



# WESTMINSTER

## Staff Report

TO: The Mayor and Members of the City Council

DATE: October 11, 2006

SUBJECT: Study Session Agenda for October 16, 2006

PREPARED BY: J. Brent McFall, City Manager

*Please Note: Study Sessions and Post City Council meetings are open to the public, and individuals are welcome to attend and observe. However, these meetings are not intended to be interactive with the audience, as this time is set aside for City Council to receive information, make inquiries, and provide Staff with policy direction.*

Looking ahead to next Monday night's Study Session, the following schedule has been prepared:

*A light dinner will be served in the Council Family Room* 6:00 P.M.

### CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Report from Mayor (5 minutes)
2. Reports from City Councillors (10 minutes)

### PRESENTATIONS

1. District 50 School Superintendent Roberta Selleck presentation on District 50 Bond Issue – (**Verbal**)
2. Graffiti Strategy
3. McKay Lake Outfall Drainage

6:30 P.M.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None at this time.

### INFORMATION ONLY STAFF REPORTS

1. Summer Concert Series
2. Standley Lake Power Boat Permit Changes

Additional items may come up between now and Monday night. City Council will be apprised of any changes to the Study Session meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall  
City Manager



## Staff Report

City Council Study Session Meeting  
October 16, 2006



SUBJECT: Graffiti Strategy

PREPARED BY: Janice Kraft, Neighborhood Services Administrator

### **Recommended City Council Action:**

Review the attached report and staff presentation concerning a strategy to combat graffiti and provide comments and input to City Staff. If consensus from Councillors is reached, City Council is requested to direct Staff to place the necessary items on a regular City Council agenda for formal approval.

### **Summary Statement:**

- Staff presented a proposal to City Council June 5, 2006 concerning changes to ordinances enforced by Code Enforcement Officers. Concern was expressed by several Councillors regarding the extent of graffiti and what philosophy the City should adopt concerning graffiti removal requirements.
- Staff has developed a comprehensive graffiti strategy that consists of a three-pronged initiative – Community Involvement, Eradication, and Enforcement.
- The community involvement piece would encompass efforts to get the citizens and businesses of Westminster actively involved by way of programs similar to Crimestoppers and Adopt-A-Street and significant efforts to educate school students and the community-at-large about the impacts of graffiti.
- The eradication piece would involve the use of individuals assigned to community service work by the Court, to remove graffiti on public property, parks, and City right-of-way. Private property owners would be required to clean graffiti from their property. If they are unable or unwilling, the City could consider abating the graffiti and billing the cost back to the property owner.
- The enforcement piece would involve adopting an ordinance that makes the act of graffiti illegal, requires identification to purchase graffiti products, and would allow police officers to confiscate graffiti products from juveniles under certain circumstances. Conviction in court could require community service work removing graffiti, restitution to the property owner and significant financial penalties.
- The hinge pin in this graffiti strategy is the Community Service Coordinator. This is an authorized position in the City's staffing plan, but recruitment has been frozen since late 2003. This employee would be the City facilitator for community service workers, and would manage the graffiti program (identified in greater detail in this staff report) from the Police Department Neighborhood Services Section (currently located in Public Works and Utilities).

**Expenditure Required:** Approximately \$50,000

**Source of Funds:** General Fund – Police Department Operating Budget

**Policy Issue:**

Should the City adopt a graffiti strategy that merges the ideas of community involvement, enforcement and eradication, including a graffiti ordinance and redirection of the efforts of the Community Service Coordinator, towards graffiti eradication and management of the graffiti program?

**Alternatives:**

- One alternative would be to maintain the status quo. Staff does not recommend this alternative as graffiti incidents are increasing in number, are of significant concern to the citizens, are a blight on neighborhoods, and contribute to the spread of other criminal activity.
- City Council may select only specific recommendations for approval. Staff does not recommend this alternative because of the prevailing thought that a comprehensive strategy is needed, which includes community involvement, enforcement and eradication.

**Background Information:**

Graffiti is a pressing social issue. It impacts the quality of life for citizens, reduces their property values, heightens residents' fears, and attracts other forms of crime and street delinquency to a neighborhood. It contributes to reduced retail sales as a business littered with graffiti is less likely to be patronized. Graffiti can be perceived as a sign that a downward spiral in a neighborhood has begun. It is a fact that graffiti is most prevalent in lower income sections of any city, however there are no areas in any metropolitan city that escapes this problem.

