

**RESOLUTION NO. 6
SERIES 2017**

**INTRODUCED BY: KATY BROWN
SECONDED BY: AL BLUM**

**A RESOLUTION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
TO AFFIRM THE HIGH LINE CANAL WORKING GROUP
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND TO SUPPORT THE HIGH LINE CANAL
VISION STATEMENT AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

WHEREAS, the historic High Line Canal (the "Canal") has always faced challenges as an irrigation delivery system due in part to its water right low priority and high rate of seepage; and

WHEREAS, despite its challenges as an irrigation delivery system, the Canal is a cherished part of the lives of millions of people of all ages and backgrounds, serving as a natural respite from the urban experience: the Canal's 71 meandering miles are vitally important to the region's citizens; and

WHEREAS, since July 2005, Cherry Hills Village has managed the High Line Canal property within its borders for recreational use pursuant to a Lease Agreement for Recreational Use with Denver Water, as amended and extended by the parties; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the High Line Canal Working Group, a collaborative effort initiated by Arapahoe County to secure funding for, and implement, projects that help enhance and protect the unique recreational experience along the High Line Canal trail ("Canal Trail"), entered into the High Line Canal Working Group Statement of Purpose, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the High Line Canal Core Management Team, consisting of Denver Water, Arapahoe County, the City of Aurora, the City and County of Denver, and Douglas County, was established in 2012 with a primary objective to achieve maximum possible beneficial public use/s for the Canal; and

WHEREAS, Denver Water, as the owner and operator of the Canal, has supported the region's recreational use of the Canal Trail for over 40 years and has partnered in creating this transformational long term vision for the Canal's future, while continuing to meet its water delivery obligations; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Douglas County, Highlands Ranch Metropolitan District, the City of Littleton, the City of Centennial, Arapahoe County, South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, the City of Greenwood Village, the City of Cherry Hills Village, the City and County of Denver, the City of Aurora, which are all of the counties, cities and districts along the Canal, joined together with Denver Water and the High Line Canal Conservancy to support an *extraordinary and diverse public outreach* process that reached over 100,000 citizens, and engaged over 3,500 residents across the Denver metro region through public meetings, more than 25 community events, and two online surveys; and

WHEREAS, through this unprecedented public input process, the High Line Canal Conservancy, in partnership with the counties, cities and districts along the Canal and with support from Denver Water, developed the High Line Canal Vision Plan (the "Vision Plan"), a copy of which has been provided to City Council and is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's office, 2450 E Quincy Avenue, Cherry Hills Village; and

WHEREAS, the Vision Plan recognizes that each of the jurisdictions along the Canal previously have adopted local management and planning strategies that address uses and activities of the Canal within their jurisdictions, and these differences are acknowledged and respected by the Vision Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village is supportive of the Vision Plan and desires to affirm its support through the adoption of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE:

Section 1. That the City Council of Cherry Hills Village supports the following Vision statement from the Vision Plan Executive Summary:

The High Line Canal's 71 meandering miles will be preserved and enhanced as a cherished greenway that connects people to nature and binds varied communities together from the foothills to the plains.

Section 2. That the City Council further supports the following guiding principles for the future of the Canal, found in the Vision Plan Executive Summary :

Natural: To preserve the natural character of the Canal, ensuring it continues to be a natural refuge for the region's population and wildlife. The Canal's natural, scenic beauty is integral to its identity;

Connected & Continuous: To maintain and increase the connectivity of the Canal along all 71 miles, preserving and enhancing the Canal's use as an important continuous resource and regional environmental and trail network;

Varied: To respect the variety of communities and experiences along the Canal and to preserve its various physical characteristics through the course of its 71 miles;

Managed: To work together in order to preserve and support a long-term, sustainable future for generations to come. Our Canal is a critical, cherished asset for the region;

Enhanced: To enhance the enjoyment and use of the Canal in keeping with its natural and varied character.

Section 3. That the City Council affirms the "High Line Canal Working Group Statement of Purpose" to reinforce the Working Group's continuing collaborative efforts (attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A).

