



### Agenda

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO

May 17, 2022

4:00 p.m. Board Training

5:00 p.m. Work Session

6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom. The Zoom link is available on the Town website: [Board of Trustees | Town of Blue River \(colorado.gov\)](#).

Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.

4:00 p.m. Trustee Training-Town Attorney Bob Widner

5:00 p.m. WORK SESSION-CDOT Chain-up Bypass Lane Update

6:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Minutes, April 27, 2022
  - b. Approval of Bills
- III. COMMUNICATIONS TO TRUSTEES
  - a. Citizen Comments (Non-Agenda Items Only- **3-minute limit please**). Any written communications are included in the packet.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Muller Engineering-Spruce Creek Rd Project
  - b. Review of Employee Health Benefits
  - c. Land Use Code Discussion-Attorney Questions
- V. REPORTS
  - a. Mayor
  - b. Trustees
    - i. Citizen Advisory Committee-Trustee Finley
    - ii. Open Space & Trails Committee-Trustee Dixon
      - Vice Chair and new member appointments
    - iii. Planning & Zoning-Trustee Hopkins
      - Member Attendance Discussion

- iv. Transit Authority-Trustee Pilling
- v. Wildfire Council-Trustee Slaughter
- vi. CDOT-Trustee Fossett
- c. Attorney's Report

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 31-6-402(b) to receive legal advice regarding the application of HB 1041 regulations to areas and activities of state interest.

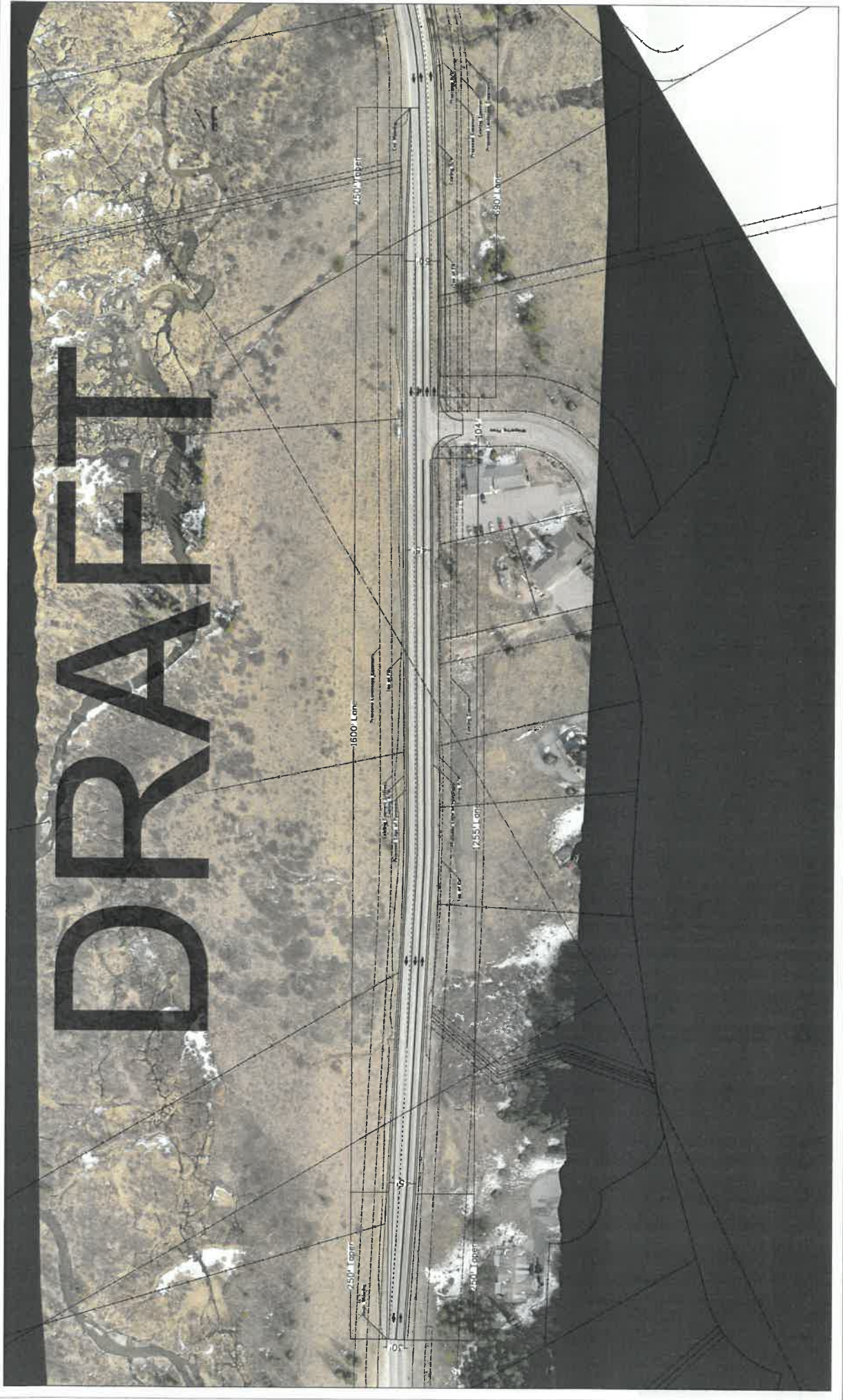
Next Meeting, Tuesday, June 21, 2022

*Reports from the Town Administrator, Mayor and Trustees; Scheduled Meetings and other matters are topics listed on the Regular Trustees Agenda. If time permits at the work session, the Mayor and Trustees may discuss these items. The Board of Trustees may make a Final Decision on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of whether it is listed as an action item.*

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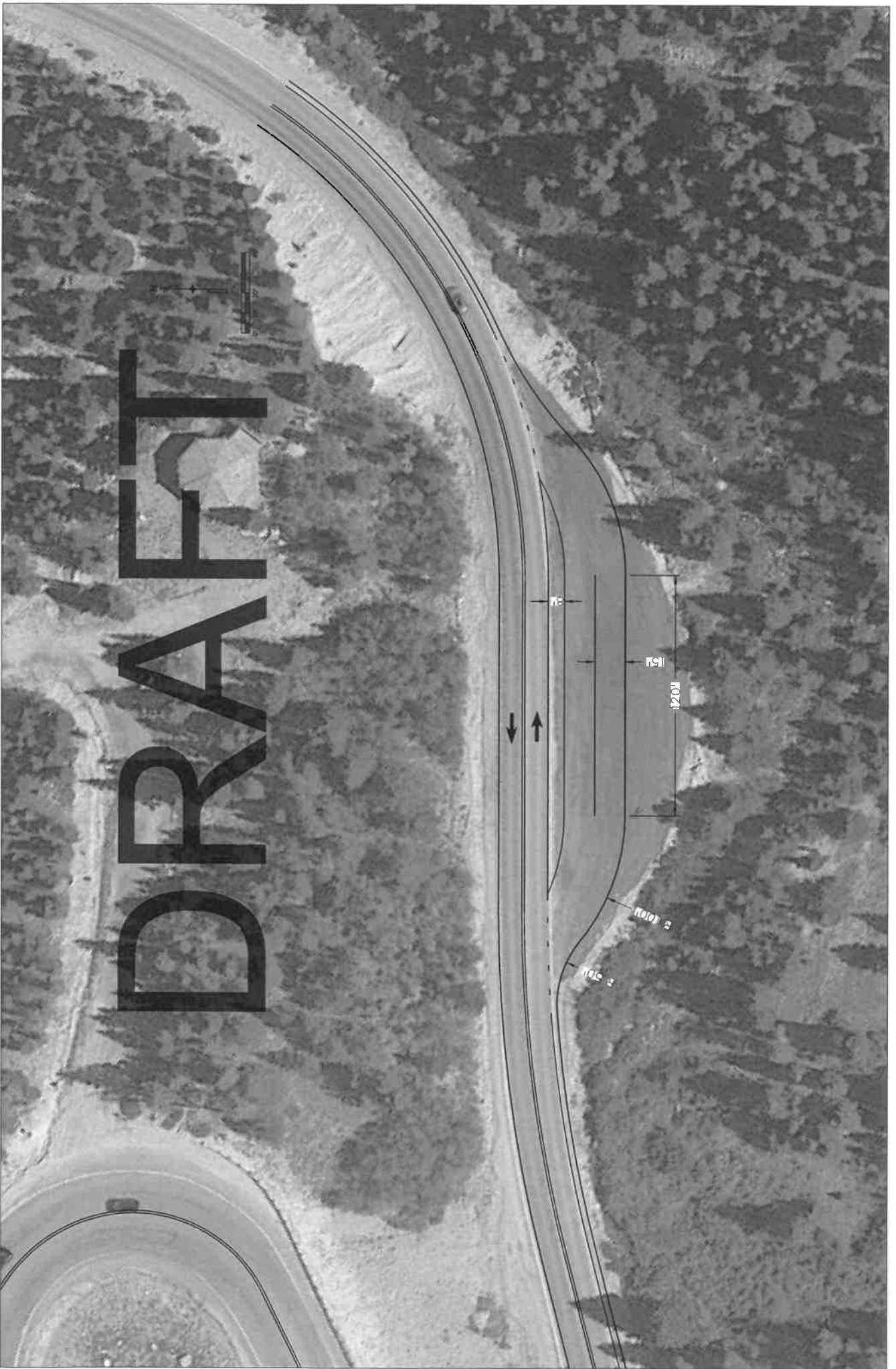


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Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO

April 27, 2022

6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom. The Zoom link is available on the Town website: [Board of Trustees | Town of Blue River \(colorado.gov\)](#). Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.

5:00 p.m. WORK SESSION-No work session is scheduled.

6:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

- Mayor Babich called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m.
  - Roll Call
    - Mayor Toby Babich
    - Joel Dixon
    - Kelly Finley
    - Mark Fossett
    - Ken Robertson
    - Trustee Elect Ted Slaughter
  - Excused: Dan Cleary; Trustee Elect Noah Hopkins; Trustee Elect Ted Pilling

II. Also present: Town Manager Michelle Eddy; Town Attorney Bob Widner

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes, March 15, 2022
- Approval of Bills-\$78,820.33
  - i. Trustee Robertson moved and Trustee Finley seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. SWEARING IN OF NEW TRUSTEES

- Town Clerk Michelle Eddy swore in Trustee Elect Ted Slaughter. It was noted that Trustee Elect Noah Hopkins was sworn in on April 20<sup>th</sup> and Trustee Elect Ted Pilling will be sworn in when he returns.

V. COMMUNICATIONS TO TRUSTEES

- Citizen Comments (Non-Agenda Items Only- 3-minute limit please). Any written communications are included in the packet.
  - i. Town Manager Eddy read thank you cards from Evan Jones and Grace Jackman a recipients of the Town Scholarship.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Appointment of Mayor Pro-tem and Committee Liaisons
  - i. Mayor Babich made the following committee assignments based on Trustee input.
  - ii. Committee Liaisons
    - Citizen Advisory-Kelly Finley
    - Open Space & Trails-Joel Dixon
    - Planning & Zoning-Noah Hopkins
    - Wildfire Council-Ted Slaughter
    - CDOT-Mark Fossett
    - Transit Authority-Ted Pilling
    - Trustee Finley moved and Trustee Slaughter seconded to appoint Trustee Mark Fossett as Mayor Pro-tem. Motion passed unanimously.
- Family Medical Leave Act
  - i. Manager Eddy and Attorney Widner reviewed the upcoming changes to the Family Medical Leave Act. She recommended not opting out as the cost is minimal to the Town.
  - ii. Discussion of how the program works and benefits and costs.
  - iii. Discussion to bring back the discussion of employee health benefits for review in May. It was discussed to include it along with a discussion on FMLA.

## VII. REPORTS

- Mayor
  - i. Mayor Babich voiced support for the CML conference and encouraged everyone to attend. He also encouraged everyone to register for the effective governance seminar through CML.
  - ii. Mayor Babich recommended restarting the Trustee talks once a quarter. He asked staff to set up meetings.
- Trustees
  - i. Citizen Advisory Committee-Trustee Finley
    - Trustee Finley reported there have been attendance challenges that started during COVID. Discussion of possible refocus and reorganization including a review of the mission and rules.
    - Trustee Finley asked the Trustees to help provide direction and then meet in May with the committee. She suggested a 60/40 split on the committee for full-time/second homeowner make up of the committee. A suggestion of ideas and moving meetings to either quarterly or every other month unless there is a specific project from the Trustees.
    - Discussion to have the focus on the community fund, events, surveys and community topical needs and to switch to quarterly. Recommendation that if members can't attend they need to be replaced following the committee bylaws. Suggested to review attendance and adjust then meet with the small group to determine focus.

- Recommendation to disband the committee and have a reapplication process seating interested applicants based on a 60/40 split. After the new committee is seated, meet and set goals and focus.
  - Town Manager Eddy reviewed current events and projects.
- ii. Open Space & Trails Committee-Trustee Dixon
  - Trustee Dixon reported the committee discussed a presentation but felt there needed to be better mapping before coming before the Trustees. The goal is to be able to attend in May with information on their progress and priority list.
- iii. Planning & Zoning
  - Manager Eddy noted they did not meet in March or April but have one project to review in May.
- iv. Transit Authority
  - Manager Eddy reported on meeting held earlier in the day.
- v. Wildfire Council
  - Manager Eddy reported on upcoming projects for mitigation and opportunities to tour projects this summer.
  - It was discussed about the shooting range in Spruce Valley Ranch; shooting and need for fire mitigation.
- vi. CDOT-Trustee Fossett
  - Trustee Fossett reported the meeting was delayed until May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- vii. Other reports
  - Trustee Fossett reported the Town of Frisco is planning fireworks for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
- viii. Upper Blue Planning
  - Manager Eddy read email from Dan Cleary the Town's representative.
- Attorney's Report
  - i. Attorney Widner reported Maureen Juran has stepped down as an equity partner (owner) of the firm and is now a non-equity partner (senior attorney but not owner) working approximately 60% - 70% time as she heads toward retirement. Chris Price, Jill Hassman and Jennifer Madsen were made equity partners as of January 1. The firm will remain Widner Juran LLP for the meantime. Attorney Widner remains the principal owner and managing partner. He will be transitioning over the next few years and will be teaching law part-time. His role with Blue River will not change. They also hired a new attorney Molly Schultz who has worked for a Denver law firm that defends municipalities in litigation and CIRSA has been a client.

## VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 31-6-402(b) to receive legal advice regarding the application of HB 1041 regulations to areas and activities of state interest and organization structure of municipal government.
  - i. Trustee Fossett moved to adjourn into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(b) to receive legal advice regarding the application of HB 1041 regulations to areas and activities of state interest and organization structure of municipal government at 7:23 p.m. Trustee Finley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Trustee Finley moved and Trustee Fossett seconded to adjourn out of executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. with no action taken.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Respectfully Submitted:

Michelle Eddy

Town Clerk

**BLUE RIVER: SPRUCE CREEK RD**  
**PRELIMINARY-LEVEL ENGINEERS OPINION OF PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COST**  
 PREPARED BY  
 MULLER ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.  
 February 25, 2022

			PROJECT TOTALS		
ITEM NUMBER	ITEM	UNIT	TOTAL QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	COST
201-00000	CLEARING AND GRUBBING	L S	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
203-00010	UNCLASSIFIED EXCAVATION (COMPLETE IN PLACE)	CY	781	\$30.00	\$23,430.00
203-01100	PROOF ROLLING	hour	20	\$150.00	\$3,000.00
203-01597	POTHOLING	hour	20	\$225.00	\$4,500.00
206-00000	STRUCTURAL EXCAVATION	CY	23	\$50.00	\$1,150.00
207-00205	TOPSOIL	CY	181	\$60.00	\$10,860.00
208-XXXXX	EROSION CONTROL	L S	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
210-00810	RESET GROUND SIGN	EACH	2	\$350.00	\$700.00
210-02018	RELAY PIPE (18 INCH)	LF	45	\$100.00	\$4,500.00
212-00006	SEEDING (NATIVE)	ACRE	0.34	\$5,000.00	\$1,700.00
213-00000	MULCHING	ACRE	0.34	\$5,000.00	\$1,700.00
304-06000	AGGREGATE BASE COURSE (CLASS 6)	TON	530	\$25.00	\$13,250.00
403-34721	HOT MIX ASPHALT (GRADING SX) (75) (PG 58-28)	TON	732	\$120.00	\$87,840.00
411-10255	EMULSIFIED ASPHALT (SLOW SETTING)	GAL	133	\$4.00	\$532.00
506-00209	RIPRAP (9 INCH)	CY	23	\$200.00	\$4,600.00
603-30012	12 INCH STEEL END SECTION	EACH	2	\$300.00	\$600.00
603-30018	18 INCH STEEL END SECTION	EACH	2	\$400.00	\$800.00
603-50012	12 INCH PLASTIC PIPE	LF	26	\$75.00	\$1,950.00
603-50018	18 INCH PLASTIC PIPE	LF	50	\$115.00	\$5,750.00
620-00020	SANITARY FACILITY	EACH	1	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
625-00000	CONSTRUCTION SURVEYING	L S	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
626-00000	MOBILIZATION	L S	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
626-01000	PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES	L S	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL OF CONSTRUCTION ITEMS</b>					<b>\$223,362</b>
<b>CE/INDIRECT COSTS (20%)</b>					<b>\$44,672</b>
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST</b>					<b>\$268,034</b>
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST (ROUNDED)</b>					<b>\$270,000</b>



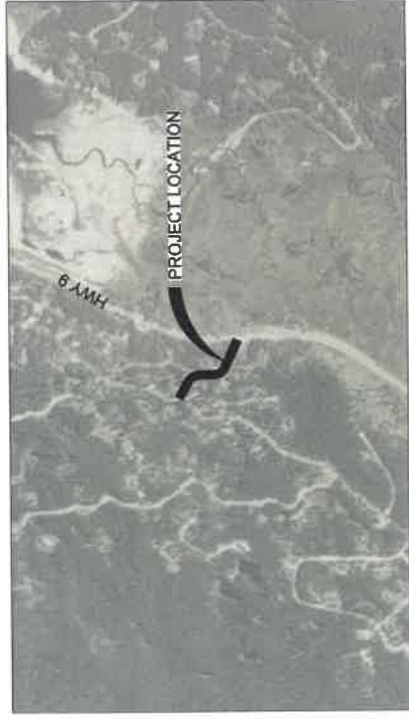
CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR  
**SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**  
LOCATED IN THE  
TOWN OF BLUE RIVER  
SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO  
FEBRUARY 25th, 2022

LEGEND

PROPOSED MAJOR CONTOUR	5275
PROPOSED MINOR CONTOUR	
PROPOSED CENTERLINE	
PROPOSED DRAINAGE FLOWLINE	
PROPOSED STORM SEWER	
EXISTING MAJOR CONTOUR	
EXISTING MINOR CONTOUR	
EXISTING PROPERTY	
EXISTING ROW	
EXISTING FENCE	-X-
EXISTING EASEMENT LINE	
EXISTING WETLANDS	
EXISTING SANITARY SEWER	
EXISTING GAS LINE	
EXISTING ELECTRIC LINE	
EXISTING STORM SEWER	
EXISTING TELEPHONE LINE	
EXISTING ELECTRIC OVERHEAD LINE	
EXISTING SIGN	
EXISTING ELECTRIC POLE	
EXISTING GUY WIRE	
EXISTING CABLE PEDESTAL	
EXISTING SEPTIC CLEANOUT	

EROSION CONTROL LEGEND:

LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION	LOC
SILT FENCE	SF
CULVERT INLET PROTECTION	OP
VEHICLE TRACKING CONTROL	VTG
CHECK DAM	CD



VICINITY MAP  
1" = 1000'

ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	AGGREGATE BASE COURSE	EOR	EDGE OF ROADWAY	MH	MANHOLE	TOC	TOP OF CURB
BOC	BACK OF CONCRETE	EOS	EDGE OF SHOULDER	NF	NEAR FACE	TOW	TOP OF WALL
BF	BACK FACE	EX	EXISTING	NIC	NOT IN CONTRACT	TS	TUBULAR STEEL
CBC	CONCRETE BOX CULVERT	EXP	EXPANSION	O.C.	ON CENTER	TYP	TYPICAL
CDOT	COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	FES	FLARED END SECTION	O.D.	OUTSIDE DIAMETER	US	UPSTREAM
CIP	CAST IN PLACE	FG	FINISHED GRADE	PCR	POINT OF CURVE RETURN	WMF	WELDED WIRE FABRIC
CJ	CONSTRUCTION JOINT	FL	FLOW LINE	PERF	PERFORATED		
CL	CENTERLINE	HDPE	HIGH DENSITY POLYETHYLENE PIPE	PT	POINT OF TANGENT		
CLR	CLEAR	HGL	HYDRAULIC GRADE LINE	PVC	POLYVINYL CHLORIDE PIPE		
CMP	CORRUGATED METAL PIPE	HP	HIGH POINT	R	RADIUS		
DBL	DOUBLE	IRR	IRRIGATION	RCP	REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE		
DIA	DIAMETER	LBS	POUNDS	REQD	REQUIRED		
DIS	DOWNSTREAM	LF	LINEAR FEET	ROW	RIGHT-OF-WAY		
DWG	DRAWING	LP	LOW POINT	SAN	SANITARY		
EA	EACH	MATL	MATERIAL	SPEC	SPECIFICATION		
EF	EACH FACE	MAX	MAXIMUM	STA	STATION		
EL	ELEVATION	MFR	MANUFACTURER	STM	STORM		
EMB	EMBEDDED	MIN	MINIMUM	TH	TEST HOLE		

DESIGNED BY	UNRWMS
DRAWN BY	IMS
CHECKED BY	NUL

PRELIMINARY PLANS

PROJECT NO.