In some areas of Westminster, "tagging" is the most prevalent type of graffiti. This form of self-expressed "art" involves juveniles and adults painting or marking their unique name or tag on the wall of a building, a power junction box, street sign or virtually any other surface capable of displaying this "art." Some of the taggers go way beyond just painting their tag on the surface; they create very detailed and large murals containing many colors and graphics.

The term and act of "tagging" should not be confused with gang related graffiti. Although gang members will tag walls and other surfaces with their gang names or monikers of gang members, the act of tagging for gang members has a deep rooted meaning within the gang culture. It often expresses territory, gang affiliation and ultimately violent intentions of the gang, all expressed through the graffiti. The colors of the graffiti take on new meaning.

Most "taggers" are not true gang members and most true gang members are not "taggers. Approximately 70% of the graffiti in Westminster is from taggers, the other 30% is gang related.

Incidents of graffiti come to the Police Department's attention in several ways. A victim of the graffiti calls to report the crime, someone calls Code Enforcement to report graffiti that needs to be cleaned, a Code Enforcement Officer encounters graffiti during routine inspections, or City Street crews or Parks personnel discover that City property has been tagged.

The Police Department's Special Enforcement Team (SET) has implemented a graffiti tracking system that involves a card to be filled out that is submitted with digital photographs of the graffiti. The card documents the date, location and person's name who photographed the graffiti.

The SET team maintains an active file of convicted taggers accompanied by an example of their known tag or graffiti. The individual tagger's personal information is on file along with the respective police case report associated with their arrest. When the SET team receives graffiti pictures, the photographs are compared to this file for possible prosecution. If the individual tag is not identified, it is documented with a computerized tracking number and stored for further use and future prosecution. The Investigations supervisors forward to the SET team all reports taken by officers that involve graffiti for possible follow-up and prosecution and intelligence gathering.

The SET team has identified the top fifteen tagging locations in the City. This information has been used by the SET team for surveillance. They have conducted over 240 hours of surveillance since January 1, 2006. The cost to the City in the way of salaries for this effort is approximately \$7,200. An additional 85 hours of volunteer surveillance has been performed by the Citizen's on Patrol (Police Citizen's Academy Alumni). To date, no arrests have been made from this surveillance effort.

The "Graffiti Cam" is deployed by the SET team in areas regularly hit with graffiti. This camera was acquired with cooperative funding from the Police Department, Public Works and Utilities Department and the Parks, Recreation & Libraries Department. The camera has been utilized in high graffiti areas such as Torii Square Park, Bishop Square Park, Quail Crossing Park, Skyline Park, Builder's Square, and the shopping centers at 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Federal Boulevard. This is a motion activated 35mm camera that takes photographs and gives a loud pre-recorded audible message. Due to the fact that the camera is motion activated, it is very difficult to catch taggers in the act and the photo quality is only average.

Graffiti vandals are quick, covert, and able to cover a large surface area in a very short amount of time. Catching a graffiti vandal most oftentimes requires someone to witness the act in progress, immediately call the police department, and have police response be almost instantaneous. That type of police response cannot be guaranteed due to the need to balance these calls with other incidents and more serious crimes in progress. The Police Department averages only a couple of graffiti arrests per month.

The City currently removes graffiti from public property with the use of staff from Public Works and Utilities (PWU), Parks, Recreation & Libraries (PR&L) and individuals assigned community service through Westminster Municipal Court. Due to a temporary hiring freeze for the Community Service Coordinator whose duties include graffiti removal, PWU has temporarily assigned this responsibility to a street maintenance employee. Approximately 90 hours a month are worked by this PWU employee dedicated to graffiti removal on streets and right-of-way at a cost of approximately \$19,500 annually in salary dollars. An additional 164 hours of court ordered community service worker hours have been expended towards graffiti removal January through August 2006. Material and supply costs for PWU is budgeted at \$4,900 but Staff projects year end expenditures to be \$5,700. PR&L dedicate similar dollars and staff time for removal of graffiti in parks, open spaces and along trails.

