



**DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION**

**Monday, April 29, 2024
(In Office and Remote)**

A G E N D A

(Times listed are estimates and may fluctuate depending
on length of discussion.)

Time*

1:00 p.m.

**Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program
(COSWAP) Landscape Resilience Investment
Grant Opportunity**

2024 Philip S. Miller Grant

**2024 Fireworks and Drone Display
Partnership Opportunities**

Property Tax Rebate Checks Follow Up

Agenda Item

DATE: APRIL 29, 2024

TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: DOUGLAS J. DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: MATTHEW DZIUBANSKI, CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL

CC: JANET HERMAN, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS
JILL WELLE, SENIOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION SPECIALIST
DYLAN WILLIAMS, WILDFIRE MITIGATION SPECIALIST

SUBJECT: **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR) *COLORADO STRATEGIC WILDFIRE ACTION PROGRAM (COSWAP) LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE INVESTMENT GRANT OPPORTUNITY***

SUMMARY

Douglas County wildfire mitigation was contacted by Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to discuss the 2024 COSWAP *Landscape Resilience Investment* funding opportunity. The 2024 program has \$10 million available for the ten strategic focus areas with a maximum \$1 million project. This reimbursement funding opportunity is by invitation only and requires a 1/3 matching contribution. COSWAP funding supports cross boundary project planning and implementation to protect life, property, and critical infrastructure.

Mitigation staff met with Open Space and Natural Resources (OSNR) and Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) to discuss possible projects that fulfil the critical components of COSWAP for successful award. Together, we identified a significant opportunity for a strong project. In 2022 Douglas County made application to the COSWAP program with lands under a single ownership. Although this project had adjacent land support, this proposal was not funded. The 2024 proposal, Greater Jackson Creek & Garber Creek Forest Restoration and Watershed Protection project is made up of roughly up to 150 acres of Douglas County OSNR, (Schmidt property) and roughly 150-200 acres across seven private landowners adjacent to, or in close proximity of the Schmidt property. This project has potential to grow. CSFS was already working with the private landowners on project organization for grant funding.

The Wildfire mitigation section does not have a current budget. To put this project application forward mitigation staff requests \$330,000 in matching funds to support work on private lands. DCOSNR has committed department funding for work on the Schmidt property. Private landowners will commit funding while CSFS works to leverage additional funding to complete the project. The potential project exceeds the \$1 million COSWAP investment. If additional funding can be acquired there is flexibility to move the funding across ownerships and grow the project. This financial ask is a continued effort to support the BOCC wildfire initiative, fulfil strategic goals of the Commissioner lead Wildfire Action Collaborative (WAC) and leverage opportunities towards fiscal responsibility.

BACKGROUND

COSWAP was established under SB21-258 with an initial funding allocation. As a larger State-wide investment that supports on the ground wildfire risk reduction efforts in the ten strategic focus areas, COSWAP has been awarded permanent funding.

This is a 3-year funding opportunity and projects will be monitored by the Colorado State Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI). The Application period opened April 1st, closes May 10, 2024. Project award is anticipated June 1, 2024, and grant agreement execution June 30, 2024. Only one application is accepted from each strategic focus areas. Applications may consist of multiple projects. Douglas County does not anticipate expenditures under the project proposal until 2026. Douglas County only needs the commitment of funding to put forth the application.

Project components required for successful funding include a cross boundary shared stewardship approach to impactful projects that are developed and supported collaboratively. These projects support relationships that make change, and provide the greatest investment for protecting life, property, and critical infrastructure.

Greater Jackson & Garber Creeks Forest Restoration and Watershed Protection project Proposal at this time includes up to 150 acres on the Schmidt open space and 150-200 acres across seven private landowners adjacent to and in close proximity to the Schmidt property. Currently project planning is in its infancy and the project has potential to grow. This project builds on previous treatments in these critical drainages. CSFS has completed forest restoration and wildfire mitigation projects on roughly 350 acres. Douglas County contributed additional acreage investment from Douglas County ARPA Wildfire Cost Share efforts. Jackson Creek Road provides access to the Pike National Forest. Proposed treatments across the seven private landowners alone exceeds the \$1 million project total. CSFS is seeking additional funding through Forests to Faucets (Denver Water \$1

million CSFS allocation) and/or Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) to offset costs across private lands.

Forest restoration efforts on the Schmidt open space will protect the strategic water investments as part of the Chatfield Storage Reallocation project with an easement on Garber Creek held by the Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company (CRMC). This strategic investment protects water supplies for residents across Douglas County.

These coordinated public and private lands treatments build on previous treatments in the Jackson Creek drainage. Due to the access challenges of the Schmidt Open Space, Douglas County will need to gain access through the private parcels. Partnering with neighbor properties and building on previous treatments significantly increases the efficiency and efficacy of the investment in wildfire resilience.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Douglas County allocate \$330,000 to apply for the COSWAP \$1 million project opportunity.

Agenda Item

DATE: APRIL 29, 2024
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THROUGH: DOUGLAS J. DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: TERENCE T. QUINN, AICP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *TC for TQ*
CC: KIM SMITH, COMMUNITY RESOURCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR
ALLISON CUTTING, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR
JENNIFER L. EBY, AICP, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
SUBJECT: 2024 PHILIP S. MILLER GRANT

SUMMARY

The Philip S. Miller (PSM) grant program has \$135,000 available for distribution in 2024. Grants are typically separated into two categories, the competitive grant process and organizations who provide older adult services.

BACKGROUND

PSM trust distributions are to be used exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary or education purposes. In the past, the BCC gave priority to applicants proposing services and outcomes that address self-sufficiency, at-risk youth, suicide prevention, older adult services and gaps in medical and mental health services. The 2024 PSM trust distribution is \$200,000.

