

RESOLUTION NO. 1088

A RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO WORK TOWARDS A
REGIONAL VISION OF THE NORTHWEST QUADRANT OF
JEFFERSON COUNTY.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO, FINDS AND

RECITES THAT:

The Boulder City Council recognizes the negative impacts that development in the Northwest Quadrant of Jefferson County will have upon the wildlife habitat and quality of life in the City of Boulder and several local communities; and

The Boulder City Council has consistently opposed the construction of the Jefferson Parkway (the "Parkway"), a proposed toll road that would connect the Northwest Parkway and Highway 93 through Broomfield and Jefferson Counties, because of environmental concerns and because of the potential impacts of increased traffic and development pressure that the Parkway would have upon the City of Boulder, its citizens, and neighboring and impacted communities; and

In an attempt to mitigate the potential adverse impacts of the Parkway, the City of Boulder has sought to protect undeveloped land as open space and restrict additional development within the Highway 93 corridor in Northern Jefferson County; and

The City of Boulder, Jefferson County, Boulder County and the City of Golden (the "Local Governments") have agreed to work together in an effort to achieve a regional vision for the Northwest Quadrant of Jefferson County that would enable construction of the Parkway in a manner that balances the benefits of the Parkway with limitations on development, preservation of open space, wildlife corridors and habitat, and construction of local transportation infrastructure improvements; and

The City of Boulder appreciates the willingness of the other Local Governments to work towards a collaborative regional vision that meets the interests and concerns of all entities, including those not included in the term "Local Governments" that have concerns that are not included in the resolution and whose communities may be adversely impacted; and

Enacting the regional vision will take, at a minimum, the cooperation of the Local Governments, communities not included in "Local Governments" but impacted, private entities with leasehold rights, the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

The shared regional vision cannot be achieved without binding commitments on behalf of the Local Governments in the form of one or more intergovernmental agreements; and

This Resolution represents the City of Boulder's intention to work in good faith to achieve one or more intergovernmental agreements between the Local Governments that will achieve a regional vision for the Northwest Quadrant of Jefferson County that addresses the interests of all entities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO:**

Section 1. The Boulder City Council hereby pledges that it will work in good faith with the Local Governments to enter into one or more intergovernmental agreements that include the following elements:

1. An agreement by Jefferson County to commit \$5,000,000, along with an amount equating to the appraised value of Woman Creek Gulch, without reservation or condition, towards the acquisition of real property interests to be dedicated to publicly-owned open space along the Highway 93 corridor in Northern Jefferson County. This contribution will go towards the acquisition of the surface and mineral interests in Section 16, located south of the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge and owned by the State of Colorado Board of Land Commissioners, with the shared goal that Section 16 will eventually be transferred to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge or other permanent wildlife conservation status. In keeping with this vision, a commitment by Jefferson County that all Jefferson County Open Space lands along state highway 93 remain undeveloped, unsold, and unconverted. The intent is that the development potential of land north of section 16 will not exceed what is currently available under Jefferson County's existing zoning.

2. A pledge by Jefferson County, in addition to contributing funds, to support the efforts of the other Local Governments and/or their agents to raise additional funds necessary to acquire all property interests in Section 16, including but not limited to, supporting applications for Natural Resource Damages funding.

3. A pledge by Jefferson County to consult with Superior and other communities affected by construction, development, and impacts associated with the Jefferson Parkway.

4. In addition, a pledge by Jefferson County to support acquisition and funding requests to State and Federal agencies for lands contiguous to Section 16.

5. An agreement by the City of Boulder to contribute financially and with administrative and political support towards the acquisition of Section 16 so long as other Local Governments reciprocate and that these funds be placed in an escrow account with the State Land Board in summer/fall 2011;

6. An agreement that Boulder, Boulder County, and Golden's separate IGAs with Jefferson County will be voided if all the agreements are not fully implemented; and

7. Pending receipt of the above commitments, communication by the City of Boulder to appropriate federal and state authorities of the withdrawal of its opposition to the acquisition of right-of-way for the Parkway by the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority along the eastern edge of the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge and adoption of a neutral position on construction of the Parkway in the configuration as proposed in the Denver Regional Council of Governments Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan. Additionally, there will be no restrictions on improvement to state highway 93 or other state highways for safety, transit, capacity, and maintenance purposes.

APPROVED this 21st day of December 2010.

Mayor 

ATTEST:


City Clerk on behalf of the
Director of Finance and Record