## **GRAFFITI STRATEGY**

Although virtually no city backed initiative can eliminate graffiti entirely, Staff believes that it is vital for the City to take an aggressive stance on this problem. A three-pronged initiative is proposed that contains equal parts of community involvement, eradication and clean up of graffiti, and enforcement.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

Important to the police department's function in prevention and enforcement of crimes related to graffiti is the adoption of a new ordinance that applies specifically to graffiti. This ordinance would specifically identify the act of graffiti as a crime. Currently graffiti is classified as criminal mischief or criminal tampering. Both of these existing ordinances can be applied to the crime of graffiti, but fall short of describing graffiti crime. The problem arises when the offender enters the police and court system. There is currently no way to statistically track the crime committed as being graffiti versus breaking out a car window or smashing a mailbox. Staff believes the community-at-large wants the City to address graffiti differently than it deals with a smashed mailbox due to its prevalence and the extensive damage it causes.

If the police and municipal court were able to identify defendants specifically arrested for the crime of graffiti it would enable better tracking of the problem and allow for imposition of penalties directly applicable to the offense committed. Community service work removing the "art" put on the walls and overpasses would be required of offenders convicted of committing the act of graffiti. Significant financial penalties could be assigned to the violator, or to the parents if it is a juvenile, to include restitution to the property owner for the damage and/or cost of the clean-up. A component of the ordinance may include the ability for the city to place a lien on the property of a parent's home if the fines and restitution were not paid or if the juvenile failed to work the assigned community service hours.

This ordinance would also make it unlawful to sell graffiti products, i.e. spray paint, large tipped markers, etching equipment, etc to individuals under the age of 18, require the vendor to post signage to this effect and check identification of the purchaser for age verification. The ordinance would prohibit juveniles under the age of 18 to be in possession of graffiti products without a verifiable purpose and police officers would be allowed to confiscate those items.

Staff surveyed twelve municipalities, Boulder, Colorado Springs, Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Northglenn, Lakewood, Golden, Commerce City, Ft. Collins, Littleton, Englewood, and Thornton, to ascertain if they had a similar ordinance. Seven of the cities, Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Lakewood, Commerce City, Littleton, Englewood, and Colorado Springs regulate the sale and possession of graffiti products. Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Colorado Springs, Commerce City, Lakewood, Golden, and Englewood have some form of criminal offense to cover the act of graffiti.

Staff also requested statistical information from these municipalities which might show the effectiveness of these ordinances. It was difficult to obtain an "apples to apples" comparison as agencies reporting methods are so different. Only Arvada was able to provide statistics that would represent a "before and after" picture. Arvada's ordinance went into effect in July 1998 and includes defining graffiti specifically as an illegal act and regulates the sale and use of graffiti products. Graffiti reports taken in 1996 numbered 319 and in 1997, 209. These numbers were reduced by half in the years after adoption of the ordinance, dropping as low as 68 graffiti reports in 2003. Reflecting

the difficulty making graffiti arrests, Arvada reported an average of six graffiti arrests per year though these numbers are trending up to 10+ arrests per year since 2004. Of Arvada's arrests, 79% are juveniles.

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

One of City Council's Strategic Plan Principles is that residents are engaged. A Council objective for public safety is that citizens take responsibility for their own and community safety and well being. The community involvement piece of the graffiti strategy would encompass efforts to get the citizens of Westminster educated and involved. Examples of this effort might include a program similar to a Crimestoppers-type hot line where anonymous tips can be left and if those tips result in a successful prosecution of an individual for graffiti, the caller would receive a reward. Donations could be solicited from the business community, service organizations, and other established groups active in volunteerism throughout the City.

Another program could be an Adopt-a-Site whereby community volunteers select a site commonly hit by taggers and keep it clean of graffiti similar to the existing Adopt-a-Street program. Signage could be posted that acknowledges the efforts of the individual or group who have volunteered their time to keep the site clean. This signage could send a message to the tagger and the residents and businesses that the community is engaged and is an active partner in the addressing the problem.

Staff has been contacted by stores and businesses offering to donate paint and supplies for graffiti removal. Businesses could be encouraged to lock up graffiti products to make them less accessible though shoplifting. These stores could be publicly acknowledged as partners working with the City to keep Westminster graffiti free with the City providing stickers or some printed format that could be conspicuously displayed at the business entrance. An effort could be made to organize businesses into a "commercial neighborhood watch" group that has businesses forming clean-up committees that help each other remove graffiti.