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY



TOWN OF BLUE RIVER

SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

COVER SHEET

DATE	2/24/2022
DRAWING NO.	0-1
SHEET NO.	1 of 10

**GENERAL NOTES:**

1. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE THE TOWN ENGINEER 24 HOURS ADVANCED NOTICE. PHONE (303) 988-4839.
2. THE TOWN OF BLUE RIVER SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATION, MAINTENANCE OR REPAIR OF STORM DRAINAGE FACILITIES LOCATED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.
3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN ONE (1) SET OF "REDLINED" PRINTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION PLANS. THE "REDLINED" PRINTS SHALL BE KEPT CURRENT TO ACCURATELY REPRESENT THE DIMENSIONS AND LOCATIONS OF ALL WORK PERFORMED BY THE CONTRACTOR. PRIOR TO FINAL PAYMENT, THE CONTRACTOR MUST PRESENT THE "REDLINED" PRINTS TO THE TOWN ENGINEER FOR PREPARATION OF A SET OF REPRODUCIBLE "RECORD DRAWINGS" WHICH SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN WITHIN 30 DAYS OF CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT BY THE TOWN ENGINEER.
4. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PERFORM ALL WORK ACCORDING TO ALL TOWN, COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REGULATIONS. IN PART, AS REQUIRED BY THE TOWN AND OPEN EXCAVATION OPERATIONS SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL CURRENT O.S.H.A. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.
5. ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES MUST COMPLY WITH THE STATE OF COLORADO PERMITTING PROCESS FOR "STORM WATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY". FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION, WQCD-FE-82, 4300 CHERRY CREEK DRIVE SOUTH, DENVER, CO 80222-1530. ATTENTION: PERMITS AND ENFORCEMENT SECTION. PHONE (303) 892-3550.
6. ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES, STRIPING AND SIGNING MUST BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES, LATEST EDITION.
7. THE TYPE, SIZE, LOCATION, AND NUMBER OF ALL KNOWN UNDERGROUND UTILITIES ARE APPROXIMATE WHEN SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS. IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY THE EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES ALONG THE ROUTE OF WORK. BEFORE COMMENCING NEW CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY THE LOCATION OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES, BOTH HORIZONTALLY AND VERTICALLY.
8. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT ALL UTILITY COMPANIES TO COORDINATE SCHEDULES.
9. PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY CONSTRUCTION THAT WILL AFFECT TRAFFIC SIGNS OF ANY TYPE, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT THE TOWN ENGINEER. PHONE (303) 988-4839.
10. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE AND IMPLEMENT A "TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN" RELATED TO ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PROJECT.
11. ALL ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN AREAS DESIGNATED AS WILDFIRE HAZARD AREAS SHALL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTRUCTION CRITERIA AS ESTABLISHED IN THE WILDFIRE HAZARD AREA MITIGATION REGULATIONS IN FORCE AT THE TIME OF FINAL APPROVAL.
12. DIMENSIONS FOR LAYOUT AND CONSTRUCTION ARE NOT TO BE SCALED FROM ANY DRAWING. IF PERTINENT DIMENSIONS ARE NOT SHOWN, CONTACT THE ENGINEER FOR CLARIFICATION, AND ANNOTATE THE DIMENSION ON THE AS-BUILT RECORD DRAWINGS.
13. IF, DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS, CONDITIONS ARE ENCOUNTERED WHICH COULD INDICATE A SITUATION THAT IS NOT IDENTIFIED IN THE PLANS OR SPECIFICATIONS, THE ENGINEER SHALL BE CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY.
14. UPON COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION, THE SITE SHALL BE CLEANED AND RESTORED TO A CONDITION EQUAL TO, OR BETTER THAN, THAT WHICH EXISTED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION, OR TO THE GRADES AND CONDITION AS REQUIRED BY THESE PLANS.
15. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE TOWN ENGINEER AND ENGINEER OF ANY PROBLEM IN CONFORMING TO THE APPROVED PLANS FOR ANY ELEMENT OF THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PRIOR TO ITS CONSTRUCTION.
16. FOR PLAN QUANTITIES OF PAVEMENT MATERIALS, THE FOLLOWING RATES OF APPLICATIONS WERE USED:
  - CORE COURSE BASE COURSE @ 133 LBS. PER SQ. FT.
  - HOT MIX ASPHALT @ 110 LBS. PER SQ. YD./INCH
  - TACK COAT DILUTED EMULSIFIED ASPHALT (SLOW-SETTING) @ 0.1 GALS. PER SQ. YD. (DILUTED)



17. A TACK COAT OF EMULSIFIED ASPHALT (SLOW SETTING) IS TO BE APPLIED TO IMPROVE BOND AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:
  - BEFORE PLACING NEW PAVEMENT OVER EXISTING PAVEMENT
  - ALONG THE FACE OF ALL CURBS, GUTTERS, MANHOLES, ADJACENT EXISTING PAVEMENT, AND OTHER SURFACES AGAINST WHICH ASPHALT WILL BE PLACED
  - BETWEEN PAVEMENT COURSES WHEN ORDERED BY THE ENGINEER.
18. TACK COAT (DILUTED) FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ONE PART EMULSIFIED ASPHALT (SLOW SETTING) AND ONE PART WATER. RATES OF APPLICATION SHALL BE AS DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION.
19. ASPHALT JOINTS SHALL FALL ON LANE LINES OR MEDIAN LINES, EXCEPT WHERE STATED IN THE PLANS.
20. PRIOR TO PLACING HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT, THE PAVED SURFACE SHALL BE SWEEPED AND CLEANED. THIS WILL NOT BE PAID FOR SEPARATELY, BUT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THE HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT ITEMS.
21. ANY LAYER OF HOT MIX ASPHALT THAT IS TO HAVE A SUCCEEDING LAYER PLACED THEREON SHALL BE COMPLETED FULL WIDTH BEFORE SUCCEEDING LAYER IS PLACED.
22. PRIOR TO PAVING, THE PAVEMENT SUBGRADE SHALL BE PROOF ROLLED WITH A PNEUMATIC TIRE VEHICLE LOADED TO AT LEAST 18 KIPS PER AXLE. AREAS WHICH DEFORM EXCESSIVELY (P 1/8 INCH) UNDER THE WHEEL LOADS SHALL BE REMOVED AND REPLACED PRIOR TO PAVING. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 20 HOURS OF ITEM 200-01100 PROOFROLLING WILL BE REQUIRED. UPON APPROVAL OF PROOFROLLING, INITIAL PAVEMENT SHALL BE PLACED WITHIN 48 HOURS. UNLESS THE CONDITION OF THE SUBGRADE CHANGES DUE TO WEATHER, IN WHICH CASE REPAIRS AND CORRECTION SHALL BE PERFORMED AGAIN AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER. ADDITIONAL PROOFROLLING RELATED TO WEATHER SHALL NOT BE PAID FOR SEPARATELY.
23. WATER SHALL BE USED AS A DUST PALLIATIVE WHERE REQUIRED. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE A WATER TRUCK ON-SITE FOR DUST CONTROL. LOCATIONS SHALL BE AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER. WATER SHALL NOT BE PAID FOR SEPARATELY.
24. DEPTH OF MOISTURE-DENSITY CONTROL FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:
  - FULL DEPTH OF ALL EMBANKMENTS
  - FULL DEPTH FOR AGGREGATE BASE COURSE
  - 6 INCHES FOR BASES OF CUTS AND FILLS
25. EXCAVATION REQUIRED FOR COMPACTION OF BASES OF CUTS AND FILLS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS SUBSIDIARY TO THAT OPERATION AND WILL NOT BE PAID FOR SEPARATELY.
26. THE TYPES OF COMPACTION FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE T-160 FOR EMBANKMENT AND FOR AGGREGATE BASE COURSE.
27. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL KEEP THE WORK AREA DRY OF STANDING WATER AND SHALL KEEP THE EXCAVATION AREAS FREE FROM STORM RUN-OFF.
28. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND CONTROL OF ALL SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE DRAINAGE AND GROUNDWATER ENTERING THE PROJECT AREA.
29. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL LIMIT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES TO THOSE AREAS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE SHOWN ON THE PLANS. DISTURBANCE BEYOND THESE LIMITS SHALL BE RESTORED TO ORIGINAL CONDITION BY THE CONTRACTOR AT THE END OF THE PROJECT. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN ADDITION TO NORMAL CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURE SHALL INCLUDE THE PARKING OF MACHINES OR EQUIPMENT, DISPOSAL OF LITTER, AND ANY OTHER ACTION WHICH WOULD ALTER EXISTING CONDITIONS.
30. ANY DAMAGE TO PRESENT HIGHWAY FACILITIES SHALL BE REPAIRED IMMEDIATELY AND PRIOR TO CONTINUING OTHER WORK. ANY MUD OR OTHER MATERIAL TRACKED OR OTHERWISE DEPOSITED ON THE ROADWAY AND SIDEWALK SHALL BE REMOVED DAILY OR AS ORDERED BY THE INSPECTOR.
31. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT PARK EQUIPMENT OVERNIGHT WITHIN THE CLEAR ZONE LIMITS.
32. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING AND OBTAINING A SUITABLE STAGING AREA.
33. PRIVATE DRIVEWAYS AND PARKING LOTS SHALL NOT BE USED AS TURNAROUNDS UNLESS WRITTEN PERMISSION IS OBTAINED FROM THE APPROPRIATE LAND OWNER.

DESIGNED: UNWRING	DATE 2/24/2022	PROJECT SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT	DATE 2/24/2022
DRAWN: MJS	DRAWING NO. G-2	GENERAL NOTES	DRAWING NO. G-2
CHECKED: NUL	SHEET NO. 2 OF 10		SHEET NO. 2 OF 10



TOWN OF BLUE RIVER

PROJECT NO.

34. ALL EXISTING SURVEY MONUMENTATION DESIGNATED TO REMAIN SHALL BE PROTECTED FROM DAMAGE BY THE CONTRACTOR DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS. ANY MONUMENTS DISTURBED BY THE CONTRACTOR THAT ARE NOT DESIGNATED FOR RELOCATION, SHALL BE RESET AT THE CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE. THE CONTRACTOR AND ENGINEER SHALL NOTE THOSE MONUMENTS IN THE FIELD PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

35. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE REQUIRED:

- ITEM NO. 201-00000 CLEARING AND GRUBBING 1 (LUMP SUM)
- ITEM NO. 620-00020 SANITARY FACILITY 1 (EACH)
- ITEM NO. 625-00000 CONSTRUCTION SURVEYING 1 (LUMP SUM)
- ITEM NO. 628-00000 MOBILIZATION 1 (LUMP SUM)
- ITEM NO. 628-01000 PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES 1 (LUMP SUM)

MAINTENANCE OF THE SANITARY FACILITY SHALL INCLUDE CLEANING AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK.

NOTE: ALL ITEMS LISTED AND DESCRIBED HEREIN AS REQUIRED FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT SHALL BE PLACED AS DIRECTED BY THE PROJECT ENGINEER.

### UTILITY GENERAL NOTES:

UTILITY LINES AS SHOWN ON THE PLAN SHEETS ARE PLOTTED FROM THE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. (ASCE STANDARD QUALITY LEVEL D). THE CONTRACTOR'S ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO SUBSECTION 105.11 OF THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS CONCERNING UTILITIES.

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL COMPLY WITH ARTICLE 1.5 OF TITLE 9, CRS ("EXCAVATION REQUIREMENTS") WHEN EXCAVATING OR GRADING IS PLANNED IN THE AREA OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY ALL AFFECTED UTILITIES AT LEAST TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS, NOT INCLUDING THE ACTUAL DAY OF NOTICE, PRIOR TO COMMENCING SUCH OPERATIONS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT THE UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER OF COLORADO (UNCC) AT 811 TO HAVE LOCATIONS OF UNCC REGISTERED UTILITIES MARKED BY MEMBER COMPANIES. ALL OTHER UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHALL BE IDENTIFIED BY CONTACTING THE REGISTERED UTILITIES CENTER. UTILITY SERVICE LATERALS SHALL ALSO BE LOCATED PRIOR TO BEGINNING EXCAVATION OR GRADING.

KNOWN UTILITIES ARE:

- COOT
- CENTURY LINK
- XCEL ENERGY
- XCEL ENERGY
- SIGNALS AND FIBER OPTIC
- TELEPHONE/FIBER OPTIC
- ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION
- GAS

SEE THE UTILITY SPECIFICATION FOR CONTACT INFORMATION.

1. THE CONTRACTOR ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL UTILITIES DURING THE WORK. REPAIR OF DAMAGE TO EXISTING UTILITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR. PRIOR TO ANY EXCAVATION, CONTACT THE UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER OF COLORADO (UNCC) AT 811 AT LEAST TWO WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO DIGGING.

2. THE INFORMATION SHOWN ON THESE PLANS CONCERNING TYPE AND LOCATION OF UTILITIES IS NOT GUARANTEED TO BE ACCURATE OR ALL INCLUSIVE. SOME UTILITIES MAY HAVE BEEN ADDED OR RELOCATED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALSO, SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL RESIDENCES, PLACES OF BUSINESS, AND OTHER PRIVATELY-OWNED UTILITY LINES ARE NORMALLY NOT SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS. IT SHALL BE THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO VERIFY ALL LOCATIONS OF EXISTING STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS AND TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ANY OTHER STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES MAY EXIST. EVERY REASONABLE MEANS SHALL BE USED, INCLUDING FIELD LOCATION OF THE UTILITY USING WHATEVER PROSPECTING MEANS ARE NECESSARY.

3. PROSPECTING FOR EXISTING UTILITIES WILL BE PAID FOR AS POT-HOLING. USE OF THE TERM "POT-HOLING" SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO IMPLY ANY PARTICULAR METHOD OF PROSPECTING. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 20 HOURS OF ITEM 209-01000 POT-HOLING WILL BE NEEDED AS PART OF THIS PROJECT. POT-HOLING OF AN AREA SHALL TAKE PLACE AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS IN THAT AREA. HOURS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT UNDER THIS PAY ITEM SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ENGINEER.



DESIGNED BY	UNAWING
DRAWN BY	MJS
CHECKED BY	NLL

### PRELIMINARY PLANS

PROJECT NO.

NO.	DATE	SHEET REVISION#	DESCRIPTION	BY



### TOWN OF BLUE RIVER

SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

### GENERAL NOTES

DATE	2/24/2022
DRAWING NO.	G-3
SHEET NO.	3 OF 10

4. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL LOCATE AND POTHOLE ALL POTENTIAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN EXISTING BURIED UTILITY FACILITIES AND THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AS SHOWN ON THE PLANS OR BY FIELD LOCATION MARKINGS. IF CONFLICTS EXIST, THE ENGINEER SHALL BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY TO IDENTIFY AN APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION BEFORE ANY WORK AT THIS CONFLICT CAN RESUME.

6. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY AND DOCUMENT THE CONDITION OF EXISTING UTILITIES (VISIBLE FACILITIES) WITH THE ENGINEER AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE UTILITY COMPANIES PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION.

7. WITH NOTIFICATION OF THE RESPECTIVE OWNER, ADJUST RIMS OF ALL MANHOLES, CLEANOUTS, VALVE BOXES AND SURVEY MONUMENTS TO FINISH GRADE AND PATCH AFTER FINAL LIFT PAVING.

8. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT AN XCEL ENERGY BUILDER'S CALL LINE APPLICATION FOR EVERY XCEL ENERGY WORK ELEMENT THAT IS TO BE COORDINATED WITH THE PROJECT. THE REQUEST IS TO BE PROCESSED THROUGH XCEL ENERGY-BUILDER'S CALL LINE AT 1-800-828-2121.

9. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REFER TO THE UTILITY SPECIFICATION AND UTILITY PLANS FOR COORDINATION REQUIRED FOR UTILITY RELOCATIONS.

### TREE PROTECTION NOTES:

1. EXISTING TREES NOTED FOR PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION SHALL NOT BE REMOVED.

2. ALL PROTECTED EXISTING TREES SHALL BE PRUNED ACCORDING TO THE MOST CURRENT STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE (ISA).

3. PRIOR TO AND DURING CONSTRUCTION, BARRIERS SHALL BE ERRECTED AROUND ALL PROTECTED EXISTING TREES WITH SUCH BARRIERS TO BE OF ORANGE FENCING A MINIMUM OF FOUR (4) FEET IN HEIGHT, SECURED WITH METAL T-POSTS, NO CLOSER THAN SIX (6) FEET FROM THE TRUNK OR ONE-HALF (1/2) OF THE DRIP LINE, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. THE SPACING OF STAKES SHALL BE TEN (10) FEET. THERE SHALL BE NO STORAGE OR MOVEMENT OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, DEBRIS, OR FILL WITHIN THE FENCED TREE PROTECTION ZONE.

4. DURING CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PREVENT THE CLEANING OF EQUIPMENT OR MATERIAL, OR THE STORAGE OF WASTE MATERIAL SUCH AS PAINTS, OILS, SOLVENTS, ASPHALT, CONCRETE, MOTOR OIL, OR ANY OTHER MATERIAL HARMFUL TO THE LIFE OF A TREE, WITHIN THE DRIP LINE OF ANY PROTECTED TREE OR GROUP OF TREES.

5. NO DAMAGING ATTACHMENT, WIRES, SIGNS, OR PERMITS MAY BE FASTENED TO ANY PROTECTED TREE.

### WETLAND PROTECTION NOTES:

1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL EMPLOY EROSION CONTROL MEASURES WHICH MUST REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND DISTURBED AREAS ARE A MINIMUM OF 80% REVEGETATED.

2. ORANGE CONSTRUCTION FENCING SHALL BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK. THE FENCING SHALL BE INSTALLED TO DELINEATE THE WETLAND BOUNDARY AND PREVENT INADVERTENT DAMAGE TO WETLANDS.

3. STORMWATER AND SNOW MELT SHALL BE DIVERTED AWAY FROM CULVERTS DURING MAINTENANCE OPERATION. THIS WILL FURTHER PROTECT THE WATER QUALITY OF THE BLUE RIVER.

4. IF A TEMPORARY INTRUSION ONTO WETLANDS IS UNAVOIDABLE, VEGETATION SHOULD BE TRIMMED TO NEAR GROUND LEVEL PRIOR TO PLACEMENT OF PROTECTIVE MATS.

**SUMMIT COUNTY STANDARD NOTES FOR CONSTRUCTION PLANS:**

1. ALL WORK AND MATERIALS SHALL BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH ALL CURRENTLY APPLICABLE STANDARDS IN THE SUMMIT COUNTY LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CODE.
2. LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES SHOWN IN PLANS ARE APPROXIMATE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCATING ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES. ANY CONFLICTING UTILITIES SHALL BE RELOCATED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD AND DRAINAGE FACILITIES ACCORDING TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE UTILITY OWNER.
3. THE CONTRACTOR IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A COMPLETE SET OF APPROVED CONSTRUCTION PLANS ON THE JOB SITE WHENEVER CONSTRUCTION IS IN PROGRESS.
4. IF THE CONTRACTOR DISCOVERS ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE PLANS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE DESIGN ENGINEER AND THE TOWN OF BLUE RIVER.
5. ONSITE GRADING SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED GRADING PLAN AND EROSION CONTROL PLAN. ANY IMPORT OR EXPORT OF MATERIAL SHALL BE FROM A PRE-APPROVED SOURCE / DESTINATION. GRADING ON THIS SITE OR ANY OTHER SITE MUST COMPLY WITH ALL DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, GRADING PERMITS, STATE OF COLORADO WATER QUALITY/DISCHARGE PERMITS, NEPA REVIEW, TIMBER HARVEST PERMITS, AGOE PERMITS AND REQUIREMENTS, FLOOD PLAINS, DESIGNATED DRAINAGE WAYS, ETC.

## SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO EROSION/SEDIMENT CONTROL (ESC) NOTES:

1. THE MOST EFFECTIVE ESC BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) IS NON-DISTURBANCE. GIVEN THAT LAND DEVELOPMENT INvariably INVOLVES EARTH DISTURBING ACTIVITIES, THE FIRST STEP IN RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP IS TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF DISTURBANCE REQUIRED FOR SITE DEVELOPMENT. AFTER ALL DESIGN AND PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS HAVE BEEN EVALUATED AND A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF DISTURBANCE AS DESIGNED UPON, THE ATTACHED DETAILS AND NOTES SHALL BE APPLIED WHEREVER THEY MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO PREVENT EROSION AND/OR SEDIMENT DISCHARGE OFF/ON FROM YOUR PROJECT SITE.
2. EROSION CONTROL BMPs AS SHOWN HEREON AND INDICATED ON YOUR SITE PLAN MUST BE INSTALLED AND APPROVED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A GRADING PERMIT. INCLUDING YOUR VEHICLE TRACKING CONTROL PAD AND CONCRETE WASHOUT AREA.
3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT DO ANY CLEARING AND GRUBBING OR EARTH-WORK BEFORE THE EROSION CONTROL INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE TOWN ENGINEER.
4. EROSION CONTROL: CONTROLLING POLLUTION, EROSION, RUN-OFF, AND RELATED DAMAGE MAY REQUIRE THE CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM TEMPORARY WORK ITEMS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
  - A. INSTALLING DITCHES, BERMS, CULVERTS, AND OTHER MEASURES TO CONTROL SURFACE WATER.
  - B. BUILDING DAMS, SETTLING BASINS, ENERGY DISSIPATORS, AND OTHER MEASURES, TO CONTROL DOWNSTREAM FLOWS.
  - C. CONTROLLING GROUNDWATER FOUND DURING CONSTRUCTION.
  - D. COVERING OR OTHERWISE PROTECTING SLOPES UNTIL PERMANENT EROSION CONTROL MEASURES ARE WORKING.
5. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR TEMPORARY WATER POLLUTION CONTROL IN ALL SOURCES OF MATERIAL DISPOSAL SITES, AND HAUL ROADS, NO STORM WATER, GROUND WATER, OR WATER OF ANY KIND SHALL BE PUMPED, DRAINED, OR OTHERWISE DISPERSED INTO DOWNSTREAM WATERS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE CONTROLS AND REQUIRED PERMITS.
6. APPROVAL OF THE ESC PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE APPROVAL OF ANY OF THE PROPOSED ROAD, STORM, DRAINAGE, GRADING, OR UTILITY DESIGN ELEMENTS SHOWN ON THE ESC PLAN.
7. THE EROSION/SEDIMENTATION CONTROL MEASURES SHOWN ARE THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ANTICIPATED SITE CONDITIONS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL INSPECT AND MAINTAIN THESE ESC MEASURES DAILY, AND SHALL MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE THESE MEASURES AS NECESSARY TO PREVENT SEDIMENT-LOADED

WATER FROM EITHER FLOWING OFF THE SITE, OR INTO NEW/EXISTING STORM DRAINAGE FACILITIES, SUCH AS DRY WELLS, CULVERTS, OR GRAVEL GALLERIES.

8. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTALLING ROCK CONSTRUCTION ENTRITIES AT ANY AND ALL LOCATIONS USED TO ENTER OR EXIT THE PROJECT SITE. THESE MUST BE INSPECTED AND APPROVED ALONG WITH OTHER BMP'S USED AT YOUR SITE, AND SHALL BE REMOVED BEFORE PLACING ROAD SURFACE.
9. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTALLATION, INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL MEASURES.
10. SEDIMENT BARRIERS SHALL BE INSPECTED, CLEANED AND REPAIRED AFTER EACH RUNOFF EVENT. REMOVE ALL SEDIMENT AND DEPOSIT ON SITE AFTER SEDIMENT BARRIERS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED.
11. CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT REMOVE TEMPORARY ESC MEASURES UNTIL 30 DAYS AFTER THE SITE IS STABILIZED. ALL DISTURBED SOIL SHALL BE PERMANENTLY STABILIZED EITHER THROUGH REVEGETATION, RIP-RAP, PAVING, OR OTHER PRE-APPROVED METHOD(S).
12. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING DIRT, MUD AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS WHICH MAY ACCUMULATE ON PAVED STREETS ADJACENT TO THE SITE AS A RESULT OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY. CLEANING SHALL BE ON AN "AS NEEDED" BASIS USING WATER UNDER PRESSURE. SWEEPING AND WATER SHALL BE USED WHEN WATER PRESSURE ALONE WILL NOT WASH THE CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS FROM THE STREET.
13. GEOTEXTILE FABRIC IS TO BE PLACED ON RIMS OF DRYWELLS, CATCH BASINS, AND INLETS UNTIL SUCH TIME THE VEGETATION ON THE SITE IS ESTABLISHED AND THREAT OF SEDIMENT DEPOSITION INTO THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IS MITIGATED.

