



**DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, August 5, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.
(In Office and Remote)**

A G E N D A

- I. Discussion Items:**
 - a. Castle Pines Connection Proposal**
 - b. SCFD Recommendations Follow Up**
 - c. Boards and Commissions Appointments**
 - d. Correspondence/Citizen Issues**

- II. Information Only:**
 - a. Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 - Notice of Intent**

- III. Commissioner Updates/Comments**



Delivering “A Little Good News” to more of Douglas County
Investment in a Proven Community Newspaper to Promote Civic Engagement and Quality of Life

Submitted to: Doug DeBord, Douglas County Manager

Submitted by: Terri Wiebold, The Connection Publisher

Date: July 28, 2025

Executive Summary

Douglas County is committed to safeguarding the quality of life for its residents through fiscal responsibility, accountability and transparency. Ensuring all residents, including vulnerable and older populations, have access to reliable and relevant news and information is critical to meeting the County’s communications strategy within its Core Priorities.

In pursuit of this goal, The Connection proposes a partnership with Douglas County to enhance the reach of County communications through our established legacy print publication with reliable and proven relationships and networks. The goal is to impact lives in positive and meaningful ways, building a stronger, happier and more informed and engaged Douglas County.

This partnership offers the County a cost-effective path to amplify County messaging and engage beyond digital and social media platforms without the need for additional County-operated staffing and distribution infrastructure. It also co-brands the County alongside compelling human-interest storytelling and quality journalism—all while fostering a sense of trust and belonging, improving mental health through community connection and a little good news.

Situation Analysis

Douglas County’s current digital-centric communications strategy and outreach methods do not adequately serve all populations—particularly older adults and those in rural areas. Findings from public health data and the County’s 2023-2024 Older Adult Initiative survey/listening tours highlight that access to reliable information and combating social isolation and loneliness are pressing needs among this demographic, which is the largest and fastest growing population in the county⁸. With more than 50,000 residents aged 65 and older in Douglas County and mental health concerns disproportionately affecting this group, the County faces an urgent need to bridge the information and engagement gap in a meaningful, inclusive and trusted way.

A Proven Solution

For nearly two decades, The Castle Pines Connection has delivered *a little good news*—consistently, reliably and with integrity. We cultivate positive community relationships and connect resources by sharing inspiring stories, relevant news and timely information. Our longevity isn't just about news—it's about trust. We are the quiet, steady voice that readers can count on, reminding and reassuring them that *Douglas County is good*. Our stalwart reputation ensures our business partnerships remain strong and prolific, and our loyal readership stays highly engaged. Those who align themselves with The Connection brand benefit from the valued, dependable, consistent and earned trust we have established.

By leveraging The Connection's established readership, trusted voice and proven distribution network, Douglas County can extend its communications reach, build public trust, foster civic engagement, and support mental well-being—without expanding its own infrastructure or resources.

Partnership Benefits and Outcomes

- **Broader Reach:** Expanding print communication through *The Connection* ensures equitable access to vital County news in underserved rural, older and digitally disconnected populations, creating a more inclusive and informed community.
- **Enhanced Public Trust:** Partnering and co-branding with a trusted local news source strengthens public confidence in County messaging. By leveraging *The Connection's* nearly two decades of earned credibility, the County increases confidence in local government information.
- **Increased Civic Engagement:** *The Connection's* positive, “a little good news” focused reporting inspires greater resident involvement in local governance and fosters stronger community connections and outcomes.
- **Improved Mental Health:** Consistently delivering uplifting, human-interest stories through *The Connection* reduces social isolation, supports mental well-being and fosters a sense of belonging—especially among older adults at risk of social isolation.

Business Case for the Partnership

Investing in The Connection aligns with Douglas County's Core Priorities by enhancing communication and engagement with residents, particularly older and more vulnerable populations who may not have access to, or choose not to, engage in digital platforms. Editorial coverage in *The Connection* will bring to life the County's communication efforts in relation to public safety, transportation, health and human services, county services, economic foundations, and historic and natural resources.

Broader Reach – Bridging the Information Gap and Defeating the Digital Divide

Many Douglas County residents, particularly older adults and those in outlying rural areas, do not have the same access to news and information as residents in the more populous portions of the County. Some do not have high-speed internet availability or they may choose not to engage with digital news, impacting inclusivity in local governance. Reaching the more rural areas of Douglas County—Franktown, Larkspur, Perry Park, Louviers, Roxborough Park, Deckers and Sedalia—will saturate those news deserts and engage with residents not currently receiving or ingesting County news and information.

Print publications remain a favored news source among older adults. A September 2024 Pew Research Center study supported that more than a quarter of individuals age 50-65 prefer to get their news from print publications, and nearly half age 65+ prefer print¹. Colorado census data confirms more than 50,000 Douglas County residents are 65 and older, a number that is trending upward every year. By 2050, population growth for individuals 65+ will increase by 154% from just a few years ago².

