique climate. You'll learn key techniques for successfully growing an organic vegetable garden. All levels — from greenhorns to green thumbs — are encouraged to attend! Register now! \$20 per adult



Calling All Village Beekeepers!
If you would like to meet with neighbor beekeepers, please email your contact info to elthompson@cherryhillslandpreserve.org to be added to our list.
We have periodic meetings at Quincy Farm with Doug Rush, President of Jefferson County Beekeepers Association, and would love to have you join us!
Topics include: hive inspections, hive splits, mite control, and other relevant topics. Beekeeping suit required.



CHERRY HILLS LAND PRESERVE

Cherry Hills Land Preserve is a local nonprofit partnering with the City of Cherry Hills Village to revitalize Quincy Farm and provide educational experiences that connect people to nature.

quincyfarm.org/programs



QUINCY FARMS OPEN SPACE

CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE



POND ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW

February 2017



**P.O. Box 2427
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522**

Introduction

The Quincy Farms Open Space Pond Assessment Report was prepared by FlyWater, inc. (Revised August 6, 2012) and included critical observations of the physical setting and environmental conditions, general water quality parameter measurements, collection of water quality samples, evaluation of the property water resources, aquatic species observations, and aquatic and terrestrial vegetation identification. Recommendations for pond physical improvements and maintenance were also presented in the report.

On October 21, 2016, a site visit was conducted by Blue Earth Solutions, LLC to review the 2012 assessment results and evaluate current pond conditions. During the site visit, goals for potential pond improvement and use were discussed with Cherry Hills Village staff. Similar to the 2012 assessment, the site visit included observations of the pond and overbank conditions, water quality measurements, and sample collection for water quality analyses.

We understand that the pond is not intended for recreational use (i.e. fishing, boating), but may be used for irrigation of adjacent landscape. However, the area will be accessible to the public and the project vision still includes an aesthetically pleasing pond that supports healthy aquatic and shoreline wildlife. To support the project vision, the 2012 assessment report identified the following priorities for pond improvement and management:

1. Improve pond water quality and clarity,
2. Minimize pond and shoreline nuisance vegetation and debris,
3. Create physical shoreline changes allowing easier access for visitors,
4. Keep and maintain quality pond and surrounding terrestrial habitat for wildlife, and
5. Continue proactive pond management to maintain aesthetic quality.

Assessment Review

During the October 21, 2016 site visit, weather conditions were mild, with sunny skies and air temperatures in the mid-70°F. No known major precipitation events occurred prior to the site visit.

Review Summary

At the time of the site visit, the Quincy Open Space Pond conditions were similar to the conditions described in the 2012 assessment report. Recommendations for pond habitat, access, and aesthetic improvements provided in the assessment remain mostly unchanged, but are updated in the Recommendations section below. Important items included in the assessment that were found to still be applicable include:

1. The east side of the pond is created by a constructed dam. From the combination of dam height and pond size and depth, it does not appear that the dam would be classified as jurisdictional by the Colorado State Engineer's Office. However, prior to any physical repairs or improvements to the dam, it is recommended that the jurisdictional status and hazard classification be explored in more detail.
2. The pond is shallow (mostly less than 4 feet deep) and steep shorelines make it difficult to access the water.
3. Pond sediments are believed to be composed of layers of decaying organic matter, providing a continual nutrient source for nuisance suspended algae growth that severely reduces water clarity.

4. Pond water contains relatively high concentrations of total dissolved solids and sodium creating a sodium hazard and moderate salinity hazard for use in irrigation.

Pond Physical Conditions

The pond size (approximately 1.5 acres), shape, and depth (mostly less than 4 feet) has remained unchanged. The surface fountain aeration systems observed during the assessment were not seen during the October 2016 site visit. All slopes and shorelines have remained well vegetated and areas of excessive erosion were not observed. The vegetation growth on the banks and pond dam include grasses, shrubs, and trees similar to those observed during the 2012 assessment. The pond substrate still contains a layer of dark, decaying organic material.