PREPARED UNDER  
THE SUPERVISION OF

DESIGNED: <b>LRN/WMG</b>	DRAWN: <b>MJS</b>	CHECKED: <b>NJL</b>
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**PRELIMINARY  
PLANS**

PROJECT NO.

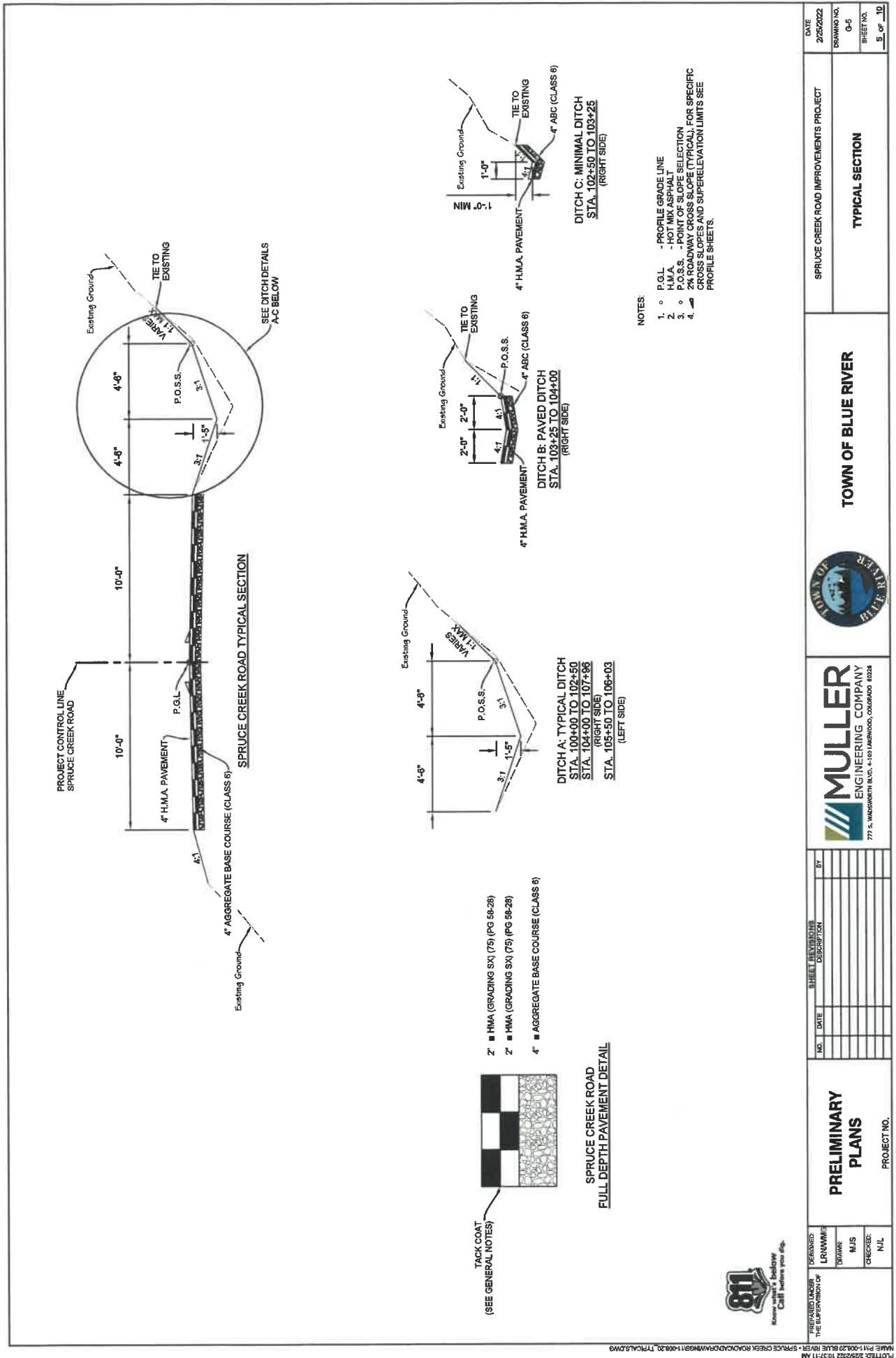
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TOWN OF BLUE RIVER

**SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

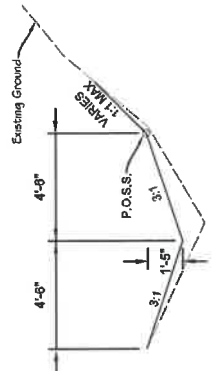
## GENERAL NOTES

DATE 2/25/2022	DRAWING NO. G-4	SHEET NO. 4 OF 1
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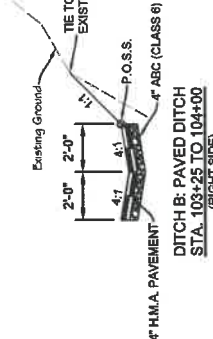


- TACK COAT  
(SEE GENERAL NOTES)
- 2" ■ HMA (GRADING SX) (75) (PG 56-28)
  - 2" ■ HMA (GRADING SX) (75) (PG 56-28)
  - 4" ■ AGGREGATE BASE COURSE (CLASS 6)

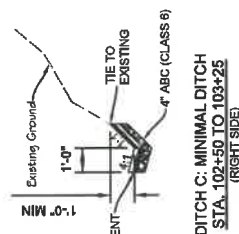
SPRUCE CREEK ROAD  
FULL DEPTH PAVEMENT DETAIL



DITCH A: TYPICAL DITCH  
STA. 100+00 TO 102+50  
STA. 104+00 TO 107+86  
(RIGHT SIDE)  
STA. 105+50 TO 106+03  
(LEFT SIDE)



DITCH B: PAVED DITCH  
STA. 103+25 TO 104+00  
(RIGHT SIDE)



DITCH C: MINIMAL DITCH  
STA. 102+50 TO 103+25  
(RIGHT SIDE)

NOTES:

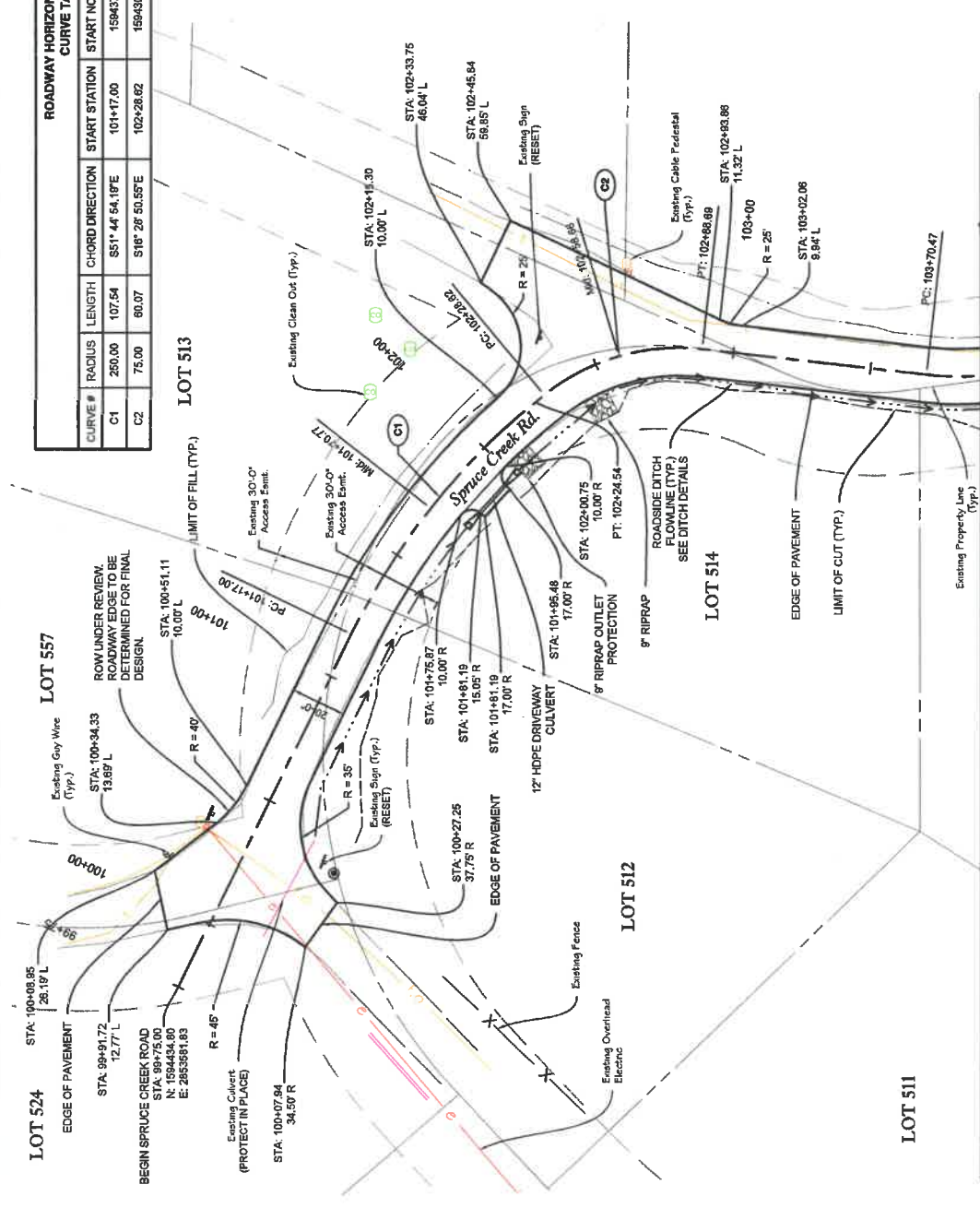
1. P.G.L. - PROFILE GRADE LINE
2. H.M.A. - HOT MIX ASPHALT
3. P.O.S.S. - POINT OF SUPERELEVATION
4. 2% ROADWAY CROSS SLOPE (TYPICAL) FOR SPECIFIC CROSS SLOPES AND SUPERELEVATION LIMITS SEE PROFILE SHEETS.



PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF L.R.W.M.F. DRAWN BY M.J.S. CHECKED BY N.L.		SHEET REVISIONS NO. DATE DESCRIPTION BY		PROJECT NO.		TOWN OF BLUE RIVER		SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT		DATE 2/25/2022
PRELIMINARY PLANS								TYPICAL SECTION		DRAWING NO. G-5
										SHEET NO. 5 of 10

[illegible][illegible]

ROADWAY HORIZONTAL CONTROL CURVE TABLE									
CURVE #	RADIUS	LENGTH	CHORD DIRECTION	START STATION	START NORTHING	START EASTING	END STATION	END NORTHING	END EASTING
C1	250.00	107.54	S51°44'54.18"E	101+17.00	1594372.71	2853798.53	102+24.54	1594396.64	2853793.33
C2	75.00	80.07	S18°28'50.55"E	102+28.62	1594393.49	2853795.93	102+48.69	1594247.41	2853812.52



NOTE:

- CONTRACTOR SHALL HAND GRADE AROUND CULVERT ENDS AND GRADE DITCH TO DRAIN

MATCHLINE - SHT 5

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF  LORNWING CHECKED: NUL		SHEET NO. _____ DATE _____ DESCRIPTION _____ BY _____		PROJECT NO. _____	
PRELIMINARY PLANS		 MULLER ENGINEERING COMPANY 777 S. WASHINGTON BLVD., SUITE 100, DENVER, CO 80203		TOWN OF BLUE RIVER	
SPRUCE CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT		ROADWAY PLANS		DATE: 2/25/2022 DRAWING NO.: C-7 SHEET NO.: 7 of 10	

# MATCHLINE - SHT 6

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# Town of Blue River

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## Town of Blue River Benefit Review

May 9, 2022

Submitted By: Town Manager Michelle Eddy

### Challenge:

For the 2022 budget year, the Board of Trustees agreed to pay 80% of the employees health, dental and vision. In addition, the Board agreed to start a 3% match in the 457 retirement program and currently provided for an annual Breckenridge Recreation Center pass for the employee as long as they are employed with the Town.

As businesses and communities come out of COVID, the great “reassessment” has made hiring and retaining staff more challenging. The Town of Blue River is currently one full-time employee short within the Police Department. In addition, one employee is facing large costs to cover the additional coverage for their children and in attempting to recruit new staff, the Town is faced with not being competitive to other jurisdictions as it pertains to benefits.

For this reason, the Board of Trustees is being asked to review the current benefits and reconsider coverage for staff at 80% regardless of situation (single or family) coverage.

### Current Benefits

The Town of Blue River currently provides for 80% of the cost of the employee for health, dental and vision. The Town covers life insurance for all staff. The Town also provides for a 3% match of a 457-retirement plan.

### 2022 Budget- Benefits: **\$75,000**

- **Current Health, Dental, Vision & Life Monthly Cost (Based on current staff composition and participation):**
  - Total Invoice: \$3,988/month; \$47,856/year
    - Insurance Participants: \$3,263
    - Life Insurance: \$175.00
    - Non-participants mandatory emergency coverage: \$550.00
  - Town share: \$2,712.80
  - Employee share: \$1,275.20
- **457 Retirement**
  - \$359.53/month; \$4,314.36/year

Breckenridge Recreation Center Passes (4 employees participating): \$1,880/year

# Proposal

The Board of Trustees is being asked to consider a budget amendment to allow for a 80/20% split in the cost of Health, Dental, and Vision regardless of which plan the employee chooses. Attached is the report developed by the Employers Council last year. In addition to that report, below is a breakdown of the benefits provided by other surrounding municipalities and the County.

- **Fairplay (CEBT):**
  - Covers 100% Health, Dental, Vision for all employees and families.  
Fairplay utilizes CEBT.
- **Breckenridge (Self Insured):**
  - 85/15 family
- **Dillon (Self Insured):**
  - 80/20 family
- **Frisco (Self Insured):**
  - Medical
    - EE only = 94% paid by employer
    - EE+1 = 92% paid by employer
    - EE+2 = 91% paid by employer
    - Family = 91% paid by employer
  - Dental = 96% paid by employer, all levels
  - Vision
    - EE only = 100% paid by employer
    - EE+1 = 73% paid by employer
    - EE+2 = 46% paid by employer
- **Silverthorne (Self Insured):**
  - 80/20
- **Summit County (PEAK):**
  - Attached

## Proposed Cost Increases

**Current Health, Dental, Vision & Life Monthly Cost (Based on current staff composition and participation) Town pays 80% Employee only:**

- **Total Invoice: \$3,988**
  - Insurance Participants: \$3,263
    - 3 employees participate; 1 with a family
  - Life Insurance: \$175.00
  - Non-participants mandatory emergency coverage: \$550.00
    - 2 employees
- **Town share: \$2,712.80**
- **Employee share: \$1,275.20**

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**Current Staff participation with no plan changes with Town covering 80% Health, Dental/Vision for families:**

CEBT (Health, Dental, Vision, Life):

- **Total Monthly Invoice: \$3,988/month**
  - Insurance Participants: \$3,263
  - Life Insurance: \$175.00
  - Non-participants mandatory emergency coverage: \$550.00
- **Town Monthly Share 80%: \$3,335.40**
  - This is 80% of Insurance participation; life insurance; and non participation costs (\$2,610.40 + \$175 + \$550)
- **Employee Monthly share 20%: \$652.60**

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**All Current Staff participation plus vacant staff position participating in individual or family based on living situation for all services.**

- **Total Invoice: \$11,243.00/month**
    - Insurance Participants: \$11,033.00
    - Life Insurance: \$210.00
  - **Town Insurance share 80% plus full life: \$9,036.40**
  - **Employee share 20%: \$2,206.60**
-

## **Current Budget: \$75,000**

Includes Health, Dental, Vision, 457 and Recreation Center passes

### **Proposed Change:**

- **Total Benefits Expense: \$142,050.36**
  - Health, Dental, Vision: \$134,916.00
  - 457 Retirement\* (only on current participation): \$4,314.36
  - Recreation Center Passes: \$2,820.00
  
- **Town Expense based on proposed: \$115,571.16**
  - Health, Dental, Vision: \$108,436.80
  - 457 Retirement\* (only on current participation): \$4,314.36
  - Recreation Center Passes: \$2,820.00

*If approved this would be a \$40,571.16 increase in the current budget or a 35% increase to the benefits line item.*



# Benefit Programs Review

## Compensation Consulting Services

Town of Blue River

July 2021

### Prepared by:

Cyndie Meisner, Consultant  
[Cmeisner@EmployersCouncil.org](mailto:Cmeisner@EmployersCouncil.org)

### **Important Notice:**

*The information provided herein is general in nature and designed to serve as a guide to understanding. These materials are not to be construed as the rendering of legal or management advice. If the reader has a specific need or problem, the services of a competent professional should be sought to address the particular situation.*

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## Introduction

Employee benefits serve as an integral component of any employer's total compensation program. Organizations continue to face enormous challenges with changing legislation, escalating benefits costs, legal and administrative complexity, and employee entitlement mentality.

As part of conducting a total compensation study, Town of Blue River (TBR) asked Employers Council's (EC) consultants to analyze paid time off, health/medical benefits, and retirement benefits in order to provide feedback on how competitive the programs are with the external marketplace.

## Data Sources

We obtained information on your paid time off plans and current benefit programs. Employers Council's consultants compared this data with information reported in the following surveys:

- Employers Council 2020 Colorado Health and Welfare and Retirement Survey
- Employers Council 2020 Colorado Paid Time Off Policies Survey
- Employers Council 2019 Colorado Miscellaneous Benefits Survey

We selected the following data breakouts on the premise that your main comparison group is likely to fall within this sample.

- Resort Area Organizations
- All Colorado Government Organizations
- Organizations with 1-49 Employees

Please note that the sample size for each survey varies. The average size for employers ranged from 28 to 245 in the survey groups. This information is shown on **Attachment A**, an Excel spreadsheet report that details the review comparison.

## Benefits Cost Comparisons

Please note that it is difficult to accurately correlate the cost of various employer-provided benefit programs due to the large number of variables involved, such as:

- ☐ Level of benefit offered
- ☐ Cost of benefit
- ☐ Perceived value of benefit
- ☐ Group demographics
- ☐ Size of employer

- ❑ Industry type
- ❑ Utilization / claims experience.

For example, an organization's life insurance program may cost more than that of another employer of the same size. This does not mean that one program is more competitive. Employee demographics and the history of claims may be influencing the higher cost. A health plan may have higher premium costs due to location, specific plan design, and size of organization. Our analysis and comparability rankings are based on the data point alignment we could identify, along with our experience in analyzing market trends.

When we note the comparisons, we review each benefit element and compare TBR to the survey group. In some cases, this is a very straightforward comparison, as when comparing holiday hours. In others, it is more nuanced. For example, TBR offers a 401(a) retirement plan which is more commonly found in the public sector and is not as common in the private sector. As a result, TBR is noted as less than comparable to the survey groups that represent the private sector employers for that type of retirement plan. This ranking does not mean that TBR is less competitive.

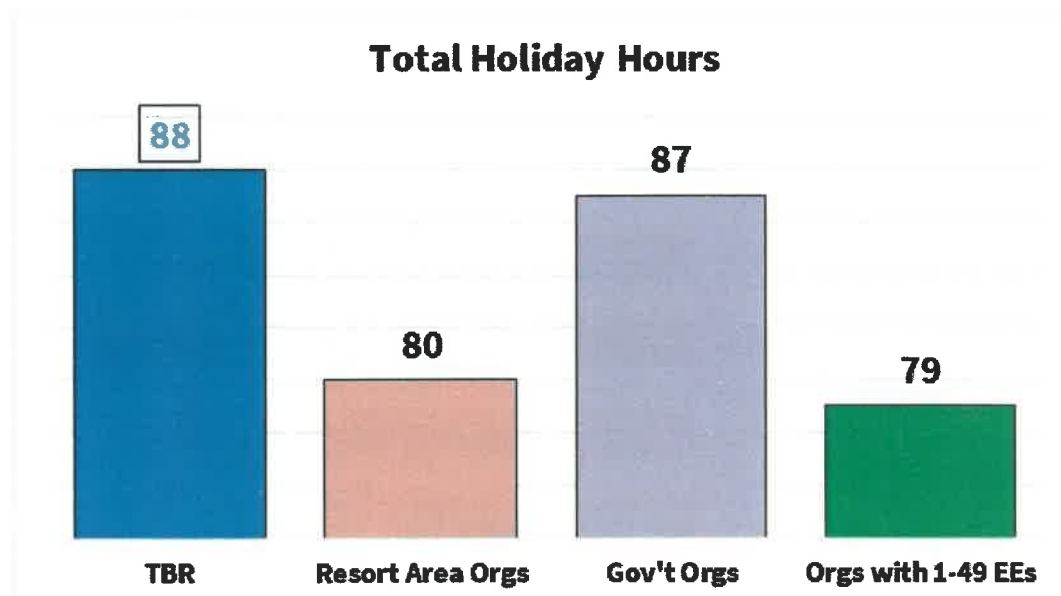
### Level/Mix of Benefits

Highlights of the Benefits Program Review include:

#### PAY FOR TIME NOT WORKED

- ❑ Holiday Pay

TBR *exceeds* the survey group with respect to the total number of holiday hours granted per year.