Enhanced Public Trust – *Leveraging Co-Branding to Align Reputation and Integrity*

Trust in news overall is declining globally—but trust in local news remains relatively resilient, especially when that news has a positive and community-focused lens³. A recent poll found that only 26% of Americans trust news from social media and 65% worry about the impact of misinformation online⁴. Moreover, as AI-generated content becomes more prevalent, the public is growing increasingly skeptical of its authenticity. A 2024 survey revealed that 57% of Americans believe AI-generated content is untrustworthy or misleading, especially when it comes to emotionally resonant topics like local stories, community issues or human-interest pieces⁵. There is no substitute for authentic human relationships, and that is what The Connection brings to this partnership.

More than half of Americans see their local newspaper as their most reliable news source, citing the transparency, ethical standards and community focus that are unique to local journalism⁶. Trust is not built overnight—it is earned story by story, issue by issue, year after year. For The Connection, that unwavering trust has been more than 17 years in the making. The Connection’s staff of 18-20 local writers ensures our content is authentic, sincere and accurate.

By partnering with The Connection, Douglas County can leverage two decades of established trust through our reliable, proven print medium and distribution channels.

Increased Civic Engagement – *Growing Involvement in Local Governance*

A national study comparing civic engagement in metro areas found that newspaper readership positively correlated with civic activities such as contacting public officials and participating in local groups⁷.

According to the recent 2025 Douglas County Citizen Survey, a portion of the current 30,000+ readers of *The Connection* – those in the City of Castle Pines – had much more positive engagement than all other communities in Douglas County. It is noteworthy that Castle Pines’ ratings for “Douglas County has a good County government” was 15% higher than all the others; “Economic conditions worse in Douglas County as a whole” rating was 13% lower than all others; and Castle Pines’ “Optimism Spectrum” rating was 14% higher than all other communities in Douglas County⁸. The Connection’s medium, message and reputation have proven effective in shaping and influencing readers’ outlooks on their community. Positive and optimistic news woven into the fabric of human-interest storytelling—what *The Connection* specializes and excels in—is a conduit to increased civic engagement⁹.

Douglas County’s strategic investment in *The Connection* would leverage the County’s existing digital strategy across a reliable print platform, thus strengthening community engagement and further enhancing and increasing involvement in local governance.

Improved Mental Health – *Why “A Little Good News” Matters*

People crave stories that affirm their humanity. Isolation and loneliness are among the challenges facing Douglas County’s aging population, and both are risk factors for poor aging outcomes¹⁰. Research suggests that incorporating positive news into journalism can potentially increase audience trust and engagement, while also offering mental health benefits for individuals and society¹¹. Colorado ranks fifth nationally in the index of social isolation risk factors among adults aged 65 and older¹² and in 2023,

approximately 18% of Douglas County residents (roughly 52,000 people) reported poor mental health, more than half of whom were age 61 or older¹³.

The Connection highlights “the good” with journalistic integrity and community context, thereby fulfilling a deeply felt emotional and social need for connection. Our optimism becomes a lighthouse for older readers rooted in tradition; for younger readers as a refreshing alternative to algorithm-driven doomscrolling; and for Douglas County as a whole by unifying with pride and belonging.

The Connection’s commitment to reliably delivering *a little good news* makes us more than a media outlet—it makes us an unwavering beacon of hope and a community cornerstone with which Douglas County can align to help improve mental health outlooks and outcomes.

Why The Connection is Uniquely Positioned

- We are the only **locally owned and operated** newspaper in Douglas County; also woman-owned
- **Depth and breadth of staff:** Up to 25 at any given time, men and women ages 24-80, resulting in different perspectives; 96% live in Douglas County; many have worked with the paper more than a decade. They are invested and passionate about journalism AND their community. They live, work and play here and are working for more than just a paycheck.
- **Legacy knowledge of the community** – we have worked consistently and successfully with 12 County commissioners and dozens of mayors and managers in Douglas County
- Owner and staff maintain **personal touchpoints** throughout all aspects of Douglas County – nonprofits, municipalities, health and human services organizations, DCSO, DCSD, DCCF, etc.
- **Historical preservation** – every issue since inception is archived at Douglas County Libraries
- **Proven broader readership** – Digital reader “open” rate is double the industry standard
- **Culture of caring** about the community – our people make all the difference
- **Beta test** has proven very successful.