Habitat and Wildlife Observations

The pond shoreline and surrounding area still contains a natural, non-landscaped setting with tall grasses, woody debris, and thick brush and trees that provide beneficial habitat for a variety of wildlife species. However, possibly due to the time of year, very few wildlife species were observed during the October 2016 site visit. Ducks, robins, and crows were observed along with tracks from a variety of small mammals and deer.

Aquatic habitat in the pond was difficult to observe due to the high suspended particle concentration and lack of water clarity. This was very similar to the condition observed during the 2012 assessment. There appears to be woody debris in the water and overhanging vegetation providing some beneficial aquatic habitat, but the shallow pond depth, steep shoreline, and prolific suspended algae concentration likely limits diverse aquatic habitat within the pond.

Water Quality

General water quality parameters were measured and samples were collected for analysis during the October 2016 site visit. Water quality in the pond remains similar to the water quality observed during the 2012 assessment (see **Table 1**). A relatively high pH value (8.9 s.u.) and total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration (714 mg/L), along with major ions dominated by sodium and carbonate/bicarbonate are all consistent with the original assessment results. As stated in the assessment report, high sodium and TDS concentrations in water are generally not favorable for agriculture. Sample results from the pond classify the pond water as having a high sodium hazard and moderate salinity hazard for use as irrigation water.

Suspended material in the pond had a similar combination of amorphous debris, phytoplankton (primarily algae), and protozoa as seen in samples collected during the assessment. The high concentration of suspended algae creates large variations in dissolved oxygen concentrations and can be associated with increasing water temperatures, both negatively affecting the aquatic habitat. The suspended material also decreases water clarity and aesthetic value.

Recommendations

Recommendations following review of the 2012 assessment report and further discussions with Cherry Hills Village staff are summarized below. In general, we believe a relatively small, deep water pond with adjacent wetland areas will provide the most diverse habitat, potential for wildlife viewing, and visitor enjoyment. Creating this habitat within the existing pond would also minimize capital improvement and maintenance costs. Additionally, by limiting the extent of pond excavation, potential hazards associated with the dam embankment can be avoided.

Table 1. Quincy Farms Open Space Pond Water Quality Summary

Parameter	Units	11/17/11 Pond	4/5/12 Pond North	4/5/12 Pond South	11/21/16 Pond	4/5/12 Well
Temperature	°F	---	52.4	---	---	---
pH	s.u.	8.4	9.0	9.1	8.9	9.0
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	1050	1020	1010	1264	977
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	---	10.8	---	---	---
TDS	mg/L	---	730	717	714	674
Total Alkalinity	mg/L as CaCO ₃	---	408	404	371	400
Total Hardness	mg/L as CaCO ₃	---	41	40	18	8
Calcium	mg/L	---	10.0	9.9	5.0	2.1
Magnesium	mg/L	---	3.8	3.8	1.3	0.6
Sodium	mg/L	---	191	188	231	188
Potassium	mg/L	---	3.5	3.5	3.6	1.3
Carbonate	mg/L	---	19.3	20.4	96.0	21.2
Bicarbonate	mg/L	---	458	451	257	445
Chloride	mg/L	---	18.7	19	75.2	15.3
Sulfate	mg/L	---	25.5	21.0	44.2	<5
Nitrate	mg/L as N	0.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Total Dissolved Phosphorous	mg/L as P	0.12	0.07	---	0.07	0.01
Suspended Sediment Composition	Narrative	Amorphous debris, phytoplankton, protozoa	Amorphous debris, phytoplankton, protozoa	Amorphous debris, phytoplankton, protozoa	Amorphous debris, phytoplankton, protozoa	Not Significant

Pond and Shoreline Physical Enhancements

The 2012 assessment report presented three options for physical pond enhancements: (1) dredging half of the pond and filling the other half with dredge material, (2) disposing of material in areas adjacent to the pond, and (3) using a short haul to move dredged material to other areas within the open space. Of these options, we recommend Option 1, dredge a portion of the pond to increase depth and fill other areas of the pond with the excavated material. Shallow water and saturated soil areas created by the fill material can be developed into wetland areas.