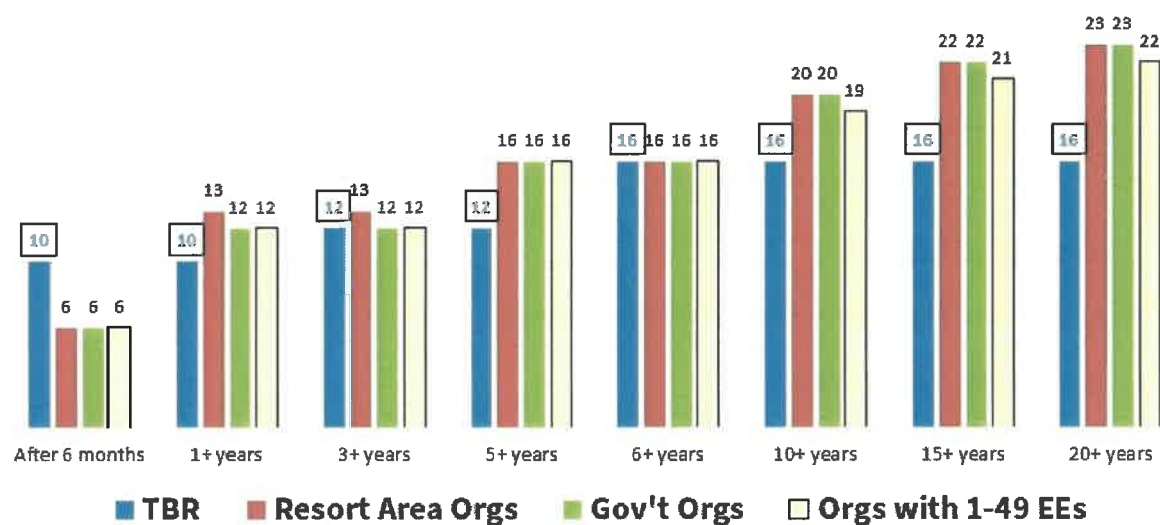


With respect to specific holidays, you *exceed* to the survey group by granting Christmas Eve and a floating holiday as a paid holidays. Only 3% of the employers in the survey group report granting Christmas Eve as a paid holiday and only 35% report granting floating holidays.

#### ☐ Vacation

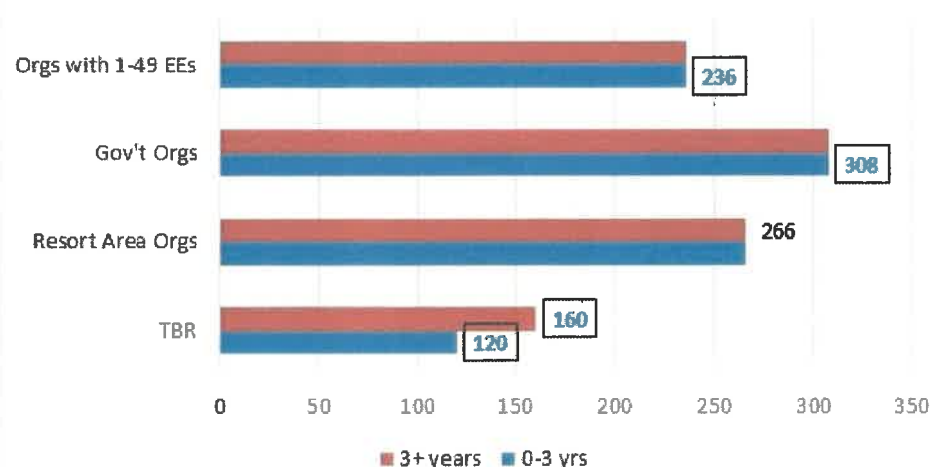
TBR *exceeds* the survey group with respect to the amount of total vacation days granted after the first six months of service but ranks *less than comparable* at all other service levels. You *exceed* the survey group by allowing the employee's accrual rate to increase every three years during the first 6 years of service. Most employers increase accrual rates every five years. (Note: survey data is reported in 5 year intervals)

### Total Vacation Days per Year of Service



TBR's maximum accumulation levels rank *less than comparable* to survey averages.

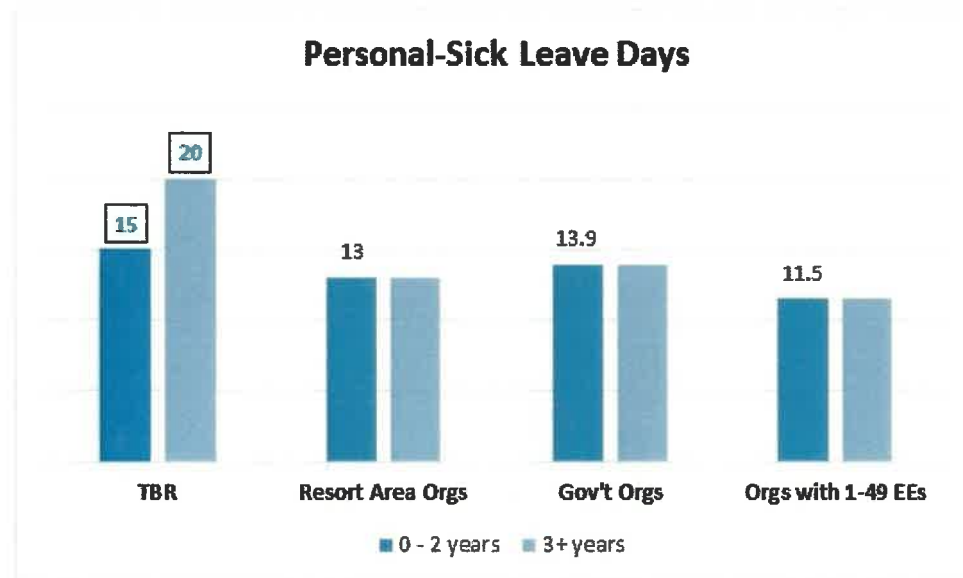
### Maximum Accumulation Limit for Vacation



## ☐ Personal/Sick Leave

TBR ranks *less than comparable* to the survey groups by combining personal and sick leave days together in one bank. Only a small percentage of the employers in the survey group report combining personal time off as a part of their sick leave plan.

You *exceed* the survey group with respect to the total number of personal/sick leave days per year. You also *exceed* the comparator group by allowing cash-out of sick leave.



## ☐ Bereavement Leave

TBR does not currently offer bereavement leave. Although most employers in your survey group report offering a bereavement leave, your above market benefit for personal/sick leave provides paid time off benefits that could be used for this type of absence from work.

Details have been provided on bereavement leave benefits offered by employers in the survey group, in Attachment A, for information purposes.

## ☐ Jury Duty

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group with respect to jury duty.

## ☐ Military Leave

Military leave is legally required for public sector employers to grant, without loss of wages, for the first 15 days. TBR ranks *comparable* to the Resort Area and 1-49 EE survey groups by not paying for military leave beyond the required 15 days, unless the employee uses vacation or sick leave.

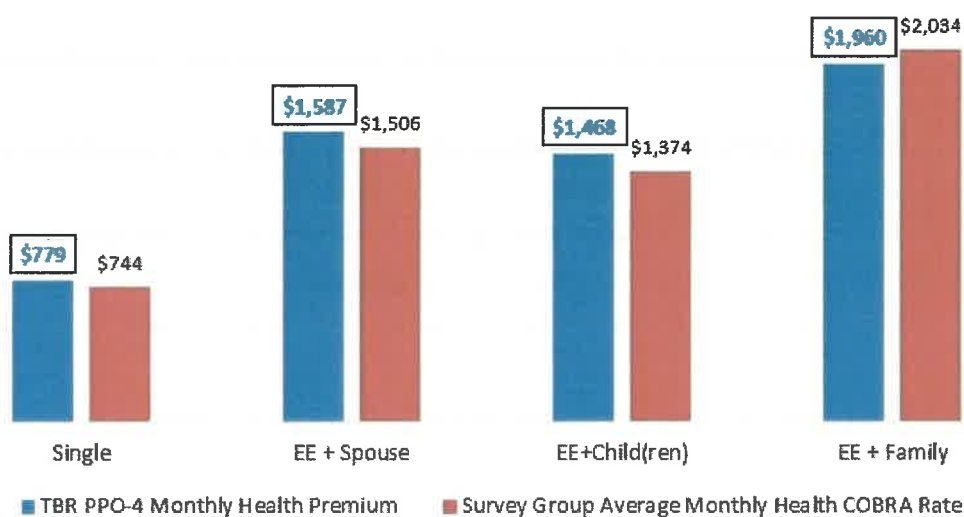
## INSURANCE PLANS

### Health Coverage

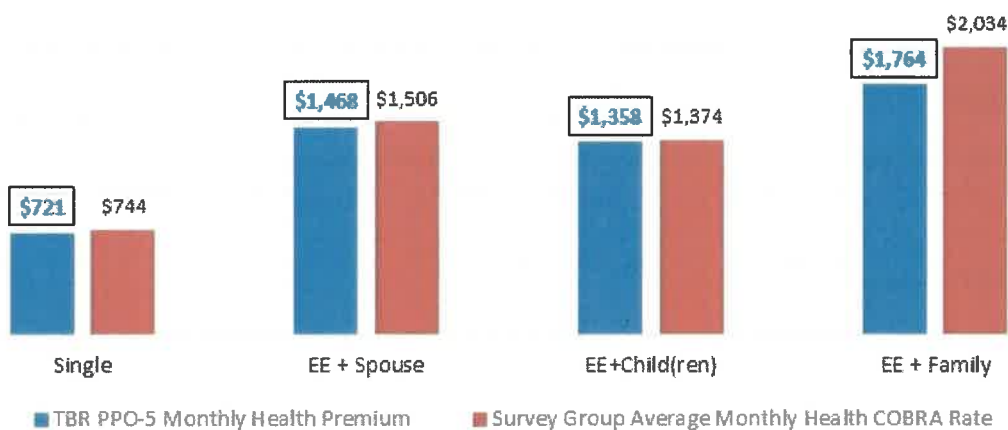
TBR provides employees health coverage through three types of Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) health care plans.

On average across coverage levels, TBR's monthly PPO premium costs rank slightly *less than comparable* to the survey group for the PPO-4 plan and *exceed* the survey group for the PPO-5 and PPO-6 plan. Your premium costs are lower than the Resort and Gov't survey group averages and higher than the 1-49 EE survey group averages.

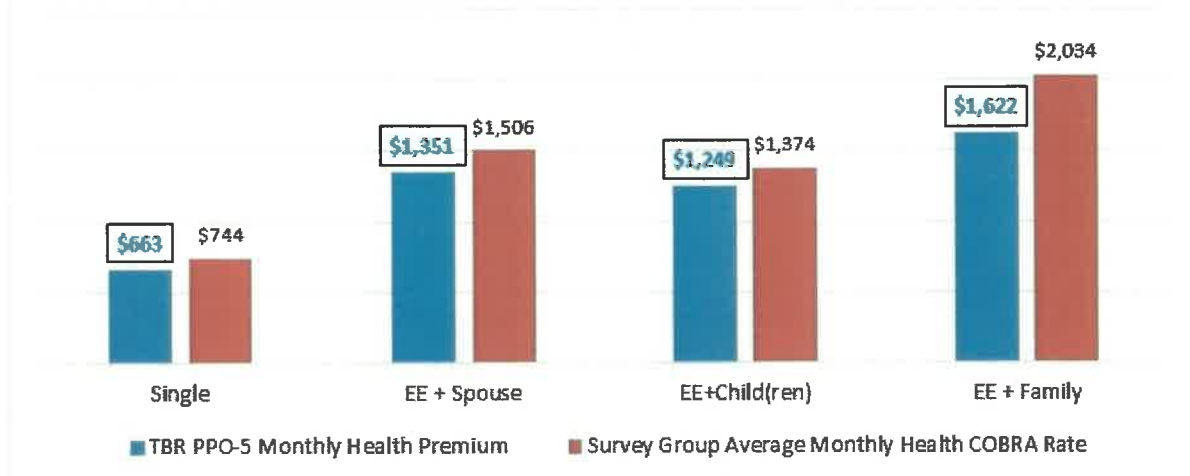
### PPO-4 Monthly Health Premium Costs



### PPO-5 Monthly Health Premium Costs

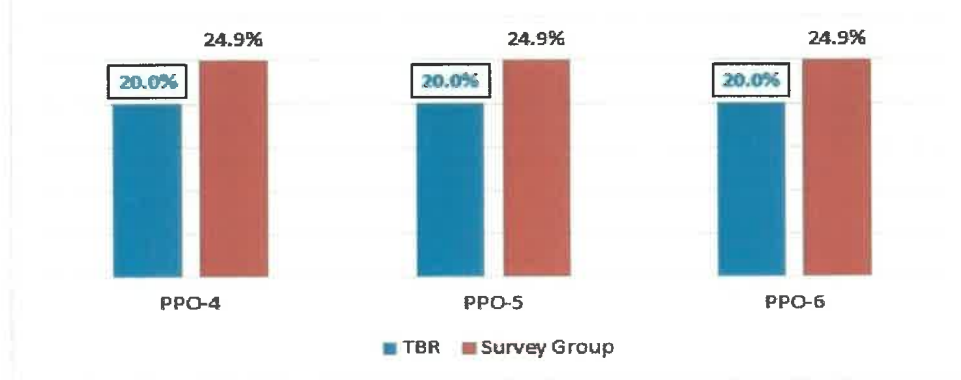


### PPO-6 Monthly Health Premium Costs



TBR requires employees to share the cost of health premiums by contributing 20 percent toward the cost of monthly health premiums. TBR *exceeds* the survey group by requiring employees to contribute a lower percentage, and dollar amount, than survey averages.

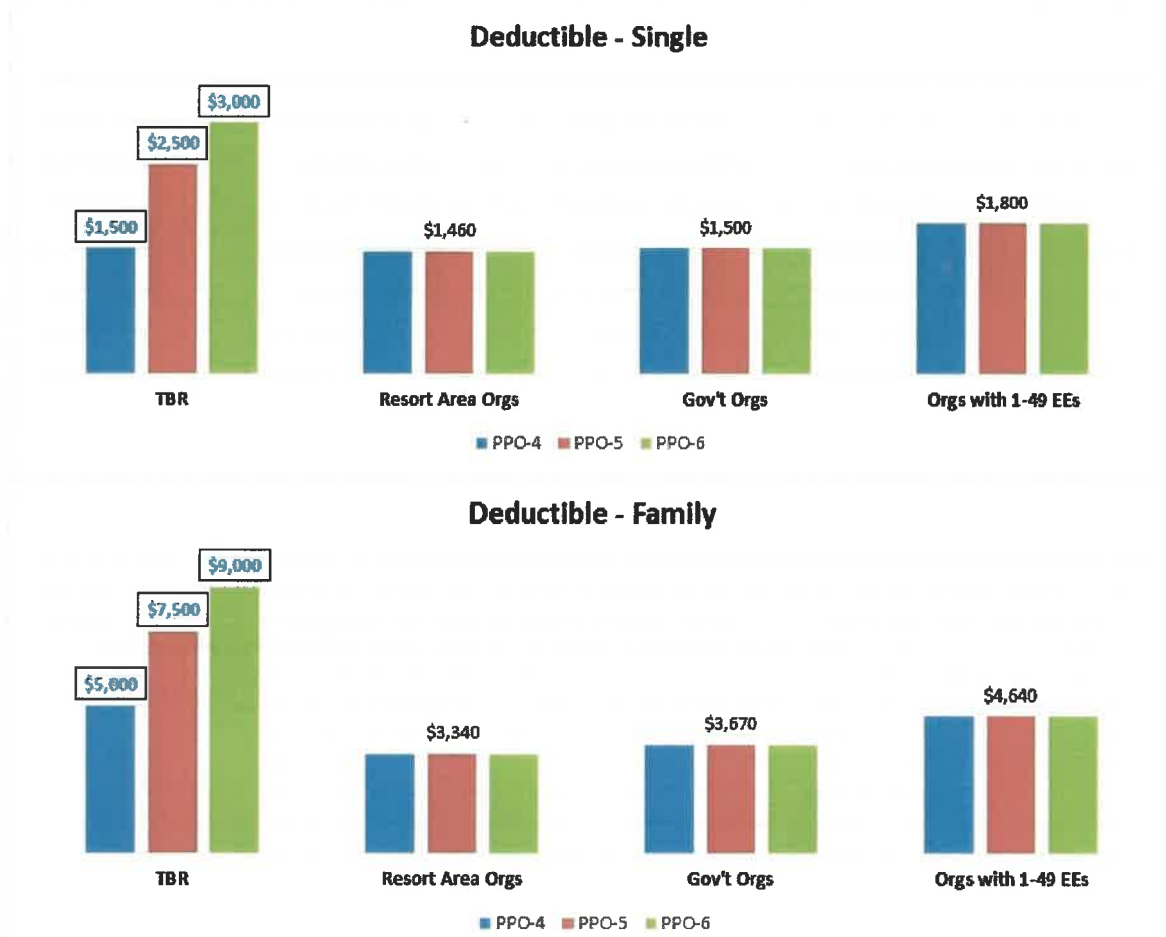
### % Employee Contribution to Health Premium per Month



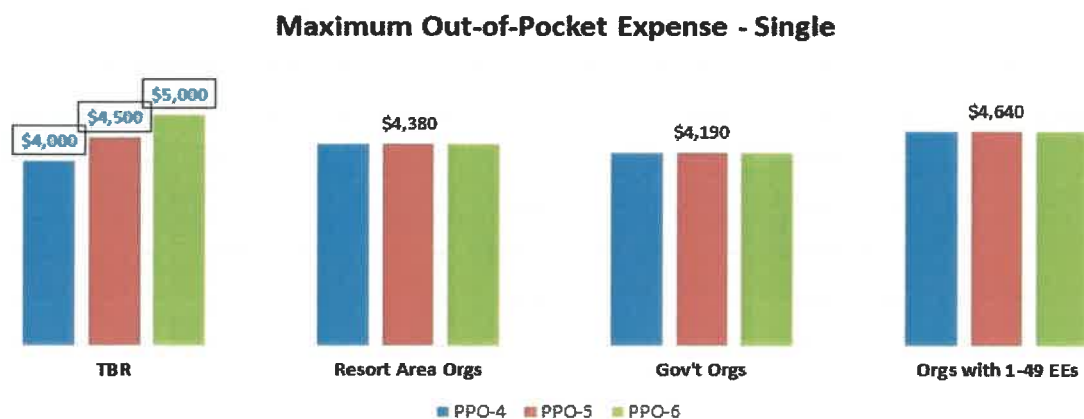
### \$ Employee Contribution to Health Premium per Month

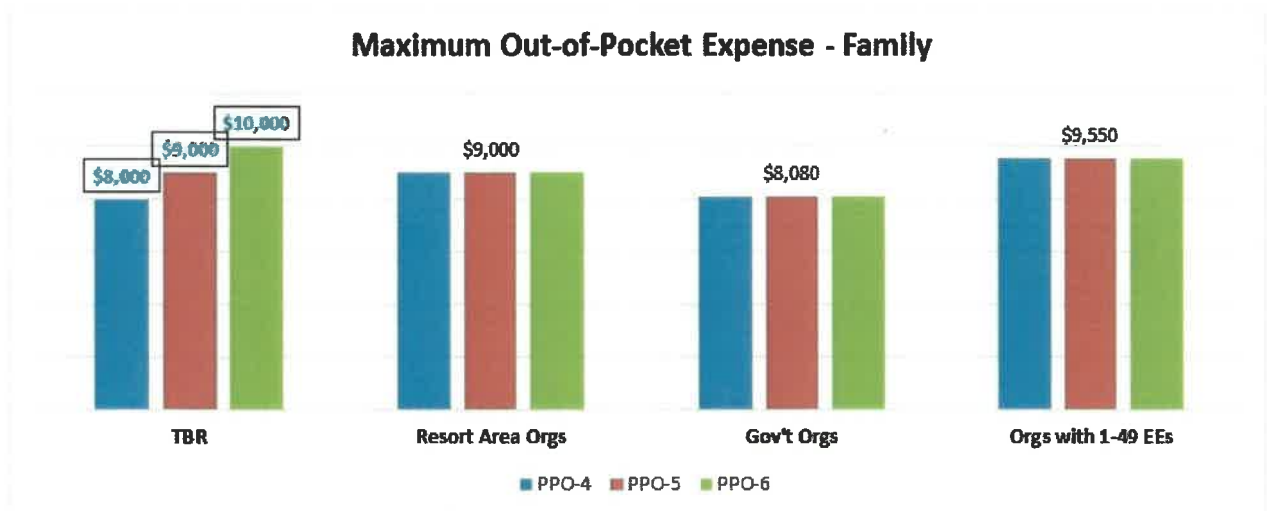


TBR ranks *less than comparable* to the survey group for your office copays. You rank *comparable* to the Resort and Gov't survey groups and *exceed* the 1-49 EE survey group with respect to single deductible levels. You rank *less than comparable* to the survey group for your family deductible levels.



TBR *exceeds* the survey group with respect to the single and family maximum out-of-pocket levels for the PPO-4 plan. Your single and family maximum out-of-pocket levels rank *less than comparable* for your PPO-5 and PPO-6 plans.

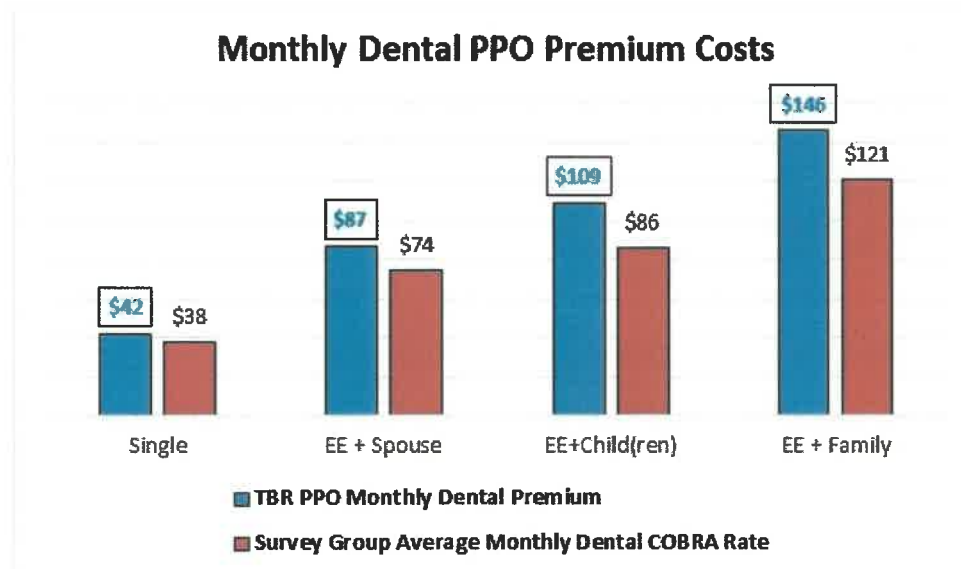




#### ☐ Dental Coverage

TBR joins most employers in the survey group by providing dental coverage through a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO). You rank *less than comparable* to the survey group by requiring employees to pay 100 percent of the cost of dental monthly premiums.

TBR ranks *less than comparable* to the survey group by paying higher monthly dental premiums than survey averages.