Scope of the Partnership

Content Collaboration – *The Connection will:*

- Dedicate an editor to work with County communications staff on story creation ideas.
- Engage community-based contributors as a broad representation of the County (like “beat reporters”).
- Transition from “Castle Pines” specific to more “Douglas County” stories
- Feature 3-5 engaging, high-quality human-interest stories a month that tie into the County’s six Core Priorities of Transportation, County Services, Economic Foundations, Historic & Natural Resources, Health & Human Services and Public Safety.
- Special monthly “callout” of 1-2 Older Adult Resource Guide services
- Quarterly “Doers of Douglas County” column spotlighting a county employee, service or department, educating readers about the workings of County government
- YouTube feature every quarter in which we take an existing County YouTube video and translate it to print with photos(s), driving readers back to the County’s YouTube channel, providing a measurable increased engagement outcome
- The Connection’s editorial team will maintain journalistic integrity and autonomy, retaining final editorial control over content

Content Collaboration – *Douglas County will:*

- Assist The Connection with access to County personnel for feature stories
- Share digital paper with the County's list of 100+ HOAs in Douglas County
- Share stories relative to Douglas County on Douglas County social media

Tactical Deliverables – *The Connection will:*

- Remove "Castle Pines" from masthead of the paper
- Create a dedicated "County News" header page, for which Douglas County provides content and key messages, announcements and updates (press releases, photos, etc.)
- Leverage County resources as experts
- Tie-in to County programs in stories when appropriate
- Elevate Douglas County brand by including Douglas County logo in every issue
- Feature a Douglas County link on the homepage of The Connection website
- Interact with Douglas County social media; "like" and "share" as a way to attract new followers and grow Douglas County's digital and online engagement
- Add QR code in the newspaper for measurable public feedback
- Archive Douglas County history monthly with Douglas County Libraries

Tactical Deliverables – *The County will:*

- Provide necessary storage for newspapers prior to distribution (if necessary, based on partnership option)

Distribution Expansion – *The Connection will:*

- Direct-mail to rural households through USPS, particularly targeting the aging population and those with limited digital access—Franktown, Larkspur, Perry Park, Louviers, Roxborough Park, Deckers and Sedalia
- Deliver to select strategic delivery drop-off locations within Douglas County hitting all demographics with a particular emphasis on the aging population, potentially including:
 1. Senior Centers
 2. Douglas County Libraries
 3. Douglas County DMVs
 4. Government Offices
 5. Douglas County EDC
 6. Chamber of Commerce
 7. Recreation Centers
 8. Robert A Christensen Justice Center
 9. Post Offices
 10. Hospitals
 11. Assisted Living Facilities
 12. Veterans Offices
- Partner with other organizations for physical and digital distribution; examples include:
 1. Aging Resources of Douglas County – papers available for meal deliveries and transportation services
 2. Nourish Meals on Wheels program – include a paper to every household with their meal delivery

3. County Transportation Initiative – make papers available on the van
 4. Douglas County Community Foundation and other Douglas County nonprofits
- Provide 100% digital distribution in Douglas County

Funding – Douglas County will:

- Douglas County will allocate funding for enhanced operations, printing and distribution of the newspaper, in four installments, in alignment with one of the three proposed options (*See Appendix A for potential funding scenarios and preliminary cost estimates*).
- First installment due at signing of the contract, with remaining three installments invoiced on the first of the month beginning each remaining quarter
- NO quid pro quo relationship will exist in correlation to funding and editorial content, and The Connection will maintain control over all editorial and content decisions.

Timeline

- Partnership for 12 months, with quantitative and qualitative evaluations every quarter. After 12-months, partnership will be reevaluated.
- The Connection is ready to execute on any of the options as early as the September 2025 issue, or whenever Douglas County initiates launch.

Evaluation and Measurement – Quantitative and Qualitative

- The Connection to submit a quarterly report on stories connected to Douglas County
- County staff to track increase in digital and social media engagement
- Douglas County Older Adult Survey results
- Douglas County Citizen Survey results
- The Connection to track distribution copies and adjust accordingly

Conclusion

This strategic partnership between Douglas County and *The Connection* presents a powerful opportunity to bridge critical communication gaps, particularly for the County's aging and underserved populations. This collaboration aligns seamlessly with the County's Core Priorities by expanding outreach through a trusted, traditional print medium that meets residents where they are—both in terms of geography and preferred medium. By combining reliable information dissemination with uplifting community storytelling, the County not only improves access to vital services and resources but also fosters public trust, increases civic engagement, and improves mental well-being. This is more than a communications solution—it is an investment in the social fabric of Douglas County.

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this initiative further and explore how we can work together to enhance community engagement in Douglas County.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terri Wiebold, Publisher, The Connection

Appendix A

OPTION #1

Direct mail *The Connection* targeting 100% of Douglas County's rural population

- Targeted distribution and reach through USPS. Direct-mail newspapers to households in seven rural areas: Franktown, Larkspur + Perry Park, Louviers, Roxborough Park – Littleton, Deckers & Sedalia (13,500 papers).
- \$175,000 for 12 months; \$14,583/month

OPTION #2

Direct mail *The Connection* targeting 100% rural + 25 strategic drop-off locations in Douglas County

- Targeted distribution and reach through USPS. Direct-mail newspapers to households in seven rural areas: Franktown, Larkspur + Perry Park, Louviers, Roxborough Park – Littleton, Deckers & Sedalia (13,500 papers).
- Strategic delivery of additional 1,000 papers to 25 high-impact locations in Douglas County –
 - Aging Resources of Douglas County
 - All Nourish Meals locations for Douglas County
 - All Douglas County Senior Centers
 - All Douglas County Libraries + Larkspur
 - All Douglas County DMV Offices
 - Douglas County Government Office
- \$275,000 for 12 months; \$22,917/month