Since the depth and composition of the dredged material is not known, the percentage of final open water to wetland area is difficult to predict. During dredging, excess organic material should be removed from the pond to decrease future maintenance work and costs. The estimated costs in the assessment report associated with this dredging option for physical improvements are still relatively applicable.

As stated in the assessment report, prior to pond enhancements that involve major excavation and grading, even partial dredging of the pond, planning should include additional site assessment, excavation and grading design, and landscape design that is incorporated into other open space planning. Additional evaluation of the dam should also be performed. It is of the utmost importance that dredging and grading on or around the dam be thoroughly evaluated so as not to compromise the structural integrity of the existing dam.

Shoreline improvements presented in the assessment report are still recommended. Improvements may include selectively removing dead and unsightly woody vegetation and replanting areas along the shore with native trees and shrubs. A footpath along the shoreline with discrete access areas to the pond/wetlands is recommended to minimize foot traffic in environmentally sensitive areas.

Pond Management and Maintenance

Recommendations for pond management and maintenance presented in the 2012 assessment report included:

- Develop and Update Pond Management Plan,
- Water Management,
- Landscape and Runoff Management,
- Replacement of Fountain Aerators,
- Routine Monitoring,
- Beneficial Bacteria Applications, and
- Nuisance Vegetation and Water Clarifying Maintenance.

Reducing the size of the pond and increasing the depth should help to control nuisance conditions in the pond and limit pond management and maintenance work. Although proactive adaptive management for aquatic systems, as described in the 2012 assessment report, is typically necessary for maintaining a productive fishery, a relatively small open water pond and adjacent wetland areas would not likely require the same amount of management. Once the small open water/wetland system stabilized following construction activities, most of the management tasks suggested in the assessment report could potentially be eliminated. An aerator in the pond would still be recommended, but water management, routine monitoring, and bacteria and herbicide applications would not likely be routine. Maintenance issues may arise at times, but the smaller open water size would make responding to issues less frequent and less intensive.



Quincy Farm



CHERRY HILLS LAND PRESERVE

2024 Quincy Farm Annual Plan **October 24, 2023**

Developed in partnership with City of Cherry Hills Village staff

Vision

Quincy Farm will be an integral part of the educational and recreational infrastructure of the City of Cherry Hills Village; a place of experiences that reminds our community of its agricultural heritage; a place of natural beauty and open spaces; a place that provides a rich habitat for local flora and fauna; a place that promotes the conservation values of the property; and a place that centers and enriches the Cherry Hills Village Community.

CHLP's mission at Quincy Farm is to provide educational and recreational experiences that inspire curiosity and learning about nature, conservation, and the history of the local area.

What Has Been Accomplished

Since the partnership between CHLP and CHV was established in late 2021 a great deal has been accomplished to create a strong foundation for future progress.

- CHLP completed an end-of-year fundraising effort that raised over \$120,000, even before the 2023 program agenda was implemented.
- CHV Staff have made improvements to the site including removing interior fencing, rebuilding the chicken coop, new gates, improvements to the farmhouse front yard, repainting, and new gravel.
- CHLP and CHV staff meet monthly to ensure that QF planning is coordinated in the full spirit of partnership.
- CHLP hired a new Executive Director with a strong background in organizational planning and marketing and strong connections to the Cherry Hills Village community.

- CHLP created and launched an “Ambassador’s Program” to increase local community awareness, engagement, and advocacy for Quincy Farm.
- CHLP has reached out and met with neighbors.
- New programs were planned and executed, using metrics to determine content quality, interest levels, and attendance.
- Community outreach has been strong through email campaigns, newsletters, ads in the Crier, and word-of-mouth marketing- both offsite and onsite.
- CHLP is working with CSU Extension to take steps to invigorate the dryland pastures behind the barnyard and determine what, if anything, may be needed for the long-term sustainability of the west side pastures and trees.
- CHLP hosted the first-ever Barn Party at Quincy Farm to build awareness and support.
- A feasibility study of the adaptive use of the Big Barn for all-weather programming has been completed using \$25,000 of CHLP funding.

In all our planning and programs to date, CHLP has respected and promoted the conservation values that are at the heart of the Conservation Easement.

