

## South Boulder Creek (SBC) Flood Mitigation Study Major Milestones Timeline

To view corresponding memos for meetings listed below click on links provided.  
To view corresponding Water Resources Advisory Board (WRAB) meeting minutes for meetings listed below click [here](#).  
To view corresponding Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) meeting minutes for meetings listed below click [here](#).  
To view corresponding City Council meeting minutes for meetings listed below click [here](#).

**1986:** Floodplain mapping study.

**1996:** The University of Colorado commissioned a flood study as part of its due-diligence review to purchase the 315-acre site which is now called the CU-Boulder South Campus. During this evaluation, inaccuracies in the 1986 regulatory flood mapping were discovered. This study identified significant flood spills over US 36 that would impact east Boulder areas in what has subsequently been called the “West Valley Overflow” area. Studies commissioned by the city and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) revised the 100-year floodplain mapping.

**April 17, 2007:** City Council approved a motion authorizing the submittal of the flood study to FEMA.

**Dec. 21, 2009 WRAB:** Background information on SBC Flood Mapping and introduction to SBC Mitigation Study

Attachments:

- A: Changes to the SBC Regulatory Floodplain
- B: SBC Flood Mitigation Study Area

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/WebLink8/DocView.aspx?id=58896&dbid=0>

**January 27, 2010:** Project Workshop held to present an overview of the study goals and timeline along with a presentation and discussion of known constraints and potential conceptual solutions.

**June 21, 2010 WRAB:** Update on SBC Mitigation Plan including conceptual alternatives:

- A: High Hazard and CF Protection
- B: US36 Storage with Downstream Improvements
- C: Diversion to Bear Canyon Creek, no Upstream Storage
- D: Improvements to Dry Creek No. 2, no Upstream Storage
- E: Main Stem Flow Containment and Downstream Improvements (Baseline Res.)
- F: Frequent Event Improvements

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/WebLink8/DocView.aspx?id=58941&dbid=0>

**Dec. 14, 2010 WRAB:** Discussion about SBC Flood Mitigation Plan Alternatives and selection of a short list of best alternatives for further evaluation and consideration including updated conceptual alternatives:

- 1. Status Quo
- 2. High Hazard and CF Facility Protection
- 3. Regional Detention at US36 with Downstream Improvements
- 4. Regional Detention near Hwy 93 with Downstream Improvements
- 5. Distributed Regional Detention
- 6. Containment of Flood flow in SBC
- 7. Bear Canyon Creek Pipeline
- 8. Dry Creek Ditch No. 2 Pipeline
- 9. Nuisance-level Flood Improvement Protection

[https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/Memo\\_and\\_Attachments.Packet-1-201505211549.pdf](https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/Memo_and_Attachments.Packet-1-201505211549.pdf)

**July 21, 2014 WRAB:** Information update with refined list of conceptual alternatives based on WRAB's feedback from the December 2010 meeting.

WRAB motioned to move forward with four of the nine alternatives (a pipe alternative was eliminated) including:

- 1. Maintaining the status quo;
- 2. High hazard and critical facility protection;
- 3. Regional detention at US36 with downstream improvements; and
- 4. Distributed regional detention.

Four sub-alternatives were developed for the regional detention at US36 facility:

- 1. A wall centered on the US36 median barrier;
- 2. A detention facility located on some of the current US36 expansion project right-of-way;
- 3. A detention facility located outside of the current US36 expansion project; and
- 4. A detention facility located outside of the ultimate configuration of the future US36 corridor.

[https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/WRAB\\_July\\_21.14.Packet-1-201505211446.pdf](https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/WRAB_July_21.14.Packet-1-201505211446.pdf)

**August 18, 2014 WRAB:** Public Hearing and consideration for City Council recommendation for the SBC Flood Mitigation Plan.

The WRAB recommends proceeding with the "Regional Detention at U.S. 36 with Downstream Improvements" alternative using Open Space land.

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/126406/Electronic.aspx>

**August 20, 2014 OSBT:** Information Item - The "Regional Detention at U.S. 36 with Downstream Improvements" alternative using Open Space land.

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/125995/Electronic.aspx>

**September 10, 2014 OSBT:** Public hearing and consideration of a recommendation to City Council regarding the SBC Flood Mitigation Plan.

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/126246/Electronic.aspx>

**September 30, 2014 City Council Study Session:** Summary of Study Session of Floodplain Management including SBC.

[https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/2014\\_Flood\\_Study\\_Session\\_Summary-1-201501151125.pdf](https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/2014_Flood_Study_Session_Summary-1-201501151125.pdf)

**May 13, 2015 OSBT:** Public hearing and consideration of a recommendation to City Council regarding the SBC Flood Mitigation Plan (requiring no use of Open Space land).

[https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/OSMP\\_Packet-1-201505211426.pdf](https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/OSMP_Packet-1-201505211426.pdf)

**May 18, 2015 WRAB:** Public hearing and consideration of a recommendation to City Council regarding the SBC Flood Mitigation Plan.

**Motion:** The Water Resources Advisory Board recommends that City Council accept the South Boulder Creek Major Drainageway Flood Mitigation Plan including Option D (single berm using Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Right of Way) for 'Regional Detention at US 36' along with the Downstream Improvements as the recommended comprehensive alternative to mitigate flood risks associated with South Boulder Creek.

[https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/WRAB\\_Packet\\_for\\_SBC\\_webpage-1-201505140810.pdf](https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/WRAB_Packet_for_SBC_webpage-1-201505140810.pdf)

**August 4, 2015 City Council Meeting:** Acceptance of the SBC Flood Mitigation Plan

**Motion:** Motion to accept the South Boulder Creek Major Drainageway Flood Mitigation Plan, including Option D (single berm using Colorado Department of Transportation right of way and University of Colorado Boulder South Campus property) for "Regional Detention at US 36," along with the Phase II and Phase III downstream improvements, as the recommended comprehensive alternative to mitigate flood risks associated with South Boulder Creek.

<https://documents.bouldercolorado.gov/weblink8/0/doc/129846/Electronic.aspx>