OPTION #3

Direct mail *The Connection* targeting 100% rural + 50 strategic drop-off locations in Douglas County

- Targeted distribution and reach through USPS. Direct-mail newspapers to households in seven rural areas: Franktown, Larkspur + Perry Park, Louviers, Roxborough Park – Littleton, Deckers & Sedalia (13,500 papers).
- Strategic delivery of additional 1,500 papers to 50 high-impact locations in Douglas County –
 - Aging Resources of Douglas County; all Nourish Meals locations for Douglas County; all Senior Centers; all Douglas County Libraries + Larkspur; all Douglas County DMV Offices; all Douglas County Recreation Centers; Douglas County Government Offices;
 - Additional drop-off locations at post offices; hospitals; veterans offices; Douglas County EDC and Chamber; Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce; Robert A Christensen Justice Center; and various assisted living facilities and coffee shops throughout the County.
- \$485,000 for 12 months; \$40,417/month

Appendix B

- ¹ American Press Institute: <https://americanpressinstitute.org/print-vs-digital/>
- ² Colorado Health Institute's Health Access Survey: <https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/programs/colorado-health-access-survey>
- ³ Pew Research Study: <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2024/07/24/community-attachment-and-local-political-news/>
- ⁴ Knight Foundation: <https://knightfoundation.org/articles/local-news-most-trusted-in-keeping-americans-informed-about-their-communities/>
- ⁵ Hill Research Consultants 2025 Douglas County Citizen Survey: <https://www.douglas.co.us/documents/2025-citizen-survey-full-results.pdf/>
- ⁶ America's newspapers: <https://www.newspapers.org/stories/why-local-newspapers-hold-trust-while-national-media-slips,4165237>
- ⁷ The Journalists' resource: <https://journalistsresource.org/politics-and-government/how-do-newspapers-affect-civic-life-data-analysis-seattle-denver/>
- ⁸ Hill Research Consultants: <https://www.douglas.co.us/documents/2025-citizen-survey-full-results.pdf/>
- ⁹ Positive.News: <https://www.positive.news/society/media/positive-news-stories-bring-people-together-study-finds>
- ¹⁰ ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/360893932_The_effects_of_constructive_journalism_techniques_on_mood_comprehension_and_trust
- ¹¹ Gallup and Knight Foundation: <https://knightfoundation.org/reports/american-views-2023-part-2/>
- ¹² YouGov: <https://today.yougov.com/technology/articles/51368-do-americans-think-ai-will-have-positive-or-negative-impact-society-artificial-intelligence-poll?>
- ¹³ Douglas County Older Adult Initiative: <https://www.douglas.co.us/older-adult-initiative/>

Agenda Item

Date: August 5, 2025

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

From: Jennifer L. Eby, AICP, Director of Community Services

CC: Kim Smith, Community Programs Coordinator
Allison Cutting, Community Services Supervisor
Rand M. Clark, CCAP, NCRT, Assistant Director of Community Services

Subject: **Douglas County Cultural Council Recommendations for 2025 Scientific and Cultural Facilities District Grant Funds**

SUMMARY

The Douglas County Cultural Council (DCCC) is recommending the distribution of 2025 Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) funds in the amount of \$1,290,475.62 for 11 General Operating Support (GOS) grants and 47 project-based grants.

BACKGROUND

The Douglas County 2025 portion of SCFD grant funds is \$1,290,475.62. Douglas County received 58 applications from 50 different organizations requesting a total of \$1,328,477.44. Of the applications received, 11 were for GOS and 47 were project-based requests.

The DCCC held four study sessions to review the applications received. Council members scored applications based on SCFD's scoring rubric. A public meeting held on June 10, 2025, resulted in the DCCC approving recommendations to distribute \$1,290,475.62 for 11 GOS grants and 47 project-based grants.

All grant funds must be distributed to applicants. GOS grants are only available to Douglas County-based organizations. Project-based grants are available to organizations throughout the greater Denver metro region and must demonstrate service to Douglas County residents.

During a Work Session on May 19, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) requested the DCCC allocate any additional funds to GOS grants. Staff met with the BCC on July 14, 2025, to share the Council's recommendations. The BCC requested that staff provide additional information pertaining to applicant scores and the number of Douglas County residents served.

DISCUSSION

Staff collected additional information on applicant scores and residents served, as requested. This information has been added to the DCCC funding recommendation spreadsheet and provided to the BCC. Individual meetings were scheduled with each Commissioner to discuss the recommendations.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is prepared to discuss the DCCC's proposed funding recommendations. If the BCC is in agreement, they may move to certify the DCCC's recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

Updated Funding Plan for 2025 SCFD Grant Funds

<i>From District Office</i>	
2025 Funds Available	\$ 1,278,125.62
Uncommitted Funds from Previous Year	\$ 12,350.00
Total Available from District Office	\$ 1,290,475.62

Applicants applying for General Operating Support (GOS) grants must be based in DC.
Applicants highlighted in yellow below are DC-based organizations.