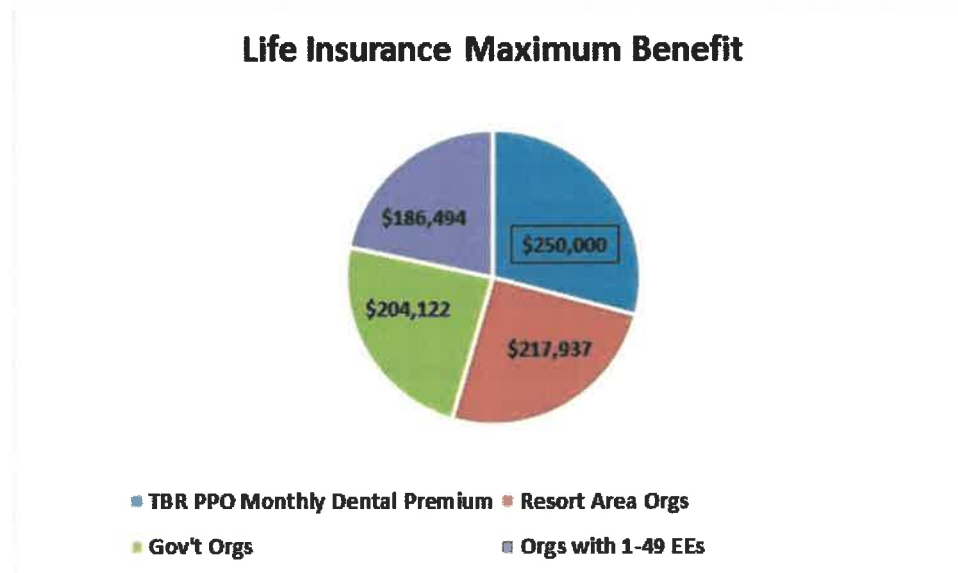
TBR *exceeds* the survey group with respect to your maximum dental benefit per year and your lifetime maximum orthodontic benefit.

☐ Vision Care

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group by offering vision care *separate* from the group health coverage.

☐ Life Insurance

TBR *exceeds* the comparator group with respect to the life insurance maximum benefit available.



☐ Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D)

TBR does not currently offer AD&D coverage. 87% of the employers in the survey group report offering AD&D coverage. Additional details have been provided on AD&D benefits offered by employers in the survey group, in Attachment A, for information purposes.

☐ Short-term Disability (STD) and Long-term Disability (LTD)

TBR does not currently offer STD or LTD coverage. 71% of the employers in the survey group report offering STD coverage. 81% of the employers in the survey group report offering LTD coverage. Additional details have been provided on STD and LTD benefits offered by employers in the survey group, in Attachment A, for information purposes.

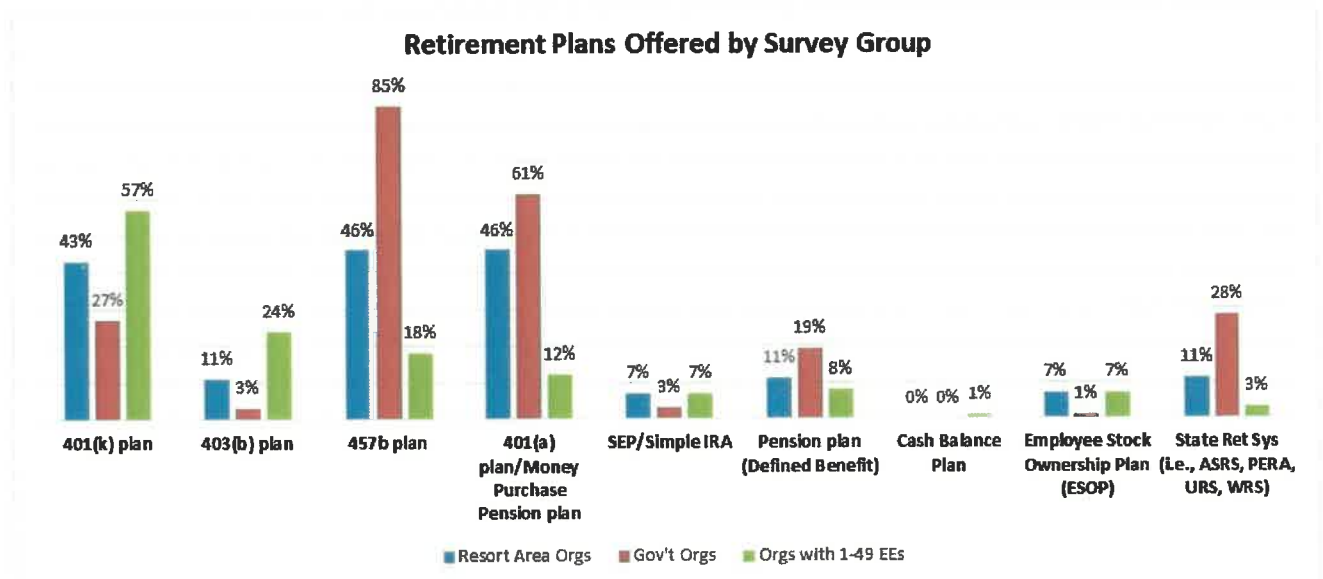
## RETIREMENT

### ☐ 401(a) Money Purchase Plan

TBR ranks *comparable* to the Resort and Gov't survey groups and *less than comparable* to the 50-99 EEs survey group with respect to offering a 401(a) plan. You rank *less than comparable* to the survey group by not providing employer matching contributions. Most employers in the survey group report providing employer matching contributions to their 401(a) plan.

### ☐ 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group by offering a 457(b) plan. You rank *comparable* by not providing employer matching contributions.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### ☐ Employee Assistance Plan (EAP)

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group by providing an EAP.

### ☐ Voluntary Term Life Insurance

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group by offering voluntary term life insurance.

### ☐ Voluntary Term Life Insurance for Dependents

TBR ranks *comparable* to the survey group by offering voluntary term life insurance for dependents.

## Summary

After reviewing the current levels of TBR's benefit programs, we conclude that:

- ❑ The level and mix of TBR's benefits are, on average, at or slightly below market. In some areas, TBR's benefits are more generous than those employers we compared against. In other areas, we found TBR's benefits to be less generous. We noted where the specific aspect of a plan, or its associated costs, might be less than reflected in the survey group.
- ❑ Your paid time-off levels are, on average, at or below market. While your Holiday pay compares above market, your Vacation time and accumulation limits compare below market. Combining your Personal and Sick leave time compares above market with respect to the total number of days granted and provides a benefit level that helps to balance the deficit of not granting bereavement leave.
- ❑ Overall, your PPO premium costs are comparable to survey averages. You compare above market by requiring your employees to share a smaller portion of the cost of monthly health premiums than the employers in your comparator group. Your PPO dental premium costs compare less favorably to survey averages, and you compare below market by requiring your employees to 100% of dental premiums.
- ❑ TBR compares above market for maximum life insurance benefit available. You compare below market by not providing AD&D, STD, and LTD coverage.
- ❑ Most employers provide a savings/retirement plan, with the type varying by private/public/non-profit sector. You are comparable to the resort and public sector employers by providing 401(a) and 457(b) plans. You compare below market by not providing an employer contribution to your 401(a) plan. Savings/Retirement plans can be difficult to compare because organizations, provide varied programs and different contribution levels.

When analyzing benefits programs, we find there is significant diversity in what employers offer to employees. In addition, the amount of expense passed on to employees varies greatly. We look for glaring gaps or extraordinary generosity from a total benefit program perspective rather than how individual benefit expenses might be configured and distributed.

Therefore, while we designate a single item as being comparable, exceeding, or less than the comparator groups, we suggest looking for areas where the organization falls well above or below others and adjusting accordingly. In some instances, this may involve an additional benefit or change; in others, it may mean revising the cost sharing model used. Ultimately, it is critical to understand employee needs as well as preferences and how programs can be reviewed considering all these factors.

Based on this analysis, gaps in coverage exist for AD&D, STD and LTD. These are coverages offered by the majority of employers in your comparator group and would bring TBR into better alignment with the market. Other areas to consider bringing into better alignment with the market, are vacation time, sharing the cost of the dental premium, and providing an employer contribution to your 401(a) plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to support your efforts in maintaining competitive benefit programs. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about this project.

**Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment**  
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Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River		Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
Pay for Time Not Worked									
Employers Council Paid Time Off Survey data as of September 2020									
(33 Organizations)									
(112 Organizations)									
(245 Organizations)									
		* See Key Below			80 hours		87 hours		79 hours
	Holiday		88 hours	A				A	
			New Years Day	B	100% offer as paid holiday		99% offer as paid holiday		99% offer as paid holiday
			Martin Luther King's Birthday	B	59% observe as a paid holiday		74% observe as a paid holiday		35% observe as a paid holiday
			President's Day	B	72% observe as a paid holiday		82% observe as a paid holiday		49% observe as a paid holiday
			Memorial Day	B	97% offer as paid holiday		96% offer as paid holiday		100% offer as paid holiday
			Independence Day	B	93% offer as paid holiday		98% offer as paid holiday		98% offer as paid holiday
			Labor Day	B	97% offer as paid holiday		98% offer as paid holiday		98% offer as paid holiday
			Thanksgiving Day	B	100% offer as paid holiday		100% offer as paid holiday		100% offer as paid holiday
			Day after Thanksgiving	B	59% observe as a paid holiday		73% observe as a paid holiday		100% offer as paid holiday
			Christmas Eve	A	3% offer as paid holiday		4% offer as paid holiday		81% observe as a paid holiday
			Christmas Day	B	93% offer as paid holiday		96% offer as paid holiday		2% offer as paid holiday
			1 Floating Holiday	A	28% offer (Average 2 days)		47% offer (Average 2 days)		95% offer as paid holiday
	Vacation		Accrued earned annually	B	• 13% Vacation is earned annually • 56% Yes, hours accrued monthly, each pay period, etc. • 31% Paid Time Off * bank of days (PTO) includes vacation (i.e., no traditional vacation)		• 8% Vacation is earned annually • 67% Yes, hours accrued monthly, each pay period, etc. • 25% Paid Time Off * bank of days (PTO) includes vacation (i.e., no traditional vacation)		• 15% Vacation is earned annually • 45% Yes, hours accrued monthly, each pay period, etc. • 40% Paid Time Off * bank of days (PTO) includes vacation (i.e., no traditional vacation)
			Monthly	B	• 0% Weekly • 39% Bi-weekly • 11% Semi-monthly • 50% Monthly		• 0% Weekly • 52% Bi-weekly • 2% Semi-monthly • 47% Monthly		• 0% Weekly • 43% Bi-weekly • 19% Semi-monthly • 39% Monthly
			Accrual of Annual Leave						
	Monthly Accrual Rate for Full-Time Employees after 1 year of service		6.67 hours per month	V	8.37 hours per month		7.88 hours per month		8.8 hours per month
	Monthly Accrual Rate for Full-Time Employees after 5 years of service		10.0 hours per month	V	10.29 hours per month		10.04 hours per month		10.42 hours per month
	Monthly Accrual Rate for Full-Time Employees after 10 years of service		13.33 hours per month	A	12.83 hours per month		12.32 hours per month		13.01 hours per month
			May carry over all accrued, unused time	B	• 9% No carry-over of unused vacation to the next year • 73% May carry-over all accrued, unused time • 14% May carry-over only a certain amount (Avg. 40 hours)		• 4% No carry-over of unused vacation to the next year • 85% May carry-over all accrued, unused time • 11% May carry-over only a certain amount (Avg. 70 hours)		• 15% No carry-over of unused vacation to the next year • 43% May carry-over all accrued, unused time • 21% May carry-over only a certain amount (Avg. 60 hours)
			Total Annual Hours						
			After 6 months of service	A	6 days		6 days		6 days
			After 1 year of service	V	13 days		12 days		12 days
			After 3 years of service	V	13 days		12 days		12 days
			After 5 years of service	V	16 days		16 days		16 days
			After 6 years of service	B	16 days		16 days		16 days
			After 10 years of service	V	20 days		20 days		19 days
			After 15 years of service	V	22 days		22 days		21 days
			After 20 years of service	V	23 days		23 days		22 days
Pay for Time Not Worked (Continued)									
Employers Council Paid Time Off Survey data as of September 2020									
(112 Organizations)									
(245 Organizations)									
	Vacation		Maximum Accumulation						
			120 hours	V	266 hours		308 hours		236 hours
			160 hours	V	266 hours		308 hours		236 hours
	Personal/Sick Time								
	Personal time off policy allowing employees to take paid time off for personal business		Yes, Part of Sick Time (PTO)	V	15% offer as a part of sick leave plan		10% offer as a part of sick leave plan		16.5% offer as a part of sick leave plan
	Amount:		Amount:						

Benefit Level Assessment	Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
0-2 years	15 days	A	Sick Leave = 10 days Personal Time = 3 days	A	Sick Leave = 11 days Personal Time = 2.9 days	A	Sick Leave = 9 days Personal Time = 2.5 days
3+ years	20 days	A	Sick Leave = 10 days Personal Time = 3 days	A	Sick Leave = 11 days Personal Time = 2.9 days	A	Sick Leave = 9 days Personal Time = 2.5 days
Provisions for unused sick leave at year end	Carry-over unused time to maximum limit	=	15% forfeit unused time 76% allowed to carry over all/part of unused time 5% allowed to cash out all/part of unused time 0% employee's choice, cash-out or carry-over unused time 0% convert to extra vacation	=	1% forfeit unused time 92% allowed to carry over all/part of unused time 0% allowed to cash out all/part of unused time 1% employee's choice, cash-out or carry-over unused time 1% convert to extra vacation	=	34.5% forfeit unused time 63% allowed to carry over all/part of unused time 2% allowed to cash out all/part of unused time 0% employee's choice, cash-out or carry-over unused time 0% convert to extra vacation
Carry-over of unused sick leave from year to year	100% of unused time	=	88% Carry-over 100% of unused time 13% Carry-over less than 100% of unused time	=	94% Carry-over 100% of unused time 4% Carry-over less than 100% of unused time	=	91% Carry-over 100% of unused time 9% Carry-over less than 100% of unused time
Maximum accumulation of unused sick leave days	20 days	= (# days)	75.5% Specific # of days (Avg. \$8.5 days) 24.5% No limit on accumulation	= (# days)	81% Specific # of days (Avg. 92 days) 19% No limit on accumulation	= (# days)	86% Specific # of days (Avg. 32 days) 14% No limit on accumulation
Sick leave cash-out	No	=	86% No cash-out for unused sick leave 5% Annually 5% Termination of employment 5% Retirement 5% Death	V	13% No cash-out for unused sick leave 15% Annually 23% Termination of employment 32% Retirement 19% Death	=	87% No cash-out for unused sick leave 4.5% Annually 8% Termination of employment 7% Retirement 4% Death
Allow employees to give vacation/sick time to employees in need?	Yes, Sick Leave	A	9% Allow only Sick Leave to be donated	A	24% Allow only Sick Leave to be donated	A	14% Allow only Sick Leave to be donated
Pay for Time Not Worked (Continued)		[33 Organizations]			Employers Council Paid Time Off Survey data as of September 2020		
Bereavement Leave	No	V	86% grant Bereavement Leave  Average of 4 days provided  • 79% No • 21% Yes  • 69% No • 31% Yes	V	91% grant Bereavement Leave  Average of 4 days provided  • 72% No • 28% Yes  • 67% No • 33% Yes	V	86% grant Bereavement Leave  Average of 4 days provided  • 89% No • 14% Yes  • 53% No • 47% Yes
Amount							
# of Days Granted Depend on Location of Funeral							
# of Days Granted Depend on Family Member							
Definition of Immediate Family:							
Spouse							
Parent							
Step-parents							
Child							
Step-child							
Sister/Brother							
Parents-in-law							
Son/Daughter-in-law							
Sister/Brother-in-law							
Aunt/Uncle							
Niece/Nephew							

**Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment**  
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Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
	Grandchild	Regular Pay		59%		64%		52%
	Grandparents			72%		73%		69%
	Grandparents-in-law			38%		40%		38%
	Legal guardian/ward			59%		38%		32%
	Domestic partner/Civil Union partner			59%		50%		50%
	Either friend and/or dependent living in same household			14%		12%		11%
Jury Duty	Basis of payment	Regular Pay	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70% Pay regular pay</li> <li>• 24% Pay difference between regular pay and jury duty pay</li> <li>• 3% No pay granted - employee only receives jury duty pay</li> <li>• 0% No pay granted - unless employee chooses to use paid time off benefits (vacation, PTO)</li> </ul>	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 73% Pay regular pay</li> <li>• 24% Pay difference between regular pay and jury duty pay</li> <li>• 1% No pay granted - employee only receives jury duty pay</li> <li>• 1% No pay granted - unless employee chooses to use paid time off benefits (vacation, PTO)</li> </ul>	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 63% Pay regular pay</li> <li>• 30% Pay difference between regular pay and jury duty pay</li> <li>• 3% No pay granted - employee only receives jury duty pay</li> <li>• 3% No pay granted - unless employee chooses to use paid time off benefits (vacation, PTO)</li> </ul>

# Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment -DRAFT-

Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
Pay for Time Not Worked (continued)								
				(33 Organizations)		(112 Organizations)		(245 Organizations)
Military Leave	Basis of payment beyond required 15 days of pay	Unpaid Unless Employee uses Vacation	=	Private Sector Employers are legally required to offer but not legally required to pay for military leave  • 0% Company continues full pay • 7% Company pays full pay for a specific number of days (Avg. 10 days) • 0% Company pays difference between military pay and salary • 33% Company does not pay, unless employee chooses to take vacation • 60% No established policy		Legally required for Public Sector Employers to grant military leave without loss of wages for first 15 days.  (No survey respondents for this data line)		Private Sector Employers are legally required to offer but not legally required to pay for military leave  • 1% Company continues full pay • 0% Company pays full pay for a specific number of days (Avg. 10 days) • 5% Company pays difference between military pay and salary • 40% Company does not pay, unless employee chooses to take vacation • 54% No established policy
Insurance				(28 Organizations)		(79 Organizations)		(97 Organizations)
Health/Medical	Health Plan Type 1	United Health PPO-4	=	• 25% Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) • 85% Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) • 0% Point of Service (POS) • 64% High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) • 7% Other  Average PPO COBRA rate \$818.35		• 51% Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) • 88% Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) • 8% Point of Service (POS) • 58% High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) • 13% Other  Average PPO COBRA rate \$780.03		• 27% Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) • 73% Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) • 12% Point of Service (POS) • 96% High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) • 6% Other  Average PPO COBRA rate \$833.21
	Single (Employee Only) Monthly Premium Rate	\$770.00	A	• 21% of Organizations pay 100% • 71% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 15%		• 13% of Organizations pay 100% • 88% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 18%		• 28% of Organizations pay 100% • 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%
	Premium for Single Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	( < % )					
	Employee Contribution for Single Premium	\$155.60	V	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$125		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$122		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$131
	Employee + Spouse Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,587.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,548.37		Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,585.21		Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,285.82
	Premium for Employee + Spouse Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	( < % )	• 9% of Organizations pay 100% • 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%		• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 86% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%		• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 94% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 35%
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Spouse Premium	\$317.40	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$354		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$350		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$358
	Employee + Children Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,468.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,491.68		Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,448.53		Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,181.20
	Premium for Employee + Children	Shared; EE pays 20%	( < % )	• 10% of Organizations pay 100% • 84% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%		• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 34%		• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 34%
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Children Premium	\$283.60	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$307		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$302		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$352
Insurance (continued)				(28 Organizations)		(79 Organizations)		(97 Organizations)
Health/Medical	Health Plan Type 1	United Health PPO-4	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,800.62		Average PPO COBRA rate \$2,133.16		Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,787.51
	Employee + Family Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,906.00	=	• 8% of Organizations pay 100% • 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 25%		• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 96% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 26%		• 1% of Organizations pay 100% • 99% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 39%
	Premium for Employee + Family Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	( < % )					
	Employee Contribution for EE + Family Premium	\$381.20	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$494		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$516		Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$639

**Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment**  
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Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
	Office Co-pay (Primary/Specialist)	\$40	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% No copay</li> <li>• 6% (Coinsurance)</li> <li>• 12% (\$20)</li> <li>• 31% (\$25)</li> <li>• 24% (\$30)</li> <li>• 8% (\$35)</li> <li>• 10% (\$40)</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% No copay</li> <li>• 11% (Coinsurance)</li> <li>• 13% (\$20)</li> <li>• 35% (\$25)</li> <li>• 7% (\$30)</li> <li>• 13% (\$35)</li> <li>• 15% (\$40)</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0% No copay</li> <li>• 7% (Coinsurance)</li> <li>• 10% (\$20)</li> <li>• 30% (\$25)</li> <li>• 17% (\$30)</li> <li>• 10% (\$35)</li> <li>• 10% (\$40)</li> </ul>
	Deductible							
	Single	\$1,500	V	\$1,460	II	\$1,500	A	\$1,800
	Family	\$5,000	V	\$3,340	V	\$3,670	V	\$4,640
	Out-of-Pocket							
	Single	\$4,000	A	\$4,380	A	\$4,190	A	\$4,640
	Family	\$8,000	A	\$9,000	A	\$8,680	A	\$9,550
	Health Plan Type 2	United Health PPO-S						
	Single (Employee Only) Monthly Premium Rate	\$721.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$818.35	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$760.03	V	Average PPO COBRA rate \$633.21
	Premium for Single Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 71% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 15%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 85% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 16%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Single Premium	\$144.20	V	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$125	V	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$122	V	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$131
	Employee + Spouse Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,468.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,646.37	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,585.21	V	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,285.82
	Premium for Employee + Spouse Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 86% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 94% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 35%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Spouse Premium	\$293.60	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$354	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$350	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$298
<b>Insurance (continued)</b>				(28 Organizations)		(19 Organizations)		(97 Organizations)
Health/Medical	Health Plan Type 2	United Health PPO-S						
	Employee + Children Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,458.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,491.68	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,448.53	V	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,181.20
	Premium for Employee + Children	Shared; EE pays 20%	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 80% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 85% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 21%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 34%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Children Premium	\$271.60	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$307	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$302	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$352
	Employee + Family Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,764.00	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$2,180.62	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$2,133.16	A	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,787.51
	Premium for Employee + Family Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 96% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 24%</li> </ul>	II (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 39%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for EE + Family Premium	\$342.80	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$494	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$516	A	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$638

**Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment**  
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Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
	Office Co-pay (Primary/Specialist)	\$45	▼	• 4% No copay • 6% (Coinsurance) • 12% (\$20) • 31% (\$25) • 24% (\$30) • 8% (\$35) • 10% (\$40)	▼	• 2% No copay • 11% (Coinsurance) • 13% (\$20) • 35% (\$25) • 7% (\$30) • 13% (\$35) • 15% (\$40)	▼	• 0% No copay • 7% (Coinsurance) • 10% (\$20) • 30% (\$25) • 17% (\$30) • 10% (\$35) • 10% (\$40)
	Deductible							
	Single	\$2,500	▼	\$1,460	▼	\$1,500	▼	\$1,800
	Family	\$7,500	▼	\$3,340	▼	\$3,670	▼	\$4,640
	Maximum Out-of-Pocket							
	Single	\$4,500	▼	\$4,380	▼	\$4,130	▲	\$4,640
	Family	\$9,000	=	\$9,000	▼	\$8,680	▲	\$9,550
	Health Plan Type 3	United Health PRO-6						
	Single (Employee Only) Monthly Premium Rate	\$663.00	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$818.35	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$780.03	=	Average PPO COBRA rate \$633.21
	Premium for Single Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	= ( > % )	• 21% of Organizations pay 100% • 71% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 18%	= ( > % )	• 13% of Organizations pay 100% • 85% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 16%	= ( < % )	• 28% of Organizations pay 100% • 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%
	Employee Contribution for Single Premium	\$132.60	▼	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$125	▼	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$122	▼	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$131
Insurance (continued)								
				(28 Organizations)		(79 Organizations)		(97 Organizations)
Health/Medical		United Health PRO-6						
	Employee + Spouse Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,351.00	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,648.37	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,585.21	▼	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,285.82
	Premium for Employee + Spouse Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	= ( < % )	• 9% of Organizations pay 100% • 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 23%	= ( < % )	• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 86% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%	= ( < % )	• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 94% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 35%
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Spouse Premium	\$270.20	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$354	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$350	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$396
	Employee + Children Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,248.00	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,451.68	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,448.83	▼	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,181.20
	Premium for Employee + Children	Shared; EE pays 20%	= ( < % )	• 10% of Organizations pay 100% • 80% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 22%	= ( < % )	• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 95% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 21%	= ( < % )	• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 34%
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Children Premium	\$248.80	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$307	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$302	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$352
	Employee + Family Monthly Premium Rate	\$1,622.00	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$2,180.62	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$2,183.16	▲	Average PPO COBRA rate \$1,787.51
	Premium for Employee + Family Coverage	Shared; EE pays 20%	= ( < % )	• 8% of Organizations pay 100% • 83% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 25%	= ( < % )	• 2% of Organizations pay 100% • 96% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 24%	= ( < % )	• 1% of Organizations pay 100% • 93% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 33%
	Employee Contribution for EE + Family Premium	\$324.40	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$494	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$516	▲	Average Employee Dollar Contribution: \$539
	Deductible	\$50	▼	• 4% No copay • 6% (Coinsurance) • 12% (\$20) • 31% (\$25) • 24% (\$30) • 8% (\$35) • 10% (\$40)	▼	• 2% No copay • 11% (Coinsurance) • 13% (\$20) • 35% (\$25) • 7% (\$30) • 13% (\$35) • 15% (\$40)	▼	• 0% No copay • 7% (Coinsurance) • 10% (\$20) • 30% (\$25) • 17% (\$30) • 10% (\$35) • 10% (\$40)

Prepared by Employers Council

# Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment -DRAFT-

Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Health & Welfare Survey - August 2020	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
Insurance (continued)								
			(28 Organizations)			(79 Organizations)		
Dental	Type	PPO-Plan A	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14% HMO</li> <li>• 82% PPO</li> <li>• 7% Group Indemnity</li> <li>• 4% Dental Reimbursement Plan</li> <li>• 4% Discount Dental Plan</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% HMO</li> <li>• 91% PPO</li> <li>• 3% Group Indemnity</li> <li>• 1% Dental Reimbursement Plan</li> <li>• 5% Discount Dental Plan</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12% HMO</li> <li>• 88% PPO</li> <li>• 3% Group Indemnity</li> <li>• 1% Dental Reimbursement Plan</li> <li>• 12% Discount Dental Plan</li> </ul>
	Maximum benefit per person per year	\$2,000	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% \$1,000</li> <li>• 4% \$1,200 - \$1,250</li> <li>• 48% \$1,500</li> <li>• 17% \$2,000</li> </ul>	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% \$1,000</li> <li>• 0% \$1,200 - \$1,250</li> <li>• 42% \$1,500</li> <li>• 28% \$2,000</li> </ul>	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11% \$1,000</li> <li>• 5% \$1,200 - \$1,250</li> <li>• 56% \$1,500</li> <li>• 20% \$2,000</li> </ul>
	Lifetime Orthodontic Maximum	\$2,000	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9% No Maximum</li> <li>• 26% \$1,000</li> <li>• 22% \$1,500</li> <li>• 28% \$2,000</li> </ul>	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15% No Maximum</li> <li>• 10% \$1,000</li> <li>• 31% \$1,500</li> <li>• 18% \$2,000</li> </ul>	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% No Maximum</li> <li>• 29% \$1,000</li> <li>• 20% \$1,500</li> <li>• 17% \$2,000</li> </ul>
	Single (Employee Only) Monthly Premium Rate	\$42.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 61% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 32%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 65% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 25%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 53% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 35%</li> <li>• 16% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Premium for Single Coverage	100% Employee Paid	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Single Premium	\$42.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee + Spouse Monthly Premium Rate	\$87.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Premium for Employees + Spouse Coverage	100% Employee Paid	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Spouse Premium	\$87.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee + Children Monthly Premium Rate	\$105.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 65% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 44%</li> <li>• 18% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 88% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 39%</li> <li>• 5% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 50%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Premium for Employees + Children Coverage	100% Employee Paid	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for Employee + Children Premium	\$105.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 41%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 87% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 37%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 79% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 47%</li> <li>• 19% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee + Family Monthly Premium Rate	\$146.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 43%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 88% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 42%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 78% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 56%</li> <li>• 18% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Premium for Employees + Family Coverage	100% Employee Paid	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 43%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 88% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 42%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 78% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 56%</li> <li>• 18% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Employee Contribution for EE + Family Premium	\$146.00	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 67% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 43%</li> <li>• 17% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 88% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 42%</li> <li>• 8% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of Organizations pay 100%</li> <li>• 78% Share Cost of Premium with Average Employee % Contribution - 56%</li> <li>• 18% Employee pays 100%</li> </ul>
	Separate from Group Health Insurance	Yes	II	75% offer a vision plan separate from group health insurance	II	73% offer a vision plan separate from group health insurance	II	76% offer a vision plan separate from group health insurance
Insurance (continued)								
			(28 Organizations)			(79 Organizations)		
Life Insurance	Type	Yes	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 93% Yes</li> <li>• 7% No</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% Yes</li> <li>• 0% No</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 89% Yes</li> <li>• 11% No</li> </ul>
	Employee contribution for basic life insurance coverage	100% Organization Paid	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% Organization pays premium</li> <li>• 0% Employee pays premium</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98% Organization pays premium</li> <li>• 1% Employee pays premium</li> </ul>	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 99% Organization pays premium</li> <li>• 1% Employee pays premium</li> </ul>
	Maximum Basic Life Benefit Available	\$250,000	A	\$217,937	A	\$204,122	A	\$188,494
	Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance	No	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 89% Yes</li> <li>• 11% No</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 91% Yes</li> <li>• 8% No</li> </ul>	V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82% Yes</li> <li>• 18% No</li> </ul>

**Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment**  
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Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
	Same Value as Life Insurance			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84% Yes</li> <li>• 16% No</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 88% Yes</li> <li>• 11% No</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 96% Yes</li> <li>• 4% No</li> </ul>
<b>Short Term Disability</b>		No		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23% do not offer STD</li> <li>• 50% offer STD w/ 3rd party carrier</li> <li>• 18% self-insured</li> <li>• 4% extension of sick leave (internally administered)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23% do not offer STD</li> <li>• 52% offer STD w/ 3rd party carrier</li> <li>• 19% self-insured</li> <li>• 6% extension of sick leave (internally administered)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 34% do not offer STD</li> <li>• 62% offer STD w/ 3rd party carrier</li> <li>• 2% self-insured</li> <li>• 2% extension of sick leave (internally administered)</li> </ul>
	Payment of Premium for STD Plan			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% Organization pays 100% of premium</li> <li>• 0% Employee pays 100% of premium</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84% Organization pays 100% of premium</li> <li>• 2% Employee pays 100% of premium</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% Organization pays 100% of premium</li> <li>• 11% Employee pays 100% of premium</li> </ul>
	Elimination period before STD benefits begin			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16% Immediately</li> <li>• 5% 7 days</li> <li>• 42% 14 days</li> <li>• 32% 30 days</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% Immediately</li> <li>• 14% 7 days</li> <li>• 38% 14 days</li> <li>• 34% 30 days</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18% Immediately</li> <li>• 38% 7 days</li> <li>• 27% 14 days</li> <li>• 11% 30 days</li> </ul>
	Normal percentage of salary paid out under STD benefit paid by employer			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 79% Pay 60% of Salary</li> <li>• 16% 66 2/3% of Salary</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% Pay 60% of Salary</li> <li>• 13% 66 2/3% of Salary</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60% Pay 60% of Salary</li> <li>• 23% 66 2/3% of Salary</li> </ul>
	Maximum weekly benefit for STD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 74% Specific maximum dollar (Avg. \$1,329)</li> <li>• 26% No maximum weekly benefit is specified</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 63% Specific maximum dollar (Avg. \$1,720)</li> <li>• 38% No maximum weekly benefit is specified</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 69% Specific maximum dollar (Avg. \$1,444)</li> <li>• 31% No maximum weekly benefit is specified</li> </ul>
	Duration			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0% 8 weeks</li> <li>• 16% 11 weeks</li> <li>• 16% 12 weeks</li> <li>• 16% 13 weeks</li> <li>• 32% 26 weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% 8 weeks</li> <li>• 11% 11 weeks</li> <li>• 14% 12 weeks</li> <li>• 16% 13 weeks</li> <li>• 32% 26 weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% 8 weeks</li> <li>• 6% 11 weeks</li> <li>• 35% 12 weeks</li> <li>• 31% 13 weeks</li> <li>• 11% 26 weeks</li> </ul>

# Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment -DRAFT-

Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
<b>Insurance (continued)</b>								
				(41 Organizations)				
				Employers Council Health & Welfare Survey - August 2020				
				(79 Organizations)				
Long Term Disability		No	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18% do not provide LTD coverage</li> <li>• 82% provide LTD coverage</li> </ul>	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15% do not provide LTD coverage</li> <li>• 81% provide LTD coverage</li> </ul>	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19% do not provide LTD coverage</li> <li>• 81% provide LTD coverage</li> </ul>
	Payment of Premium			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 87% Employer-Paid Premiums</li> <li>• 9% Employee-Paid Premiums</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 86% Employer-Paid Premiums</li> <li>• 14% Employee-Paid Premiums</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 92% Employer-Paid Premiums</li> <li>• 8% Employee-Paid Premiums</li> </ul>
	Elimination Period			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% (90 days)</li> <li>• 39% (180 days)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 53% (90 days)</li> <li>• 39% (180 days)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% (90 days)</li> <li>• 16% (180 days)</li> </ul>
	Salary Continuation			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 74% provide 60% of earnings</li> <li>• 17% provide 65-75% of earnings</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 73% provide 60% of earnings</li> <li>• 16% provide 65-75% of earnings</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 73% provide 60% of earnings</li> <li>• 18% provide 65-75% of earnings</li> </ul>
	Maximum Monthly Benefit			\$7,943		\$5,993		\$7,441
<b>Retirement</b>								
				(41 Organizations)				
				Employers Council Health & Welfare Survey - August 2020				
				(79 Organizations)				
Money Purchase Pension Plan	Type 1	CRA 401(a)	==	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 43% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 11% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 46% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 46% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 7% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 11% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 0% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 7% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 11% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>	==	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 3% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 85% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 61% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 3% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 13% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 0% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 1% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 28% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 24% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 18% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 12% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 7% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 8% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 1% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 7% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 3% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>
	Employer Matching Contribution	None	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 54% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 11%)</li> <li>• 38% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage (Avg. 5%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 0% Other</li> </ul>	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 57% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 9%)</li> <li>• 34% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage (Avg. 5%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 4% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 0% Other</li> </ul>	▼	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 42% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 11%)</li> <li>• 43% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage (Avg. 4%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 8% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 8% Other</li> </ul>
<b>Retirement (Continued)</b>								
				(41 Organizations)				
				Employers Council Health & Welfare Survey - August 2020				
				(79 Organizations)				
Deferred Compensation Plan	Type 2	CRA 457(b)	==	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 43% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 11% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 46% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 46% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 7% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 11% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 0% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 7% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 11% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>	==	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 3% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 85% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 61% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 3% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 13% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 0% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 1% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 28% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>	==	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% offer 401(k) plan</li> <li>• 24% offer 403(b) plan</li> <li>• 18% offer 457b plan</li> <li>• 12% offer 401(a) plan/Money Purchase Pension plan</li> <li>• 7% offer SEP/Simple IRA</li> <li>• 8% offer Pension plan (Defined Benefit)</li> <li>• 1% offer Cash Balance Plan</li> <li>• 7% offer Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)</li> <li>• 3% offer State Retirement System (i.e., ASRS, PERA, URS, WRS)</li> </ul>

Town of Blue River 2021 Benefit Level Assessment  
-DRAFT-

Benefit Level Assessment		Town of Blue River	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council RESORT AREA Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council GOVERNMENT (w/o Utilities) Organizations	Comparability Rank*	Employers Council Organizations with 1-49 EMPLOYEES
	Employer Matching Contribution	None	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 85% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 50% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 4%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 50% Other</li> </ul>	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 81% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 8% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 4%)</li> <li>• 62% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage (Avg. 3%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 50% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 8% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 0% Other</li> </ul>	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 71% Organization does not contribute to tax deferred plan</li> <li>• 40% No matching - organization contributes flat percentage (Avg 5%)</li> <li>• 20% Organization matches 100% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage (Avg. 3%)</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches 50% of ee contribution to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 0% Organization matches ee contribution at a rate of less than 50% to a maximum percentage</li> <li>• 20% Organization matches on a variable scale based on annual profits, annual salary, years of service, etc.</li> <li>• 20% Other</li> </ul>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				(48 Organizations)		(81 Organizations)		(82 Organizations)
	Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	Yes	=	86% offer	=	941% offer	=	70% offer
	Voluntary Term Life Insurance	Yes	=	64% offer	=	76% offer	=	59% offer
	Voluntary Term Life Insurance (Dependents)	Yes	=	57% offer	=	73% offer	=	54% offer
*Comparability Rank Key:								
= Benefits are considered to be equal to those in the comparator groups								
> Benefits are considered to exceed those in the comparator groups								
< Benefits are considered to be less than favorable, or less commonly practiced, and may warrant further consideration								





**2022**

**Benefit Enrollment**

It's Time To Talk  
About Your Benefits



# ENROLL FOR 2022 BENEFITS

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**Summit County Government** is proud to offer a comprehensive benefits package to eligible regular full-time and regular part-time employees.

The complete benefits package is briefly summarized in this booklet.

You share the costs of some benefits, and Summit County Government provides other benefits at no cost to you.

### BENEFITS OFFERED

- Medical
- Dental
- Vision
- Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance
- Short-Term (STD) and Long-Term (LTD) Disability Insurance
- Telemedicine
- Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- Wellness Reimbursement Account (WRA)
- Other benefits

### ELIGIBILITY

You and your dependents are eligible for Summit County Government benefits following the completion of 30 days of employment.

Eligible dependents are your legal spouse, domestic partner, children under age 26 and disabled dependents of any age.

Elections made now will remain until the next open enrollment unless you or your family members experience a qualifying event. If you experience a qualifying event, you must contact HR within 30 days.



This document is an outline of the coverage, based on information provided by the County. It does not include all of the terms, coverage, exclusions, limitations, and conditions of the actual contract language. The policies and plan documents themselves must be read for those details. Policy forms for your reference will be made available upon request.

The intent of this document is to provide you with general information regarding the status of, and/or potential concerns related to, your current employee benefits environment. It does not necessarily fully address all of your specific issues. It should not be construed as, nor is it intended to provide, legal advice. Questions regarding specific issues should be addressed by your general counsel or an attorney who specializes in this practice area.



# MEDICAL & PHARMACY

## Administered by Lucent and Elixir

Comprehensive and preventive healthcare coverage is important in protecting you and your family from the financial risks of unexpected illness and injury. A little prevention usually goes a long way—especially in healthcare. Routine exams and regular preventive care provide an inexpensive review of your health. **Effective January 1, 2022, Summit County Medical Plan claims will be administered by Lucent Health.**

**Note—With the exception of life or limb threatening emergency services, non-network benefits are NOT covered.**

SUMMIT COUNTYGOVERNMENT PPO MEDICAL PLAN		
	Bright Health / Peak Health Alliance	Aetna Network
Lifetime Benefit Maximum	Unlimited	
Annual Deductible (Individual/Family)	N/A	\$2,500 / \$5,000
Coinsurance (plan pays / member pays)	80% / 20%	70% / 30%
Out-of-Pocket Maximum (Individual/Family)	\$4,000 / \$8,000	\$5,000 / \$10,000
Out-of-Pocket Includes...	Deductibles, All Copays & Coinsurance; Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums Cross Accumulate	
OUTPATIENT VISITS		
Primary Care Office Visit (in person or virtual)	\$10 Copay per Visit	Deductible / Coinsurance
Specialist Office Visit (in person or virtual)	\$20 Copay per Visit	Deductible / Coinsurance
Telemedicine Services—Provided by CirrusMD	Paid at 100% - No Cost to Member	
Urgent Care Visits	\$75 Copay per Visit	Deductible / Coinsurance
Preventive Services (routine adult & child exams, tests, immunizations & well baby care—www.healthcare.gov)	Paid at 100% - No Cost to Member	
Mammograms / Colonoscopies—ALL	Paid at 100% - No Cost to Member	
Lab / X-Rays	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
Major Nuclear Scans (MRI, CT, PET, Etc.)	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
Outpatient Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse Visits	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay
Chiropractic Care / Acupuncture	\$20 Copay	\$20 Copay



# MEDICAL & PHARMACY

SUMMIT COUNTY GOVERNMENT PPO MEDICAL PLAN		
Bright Health / Peak Health Alliance		Aetna Network
HOSPITAL SERVICES (COVERAGE AT SOME HOSPITALS REQUIRES PRE-CERTIFICATION)		
Emergency Room	20% Coinsurance up to \$500 maximum cost per Visit	
Ambulance Service	20% Coinsurance up to \$500 maximum cost per Visit	
Inpatient Hospitalization	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
Outpatient Surgery	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES		
Inpatient Services	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
Outpatient Services	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES		
Inpatient Services	Coinsurance	Deductible / Coinsurance
Outpatient Services	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay
OTHER SERVICES		
Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy Services	\$20 Copay per Visit	Deductible / Coinsurance
PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE—ENVISIONRX		
<b>Retail—1 Month Supply</b> - Tier 1—Generic - Tier 2—Preferred Brand - Tier 3—Non-Preferred Brand - Tier 4—Specialty	\$0 Copay \$20 Copay \$40 Copay 20% to Maximum of \$250 per RX	
<b>Retail—3 Month Supply</b> - Tier 1—Generic - Tier 2—Preferred Brand - Tier 3—Non-Preferred Brand - Tier 4—Specialty	\$30 Copay \$60 Copay \$120 Copay N/A—Specialty Limited to 30 Day Supply	
<b>Mail Order—3 Month Supply</b> - Tier 1—Generic - Tier 2—Preferred Brand - Tier 3—Non-Preferred Brand - Tier 4—Specialty	\$0 Copay \$40 Copay \$80 Copay 20% to Maximum of \$250 per RX—Limited to 30 Day Supply	



# TELEMEDICINE SERVICES

## TELEMEDICINE SERVICES

### Provided by CirrusMD

Getting care is easy as messaging a friend with CirrusMD. Connect to a doctor in seconds from any computer or mobile device—at no additional cost to you—with CirrusMD app from Summit County's Health Plan.

You can talk to a CirrusMD doctors for range of services, including but not limited to:

- Urinary Tract Infections
- Conjunctivitis
- Dental Pain
- Rashes and animal bites
- Respiratory concerns
- Behavioral health Issues
- Medication Refills
- Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea

Download CirrusMD app and see how easy it is to connect!

With the CirrusMD app, Summit County Government employees can:



Access care during the work day, week-ends and after-hours



Refill prescriptions\*



Ask general or urgent medical question



Ask about medication side effects



Talk to a doctor from anywhere

\*Controlled substances, non-therapeutic and certain other drugs may not be available.





# DENTAL BENEFITS

## Administered by Delta Dental Plan of Colorado

Good oral care enhances overall physical health, appearance and mental well-being. Problems with the teeth and gums are common and easily treated health problems. Keep your teeth healthy and your smile bright with the Summit County Government dental benefit plan.

**PPO Dentist** - Payment is based on the PPO dentist's allowable fee, or the actual fee charged, whichever is less.

**Premier Dentist** - Payment is based on the Premier Maximum Plan Allowance (MPA), or the fee actually charged, whichever is less.

**Non-Participating Dentist** - Payment is based on the non-participating Maximum Plan Allowance. Members are responsible for the difference between the non-participating MPA and the full fee charged by the dentist. You will pay less out-of-pocket if you utilize a PPO or Premier Dentist Providers. To find a PPO or a Premier Dentist Provider, please visit [www.deltadentalco.com](http://www.deltadentalco.com)



SERVICES	PPO	PREMIER	NON-PARTICIPATING
Calendar Year Deductible Applies to Basic & Major Services	\$50 per Individual \$150 per Family Combination of in and out-of-network		
Orthodontic Deductible	\$100 per Person (Combination of in and out-of-network)		
Calendar Year Maximum Benefit	\$1,000 per Person Combination of in and out-of-network		
Orthodontic Lifetime Maximum Benefit	\$1,000 per Person Combination of in and out-of-network		
Preventive Dental Services (cleanings, exams, x-rays)	100%	100%	100%
Basic Dental Services (fillings, root canal therapy, oral surgery)	80%	80%	80%
Major Dental Services (crowns, implants, bridges, dentures)	50%	50%	50%
Orthodontia Services (covered to age 19)	50%	50%	50%



# VISION BENEFITS

## Insured by VSP

Regular eye examinations can not only determine your need for corrective eyewear but also may detect general health problems in their earliest stages. Protection for the eyes should be a major concern to everyone.

### Using your VSP benefit is easy

- **Create an account at [vsp.com](http://vsp.com).** Once your plan is effective, review your benefit information.
- **Find an eye doctor who's right for you.** The decision is yours to make—with the largest national network of private-practice doctors, plus participating retail chains, it's easy to find the in-network doctor who's right for you. Visit [vsp.com](http://vsp.com) or call **800.877.7195**.
- **At your appointment, tell them you have VSP.** There's no ID card necessary. If you'd like a card as a reference, you can print one on [vsp.com](http://vsp.com).