A very important component in the community involvement piece is education programs for middle schools and high schools that emphasize that graffiti is a crime and teaching respect for property and pride in the community. An interface could be formed between Staff and the existing City's Youth Advisory Panel to assist in this endeavor. Staff could develop an educational program that might be required attendance for juveniles convicted of committing graffiti similar to classes like Alive At 25.

Presentations could be made to the community-at-large via HOA meetings, service club meetings, and other community-oriented gatherings. These presentations might include information about what graffiti is, what to look for, and how to report the crime. These community groups would be encouraged to assume a serious role in observing and reporting graffiti vandalism.

Communities and businesses should be made aware of things that can be done to their buildings and homes to prevent or deter other crimes such as burglary and robbery. The Police Department could work with the Planning Division to help identify built-in graffiti prevention that may be considered for developments and businesses, i.e. incorporating natural deterrents such as landscaping shrubs, thorny plants, and vines that will effectively restrict vandal access, plan or add lighting to promote natural surveillance, use fences and other barriers to discourage through traffic, limit access to roofs by moving dumpsters away from walls and covering drainpipes to prevent vandals from scaling them, use of graffiti resistant materials or wall coatings, and textured dark colored wall surfaces, etc.

## ERADICATION

Graffiti may never be able to be eliminated in Westminster, but it can be managed through abatement. Eradication is a necessary and continuing process. Graffiti abatement efforts are successful only when a zero tolerance policy is adopted. Overlooking the graffiti problem in certain areas, even areas that cannot be easily seen by the public, encourages continuing vandalism. Communities must begin their fight against graffiti the moment the graffiti first appears. When the response is delayed the vandalism worsens. Some cities experience what has been that removal of graffiti within 24-48 hours results in a nearly zero rate of reoccurrence.

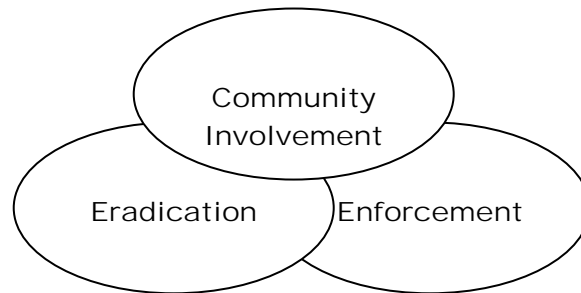
Staff's research into what other municipalities are doing to address graffiti and Westminster's own experience shows that rapid removal of graffiti is one of the best deterrents. Of the cities surveyed and mentioned earlier in this report, Boulder, Colorado Springs, Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Northglenn, Lakewood, Golden, Commerce City, Ft. Collins, Littleton, Englewood, and Thornton, remove graffiti on public property. Commerce City is the only municipality of the twelve surveyed that abates graffiti from private property – all other cities require the property owner to remove the graffiti.

Staff recommends a continuation of the policy that private property owners are required to remove graffiti and that the City only abate graffiti on private property in situations such as vacant buildings and foreclosures. Currently the City expends annually in excess of \$50,000 for graffiti abatement on public property and a conservative estimate is that an equal amount of funds could be expended on private property clean-up. Staff is concerned about spending tax payer dollars for maintaining private property. The City does not shovel private property sidewalks or provide free private security at a business. Staff understands the perception of "victimizing the victim" when a private property owner is required to clean graffiti from their property, but the City does not pay for replacing broken windows and doors at a residence that has been burglarized or replace a mailbox that has been vandalized. An additional concern would be the potential liability issue for the City if an employee was alleged to have further damaged the property during abatement or if the property owner was not satisfied with the work performed.

In situations where graffiti is found on private property, Code Enforcement will advise the property owner of their requirement to have it removed. The property owner is given a week for the removal, but all Code Enforcement Officers will grant extensions based on the extent of the graffiti and other factors such as the owner's financial situation or other impediments that will slow down the clean up process. Code Enforcement experiences very little resistance from property owners and only two summonses to court have been issued to businesses who failed to remove graffiti.