General Operating Support Applications <i>(by score)</i>				
Organization	Eligible Requests	Recommended Amt	Total Council Score (350)	DC Residents Served
Cherokee Ranch & Castle Foundation	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 236,357.96	327	6,068
HawkQuest	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 93,097.57	322	7,218
Highlands Ranch Concert Band	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 8,309.78	317	1,621
Parker Symphony Orchestra	\$ 18,406.82	\$ 18,567.28	314	1,540
Lone Tree Symphony Orchestra	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 43,098.58	312	1,322
The Denver Concert Band	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 26,628.21	307	1,535
Highlands Ranch Cultural Affairs Association	\$ 106,397.00	\$ 104,248.35	305	29,139
Highlands Ranch Historical Society	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,770.53	297	2,495
Rocky Mountain Wildlife Alliance	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 36,879.23	287	New Org
Mountain Chamber Music Society	\$ 3,165.00	\$ 2,907.90	286	184
Performing Arts Academy	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 202,129.02	286	10,560
GOS TOTAL	\$ 786,128.82	\$ 776,994.41		

Total GOS Award Recommendation	\$ 776,994.41
Total Project Award Recommendation	\$ 513,481.21
Total SCFD Amt Available to Award	\$ 1,290,475.62

<i>From District Office</i>	
2025 Funds Available	\$ 1,278,125.62
Uncommitted Funds from Previous Year	\$ 12,350.00
Total Available from District Office	\$ 1,290,475.62

Applicants applying for projects may not be based in DC, but projects serve DC residents.
Applicants highlighted in yellow below are DC-based organizations.

Project Applications (by score)				
Organization	Eligible Requests	Recommended Amt	Total Council Score	DC Residents Served
HawkQuest	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00	328	1,440
Denver Audubon	\$ 17,300.00	\$ 17,300.00	324	2,200
Friends of Dinosaur Ridge	\$ 3,490.40	\$ 3,490.40	323	296
Highlands Ranch Concert Band	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 1,070.00	323	300
Ocean First Institute	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00	323	650-850
The Denver Concert Band	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	316	800
St. Andrew Society of Colorado	\$ 49,296.30	\$ 46,831.49	313	5,000
Denver Rocky Mtn Chapter of the American Guild of Organists	\$ 696.00	\$ 661.20	311	100
Young Voices of Colorado	\$ 12,460.00	\$ 11,837.00	311	800-900
Highlands Ranch Cultural Affairs Association	\$ 6,176.00	\$ 5,867.20	309	81,800
Mudra Dance Studio	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 19,950.00	309	650
Arapahoe Philharmonic	\$ 7,271.52	\$ 6,907.94	308	1,283
Lone Tree Symphony Orchestra	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 7,600.00	308	1,430
Parker Symphony Orchestra	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,520.00	307	500
The Denver Brass	\$ 18,200.00	\$ 17,290.00	305	2,800
Kim Robards Dance	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 13,300.00	304	375
Voices West	\$ 4,637.60	\$ 4,405.72	303	270
St. Martin's Chamber Choir	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 6,412.50	302	280
Colorado Quilting Council, Inc	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,750.00	301	1,200
Fiesta Colorado	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,800.00	301	2,000
Inside the Orchestra	\$ 22,300.00	\$ 21,185.00	297	1,375
Colorado Wind Ensemble	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 3,895.00	296	200
Feel the Beat Corp	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,400.00	296	400
Mountain Chamber Music Society	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,850.00	295	500
CMDance	\$ 9,280.00	\$ 8,816.00	291	3,000
Vintage Theatre Productions	\$ 17,001.80	\$ 16,151.71	290	800
Centro Cultural Mexicano	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,850.00	289	225
Denver Young Artists Orchestra Association	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,700.00	289	150-200
A Child's Song	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,500.00	288	200
David Taylor's Zikr Dance Ensemble	\$ 16,043.00	\$ 15,240.85	288	850
Museo de las Americas	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,500.00	287	6,000
Performing Arts Academy	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	287	85
Colorado Fine Arts Association	\$ 19,750.00	\$ 18,762.50	286	1,800-2,200
Platte Valley Players	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 5,605.00	286	300
Roxborough Arts Council	\$ 10,850.00	\$ 10,307.50	286	25,000-30,000
Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado	\$ 12,816.00	\$ 12,175.20	285	295
Colorado Jazz	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 23,750.00	285	1,800
Boulder Ballet	\$ 13,840.00	\$ 13,148.00	283	1,800