**That's it! VSP will handle the rest**—there are no claim forms to complete when you see a VSP provider.

SERVICE	IN-NETWORK (ANY VSP CHOICE PROVIDER)	OUT-OF-NETWORK (ANY QUALIFIED NON-NETWORK PROVIDER OF YOUR CHOICE)
<b>WELL VISION EXAMS—ONCE EVERY 12 MONTHS</b>		
Eye Exam	\$20 copay; covered in full	Up to \$45 reimbursement
<b>LENSES — ONCE EVERY 12 MONTHS</b>		
Single Vision Lenses	\$20 copay; covered in full	Up to \$30 reimbursement
Lined Bifocal Lenses	\$20 copay; covered in full	Up to \$50 reimbursement
Lined Trifocal Lenses	\$20 copay; covered in full	Up to \$65 reimbursement
Lens Enhancements	Standard progressive lenses: \$0 copay Premium progressive lenses: \$95—\$105 Custom progressive lenses: \$150—\$175 Average savings of 20-25% on other lens enhancements	Up to \$50 reimbursement
Contact Lenses—in lieu of lenses/frames	Up to \$60 copay \$130 allowance for contacts; no copay Contact lens exam (fitting and evaluation)	Up to \$105 reimbursement—applies to fitting, evaluation fees and materials combined
Contact Lenses—Medically Necessary	\$20 copay; covered in full	Up to \$210 reimbursement
<b>FRAMES—ONCE EVERY 24 MONTHS</b>		
Frames	\$20 copay; covered in full \$130 allowance for a wide selection of frames \$150 allowance for featured frame brands \$70 Costco frame allowance	Up to \$70 reimbursement



# LIFE INSURANCE

## LIFE AND ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE

### Insured by Guardian

#### Employee Life Insurance

Life insurance provides financial security for the people who depend on you. Your beneficiaries will receive a lump sum payment if you pass away while employed by Summit County Government.

**Basic Life Insurance Amount—** An amount equal to 600% of your annual earnings, rounded to the next higher \$1,000, if not already a multiple of that amount, to a maximum of \$600,000.

#### Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance

Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance provides payment to you or your beneficiaries if you lose a limb or pass away in an accident.

**AD&D Insurance Amount:** An amount equal to 600% of your annual earnings, rounded to the next higher \$1,000, if not already a multiple of that amount, to a maximum of \$600,000. This is in addition to the life insurance benefit identified above.

*Summit County Government pays the full cost of the Life and AD&D benefits on your behalf and you pay imputed income tax on benefits in excess of \$50,000.*

## DEPENDENT LIFE INSURANCE

### Insured by Guardian

Summit County Government pays the full cost of the Dependent life insurance coverage on your behalf. Benefit covers ALL eligible dependents of a family enrolled in the medical plan.

#### Spouse Insurance Amount

The Insurance Amount is . . . . . \$1,000.00  
- Spouse benefit terminates at age 70

#### Child Insurance Amount

The Insurance Amount is . . . . . \$1,000.00—Child Age 14 days but less than 26 years

The Insurance Amount is . . . . . \$200—Child from birth to less than 14 days



# DISABILITY

## SHORT TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

### Administered by Guardian

Summit County Government provides employees with the opportunity for income continuation in the event of major illness or non-job related injury which prevents an employee from working their normal job. This briefly describes the Summit County Government Short-term Disability program.

**Maximum Benefit Period:** Short-term Disability payments may continue for up to 6 months, or until the employee is able to return to work, whichever occurs first. Employees are eligible to utilize up to the maximum benefit of the Short-term disability program once per consecutive 12 month period and no more than two times in a three-year period during their employment with Summit County Government.

Elimination Period—For Disability due to Injury .....	14 days
Elimination Period—For Disability due to Sickness .....	14 days
Gross Weekly Benefit.....	66⅔% of pre-disability weekly earnings
Plan Cost to Employee .....	N/A—Summit County pays in full

## LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

### Insured by Guardian

After 180 days of disability, you may be eligible to receive a monthly benefit of 66⅔% of your eligible earnings up to a maximum of \$6,250 per month, less other income benefits, for up to Social Security Normal Retirement Age (SSNRA). **Maximum Benefit Period:** If you become disabled prior to age 62, benefits are payable to age 65, your Social Security Normal Retirement Age or 3.5 years, whichever is longer. At age 62 (and older), the benefit period will be based on a reduced duration schedule. **Eligibility varies by class, please refer to Guardian certificates of coverage for more information.**

Own Occupation Period .....	The first 24 months of benefit payments from this plan
Elimination Period—For Disability due to Injury .....	180 days
Elimination Period—For Disability due to Sickness .....	180 days
Gross Monthly Benefit .....	66⅔% of salary to a maximum of \$6,250
Plan Cost to Employee .....	N/A—Summit County pays in full



# RETIREMENT PROGRAMS

## CRISP

Summit County Government does not participate in Social Security. The County Retirement Income Security Program (CRISP) is Summit County's Social Security replacement plan and a 401a program. The CRISP Social Security replacement plan is 100% Employer Funded.

Regular full-time and regular part-time Summit County Government employees are not subject to Social Security deductions. The County will make a contribution based on 13.45% of your base salary, 11.4% of which will be placed in a retirement account that allows for self-direction into your choice of many investment options. You can monitor and change your account by phone or on the CRISP website. The remaining contribution of 2.05% provides life insurance, long term disability coverage, and coverage for accidental death & dismemberment.

Period of Service	% Of Account Vested
Less than 6 months	0%
6 months up to 1 year	50%
1 year up to 2 year	67.5%
2 years up to 3 years	75%
3 years up to 4 years	87.5%
4 years and over	100%

*Under certain situations, CRISP distributions are available at age 55 without penalty.*

## COLORADO RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (CRA) 401(A) (FORMERLY CCOERA)

All regular full-time and regular part-time Summit County employees have a mandatory participation in the Colorado Retirement Association (CRA) retirement program after one year of continuous employment. The employee has a mandatory contribution of 3% of their base salary, which is matched by the County (3%). Contributions are pre-tax; taxes are due upon withdrawal. This retirement investment is also self-directed into your choice of a wide variety of funds.

AFTER COMPLETION OF:	% OF ACCOUNT VESTED
1 year of employment.....	20%
2 years of employment.....	40%
3 years of employment.....	60%
4 years of employment.....	80%
5 years of employment.....	100%

### CRA 457(B) Deferred Compensation Plan (Employer Funded)

All regular full-time and regular part-time Summit County employees are enrolled in a Summit County Employer Funded CRA 457 deferred compensation plan of .6% that starts at date of hire.

### CRA 457(B) Deferred Compensation Plan (Optional—Employee Funded)

In addition to the previously mentioned retirement plans, there is a CRA 457 Deferred Compensation plan that is a voluntary supplemental retirement savings plan, which is available immediately. The employee decides how much to contribute (specific % or \$ amount) and the contributions can be made pre-tax and/or after-tax (ROTH). Employee decides how to invest those contributions. The 2022 maximum limits are \$20,500, Age 50 or better, \$27,000.



# OTHER BENEFITS

## WELLNESS REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT (WRA)

### Administered by Lucent Health

Wellness Reimbursement Account (WRA) is 100% funded by the County. It is money provided by the County for our employees to help offset out of pocket expenses. The amount the participant is allotted in their WRA is based on participation in the voluntary Health Risk Assessment, biometric screening and well care visit. Additional funds may be awarded by meeting or exceeding the goals for blood pressure, cholesterol, body mass index (BMI), and tobacco/nicotine use. Claims are auto-adjudicated by Lucent.

Amount is based on Health Assessment results:

\$250—\$750 employee per year

\$125—\$375 spouse/domestic partner per year

WRA will reimburse for:

- Deductibles/co-pays
- Qualified non-traditional medicine
- Dental (including major services)
- Vision
- Well care
- Prescription co-pays & OTC Drug expense

## FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS

### Administered by Rocky Mountain Reserve

You can save money on your healthcare and/or dependent day care expenses with an FSA. You set aside funds each pay period on a pretax basis and use them tax-free for qualified expenses. You pay no federal income or Social Security taxes on your contributions to an FSA. (That's where the savings comes in.) Your FSA contributions are deducted from your paycheck before taxes are withheld, so you save on income taxes and have more disposable income. Below are the 2022 IRS contribution limits.

**Note:** Claims reimbursed under the WRA above cannot also be claimed under the FSA.

2022 Healthcare Spending Limit                      \$2,750

2022 Dependent Care Spending Limit              \$5,000

**Note:** Your premium contributions are automatically taken from your payroll on a pre-tax basis. If you prefer to have these deductions taken on a post-tax basis, please notify Human Resources during Open Enrollment.

## EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MINES and Associates is the Plan Administrator for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for Summit County Government. Employees and their household members are eligible for three free confidential counseling sessions per incident per year.



# OTHER BENEFITS

## HOUSING

### Housing

Summit County Government provides long term rental units and short-term transitional subsidized rental unit to employees. Rental may be single-room or full-unit and are subject to availability on a first come, first serve basis. For questions regarding housing please contact the Human Resources Department.

### Down Payment Assistance

All first-time Summit County home buyers who meet regular full-time employment requirements for nine months and are in good standing are eligible for a Down Payment Assistance loan. The lesser of 10% of your purchase price or \$30,000 is available for the purchase of a Summit County home. This program is subject to availability.

## PAID TIME OFF

### Vacation

All regular full-time and regular part-time employees (prorated) are eligible for vacation accrued as follows:

Years of Service	Bi-Weekly Accrual / Annual Accrual	Maximum Accrual
0—3 Years	3.08 hours / 80 hours	120 hours
3—5 Years	4.62 hours / 120 hours	160 hours
5—6 Years	4.92 hours / 128 hours	168 hours
6—7 Years	5.23 hours / 136 hours	176 hours
7—8 Years	5.54 hours / 144 hours	184 hours
8—9 Years	5.85 hours / 152 hours	192 hours
9 or More	6.16 hours / 160 hours	200 hours

### Holiday

Holiday pay on each County observed holiday is limited to eight (8) hours for regular full-time employees. Regular part-time employees' holiday hours are prorated based on their basic work schedule. Both Priority and Non-priority holidays may be retained from year to year (with a maximum limit) and will be paid out at separation.

### Well Time Off

All regular full-time and regular part-time (prorated) employees using ten (10) hours or less sick time in the period January 1—June 30 and/or in the period July 1—December 31 may use eight (8) hours of sick leave as well time off.

### Sick

All regular full-time and regular part-time employees accrue sick time on a per pay period basis. Part-time employees will accrue on a prorated basis. Regular full-time employees accrue at a rate of 3.69 hours per pay period. Regular part-time employees accrue prorated based on their basic work schedule.

### Compensatory time off

Non-exempt employees are eligible for compensatory time off at 1.5 times the hours working in lieu of paid overtime when working over forty (40) hours in a week or eighty (80) hours in a two-week period for the 207(k) eligible employees of the Sheriff's Office.



# EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

## EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BENEFITS

BENEFIT PLAN	PER PAYROLL
Medical/Rx—PPO (Includes Medical, Dental & Vision)	
Employee Only	\$56.78
Employee + Spouse or One Child	\$116.83
Family	\$186.09

BENEFIT PLAN	PER PAYROLL
Dental Rates Only	
Employee Only	\$15.73
Employee + Spouse or One Child	\$26.47
Family	\$40.10
Vision Rates Only	
Employee Only	\$2.81
Employee + Spouse or One Child	\$4.63
Family	\$7.46



# GLOSSARY

**Allowed Amount (Dental):** Maximum amount on which payment is based for covered healthcare services. This may be called “eligible expense”, “payment allowance”, or “negotiated rate”. If your provider charges more than the allowed amount, you may have to pay the difference.

**Beneficiary:** The person entitled to receive benefits under a plan, including the covered employee and his or her dependents.

**Coinsurance:** Once you have met your applicable deductible, you may be required to pay a percentage of your covered healthcare expenses. This percentage of the covered claims amount that is payable by the member (you) is referred to as “coinsurance”.

**Copay:** (also known as “co-pay” or “copayment”): A fixed amount that must be paid up front in order to obtain certain services under your plan.

**Covered Expense(s):** An expense that will be reimbursed according to the terms of the plan or insurance contract.

**Deductible:** The portion of the covered claims amount that the member (you) must pay in full before benefits are payable under the plan. Applies to Plan 2 only.

**Dependent:** Dependents include your lawful spouse, your domestic partner or a dependent child younger than age 26. A “child” also includes a legally adopted child, a stepchild who lives with you, or your partner’s child.

**Elimination Period (in reference to disability insurance plans):** The period of time you must be disabled before benefits are payable.

**Explanation of Benefits (EOB):** The statement sent to a participant in a health plan that lists the services provided, amounts paid by the plan and total amount billed to the patient.

**Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs):** Offered through a Section 125 Cafeteria Plan, FSAs allow employees to have money withheld from their paychecks on a pretax basis to cover qualified medical and dependent care expenses.

**Generic Prescription:** This is your lowest copay prescription option. Generic medications have the same active ingredients, safety, dosage, quality and strength as brand name drugs, but are offered at a lower copay.

**Non-Preferred Brand Name Prescription:** This is your highest copay prescription option. Non-preferred brand drugs typically have a generic alternative available that may be appropriate to treat your condition.

**Open Enrollment:** The period during which you can change your benefit elections without having a qualifying life event. For Summit County, this period is typically in November.

**Out-of-Pocket Expenses or Costs:** The share of health services payments paid by the member (you).

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The maximum amount you are responsible for during the year. Once you have met your out-of-pocket maximum, the plan will pay 100% of your covered expenses. This limits your liability with respect to the amount you pay in the year.



# GLOSSARY

**Partner / Domestic Partner:** The individual, regardless of gender, with whom you have registered using any state or local government domestic partnership or civil union registry or Summit County Government's *Declaration of Domestic Partnership form*. For those who have registered their domestic partnership, there are no requirements for proof of relationship or waiting periods that are not also applied to married couples.

COBRA-like continuation of coverage is available to domestic/civil union partners and their children to the same degree and in the same manner as COBRA coverage is available to spouses and stepchildren.

**Plan Year (For Summit County Government):** January 1 through December 31.

**Preferred Brand Name Prescription:** This is your middle copay prescription option. Preferred brand drugs generally have no generic equivalent.

**Premium:** The set dollar amount you contribute each pay period, through payroll contributions, for coverage on the Summit County Government insurance plan

**Qualifying Life Event:** An occurrence such as marriage/ divorce, death, termination of employment, child birth/ adoption, involuntary loss of coverage, etc., that triggers an eligible employee's ability to make changes to their benefit elections during the plan year.

**Specialty Drugs:** These drugs are best defined by the full range of each product's attributes, rather than solely by cost and route of administration. A specialty drug possesses any number of these common attributes:

- Prescribed for a person with a complex or chronic medical condition, defined as a physical, behavioral, or developmental condition that may have no known cure, is progressive, and/or is debilitating or fatal if left untreated or under-treated;
- Treats rare or orphan disease indications;
- Requires additional patient education, adherence, and support beyond traditional dispensing activities;
- Is an oral, injectable, inhalable, or infusible drug product;
- Has a high monthly cost;
- Has unique storage or shipment requirements, such as refrigeration; and
- Is not stocked at a majority of retail pharmacies.

**Spouse:** The individual, regardless of gender, whom you are legally married.

**Tertiary (tərSHĕ erĕ) Care:** Highly specialized medical care usually over an extended period of time that involves advanced and complex procedures and treatments performed by medical specialists in state-of-the-art facilities.

The County plans require pre-certification to use either University Hospital—Denver, or Children's Hospital—Denver. These hospitals should be reserved for Tertiary care services ONLY. Examples of Tertiary Care include (but are not limited to):

- Complex Cancer Management
- Complex Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Open Heart Surgery
- Complex Maxillofacial Surgery
- Hyperbaric Treatments
- Intensive Inpatient Mental Health
- Complex Medically Necessary Plastic Surgery
- Treatment for Severe Burns
- Complex Neonatology Services
- Organ Transplantation
- Complex Lung Diseases
- Trauma Surgery
- Complex Growth and Puberty Disorders
- Other complex cases where EPO/Tier 1 facilities and providers are deemed, through the pre-certification process, as unable to provide necessary medical treatment

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## Patient Protections Disclosure

The Summit County Government medical plan generally allows the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact Lucent at [www.lucenthealth.com/cypress](http://www.lucenthealth.com/cypress) or 877-236-0844.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

You do not need prior authorization from Lucent or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Lucent at [www.lucenthealth.com/cypress](http://www.lucenthealth.com/cypress) or 877-236-0844.

## Women's Health & Cancer Rights Act

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 ("WHCRA"). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under the plan. Therefore, the following deductibles and coinsurance apply:

Tier 1: Deductible: N/A; 80%/20% to \$4,000/\$8,000 Out-of-Pocket Maximum  
Tier 2: \$2,500/\$5,000; 70%/30% to \$5,000/\$10,000 Out-of-Pocket Maximum

If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, please call your Plan Administrator at Summit County at [humanresources@summitcountyco.com](mailto:humanresources@summitcountyco.com) or 970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170.

## Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## Premium Assistance under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial 1-877-KIDS NOW or [www.insurekidsnow.gov](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov) to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at [www.askebsa.dol.gov](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov) or call 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of October 15, 2021. Contact your State for more information on eligibility.

<b>ALABAMA – Medicaid</b>  Website: <a href="http://myalhipp.com/">http://myalhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-692-5447	<b>CALIFORNIA –Medicaid</b>  Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a> Phone: 916-445-8322 Email: <a href="mailto:hipp@dhcs.ca.gov">hipp@dhcs.ca.gov</a>
<b>ALASKA – Medicaid</b>  The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a> Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx">http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx</a>	<b>COLORADO – Medicaid &amp; CHP+</b>  Health First Colorado Website: <a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/</a> Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711 CHP+: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus</a> CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program</a> HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442
<b>ARKANSAS – Medicaid</b>  Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	<b>FLORIDA – Medicaid</b>  Website: <a href="https://flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html">https://flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html</a> Phone: 1-877-357-3268
<b>GEORGIA – Medicaid</b>  Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp</a> Phone: 678-564-1162 ext 2131	<b>MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</b>  Website: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-premium-assistance-pa">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-premium-assistance-pa</a> Phone: (800) 862-4840

# ANNUAL NOTICES

<b>INDIANA – Medicaid</b> Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/hipp/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/hipp/</a> Phone: 1-(877) 438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a>	<b>MINNESOTA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp">http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp</a> Phone: (800) 657-3739
<b>IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)</b> Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members">http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-(800) 338-8366 Hawki Website: <a href="http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki">http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki</a> Hawki Phone: 1-(800) 257-8563 HIPP Website: <a href="https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp">https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp</a> HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	<b>MISSOURI – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</a> Phone: (573) 751-2005
<b>KANSAS – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="https://www.kancare.ks.gov/">https://www.kancare.ks.gov/</a> Phone: (800) 792-4884	<b>MONTANA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP">http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP</a> Phone: (800) 694-3084
<b>KENTUCKY– Medicaid</b> Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: <a href="mailto:KIHIPPI.PROGRAM@ky.gov">KIHIPPI.PROGRAM@ky.gov</a> KCHIP Website: <a href="https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx">https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov">https://chfs.ky.gov</a>	<b>NEBRASKA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a> Phone: (855) 632-7633 Lincoln: (402) 473-7000 Omaha: (402) 595-1178
<b>LOUISIANA - Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.la.gov">www.medicaid.la.gov</a> or <a href="http://www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp">www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp</a> Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488(LaHIPP)	<b>NEVADA – Medicaid</b> Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dhcfp.nv.gov">http://dhcfp.nv.gov</a> Medicaid Phone: (800) 992-0900
<b>MAINE – Medicaid</b> Enrollment Website: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</a> Phone: (800) 442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</a> Phone: (800) 977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oi/hipp.htm">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oi/hipp.htm</a> Phone: (603) 271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: (800) 852-3345 ext. 5218
<b>NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP</b> Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/">http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</a> Medicaid Phone: (609) 631-2392 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html">http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</a> CHIP Phone: (800) 701-0710	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a> Phone: (888) 828-0059
<b>NEW YORK – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/">http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a> Phone: (800) 541-2831	<b>TEXAS – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://gethipptexas.com/">http://gethipptexas.com/</a> Phone: (800) 440-0493

# ANNUAL NOTICES

<b>NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/">http://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/</a> Phone: (919) 855-4100	<b>UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP</b> Medicaid Website: <a href="http://medicaid.utah.gov/">http://medicaid.utah.gov/</a> CHIP Website: <a href="http://health.utah.gov/chip">http://health.utah.gov/chip</a>
<b>NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/">http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</a> Phone: (844) 854-4825	<b>VERMONT - Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.greenmountaincare.org/">http://www.greenmountaincare.org/</a> Phone: (800) 250-8427
<b>OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP</b> Website: <a href="http://www.insureoklahoma.org">http://www.insureoklahoma.org</a> Phone: (888) 365-3742	<b>VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b> Website: <a href="https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp">https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp</a> <a href="https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select">https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select</a> Medicaid Phone: (800) 432-5924
<b>OREGON – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> <a href="http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html">http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html</a>	<b>WASHINGTON – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/">https://www.hca.wa.gov/</a> Phone: (800) 562-3022
<b>PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Medical/HIPP-Program.aspx">http://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Medical/HIPP-Program.aspx</a>	<b>WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://mywvhipp.com/">http://mywvhipp.com/</a> Phone: (855)-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
<b>RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP</b> Website: <a href="http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/">http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/</a> Phone: (855) 697-4347, or (401) 462-0311 (Direct Rite Share Line)	<b>WISCONSIN – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm</a> Phone: (800) 362-3002
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="http://www.scdhhs.gov">http://www.scdhhs.gov</a> Phone: (888) 549-0820	<b>WYOMING – Medicaid</b> Website: <a href="https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/">https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/</a>

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2020, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa)  
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
[www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov)  
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

## Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email [ebsa.opr@dol.gov](mailto:ebsa.opr@dol.gov) and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

SUMMIT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## HIPAA notice of Privacy Practices Reminder

### Protecting Your Health Information Privacy Rights

Summit County Government is committed to the privacy of your health information. The administrators of the Summit County Government benefit plans (the "Plan") use strict privacy standards to protect your health information from unauthorized use or disclosure.

The Plan's policies protecting your privacy rights and your rights under the law are described in the Plan's Notice of Privacy Practices. You may receive a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting Summit County Government HR department at 970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170 or [HumanResources@summitcountyco.gov](mailto:HumanResources@summitcountyco.gov).

## HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights

### Summit County Government Notice of Your HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights

Our records show that you are eligible to participate in the Summit County Government benefit plans (to actually participate, you must complete enrollment and pay part of the premium through payroll deduction).

A federal law called HIPAA requires that we notify you about an important provision in the plan - your right to enroll in the plan under its "special enrollment provision" if you acquire a new dependent, or if you decline coverage under this plan for yourself or an eligible dependent while other coverage is in effect and later lose that other coverage for certain qualifying reasons.

