



BOXELDER STORMWATER AUTHORITY

Newsletter

boxelderauthority.org

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Who are we? Three local governments, Fort Collins, Larimer County, and the Town of Wellington have cooperated to form *the Boxelder Stormwater Authority*.

What do we do? The Authority was formed to finance and construct three improvements which act as a system a system to lessen possible damages from flooding along a 20 mile reach of Boxelder Creek and its tributaries.

What's Happening at the Authority?

At their May 26 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Authority authorized engineering to further develop the Middle Basin Project, one of three projects that the Authority was formed to construct. The flood flow path along the

natural channel of the creek will be enlarged to handle more flow without “spilling” into the westerly flood flow path. This occurs in the reach between County Roads 54 and 50. **Why is this important?** Keeping the reduced flood flow away from the westerly flowpath along I-25 will reduce the potential for damage to existing improvements both east and west of the Interstate.

Eastside Storage Project

Authority Manager Rex Burns and Engineer Andrea Faucett continue meeting with officials at the Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center (ARDEC) to discuss possible siting of the Eastside Floodwater Storage Facility on land owned by Colorado State University. This site is located on the north side of County Road 56, about ½ mile east of Interstate Highway 25. The floodwater detention facility would be located mostly on land which is currently in the floodplain. The land is used as pasture. After construction of the facility, the land would continue to be used as it is now.

Discussions with Timnath

FEMA flood maps show that in the event of a flood, some floodwater from Boxelder Creek would flow south and east through the Town of Timnath. Authority personnel have met with a representative of the

Town of Timnath. Discussion at that meeting centered on how the Authority improvements might be configured to meet the needs of the Town of Timnath as well as owners of buildings between East Prospect Street and the northern limits of the Town. Depending on the amount of floodwater which can be stored, the Eastside Floodwater Storage Facility will reduce the peak rate of flow of floodwater entering Timnath. The Boxelder Regional Master Plan provides that the East Side Storage may be larger or smaller, depending on what downstream reduction is needed.

Coal Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Project

Larimer County has signed a contract with Technology Construction Inc. of Prescott, Arizona in the amount of \$3,137,080 for construction of the Coal Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Project. As of this writing, the contractors have mobilized to the site, and begun some work as shown on the left. Dredging to remove sediment from Clark Reservoir is expected to begin in July 2011 and finish by the end of 2011. The overall project completion will be in mid 2012.



Will the Authority Continue Indefinitely?

The Intergovernmental Agreement that formed the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority (the Authority) makes reference to the Boxelder Regional Stormwater Master Plan. The Authority can only construct those regional improvements identified in the Master Plan. There are three such improvements. When those improvements have been constructed, the Authority will cease to build any additional improvements, and will assess fees only to pay off any debt and to maintain the improvements. The financial study that was conducted when the Authority was being formed in mid-2008 estimated that the three improvements would be constructed within a five to seven year period. At this time, construction is beginning on the first of the three projects, the Coal Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Project. The second project, East Side Storage has been conceptually designed, with construction beginning as funding becomes available. Conceptual design of the third project, the Middle Basin Improvements will begin soon.