Colorado Bach Ensemble	\$ 22,310.00	\$ 21,194.50	283	500
New Dance Theatre	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 24,700.00	282	1,000
Ballet Ariel	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,700.00	281	150
Evergreen Jazz Festival	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 1,026.00	281	100-500
Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,020.00	277	150
Think 360 Arts for Learning	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 7,650.00	276	500
Rocky Mountain Arts Association	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 6,800.00	273	600
Control Group Productions	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 11,900.00	270	430
Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art	\$ 15,130.00	\$ 12,860.50	256	400
PROJECT TOTAL	\$ 542,348.62	\$ 513,481.21		

Total GOS Award Recommendation	\$ 776,994.41
Total Project Award Recommendation	\$ 513,481.21
Total SCFD Amt Available to Award	\$ 1,290,475.62

Memorandum

Date: July 30, 2025
To: Douglas J. Debord, County Manager
From: Terence T. Quinn, AICP, Director of Community Development *TQ*
CC: Lauren Pulver, Planning Supervisor
Kati Carter, Assistant Director of Planning Resources
Chris Pratt, Managing County Attorney
Subject: **Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 – Notice of Intent**

SUMMARY

On July 17, 2025, staff received notice from Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (Districts) regarding intent to include property into its boundaries.

The boundary modification is consistent with powers granted to special districts in Title 32 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Based upon staff review, the County is not required to enjoin these actions.

BACKGROUND

Per Title 32 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners has the authority to enjoin an action by a District that is found to be a material departure from the approved service plan. As a result, it has become standard practice for Title 32 Districts to provide additional notice of actions so that the County and public may be better informed.

The current Districts boundaries are depicted in Exhibit A of the letter from Spencer Fane LLP dated June 26, 2025. The Districts intend to process inclusions so that the Districts boundaries will reflect what is shown in Exhibit B attached to the above referenced letter.

Notice of intent for the Districts was published on July 4, 2025 in the Denver Post and the County has the authority to enjoin the Districts' actions by August 15, 2025 and require a service plan amendment.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is available to discuss this further or provide additional information, if necessary.

ATTACHMENTS

Spencer Fane Letter dated June 26, 2025
45-day Notice Affidavit of Publication

DAVID S. O'LEARY
DIRECT DIAL: 303-839-3952
doleary@spencerfane.com

File No. 5507010.2300

June 26, 2025

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND EMAIL

Lauren Pulver
Douglas County Department of Community Development
Community and Resource Services
100 Third Street
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104
lpulver@douglas.co.us

Re: Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3: 45-Day Notice

Dear Ms. Pulver:

Our firm serves as general counsel to the Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (collectively, the “Districts”). On April 4, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County (“Board of County Commissioners”) approved the Service Plan for the Districts (the “Service Plan”). The Service Plan sets forth the Districts’ powers and limitations. The purpose of this letter is to provide notice to the Board of County Commissioners under Section 32-1-207, C.R.S., that Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (the “Districts”) intend to include property into their boundaries, as discussed further herein, and that such change does not constitute a material modification of the Service Plan.

The Service Plan anticipates the Districts changing their boundaries upon the development of the property within the Districts’ service area. Further, Section 32-1-207(2)(a) of the Colorado Revised Statutes states that approval for modification shall not be required for changes in the boundary of a special district. The current boundaries of the Districts are depicted on the attached **Exhibit A**. The Districts intend to process inclusions and exclusions so that the Districts eventually will have the boundaries shown in the attached **Exhibit B**. The property to be included into the Districts is depicted on the Vicinity Map that is attached to the Service Plan for Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (the “Service Plan”) as Exhibit A and on the map of public improvements that is attached to the Service Plan as Exhibit E. The Boards of Directors of the Districts support the proposed boundary change.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 32-1-207, C.R.S., the Districts are submitting this letter to serve as the requisite forty-five (45) day written notice to the Board of County Commissioners of the intention of District Nos. 1-3 to change its boundaries by including the property identified

herein into District Nos. 1-3. This 45-day notice letter will provide the Board of County Commissioners with the statutory opportunity to determine whether the proposed action is a material modification to the Service Plan.

Pursuant to Section 32-1-207(3)(b), C.R.S., enclosed with this letter is a draft notice of intent from District Nos. 1-3 addressing the proposed action as discussed herein. Our intention is to publish the notice in the *Douglas County News Press or the Denver Post* as soon as we have authorization to proceed from your office. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

