



COLORADO

Department of Transportation

Region 4

Regional Director's Office
10601 10th Street
Greeley, CO 80634-9000

September 9, 2019

Ms. Kathleen Bracke
Interim Director of Transportation/Go Boulder Manager
City of Boulder
1777 Broadway
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Kathleen,

This letter is for follow-up to the May 28, 2019 meeting held at the City of Boulder, in which proposed South Boulder Creek flood mitigation concepts along US-36 were discussed. The purpose of this letter is to provide clarity regarding the position of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) with respect to the South Boulder Creek flood mitigation concepts being considered and reviewed by the City of Boulder. Below are three specific points that CDOT has previously articulated and desires to reinforce as our position, as you consider South Boulder Creek flood mitigation along US-36:

1. **Floodwall Concept:** CDOT is open to the idea of supporting a flood control wall being located just outside the existing right-of-way line of US-36 with superstructure elements being located outside of the existing ROW. CDOT will evaluate and consider potential substructure elements being located inside the existing ROW, but not inside the roadway prism, as long as no jeopardy occurs to CDOT regarding complete control, operation, maintenance or function of said roadway happens due to the City of Boulder's flood mitigation project. The roadway prism is defined by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as everything between toe of slope to opposite toe of slope, including embankment fill slopes, shoulders, wearing surface, median, etc.
2. **Variants:** CDOT is not part of the "variant" discussion/question and is impartial as to the variants being considered by the City as they pertain to flood mitigation concepts, as long as Item 1. is satisfied.
3. **South Boulder Creek/US-36 Bridge:** CDOT does not support any flood mitigation design options which would involve attaching flood restriction or appurtenances to the US-36 bridge over South Boulder Creek, or adjacent to the bridge within CDOT ROW, or within the existing roadway prism. Flood mitigation concepts of this type could be placed upstream of the bridge and completely outside of the US-36 ROW, as long as concentrated flow through CDOT's bridge is mitigated and placed at the City of Boulder's expense and approved with Special Use permits at the CDOT regional level.

I trust this letter will provide clarification you are seeking. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Heather Paddock
Region 4 Director

HP:GS:mbc

cc: Gerrit Slatter, Boulder PW Dept.
Keith Sheaffer, CDOT South PE
File

