



Bear Canyon Creek Open House Public Comments

Date: 11.14.13

Meeting Location & Neighborhood:

Southern Hills Elementary – Bear Canyon Creek

Number of Attendees: 36

Staff in Attendance:

Lesli Ellis	Dave Thacker	Chris Trice	Micki Kaplan
Susan Richstone	LaDonna Eubanks	Annie Noble	Melinda Melton
Marcy Cameron	Kurt Bauer	Chris Meschuk	Douglas Sullivan
Katie Knapp	Cris Jones	Liz Hanson	Jessica Stevens
Dean Paschall	Jean Gatza	Bob Harberg	Colette Crouse

Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of the open house was to provide an opportunity for the community to see flood extent information that the city has collected, weigh in about the impacts of the recent flooding, and provide comments about where they thought flood waters went in their neighborhood. This was also an opportunity for residents to speak with city staff to get information and assistance with flood recovery and find out the status of public facilities. In addition to the sign in station, there were stations providing the following information:

- Flood Recovery Information
- Flood Mapping Information
(with approximate delineations of recent flooding for review and comment by residents)
- Impacts and status of Transportation Infrastructure
- OSMP Flood Recovery Progress (Opening of Trails and Lifting of Restrictions)
- Energy Smart Information

Summary of Public Comments

There were several suggestions given and questions asked regarding flood clean-up and recovery for the Bear Canyon Creek area. A suggestion was made to keep the progress of the flood recovery efforts updated on the website. A desire to see a city-wide disaster plan in place was expressed along with seeing the South Boulder Creek trail fully opened. There are also

some culvert and drainage issues that need to be addressed at Dartmouth and the area of Inca Parkway and Baseline.

A link to the map-based summary will be added to this summary and BoulderFloodInfo.net when available. All address-specific comments provided at the meeting will be reflected on the map comments.



General Comments

- **Flood clean-up and recovery work:**
 - Thank you for having this open house. Many of my questions were answered. How will we know when bids are awarded? How will we know when work will start? How will we know when work will be completed? Can you post on the website? Thank you.
 - Maybe have a community clean-up of debris along Bear Creek on Table Mesa with a controlled burn of materials in a pit, monitored by the fire department (yes, a bonfire!). If not that fun event, then could you please use local resources that are low to no cost? Meaning, have a when workers from the Sheriff's Dept.

gather up and rake up sticks, thus only paying for a bid for a contractor to haul away materials. (Brush wrapped on trees on creek will be an issue with snowmelt. This needs cleaning before spring.) Finally, please have the city median workers stop mowing until the grass is cleaned of debris! It seems foolish to mow over rocks and sticks and pay for mower blade repairs.

- Concerned about erosion from Bear Canyon Creek that has affected a backyard and fence.
- **Future Flood Planning:**
 - I'd like to see, publicized, an integrated, holistic disaster plan for the city with NOAA, NCAR and all of the other research facilities. We might be vulnerable for something bigger and worse. The city needs a "what if" plan. Thank you for this open house.
- **Culverts and Storm Sewers:**
 - Concerned about flood waters that came onto certain properties from the adjacent church parking lot. They indicated that the city owns a culvert and easement that directed the waters onto these properties. City records indicate that there is a 15" RCP pipe located on Dartmouth Ave. that carries water from the church parking lot to a storm sewer in Dartmouth. The pipe is only designed to carry stormwater from a minor storm event and was overwhelmed and unable to handle the flood flows. They also told me they had heard their houses were developed in the former location of a frog pond.
 - There are various sanitary and storm sewer issues in the vicinity of Inca Parkway and Baseline.
- **Groundwater:**
 - There was flooding around Fern Creek. The waters crossed over Open Space land and was carried across Stony Hill Road by a 48" RCP. Apparently this small drainage carried a lot of water during the storm event. Although the water did not directly enter any of the houses along Rockmont Circle, the groundwater level increased and flooded numerous basements in this area.
- **Trail Openings/Closures:**
 - When will the South Boulder Creek trail be open between Marshall Road and South Boulder Road?
- **Miscellaneous:**
 - Thank you for providing the information, maps and helpful staff!

- Very interesting! Sort of a sense of “closure” in a way to see the photos, and the maps are especially helpful! Thanks for hosting (and for the FEMA and Red Cross info and brochures).