/s/ David S. O'Leary

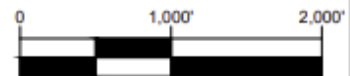
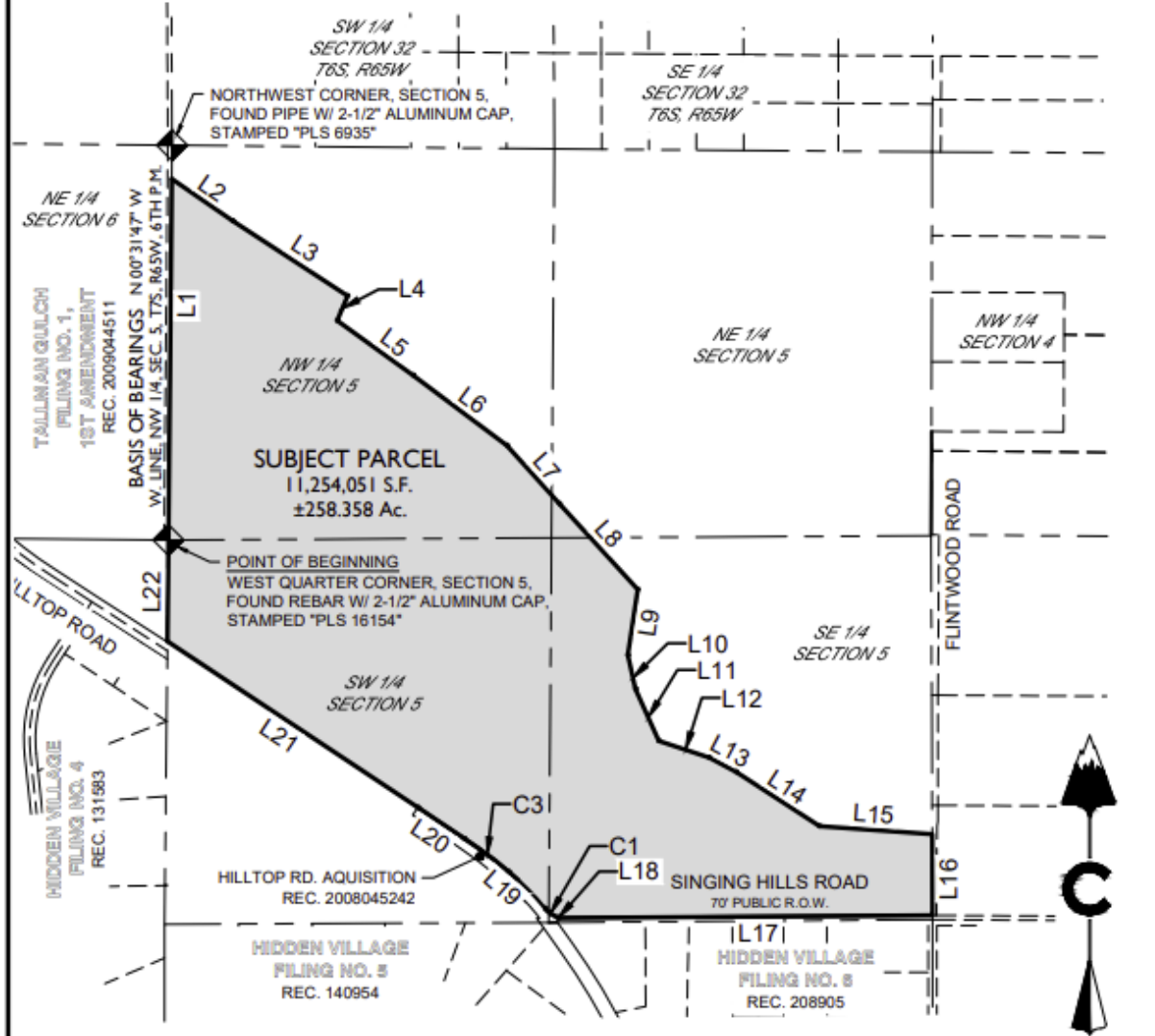
David S. O'Leary

Enclosures

Exhibit A

EXHIBIT

A PORTION OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 65 WEST OF THE 6TH P.M.,
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF COLORADO



1 inch = 1,000 ft.

PARCEL CONTAINS 11,254,051 S.F. OR 258.358 Ac, MORE OR LESS.