Staff is recommending that the Community Service Coordinator position be re-staffed. After an employee resigned in late 2003 the decision was made to not fill the vacancy as part of a broader hiring freeze adopted by the City to ensure integrity of the budget. The employee who held this position would be responsible for public property graffiti abatement and for managing the graffiti strategy as proposed herein. It is also recommended that this position be moved from Public Works to the Police Department, assigned to Neighborhood Services. This move would enhance coordination of efforts between Code Enforcement, the Police Department's SET team for reporting and tracking incidents of graffiti, and the Police Department's School Resource Officers for providing the education component for students. Police staff work daily with the Municipal Court and are familiar with the individuals who ultimately get assigned community service as a result of convictions. The Police Department is affiliated with a very robust volunteer group, the Citizen's Police Academy

Alumni, and this group is always anxious to participate in efforts coordinated for the benefit of the community and public safety, both financially and with volunteer hours.



In summary, Staff recommends:

- Unfreeze the Community Service Coordinator position and charge this employee with the responsibility for facilitating community service placement and management of the proposed graffiti strategy in the Police Department.
- Introduce community involvement, education, and public outreach as an integral part of the solution.
- Make the abatement of graffiti a priority. The Community Service Coordinator and individuals assigned community service work would address graffiti on public property and private property owners would maintain responsibility for graffiti clean-up.
- Adopt a graffiti ordinance making graffiti a criminal act and restricting the sale and possession of graffiti products.
- Identify and fully prosecute offenders. Sentencing could include community service work removing graffiti, attendance at a training class about graffiti, restitution to the property owner for cost of graffiti removal, and ability to lien property if fines and restitution are not paid and community service hours are not worked.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall  
City Manager





## Staff Report

City Council Study Session Meeting  
October 16, 2006



**SUBJECT:** Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Thornton for the Design and Construction of Improvements to the McKay Drainageway

**PREPARED BY:** Stephen C. Baumann, Assistant City Engineer

### **Recommended City Council Action:**

Concur with Staff's recommendation to bring back for official action at a future City Council meeting an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Cities of Thornton and Westminster to share costs and cooperate on the design and construction of the proposed improvements to the McKay Drainageway between Huron Street and Washington Street.

### **Summary Statement:**

- McKay Drainageway runs from McKay Lake Reservoir, crossing Huron Street between 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue, ultimately joining Big Dry Creek in Thornton at 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Washington Street. The flow path is poorly-defined and Interstate 25 acts as a dam, resulting in a broad and shallow floodplain that covers approximately 96 acres of the area between the Interstate and Huron Street and between 136<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue (see attached map). About 34 acres are similarly affected in Thornton in areas of importance to both cities' future land use planning.
- A drainage planning study prepared in 2001 identified improvements that would confine and convey the flows and recover most of the floodplain land. Portions of these improvements have already been installed, including the McKay Lake dam renovation for flood attenuation, and a channel through the Huntington Trails Subdivision and to a point just east of Huron Street. Because a large crossing of I-25 is needed and because the downstream end of the improvements is in Thornton, a cooperative approach to the design and construction of the final reach of these improvements is needed. The cities have been discussing the project for several years and have finally arrived at a cost-sharing method that has received preliminary concurrence by the respective City staffs.
- The project has a projected concept level cost of between \$8 and \$10 million dollars that is intended to cover design and construction of a channel in an 80 to 110 foot right-of-way with crossing structures at the Bull Canal, I-25 and Washington Street. Trail improvements may be incorporated into the project if financially feasible. Westminster has been appropriating funds for this project for several years and \$7.3 million has been accumulated. While this may be sufficient to cover Westminster's costs, the current terms of the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) has Westminster fronting the costs of the entire project with reimbursement by Thornton at some point in the future. The IGA will allow the development of more detailed cost estimates and construction options to address this funding gap. City Staff will discuss the terms of the proposed IGA (attached) with City Council at Monday night's Study Session.

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Construction of Improvements to the McKay Drainageway  
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**Expenditure Required:** Estimated Cost \$8.0-10.0 Million

**Source of Funds:** General Capital Improvement Fund - McKay Lake Outfall Drainage Project

**Policy Issue:**

Should the City move forward with the Intergovernmental Agreement that apportions responsibilities and costs for the McKay Drainageway project?

