

June 4, 2019

Dear Mayor Jones and City Council Members:

I am writing to thank all of you for inviting the university to attend the meeting you held with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) last Tuesday May 28. We very much appreciated the opportunity for Derek Silva to be there on behalf of the university. You may be aware that we also met with city staff on May 23 and have set up subsequent meetings with staff to continue to hold conversations on the annexation and flood mitigation project. We, like you, want to move this project forward quickly in the interest of public safety.

First, we want to commend you on moving the flood mitigation forward by getting CDOT's conceptual agreement to the placement of the floodwall along US36 for either Variant I or II. This is a meaningful step forward.

Second, we are pleased that there remain many good options for the city to consider despite CDOT's statement in the meeting that they do not want a flow restrictor placed within the Hwy 36 right-of-way attached to the overpass. As your city engineer pointed out in the meeting, there remains the option to construct Variant II 500 by placing the flow restrictor outside of that right-of-way on the creek without diminishing the function of the flow restrictor. He also noted it can be designed to be aesthetically appealing.

And....there also remain the options to build to a 100-year to 250-year flood level in either variant. Finally, there remains a path to construct Variant I 500 at a reasonable cost by replacing any acreage the city needs within the area designated as Public with equal acreage in the area designated OS-O.

We appreciate that the city is working to identify a time for us to meet so that we can resolve the foundational issues pertaining to flood mitigation and annexation. If you would like us to attend other sessions in the interim, please let us know. We look forward to quickly creating an agreement with you that will result in much-needed flood protection for the community in a timely manner.

Thank you,



Frances Draper
Vice Chancellor for Strategic Relations
University of Colorado Boulder