NOTE: THIS DOES NOT REPRESENT A MONUMENTED SURVEY.
IT IS INTENDED ONLY TO DEPICT THE ATTACHED DESCRIPTION

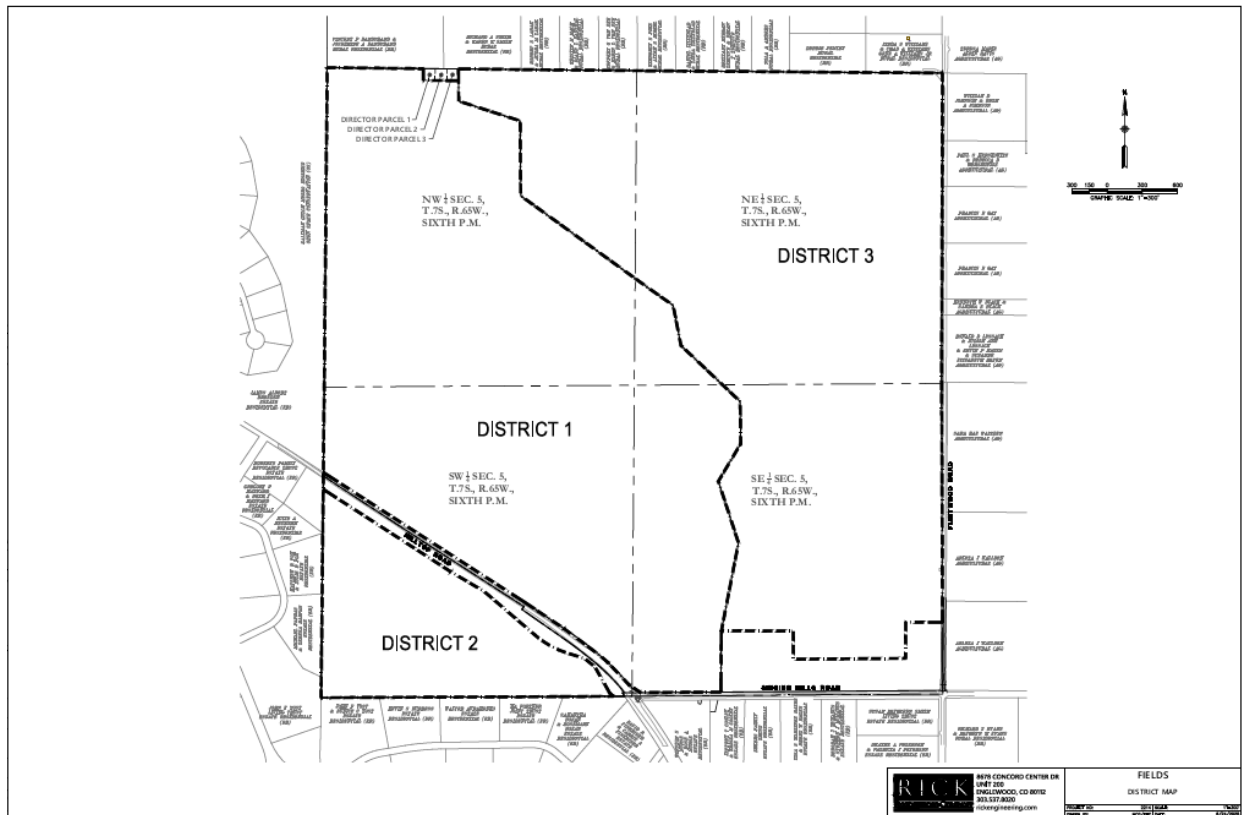
PROJECT: 20-175
DATE: 05/28/2021
SHEET 3 OF 4

DR: J. GUTIERREZ
DS: T. GIRARD
P.M.

CORE

CORE CONSULTANTS, INC.
3473 SOUTH BROADWAY
ENGLEWOOD, CO 80113
303.703.4444
LIVEYOURCORE.COM

EXHIBIT B



The Denver Post, LLC

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

City and County of Denver)
State of Colorado)
)

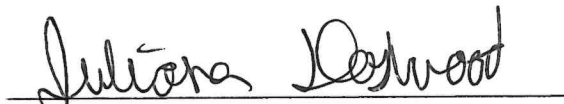
The undersigned Nicole Maestas
being first duly sworn under oath, states
and affirms as follows:

1. He/she is the legal Advertising Reviewer
of The Denver Post, LLC, publisher
of The Denver Post.
2. The Denver Post is a newspaper of general
circulation within the State of Colorado that has
been published continuously and without
interruption for at least fifty-two weeks in Denver County
and meet the legal requisites for a legal
newspaper under Colo. Rev. Stat. 24-70-103.
3. The notice that is attached hereto
is a true copy, published in The Denver Post
on the following date(s):

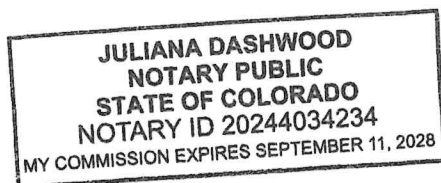
July 4, 2025


Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
9 day of July, 2025.


Notary Public

(SEAL)



STATE OF COLORADO, DOUGLAS COUNTY

45-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHANGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

FIELDS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT NOS. 1-3, DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 32-1-207(3)(b), C.R.S., the Board of Directors of Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (the "Districts") is providing notice that the Districts intend to change the boundaries of such Districts, to include property as depicted on the Vicinity Map that is attached to the Service Plan for Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3 (the "Service Plan") as Exhibit A and on the map of public improvements that is attached to the Service Plan as Exhibit E. The Districts do not consider the inclusion of such property into the Districts to be a material modification as the Service Plan anticipates the changing of district boundaries and Section 32-1-207(2)(a), C.R.S., states that approval for modification shall not be required for changes in the boundary of a special district.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, pursuant to and in accordance with § 32-1-207(3), C.R.S., any action to enjoin such activity must be brought within forty-five (45) days from publication of this notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Directors of Fields Metropolitan District Nos. 1-3, Douglas County, Colorado, have authorized this notice to be given.

SPENCER FANE LLP
Attorneys for the District

PUBLISHED IN: *Denver Post*
PUBLISHED ON: July 4, 2025

Please note: The Denver Post will no longer be issuing paper tears. There will only be a digital copy.