

Community Engagement Summary

Guided by the citywide Engagement Strategic Framework, the approach to engagement has included three public engagement windows further described below for reference. The [project website](#) also has materials from past events.

Public Engagement 1: Establishing the Goal and Objectives (Involve)

Prior to the first engagement, OSMP reached out to the Greenbelt Meadows HOA board and held a listening session on August 17, 2018 to gauge interest and support for the project.

The first public engagement was held at East Boulder Community Center on Thursday, November 15, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. OSMP shared an analysis of the site and preliminary project goal and objectives with the community twice over the course of the evening. The purpose was to get feedback from the public on the preliminary goal and objectives of the project. This meeting was followed by a two-week online questionnaire to provide a way for community members who could not make the meeting to provide their input.

We heard that the community wanted to continue to have a “peaceful” and “less busy” experience walking on a non-formalized path near the creek, enjoying the sounds of the water and birds, safely separated from speeding bikes along the trail east of the creek. The goal was affirmed, and we revised the objectives to reflect these values.

Public Engagement 2: Design Charette – Collaborative Ideas Generation (Involve)

Prior to the second engagement, OSMP reached out to the Greenbelt Meadows HOA board and held a practice design charette on April 2, 2019 to understand if this activity would be a valuable way to collaborate with the community. In addition, on May 2 we met with each of the OSBT members in pairs of two on site to introduce them to the project.

The second public engagement was a workshop held at the OSMP Hub in the Community Room on Monday, May 20, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. At this workshop, the reasons for the project as well as the adjusted timeline were conveyed, the goal and revised objectives were affirmed, and participants broke out into three smaller groups to come up with ideas and design solutions together to achieve the project goal and objectives. At the end of the meeting, each work tables’ representative reported out on the main ideas heard. This workshop was also followed by a two-week online questionnaire to provide a way for community members who could not make the meeting to share their input.

Out of this second engagement window, staff identified seven distinct ideas: 1) Creation of a northern pedestrian bridge, 2) Creation of a northern stepping-stone crossing, 3) Southern location for a pedestrian bridge, 4) Building two southern bridges, one that crosses Vielle Channel and one that crosses the creek, 5) No bridge(s) and adding fencing to close restoration areas along the west side of the creek, 6) Closing all access on the west side of the creek, and 7) No action.

Following this engagement window, staff created an [evaluation matrix](#) that compared alignment with the goal and objectives, feasibility, and cost. Alternatives one, two and three were advanced, as the

others did not achieve the alignment with the objectives and goals, were rated lower for feasibility or had a much higher cost.

Public Engagement 3: Review of the Alternatives (Involve)

At the third public engagement held at the OSMP Hub in the Community Room on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 staff presented the background, timeline, a review of the goal and objectives, the seven alternatives and the justification for advancing the three highest rated options. Alternatives 1a, 1b, and 2a were further outlined prior to small group discussions. The purpose of the meeting was to get feedback on how to improve the options and see if one was preferred. This meeting was followed by a two-week online questionnaire to provide community members who could not make the meeting a way to provide their input.

At this event, community members voiced three particular requests to staff as the preferred alternative is refined:

- 1) Provide a separated pedestrian path on the east side of the creek from the proposed northern bridge location north to the existing bridge location where an existing separated path exists,
- 2) Assess the feasibility of creating a crossing at 55th that would accessibly connect the parking lot on Parks and Recreation property to the proposed northern bridge location, and
- 3) Look for opportunities to add stepping-stones to the design to help armor the creek and provide a playful way to interact with the creek.

Several members of the public still felt as though the department should be considering the 'No Action' alternative.