In addition, the planning and programs support the 2022 Cherry Hills Village Master Plan vision that includes:

- Natural open space
- Views
- A safe and serene environment

Calendar of Events 2023

Program/Event	Date	Audience	Strategic Bucket	Location	Attended
Earth Day	April 22	Families	Heritage /History Nature/Conservation	East and West Side	66
Return of the Bees	April 29	Adults	Nature /Conservation	East Side	4
Ambassador Luncheon	May 17	Adults	Community Outreach	West Side	21
Bird Walk /Denver Audubon	June 4	Adults	Nature /Conservation	West Side	17
Organic Vegetable Gardening	June 7	Families	Sustainability	East Side	18
Live Raptors from The Raptor Foundation	June 13	Families	Nature /Conservation	East Side	38
Neighbor Meeting	July 11	N/A	Community Outreach	East Side	10
Creeks and Critters at Woody Hollow	July 15	Families	Nature /Conservation	Woodie Hollow Park	27
Children's Horse Event with Kent Denver	July 26	School children	Heritage /History	East Side	31
Family Bird Discussion Denver Audubon	Aug. 12	Families	Nature /Conservation	East and West Side	12+22
Nature and Children: A Book Discussion	Aug. 15	Adults	Nature /Conservation	East Side	17
An Evening at Quincy Farm	Sept 15	Adults	Fundraising	East Side	178
Horsemanship Workshop	Sept. 24	Families	Heritage /History	East Side pasture	80
Adventures in Nature (formerly Trail Walk)	Oct. 1	Families	Nature /Sustainability Heritage /History	East and West Side	214
Stargazing w/ Kent Denver Teacher	Oct. 26	Families	Nature /Conservation	West Side	Cancelled (weather)
Individual meetings/tours	All season	Adults	Community Outreach	East and West Side	50
			Actual through Oct. 26		805
Upcoming Events					
Pony Club Meeting	Nov 5	Adults	Heritage/History	East Side	18
			Estimated annual Total		823

2024 Initiatives Outline

Programs

Audience

- Our primary audiences include:
 - Young families that want to get out in nature
 - Adults interested in open space, sustainability, and history
 - School children

Strategic Direction of CHLP Programs

- Create high-quality events in spring, summer, and fall that deepen community engagement in this unique property and open space.
- Develop strong partnerships with existing and new education organizations that bring information and expertise into our community. and continue to strengthen the partnership between CHLP and CHV as it relates to the Master Plan and sustainability.
- Focus on programs that fit into each of our three strategic buckets:
 - Sustainability
 - Gardening and flowers (Denver Botanic Garden, local gardeners)
 - Landscaping with drought-tolerant plants and grasses
 - Water (High Line Canal Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy)
 - Trees and pasture stewardship (CSU Extension)
 - Nature and Conservation
 - Birds (Denver Audubon)
 - Bees (Happy Bees)
 - Butterflies (Butterfly Pavilion)
 - Raptors (Hawk Quest, Nature's Education, Raptor Foundation)
 - Heritage / History
 - Horse events (Pony Club, Village Club, KDS Tiny Farm)
 - Barns/barnyard animals (Goat shelters, chickens)
 - 1898 Hopkins House (Historic Denver)
- Regularly evaluate current program metrics and change direction where needed.
- Establish **signature programs** (gardening, horses, farm animals, birds, bees) and **speaker series** (water, trees, sustainability, nature) that fulfill and reinforce the conservation values of Quincy Farm.

Access to the West Side of the Canal

- Beginning in 2024, public access to the west side will be open to pedestrians on the nature trail, the lawn, and the gardens - daily, from dawn to dusk, to provide outdoor recreation and education opportunities for the general public.
- This access is an essential element of the conservation values, and can be accommodated without interfering with the natural habitat and natural areas consistent with the protection of open lands.
- CHLP/CHV will work with wildlife and natural resource experts regarding sound conservation practices as applied to any change to the current mowed nature trail. The intent is to protect and preserve conservation values and maintain the consistent uses pursuant to those values by limiting public access within the pastures to a defined trail.
- Scheduled programs with limited enrollment will continue to be offered on the west side in 2024. The programs will be tailored to the primary use of this area as a natural area and will conform to the preservation uses, since the easement specifically states these are permitted on the west side.