In 2022, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) directed staff to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to transfer administration of the PSM grant from Douglas County to Douglas County Community Foundation (DCCF) for a five-year period. The MOU was approved by the BCC at the August 23, 2022, Business Meeting. On May 31, 2023, the BCC approved a MOU between Douglas County and DCCF allocating \$65,000 annually to DCCF for operating purposes. After providing operating funds to DCCF, \$135,000 of 2024 PSM funds remains available for grant purposes.

Historically, an average of \$90,000 has been distributed to organizations providing services to older adults and the remaining funds have been distributed through the competitive grant. Please see the attachment for details on funding amounts and grants awarded for the competitive and older adult services from 2017 through 2023.

Typically, the funds dedicated for older adult services are disbursed to Aging Resources of Douglas County (ARDC), Castle Rock Senior Activity Center (CRSAC), Highlands Ranch

Metro District (HRMD), and Parker Senior Center (PSC). The amount provided to these agencies has varied over the years, depending upon funds available. In 2023, the BCC approved an annual funding amount of \$25,000 from the PSM grant to HRMD to provide services for older adults in Highlands Ranch.

DISCUSSION

DCCF is preparing to initiate the 2024 PSM grant process and has requested BCC direction on how to allocate the \$135,000. Given a decreased amount of PSM funds available in 2024 and prior funding commitments, an alternative to distribute the remaining \$135,000 may be to divide them with \$67,500 available through a competitive grant process and \$67,500 awarded for older adult services which may be allocated as follows:

- ARDC - \$20,000
- CRSAC - \$15,000
- HRMD - \$25,000
- PSC - \$7,500

Staff is prepared to discuss these allocations in more detail as needed.

ATTACHMENTS

Philip S. Miller Grant Awards 2017-2023

Philip S. Miller Grant Awards 2017-2023


Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Competitive Grant	\$100,000.00	\$122,500.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$57,000.00	\$110,000.00
Senior Programming Grant	\$100,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$77,500.00	\$100,000.00
Discretionary	\$75,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DCCF		\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$65,500.00	\$65,000.00
Total	\$275,000.00	\$334,500.00	\$300,000.00	\$280,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$275,000.00

* In 2022, DCCF funds were to market Colorado Gives Day. DCCF was awarded \$100,000 and spent around \$65,500. The remaining funds were awarded to senior organizations

Competitive Grant Agencies Awarded	16	17	23	24	19	19	24
Senior Programming Agencies Awarded	4	5	5	5	5	4	4
Discretionary Agencies Awarded	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agencies Awarded	20	23	28	29	24	23	28

Senior Programming	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Aging Resources of Douglas County	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$25,000.00
Castle Country Assisted Living	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Castle Rock Senior Activity Center	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$23,500.00	\$23,500.00	\$25,000.00
DC Senior Services Foundation	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			
Highlands Ranch Metro District	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$25,000.00
Parker Senior Center	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$25,000.00
Totals	\$100,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$77,500.00	\$100,000.00

Agenda Item

DATE: APRIL 29, 2024
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THROUGH: DOUGLAS J. DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: TERENCE T. QUINN, AICP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 
CC: NICK GIAUQUE, CPRP, PARKS PROGRAM MANAGER
STEVE SHOULTZ, CPRE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PARKS, TRAILS, AND
BUILDING GROUNDS
SUBJECT: **2024 FIREWORKS AND DRONE DISPLAY PARTNERHSIP OPPORTUNITIES**

SUMMARY

Following the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) direction, staff has been working to secure partnership opportunities for fireworks or drone displays throughout the County and would like to provide a summary of potential opportunities in 2024.

BACKGROUND

Castle Rock – District II

Staff has initiated discussion with the Town of Castle Rock on a partnership for the Starlighting Ceremony. Currently staff has not been notified of any funding request from the Town for the Starlighting Ceremony.

Perry Park – District II

Staff contacted The Perry Park Metropolitan District (PPMD) to discuss the potential of a partnership with the County for their Fourth of July celebration. PPMD has submitted a funding request for \$18,500 for their Fourth of July parade and fireworks display.

Highlands Ranch - District III

It is anticipated that HRCA and HRMD will once again submit a request for funding in the amount of \$23,000 along with a fee waiver for the rental of the park in the amount of \$10,980 for the Fourth of July fireworks.

Parker – District I

The town has submitted a funding request for either “Events in the Sky” or the Parker Fall Fest event. The Town has provided three funding opportunities for the County.

- Option A: Co-partnering on fireworks and drone displays for \$42,250
- Option B: Co-partnering on fireworks display for \$24,750
- Option C: Co-partnering on drone display for \$17,500

*Town of Parker costs for fireworks display = \$49,500 (18-minute show)

*Town of Parker costs for drone show = \$35,000 (200 drones; 12-minute show)

Lone Tree - District I

Staff has had conversations with the City of Lone Tree (Lone Tree) on the possibility of a partnership for one of their community events. Lone Tree expressed interest in a partnership with the County for their Merry Days celebration and tree lighting event in which they are interested in a possible drone component. No official funding request has been submitted yet.

New Year’s Eve Drone Show – District I

A holiday drone show on New year’s Eve held at Echo Park Stadium using the parking lots at the stadium for spectator viewing, the sound system for the music and a vendor providing hot beverages. Estimated cost for 10-minute display, law enforcement for traffic control, facility rental and stadium manager is \$70,000.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is prepared to discuss strategies and partnership opportunities with BOCC for fireworks and drone shows throughout the County.

Agenda Item

DATE: APRIL 29, 2024
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FROM: DOUG DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER
SUBJECT: **PROPERTY TAX REBATE CHECKS FOLLOW UP**

The Board had questions about the restrictions on the rebate checks. Staff will provide additional information and a recommendation for consideration.