**Alternative:**

Do not pursue the Intergovernmental Agreement, leaving each city to deal with floodplain mitigation independently. This choice accepts that the floodplain conditions on the Westminster side of I-25 will remain largely unchanged in the future, because reducing the extent of the floodplain there necessitates installation of a culvert under I-25 and channel improvements in Thornton as well. Without the cooperation of Thornton, reduction of the floodplain in Westminster cannot be accomplished in any significant or cost effective way. This alternative is not recommended.

**Background Information:**

In 1986, a Flood Hazard Area Delineation was prepared for the McKay Lake basin in Adams County, portions of Broomfield, and land in the cities of Westminster and Thornton. The basin, over 1700 acres in size, is tributary to Big Dry Creek at about Washington Street and 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue and has been modified by agricultural uses and some development over the years. In Westminster, the McKay Drainageway extends downstream from the dam of McKay Lake, across Huron Street to I-25, spreading over a large parcel of undeveloped land between Huron Street and I-25 (see attached map). In most locations, the floodplain is shallow and widespread as it follows an undefined channel. The extent of the floodplain is significant on the west side of Interstate 25, which acts as a dam. Major storms are calculated to overtop I-25 in a wide path and spread out in Thornton.

In the late 1990's Thornton, Westminster and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District sponsored a Planning Study to determine what improvements would be needed to control and confine flows in this major drainageway, recognizing that the affected properties would be under pressure to develop over time. That study, completed in 2001, has been the basis for the renovation of the McKay Lake dam and the recently-completed channel improvements in the Huntington Trails Subdivision. McKay Lake acts as a large detention facility, reducing flows from major storms upstream. As a result, the floodplain downstream of McKay Lake is now confined to a channel that extends to and under Huron Street in a pedestrian box culvert at approximately 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

The next segment of the McKay Drainageway that needs attention begins at the Huron Street crossing where it reverts to its historic shape - a wide, shallow floodplain of about 96 acres between Huron Street and I-25. East of I-25, a floodplain of about 34 acres is created which meanders east to flow across Washington Street and join Big Dry Creek. As can be seen in the attached vicinity map, the floodplain occupies significant portions of several properties in the North I-25 corridor, an area designated for mixed use development in Westminster's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and for similar development opportunities in Thornton.

Over the past several years, preliminary studies and discussion between the two cities have set the stage for a cooperative effort that is intended to cover commitments and responsibilities for the planning, design and construction of the final phase of improvements. Concept level costs are estimated in the range of \$8 million to \$10 million and would result in the construction of a channel to confine flood flows as well as structures to cross the Bull Canal, go under I-25 and carry Washington Street over the improved channel. The drainage corridor could be irrigated to re-establish native

grasses and may include a pedestrian/bicycle trail. The culvert under I-25 would need to be oversized for that purpose. There are many issues and challenges that will need to be resolved as the project moves forward, from permitting and building the crossing of I-25 to wetlands mitigation and utility relocations. Rights-of-way for the improvements will need to be secured from six to ten different ownerships, depending on the route the channel follows. The final cost of this project will not be determined until additional design work is completed.

A draft Intergovernmental Agreement proposes cost sharing between Westminster and Thornton based on the acreage of existing floodplain in each city between Huron Street and Washington Street. Several options for cost-sharing were explored, including shares based simply on the geographical location of the improvements. Another method used estimated developed impervious areas tributary to the drainageway in each jurisdiction as a measure of the utility and therefore the cost of the facilities. The option that was acceptable to Thornton was a proportionality equivalent to the amount of land in the floodplain now, most of which would be recovered for beneficial uses in the two jurisdictions. Of the approximately 130 acres now in the floodplain, Westminster has 96 acres (74.1%) and Thornton has 34 acres (25.9%). The cost shares based on the high end of the preliminary estimated costs are thus \$7.4 million and \$2.6 million respectively. Staff believes this is the best cost-sharing arrangement that will be possible to negotiate with Thornton.

Over the years, the City has appropriated \$7.3 million, but under the terms of the proposed IGA would need to front the cost of the entire project and be reimbursed by Thornton in the undetermined future, leaving an initial funding gap approximately equivalent to Thornton's share. Some of the gap (maybe \$1-\$2 million) might be funded by assessments of benefiting properties on Westminster's side, but the timing of payments is not known. The Foster family, one of three owners of property between Huron Street and I-25, has already contributed over \$1 million, which is already included in the \$7.3 million appropriated amount. The agreement requires Thornton to assess benefiting properties that get into their development process in advance of the project, but only after the McKay project design moves forward enough to refine the costs and justification for these assessments. Design engineering would be the next step and it is part of the commitments described in the IGA.