Site Improvements

Barnyard

- The barnyard area serves as the anchor for programming at Quincy Farm because it has a variety of structures and open areas with historic resonance and programmatic flexibility.
- A feasibility study from Rogue Architecture for the adaptive use of the Big Barn was completed by CHLP, with CHV input, on September 29, 2023.
- Big Barn renovations will begin in 2024. Necessary structural repairs will be completed to preserve the Barn for future generations. The improvements will retain the Barn's historic character while creating a small interior gathering area to serve as the core program and events space at Quincy Farm.

The Nature Trail

The Nature Trail will change from the current mowed trail to a crusher fine trail consistent with the conservation easement.

Hopkins House

The Hopkins House provides a historical and visual anchor to the site. CHLP/CHV will assess how it can be used to advance the vision for Quincy Farm.

Pond

- The pond is a key feature of Quincy Farm as it attracts waterfowl and wildlife, which is crucial to the educational experiences at Quincy Farm.
- The Pond will be improved, which could include dredging, removal of materials, and creation of wetlands on the south side. Once the pond work is complete, a new viewing platform will be added on the east side of the pond that protects the banks from foot traffic while encouraging wildlife viewing.

Pastures (east side)

CHLP/CHV will continue to work with CSU Extension to revitalize dryland pastures on the east side. In addition, a crusher fine trail will be established from the back of the Big Barn to the old Pony Club arena.

Maintenance Plan

CHLP/CHV recognize the need to establish a more detailed maintenance plan for all of Quincy Farm to support programmatic and fundraising needs.

- A new maintenance plan will be created based on a “zone” approach to the property.
- The plan will include physical building maintenance as well as landscape.

Signage

A comprehensive signage plan for all of Quincy Farm will be created in 2024:

- Interpretive signage on the history of Quincy Farm in the barnyard and in front of Hopkins House.
- Additional signage along the nature trail and in front of the pond.
- Rules and regulations clarifying limits of access.

Bridge

- The Bridge crossing the High Line Canal to the Barnyard will be replaced to improve visitor safety.
- CHLP/CHV will develop a design to ensure a rustic look and feel, consistent with the property.

Outreach

Marketing Enhancements

- CHLP will optimize both websites to ensure clarity and create content that drives more website traffic to build awareness of Quincy Farm, its mission, and programs.
- Upon a year-end review of advertising effectiveness, CHLP will refine advertising plans for 2024 using various tools (Crier ads, email campaigns, CHLP eNewsletter, and neighborhood email groups) to maximize reach and engagement within the community.
- A Quincy Farm social media plan (e.g., FB and Instagram) will be rolled out as a way of building community around the mission, recruiting donors and volunteers, and communicating information quickly and effectively.

Ambassador Program

- Launched in 2023, the current group includes 12 residents from various demographic and geographic areas of CHV who are loyal supporters of Quincy Farm, and who help spread awareness of the vision of the Farm.
- CHLP hopes to expand the program from 12 to 15 ambassadors in 2024.
- Future CHLP board members may come from the ambassador group.

Neighbors of Quincy Farm

- A Neighbor meeting was held on July 11 to share updates, get feedback and address any concerns.
- Periodic “check-ins” will occur when needed.

Partners / Volunteers

- Neighboring schools offer a great funnel of ready-to-go attendees for family events. CHLP will expand beyond CHVE and establish relationships with Aspen Academy, West Middle School, St. Mary's, and Greenwood Village Elementary.
- CHLP will continue its partnership with Kent Denver, as parking at Kent remains crucial to events at Quincy Farm.
- A larger group of volunteers will be recruited to assist with events in 2024.

Fundraising

- CHLP will continue to raise funds to support 100% of the programming and outreach for Quincy Farm, as indicated in the 2024 Budget.
- CHLP will seek to raise capital funds for the Big Barn adaptive use initiative to support more usable interior space for programs/events as indicated in the 2024 Budget.
- CHLP/CHV will offer naming rights within the Big Barn (e.g. stalls, all-purpose area).

