



South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership

Meeting Notes | May 6, 2014 | 1:30 – 4:00 PM | The Daniels Fund

Summary: After workgroup updates and a sneak peak of the CO water movie, participants spent the majority of the meeting in small groups discussing the work of partner groups, their relevance to the UWP vision and vice versa, and how to encourage investment in the UWP. The Leadership Team will be compiling and analyzing the small group discussions to share back with the partnership.

Action Items: Participants identified a number of short-term action items, including:

- (Leadership Team) Revise the vision statement to clarify boundaries of the “South Platte River Watershed”. A map is valuable, but can’t always be used.
- (All) Contact Jim Havey to share places, photos, stories, water quality info, wildlife and recreation info, etc. that could be included in his film.
- (Jim Havey) Share video clip with those interested in distributing it among their networks or posting to the web.

Work Group Updates: Work group leads provided updates on current work and needs, including:

1. Geomapping: Have made some tweaks to the platform, which will be rolled out soon to the other UWP locations. Need partner commitments to add project information and keep it up to date. Now accessible from the UWP website - <http://www.urbanwaters.gov/splatte/index.html> (scroll to “Geomapping platform” at the bottom of the page)
2. Water Quality: Moving forward with partner survey results, defining project boundary, shared maps.
3. Education and Urban Engagement: Held a clean-up event at Bluff Lake and have another planned in June. World water monitoring day planning is ongoing.
4. Economic Benefits: Shared info on existing research ideas and study templates from USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and CSU Extension.
5. Water Center: Looking for a workgroup leader. Focusing on engaging the right people and on outreach.
6. Leadership Team: Authored the UWP “profile” document, which is still open to evolution and intended to focus our efforts. Developed criteria to evaluate and respond to requests for letters of support, based on the vision/profile document.

The Great Divide: Jim Havey, from Havey Productions, shared information about development of the film “The Great Divide”, a historic look at water in Colorado. He requested input from UWP members. The film will debut in spring 2015. See handout for additional details.

Facilitated Table Discussion – Locally Driven Regional Collaboration

Partners discussed current projects and the benefits of participation in the UWP. Many organizations appreciate the networking, the opportunity to build relationships and share data. The group made suggestions as to how to pursue funding for the ongoing work of the partnership without duplicating fees already paid to other watershed groups. Some Partners are interested in supporting the UWP through available resources (staff time or financial,



if available), particularly if the support could be tied to projects. The suggestion was made to send out letters asking for a specific amount for a specific purpose. There was also support for approaching a major funder.

Partner Updates: Participants shared current work and upcoming events in a round-robin, including:

- Friday, May 9 Groundwork Denver is hosting a Lower Bear Creek Technical Stakeholder meeting, see email info and <http://groundworkcolorado.org/projects/bear-creek-watershed/>
- May 10 Walk Fest trips along Westerly Creek and at Bluff Lake Nature Center, <http://newwalkfest.com/trips/>
- May 13/15 Urban Waters Bike Tour sponsored by the Colorado Water Education Foundation, <https://www.yourwatercolorado.org/cfwe-education/basin-tours/mini-tours/514-urban-waters-bike-tour>
- Get Outdoors Day and Go Play 5K at City Park June 14, more info online at <http://www.getoutdoorscolorado.org/>
- Sand Creek 5K/10K/Half Marathon through Bluff Lake Nature Center on July 12, more info online at <https://www.runningguru.com/EventInformation.asp?eID=9925>
- Summer Solstice walk, Unique to the Creek Walk, Run for the Watershed, and other Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners events http://www.cherry-creek.org/upcoming_events_and_registration.htm
- CDC Foundation project ideas are being reviewed currently at the headquarters level; there is an Acting Director in place, which could slow down response times
- New EPA/Tetra Tech green infrastructure project with Denver Urban Drainage, two EPA Urban Waters grants awarded in the Denver area, current round of grants should be announced soon
- Watch your Ash! Check out Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) information from Denver's Office of the City Forester or the State, http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/ag_Plants/CBON/1251646251641



Urban Waters Partnership Meeting Attendance 5-6-14

Greenway Foundation, Capitol Representatives	Marge Price
Groundwork Denver	Rachel Hansgen
Coalition for the Upper S Platte	Amy Jacobi
South Platte CURE	Phil Russell
Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership	Katie Lampe
Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership	Christina Harney
Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners / Colorado Watershed Assembly	Casey Davenhill
Bluff Lake Nature Center	Chris Story
City of Centennial	Heather Vidlock
City and County of Denver, Department of Environmental Health	Jon Novick
City and County of Denver, Forestry	Sara Davis
City and County of Denver, Parks Planning	Cincere Eades
City of Englewood	John Voboril
City of Englewood	Chris Neubecker
GP Red	Jessica Osborne
Jefferson County	Patrick OConnell
City of Aurora, Water Department	Melissa Toering
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District	Jim Dorsch
Denver Water	Nathan Elder
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado	Dean Winstanley
Havey Productions	Jim Havey
Tri County Health Department	Hope Dalton
Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry	Chris Poulet
National Parks Service / RTCA	Alan Ragins
US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region Urban & Community Forestry	Dana Coelho
US Forest Service, Pike & San Isabel National Forests	Brian Banks
US Environmental Protection Agency	Karl Hermann
US Environmental Protection Agency, Watersheds, Brownfields	Stacey Eriksen
US Environmental Protection Agency, Aquifer Protection	Peter Ismert