Interest in properties in the Huron Street-Washington Street corridor has been growing since the adoption of the I-25 Corridor Study and the planning and construction of the two interchange projects. Given the importance of the McKay project to those properties, it is suggested that the City go forward with the IGA and proceed with preliminary planning and design to refine the costs and identify construction alternatives for the project. This effort will not be wasted since at some point in the future some form of the improvements will need to be built. If this effort turns up reasons for not doing the project or points to a need to restructure the cost-sharing provisions, the IGA has a provision releasing Westminster from its commitments if a contract for construction is not awarded by January of 2009. City staff will be present at the study session to discuss the project and the IGA with City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall  
City Manager

Attachment(s) – Draft IGA  
Map



# WESTMINSTER

## Staff Report

Information Only Staff Report  
October 16, 2006



SUBJECT: Summer Concert Series  
PREPARED BY: Heather Hammarstrom, Recreation Specialist

### Summary Statement:

This report is for City Council information only and requires no action by City Council. The City of Westminster hosted six concerts during the 2006 Summer Concert Series. The first five concerts took place Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at City Park in Westminster. The final concert of the season took place at the Irving Street Library Park.

### Background Information

More than 400 people ventured to City Park in Westminster on June 22<sup>nd</sup> for the first concert of the 2006 Summer Concert series. Kory Brunson took the stage at 7 p.m. and performed a variety of music from rock and roll to country and even a little disco. This crowd-pleasing band had the audience tapping their feet and dancing in their seats.

Southern Exposure, a popular local blue grass band, performed June 29<sup>th</sup> and drew a crowd of nearly 500 people. This group performed not only contemporary bluegrass but traditional tunes as well. They inspired audience members to get out of their seats and dance. A few cloggers even joined in on the fun.

The concert series continued Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> and featured the 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue Allstars. This acappella group drew a crowd of 500 people and entertained the audience with their soulful renditions of popular music that covers a wide variety of musical styles.

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, Homeslice, a local horn band, got off to a late start due to rain. Despite the weather, they drew a crowd of nearly 500 people. They tore up the stage with their cutting-edge, funky sound and high energy stage presence. Their music styles included funk, soul, jazz, rock, jump, swing, ballads and originals. This group was definitely a crowd favorite.

Hot Tomatoes delighted listeners with a variety of big band music on June 27<sup>th</sup>. This concert featured songs by artists such as Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Count Basie and more. This group also drew a large crowd and had the audience swing dancing in the grass.

The Denver Jazz Club sponsored an evening of jazz for the final concert of the 2006 concert series. This mini-jazz festival took place at the Irving Street Library on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Queen City Jazz

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Band took the stage at 6 p.m. followed by Your Father's Mustache at 7:30 p.m. This concert drew one of the largest crowds that have ever attended a concert at Irving Street. The Denver Jazz Club held an ice cream social as well, which made for an enjoyable evening.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall  
City Manager



W E S T M I N S T E R

## Staff Report

Information Only Staff Report  
October 16, 2006



SUBJECT: Standley Lake Power Boat Permit Changes

PREPARED BY: Ken Watson, Regional Parks and Golf Manager

### Summary Statement:

This report is for City Council information only and requires no action by City Council. In preparation for the changes to the 2007 Standley Lake power boat permit sales in February 2007, Staff has compiled an information letter and a "Frequently Asked Questions" document. Staff is providing these documents to City Council as a communication resource for your use.

### Background Information

The City of Westminster has offered boating access to Standley Lake for decades. For the past two years, the 510 resident annual power boat permits have sold out in one day. In February 2006, more than 1,000 vehicles formed a waiting line starting the day before permits went on sale. The situation was not safe and Staff evaluated changes to the permit allocation process. The attached documents will be mailed to all interested parties and will also be posted in the City's Standley Lake Regional Park web pages. Public Information Staff will also assist with passing along this information to local media sources.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall  
City Manager

Attachments