Section 4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

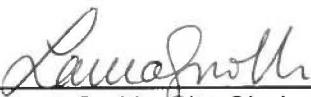
Introduced, passed and adopted at the regular meeting of City Council this 7th day of February, 2017, by a vote of 5 Yes and 0 No.

(SEAL)


Laura Christman, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Laura Smith, City Clerk


Linda C. Michow, City Attorney

Exhibit A
High Line Canal Working Group Statement of Purpose

HIGH LINE CANAL WORKING GROUP STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

PURPOSE
The High Line Canal Working Group is a collaborative effort to secure funding for - and implement - projects that will help enhance and protect the unique recreation experience along the High Line Canal.

VISION
The High Line Corridor be protected forever as an intimate treasure and continuous recreation experience along a historic, naturally scenic Canal.

MEMBERS
Arapahoe County
City of Aurora
City of Centennial
City of Cherry Hills Village
City and County of Denver
Douglas County
City of Greenwood Village
Highlands Ranch Metropolitan District
City of Littleton
South Suburban Park and Recreation District

PARTICIPATING ENTITIES
Adams County
Arapahoe County Open Space and Trails Advisory Board
Cherry Hills Land Preserve
Colorado Division of Wildlife
Colorado State Parks
Denver Parks and Recreation
Denver Water
High Line Canal Preservation Association
Sand Creek Regional Greenway
South Metro Land Conservancy
South Suburban Park Foundation
The Trust for Public Land

GOALS

- To identify and pursue open space properties near the High Line Canal that enhance conservation values.
- To identify and work with relevant agencies to design and construct safety improvements at roadway and railway crossings.
- To Identify and Improve connectivity along the trail and to other corridors near the Canal.
- To preserve and enhance the overall trail experience.
- To enhance the trail user's experience through consistent and improved signage and mileage markers.

CONSERVATION VALUES

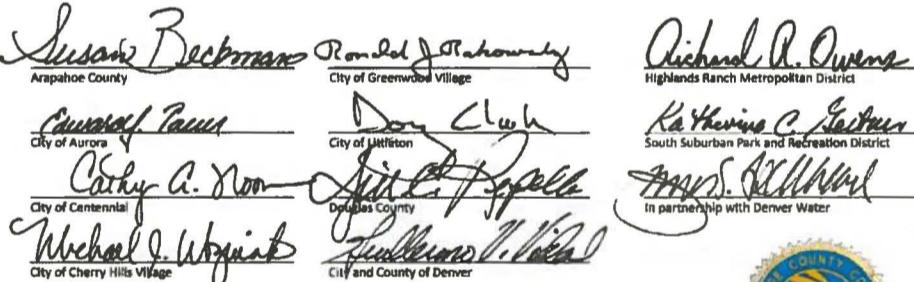
- The preservation of views and vistas.
- The enhancement of the public's sense of place.
- The preservation and enhancement of recreational opportunities for all citizens.
- The protection of adjacent and complementary open space properties to open up the existing character of the Canal that spans multiple jurisdictions.
- The preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat and migration routes.
- The preservation, replacement and enhancement of the historic canopy that defines the Canal

PROCESS

- To evaluate each proposed project on its own merits as it contributes to the whole, acknowledging that landowner participation is voluntary and funding is subject to approval by participating boards and elected officials.
- All projects and proposals will fully respect the operational integrity of the Canal.

COMMITMENT

- To the vision and to the corridor as a whole;
- To agree to collaborate as we are more effective together than individually; and
- To a long-term effort that ensures a legacy for future generations.



Susan Beckman *Ronald J. Rabinoway*
Arapahoe County City of Greenwood Village

Carolyn Palmer *Don Clugh*
City of Aurora City of Littleton

Cathy A. Non *Sid Pappas*
City of Centennial Douglas County

Michael J. Wyzanski *Pauline J. Vial*
City of Cherry Hills Village City and County of Denver

Richard A. Owens
Highlands Ranch Metropolitan District

Katherine C. Gaskins
South Suburban Park and Recreation District

Mrs. Michael
In partnership with Denver Water



ADOPTED IN 2011