



**City of Golden
Council Memorandum**

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Dan Hartman, Public Works Director

Through: Michael C. Bestor, City Manager

Date: October 3, 2008

Subject: Foss Parking and 93 Sound Walls

Background:

There are two capital projects that are pending that we expected to start in 2008. The City/Foss parking lot and the SH 93 sound wall. These projects have been in planning and design for a while, but we are now ready to move forward with them. The problem is neither project can be completed with the current funding.

First the SH 93 sound wall. This project has been pending for the past 4 years. It was conceived during the community noise discussions in 1998-2000 where the community developed noise standards. In this case the operable standard for an outdoor use area at a residential property is 55 dB. In 2001 to 2003 the community had detailed discussions about the design of noise barriers along the US 6, SH 93, I-70 and SH 58 corridors as a portion of the Muller design effort for the 6&93 corridors.

The project along SH 93 at Virginia was designed to be the first section where we would build a sound wall, instead of the preferred berm, because there was not sufficient room for a berm. Additional locations where walls will be needed include US 6 at C-470, the Parfet Estates and along SH 58. This first section is a test section. We have taken many noise readings in the area, and then used our acoustical consultant Alan Rosen to design a wall that will meet the 55 dB standard. When the wall is complete we will conduct additional measurements to determine success. Design was done in 2005 in conjunction with the design for the trail along SH 93 going north.

The wall required a permit from CDOT which was requested in 2005 and again in 2006 and we finally receive a permit this summer. We bid the project and received 3 bids the low bid being \$548,934. The capital budget for the past 4-5 years has had a line item of \$500,000 called neighborhood impact mitigation that was intended to be used for noise mitigation. It is the money that was used to complete the berm along SH 93 at Mountain Ridge. The budget this year was \$417,750 which prior to the sharp increase in concrete cost would have been sufficient. The capital budget planning for 2009 – 2010 assumed an 2008 expenditure of \$300,000 which provided a larger carry over for council goals of workability, completing the Bike Master Plan and Sustainability items. This now leaves us short \$250,000 to complete this project. I have notified the residents that have been

patiently working with us on the project for the past four years of the funding problem so you will likely hear from them.

The other project is the City/Foss Parking lot. That lot needs to be repaved, and we have been looking at it to see if multiple objectives could be achieved. We would like to improve the lane and parking widths, improve storm water runoff quality, have a better aesthetic quality and incorporate sustainability through reduction of the urban heat island effect of such a large paved area. We have looked at designs that meet these multiple goals, and again find that costs are significantly higher than what is available. The cost to complete the parking lot and achieve all the goals is \$450,000. A large part of that cost is the curb, sidewalk and all around the lot need to be replaced as part of the project. We currently have \$85,000 from the downtown district about \$25,000 from Foss and \$80,000 left in 2008 asphalt and concrete monies. This leaves us \$260,000 short.

The option that we can afford if we choose to abandon the goals to enhance the parking lot and simply repave it which will cost \$150,000 and leave all the existing curbs, sidewalks and adding no water quality or heat island improvements.

We need to discuss these projects and get your direction concerning proceeding with either project. This is intended to be an open discussion to determine how to proceed.