**Loss of Other Coverage (Excluding Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program).** If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group health plan coverage is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

**Loss of Coverage for Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program.** If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

**New Dependent by Marriage, Birth, Adoption, or Placement for Adoption.** If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your new dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

**Eligibility for Premium Assistance Under Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program –** If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

To request special enrollment or to obtain more information about the plan's special enrollment provisions, contact Summit County Government HR department at 970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170 or [HumanResources@summitcountyco.gov](mailto:HumanResources@summitcountyco.gov).

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## **Notice of Creditable Coverage Important Notice from Summit County Government About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Summit County Government and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

Summit County Government has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the medical plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage.

Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

### **When Can You Join a Medicare Drug Plan?**

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th to December 7th.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

### **What Happens to Your Current Coverage if You Decide to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?**

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current Summit County Government coverage will not be affected. If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current Summit County Government coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back.

### **When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with Summit County Government and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

### **For More Information about This Notice or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...**

Contact the person listed below for further information. NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through Summit County Government changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## For More Information about Your Options under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Date: January 1, 2022  
Name of Entity/Sender: Human Resources  
Summit County Government  
208 E. Lincoln Avenue / P.O. Box 68  
Breckenridge, CO 80424  
Phone: 970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170

**Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).**

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## COBRA General Notice

### Model General Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights

#### \*\* Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA\*\*

#### Introduction

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. **This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it.** When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

**You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage.** For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

**What is COBRA continuation coverage?** COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."

# ANNUAL NOTICES

## **When is COBRA continuation coverage available?**

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

- The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment;
- Death of the employee; or
- The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

**For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to Plan Administrator. Plan contact information:**

Human Resources  
Summit County Government  
208 E. Lincoln Avenue / P.O. Box 68  
Breckenridge, CO 80424  
970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170

## **How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?**

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended:

### ***Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage***

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

### ***Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage***

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

## **Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?**

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at [www.healthcare.gov/](http://www.healthcare.gov/)

## **Can I enroll in Medicare instead of COBRA continuation coverage after my group health plan coverage ends?**

In general, if you don't enroll in Medicare Part A or B when you are first eligible because you are still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, you have an 8-month special enrollment period to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of:

- The month after your employment ends; or
- The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

# ANNUAL NOTICES

If you don't enroll in Medicare and elect COBRA continuation coverage instead, you may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and you may have a gap in coverage if you decide you want Part B later. If you elect COBRA continuation coverage and later enroll in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate your continuation coverage.

However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on account of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If you are enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if you are not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you>.

## If you have questions

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa). (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.) For more information about the Marketplace, visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov).

## Keep your Plan informed of address changes

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

## Protecting Your Health Information Privacy Rights

Summit County Government is committed to the privacy of your health information. The administrators of the Summit County Government Health Plan use strict privacy standards to protect your health information from unauthorized use or disclosure. The Plan's policies protecting your privacy rights and your rights under the law are described in the Plan's Notice of Privacy Practices. You may receive a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting:

Human Resources  
Summit County Government  
208 E. Lincoln Avenue / P.O. Box 68  
Breckenridge, CO 80424  
970-453-3405 or 970-668-4170



# CONTACT

If you have specific questions about a benefit plan, please contact the administrator listed below, or the County human resources department.

BENEFIT	ADMINISTRATOR	PHONE	WEBSITE / EMAIL
Medical	Lucent Health	877-236-0844	<a href="http://www.lucenthealth.com/cypress">www.lucenthealth.com/cypress</a>
Prescription Drugs	ElixirRX	800-361-4542	<a href="http://www.elixirsolutions.com">www.elixirsolutions.com</a>
Dental	Delta Dental Plan of Colorado	800-610-0201	<a href="http://www.deltadentalco.com">www.deltadentalco.com</a>
Vision	VSP	800-877-7195	<a href="http://www.vsp.com">www.vsp.com</a>
Employee Assistance Plan (EAP)	MINES & Associates	800-873-7138	<a href="http://www.minesandassociates.com">www.minesandassociates.com</a>
Short-Term Disability	Guardian Life Insurance Company	Life/AD&D and Dependent Life: 800-525-4542 LTD: 800-538-4583	<a href="http://www.guardiananytime.com">www.guardiananytime.com</a>
Life, AD&D—Employee			
Life—Dependents			
Long-Term Disability			
Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) and Wellness Reimbursement Account (WRA)	Rocky Mountain Reserve	888-722-1223	<a href="http://www.rockymountainreserve.com">www.rockymountainreserve.com</a>
Human Resources	Summit County Government	970.453.3450	<a href="http://www.summitcountyco.gov/101/Human-resources">www.summitcountyco.gov/101/Human-resources</a>



*This benefit summary prepared*



**Gallagher**

Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting










# Blue River Open Space & Trails Plan

Adopted  
December 15, 2020



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# Summary of Comments on Blue River Open Space & Trails Plan

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Number: 1	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 2:44:08 PM -07'00'
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Number: 2	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 2:45:10 PM -07'00'
Change to Trail Guidelines			
Number: 3	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 2:45:44 PM -07'00'
Change to Trail Design Standards			
Number: 4	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 2:46:42 PM -07'00'
Delete - these documents, and how to get them, is incorporated into the main text, page 5			
Number: 5	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 2:48:08 PM -07'00'
Delete - This information is already incorporated into Append B. "ROS: does not apply to TOBR,			
Number: 6	Author:	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 5/6/2022 9:09:11 AM
Add appendix "Open Space and Trails Master Plan Map" when final version is ready.			

## Introduction

The Town of Blue River is a small residential community situated in the upper Blue River basin of Summit County, Colorado. The founding fathers of the town, in the 1960's, envisioned a rural neighborhood community of platted subdivisions with access to many outdoor recreation resources including the Goose Pasture Tarn, Blue River, Pennsylvania Creek and adjoining National Forest, to name a few. The Town recognizes that preserving open space and enhancing trail access through the Town and adjoining upper Blue River Basin is critical to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in and around Blue River. This Open Space and Trails Plan (Plan) has been created to provide guidance to the Town Trustees for future open space and trail related priorities and decisions. It is recognized that a balance must be achieved between increased recreation use in the Town and the maintenance of a quality neighborhood community life, and that a major focus on the Plan should provide a means for preserving and improving an interconnected recreational trail network and protection of significant open space areas.

This Plan is intended to promote the retention and improvement of a meaningful, well-conceived open space and trail network to preserve and enhance a community amenity for Town of Blue River residents. The trails outlined in this Plan target non-motorized use, unless otherwise indicated. "Open space" is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the public. This focus is due in part to the Town's mission to support quiet, sustainable recreational use in a natural, mountain residential community. Many of the trails identified in this Plan connect to trails managed by other jurisdictions, primarily Summit County government and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). It is recognized that the Town needs to cooperate with these entities to complete the trail system outlined in this Plan.

This Plan is a master plan, which means that it outlines an idealized open space and trail system that inevitably crosses private property. Private property rights are respected and recognized by the Town, and achieving the vision set forth in this Plan will require cooperation from many private landowners both in and out of Town boundaries. The Town has many strategies at its disposal to foster this cooperation, including the development review process, property acquisition, tax incentives and voluntary easement dedication, to name a few.

In the Town of Blue River, residents and visitors stress the importance of a sustainable coexistence with our environment and an interconnected open space and trail system within Town and adjacent public lands. The Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Plan represents the ideas, both visionary and practical, of Town residents.



## Blue River Open Space and Trails Committee

The Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Plan is based largely on the efforts of the Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Committee (Committee). The Committee was established in the fall of 2018 in conjunction with the recommendations of the Town of Blue River Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). After an extensive public involvement process the CIP identified 19 projects for further evaluation and prioritization using criteria developed and agreed upon by the Town Board and its committees. One of the 19 projects was “Develop Trail Network Study”; with two specific tasks: “1) Breckenridge to Blue River/Fairplay Bike Trail Connection – Participate in a planning study to progress the long-term community vision of completing a local bike path from Breckenridge to Blue River and south to Fairplay over Hoosier Pass; and, 2) Developing Town Trail Network – Conduct trail network planning study for trails through Town with connections to existing trails in the Blue River area including the Flume Trail, East trails and trail to Pennsylvania Gulch.” The mission of the Trails Committee is: *To assist the Board of Trustees with determining possible trail projects mainly geared towards enhancement of existing trails and possible future trails within the Town of Blue River.*

To complete its mission, the Trails Committee reviewed the recorded subdivision plats within the Town of Blue River trails on adjacent National Forest land and known authorized and unauthorized trails and routes used by Town residents and visitors. Over 90 routes were inventoried totaling 9.5 miles.

In the process of inventorying the subdivision plats, it was noted that for many of the recorded subdivision plats “Pedestrian”, “River Access”, “Access Road” and “Private” easements are granted and conveyed “to the owners of the lots thereon” or “to the owners of property in the Town of Blue River” and not to the Town of Blue River. Because of the way the easements are recorded in the plats, the Town of Blue River, as a governmental entity, may not have the authority for use, occupancy, operation, and maintenance of existing easements within subdivisions. Additionally, some social trails across private lots may have implied historic use that has not legally been granted by the landowner. Therefore, it is recommended that in order to develop a comprehensive trail system using existing, as well as new, rights-of-way that the Town acquire new easements where necessary on designated routes to be identified in a trail system plan.

In January 2020, the Committee held an open house to share their trails vision and gather resident feedback for the future of trails in Blue River. Residents identified the concern for maintaining and acquiring open space lands as an important element to include in a comprehensive trails plan. To address this concern the Committee was tasked with including the identification and evaluation of significant open space lands in its planning efforts. Generally, “Open Space” is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the public.

The Plan will be updated regularly to provide desired recreational experiences for a variety of users while addressing environmental and cultural resources, and general maintenance concerns. Currently, Town of Blue River trails will be limited to non-motorized recreational uses to avoid and minimize user conflicts. In addition to Town staff, volunteer projects will be organized for work in


the Town of Blue River. Much efforts assist with necessary maintenance community open space and trails. More specifically this document is intended to:

- 1) Provide a comprehensive plan for public recreational trail network for the Town of Blue River residents.
- 2) Outline a functioning residential access or commuting trail network that connects efficiently with other modes of transportation (e.g. Town roads, Highway 9, and authorized trailhead parking).
- 3) Partner proactively with the USFS on the maintenance of existing trails; rehabilitation, restoration, re-routing or abandonment of unsustainable trails; and the development of new trails on National Forest lands surrounding the Town of Blue River.
- 4) Identify important trail-based recreation opportunities and facilities to enhance recreational opportunities in Town and the surrounding areas.
- 5) Balance trail use and access within residential communities and important open space lands to minimize negative impacts due to increased recreational uses.
- 6) Design and implement a wayfinding and signage program that orients trail users to designated trail and open space lands while respecting private lands and is branded and linked with the Town of Blue River.
- 7) Identify important trail portals and trailheads and access locations to facilitate recreational and commuting uses.
- 8) Identify important open space lands that are Environmental sensitive and contribute to the Town's quality of life and rural mountain character.
- 9) Utilize creative protection techniques to preserve and protect the Town's significant and threatened open spaces.
- 10) Provide public access to cultural and geographic landmarks such as the Blue River, Goose Pasture Tarn and Town Park(s).
- 11) Develop an action implementation schedule that Identifies and prioritizes open space and trails projects on an annual basis.
- 12) Honor and respect private property rights associated with public use on and adjacent to private lands.

This Plan is a targeted document that outlines specific existing and proposed open space and trails resources that the Town would like to secure or create. Broader community goals and directives can be found in the Town of Blue River Comprehensive Master Plan and Capital Improvements Plan, located at <https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/community/committees/blue-river-open-space-trails-committee>. Specific trail construction guidelines are found in Appendix B: Design Standards

## Page: 5

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Incomplete sentence - not needed. Delete

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 Number: 2 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 2:51:12 PM -07'00'  
should be "environmentally" ...

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 Number: 3 Author: psemmer Subject: Highlight Date: 2/26/2021 2:50:49 PM -07'00'

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 Number: 4 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 2:54:11 PM -07'00'  
Change to "Trail Design Standards"


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 Number: 5 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 2:53:25 PM -07'00'  
change to "<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/town-plans>."

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### Recent Accomplishments


- In 2019, the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee collaborated with Friends of the Dillon Ranger District to host Blue River's first Trails Day event. Trail cleanup was conducted off Calle de Plata and a section of the "Flume" Trail.
- An easement was obtained off of Calle de Plata connecting to Fredonia Gulch Rd as one section of trail connection on the south end of Town

<sup>1</sup>In January 2020, the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee held an open hou<sup>2</sup> to share their trails vision and gather resident feedback for the future of trails in Blue River 

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Move this sentence above as a new bullet item

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## Guiding Principles and Policies

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Blue River Trail System will provide safe connectivity to the surrounding towns and areas. The trail design will be consistent with the culture of mission of the Town of Blue River and harmonious with the natural environment. By following approved trail standards and guidelines, keeping constant communication with Town Staff, and using current Forest Service and Summit County trails as an example, the Town of Blue River's trail system can retain the following important qualities:

- Safe public access
- Minimization of user conflicts
- Sustainability
- Quality construction and maintainability
- Effective signage
- A variety of enjoyable experiences for various user types and skill levels

To ensure that these objectives are achieved, the Town will adopt the Town of Blue River Trail Standards to be used during trail construction and maintenance to provide developers, staff, the public, and trail users with a foundation upon which trail work can be performed.

The Town of Blue River Trail Standards (Appendix B) describes the fundamentals of trail design, trail maintenance standards, trail signage standards, slope stabilization and revegetation, and basic definitions of trail terms. When a trail is conceived or planned in the Town of Blue River, several options are available to obtain legal access to the trail, including easements, land exchanges, purchases, and development agreements.

### **TRAIL STANDARDS**

A primary goal for the trail system in the Town of Blue River is to assure sustainability of all existing and proposed trail resources. Sustainability on natural surface routes is defined as the characteristic of a travel surface to support currently planned and future uses with minimal impact to the natural systems of the area. Sustainable routes require little rerouting and minimal maintenance over extended time periods. They have minimal soil loss or movement while allowing the naturally occurring adjacent plant systems to inhabit the area. Sustainable routes also minimize negative effects on wildlife and other natural resources. Proper trail alignment, grading and drainage are necessary to create a sustainable trail.

Sustainable trails minimize the need for ongoing trail maintenance by using construction techniques and materials designed for long term self-sustaining use, and by using on-site materials as much as possible. Appropriate design minimizes or eliminates expensive future maintenance and repairs while establishing an enjoyable trail experience for users.

There are specific sustainability standards that apply to different user groups and their impacts. The U.S. Forest Service, Summit County and adjoining Town of Breckenridge have developed and incorporated many of these accepted standards. In order to provide for continuity of design, maintenance and management of trail resources within the Town and adjoining land jurisdictions. These standards will be referred to in the construction and maintenance for all trails in the Town.

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Chnage to " .... Trail Guidelines (Appendix A) and Trail Design Standards (Appendix B)...."				
	Number: 2	Author: psemmer	Subject: Highlight	Date: 2/26/2021 2:56:10 PM -07'00'

Where the protection of environmental (e.g. wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife habitat. etc.) or historic (e.g. mining structures and artifacts) resources is compromised due to unsustainable route alignment or user behavior, these issues will be addressed through custodial maintenance reroutes or closure of the trail resource.

### **SIGNAGE**

Signs inform trail users of important information about route location, safety considerations, rules/regulations, and education and interpretation. Signs should be carefully designed and installed to inform trail users and avoid “sign pollution,” or an overabundance of signs. Signs should be strategically located, clear, concise, and legible. Signs will be placed at the main trail access points, trail intersections, and other key locations. More heavily traveled routes will be well-signed, while more remote routes will have fewer or no signs to reflect and maintain the backcountry character.

### **TRAIL ACCESS PORTALS**

Numerous trail portals, intersections of trails and roads, provide access to the trails within the Town. Some portals may have managed parking, (e.g. Blue River Park) whereas many portals do not have parking facilities available. Trail access areas in the Town will be evaluated on an ongoing basis to determine appropriate infrastructure requirements such as the need for designated parking areas, trail information kiosks, signs, benches or other public facilities. Signs may include bulletin board/kiosk and access portal signs as well as wayfinding signs. All signage will incorporate a uniform design and provide applicable information and regulations. Access portal signs may identify route names or identification label and permissible uses. Where trails provide access to adjoining land management jurisdictions (U.S. Forest Service, Summit County and Town of Breckenridge) consideration will be given contiguity of permissible uses and trail management direction.

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The successful management of the Town of Blue River trails system depends upon mutual respect among the various user groups, and communal respect for the invaluable environmental and cultural resources being protected for the benefit of all current and future residents and visitors. The adjacent trail resources in Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge are governed by the Rules and Regulations for County Open Space Properties reviewed by the Breckenridge Town Council and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 2007 and as amended. The Forest Service rules and regulations and area-specific Forest Supervisor Orders apply on the National Forest Lands. It is recommended that the Town of Blue River incorporate these two sets of regulations to create consistent and enforceable rules for its trails and across jurisdictional boundaries.

A person may ride a Class 1 or Class 2 electric assisted bicycle on the paved portions of the Town of Blue River trail system and on the roads within Town. “Class 1 electric assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour. “Class 2 electric assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance regardless of whether the rider is pedaling but ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.

Trail user education is preferred as the most efficient method of obtaining compliance to regulations.

## GOALS, POLICIES, ACTIONS

### Goal A. Develop, maintain and improve trail access and quality recreation opportunities.

- Policy/Action 1. Provide diverse year-round non-motorized trail recreation opportunities.
- Policy/Action 2. Identify and manage trails that provide appropriate recreational experiences while protecting the area's natural and historic resources as well as minimizing user conflicts.
- Policy/Action 3. Secure easements, property interest, or other agreements and authorizations to retain and enhance public recreational access to existing and proposed routes and trailheads.
- Policy/Action 4. Design and build trail portals to address desired trail uses, volume of use and the long and short-term capacity of the resource.

### Goal B. Plan and provide for the sustainable maintenance of trails and trail portals.

- Policy/Action 1. Close and restore user created routes that are not part of the identified travel system.
- Policy/Action 2. Use trail design and construction standards that incorporate sustainability guidelines.

### Goal C. Manage the travel system in cooperation with other public and private entities.

- Policy/Action 1. Create and expand public/private partnerships, including "Adopt-a-Trail" programs.
- Policy/Action 2. Work to minimize existing and potential conflicts between property owners and recreational users.

### Goal D. Provide public information to promote stewardship and appropriate recreational use.

- Policy/Action 1. Install signage at trailheads/portals with appropriate information.
- Policy/Action 2. Post pertinent information to encourage sustainable resource use and facilitate law enforcement.
- Policy/Action 3. Continue to work cooperatively to make Town regulations consistent and enforceable across jurisdictional boundaries, including USFS Supervisor's Order or other mechanisms.
- Policy/Action 4. Provide accurate information about trails and access points to social media and publishers of trail guides and maps.

### Goal E. Develop, maintain and improve travel signage.

- Policy/Action 1. Provide uniform signage to direct users to appropriate recreational opportunities.
- Policy/Action 2. Incorporate Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly messages on signs to educate users on rules and codes of conduct.
- Policy/Action 3. Install directional signage at trail intersections identifying routes and allowed uses.




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change to "... long- and short-term..."

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Add goal dealing with Open Space (12/10/21)

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## Trail Park and Open Space Lands



Photo credit: James Quigley, Louise Placer



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Change to "Town"



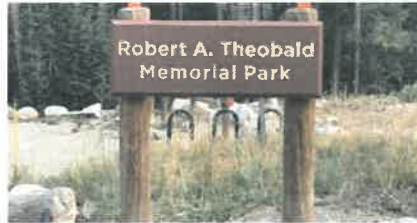
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## Town Park

In, 2012 with the assistance of a grant from the Greater Outdoors Colorado fund, and a land donation from the Theobald Family, the Town of Blue constructed the Robert A. Theobald Memorial Park. The park was designed with the Town's natural environment in mind. It includes several youth playground features, a small trail system and interpretive signs to provide education of the natural features found within the park. The Town and Open Space & Trails Committee will continue to enhance features and activities for families and visitors to Town.



## Open Space Lands

The Town of Blue River and the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee seeks to preserve and enhance the serene mountain environment within the Town of Blue River. With this mission in mind, it is desired, when possible, to acquire land for this purpose. Open space land is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the residents and visitors in the Town of Blue River.

The Town of Blue River owns several parcels of land that are protected and managed to preserve and maintain wildlife habitat, the rural mountain character, unique natural areas and high quality of life for all. Current areas include Town owned land south of the Goose Pasture Tarn, wetland areas in the Timberline Subdivision and New Eldorado Subdivision.

This Plan recognizes the importance of living with wildlife and preserving environmentally sensitive areas and encourages utilizing creative protection techniques to preserve and protect the Town's significant and threatened open spaces. The Open Space and Trails Plan focuses on lands that most contribute to the Town's quality of life and rural mountain character, including those with the following characteristics, in no particular order:

**Access:** Lands that provide trailheads or public access to recreation areas on National Forest and other significant properties.

**Buffers:** Natural and undeveloped lands which separate and buffer the impacts of development, define the boundaries of urbanized areas and contribute to the rural mountain quality of the Town.

**Extensions:** Land adjacent to publicly held property which meets open space criteria guidelines and which can combine with other open space properties to enlarge and / or connect existing open space parcels.

**Recreational:** Lands with significant recreational value, particularly non-motorized passive uses not requiring intensive maintenance or management; including lands or easements providing for public use of existing and proposed trails.

**Unique Lands:** Lands possessing unique values such as outstanding (but not necessarily generally visible) scenic quality, rare flora, riparian quality, wetlands, critical wildlife habitat, fragile alpine areas, or unusual geologic, or topographical formations.

**View Corridors:** Lands with high aesthetic appeal and variety within major view sheds, whose lands are generally visible, apparent, and appreciated by residents and visitors and through preservation will maintain the rural mountain appearance of Summit County.

The Committee recognizes that one of the challenges when protecting open space lands is finding the most appropriate methods of protection. It is important to satisfy both the Town's desire to protect land for open space values and landowners' desires for use of their property. Due to the limited financial resources available for direct purchase of open space lands, and the current market value of property within the Town of Blue River, it is not feasible for the Town to purchase every desirable open space parcel. It is therefore critical to use a variety of protection/acquisition measures and allow open space funds to be spent in the most cost-effective manner. The recommended approaches to land protection include partnerships with likeminded organizations, conservation easements, regulatory techniques, potential transfer of development rights, access easements, land exchanges and fee simple ownership. These and other measures will be explored on a case by case basis as significant open space lands are identified and determined to be suitable for further analysis.

## Trail Planning Areas

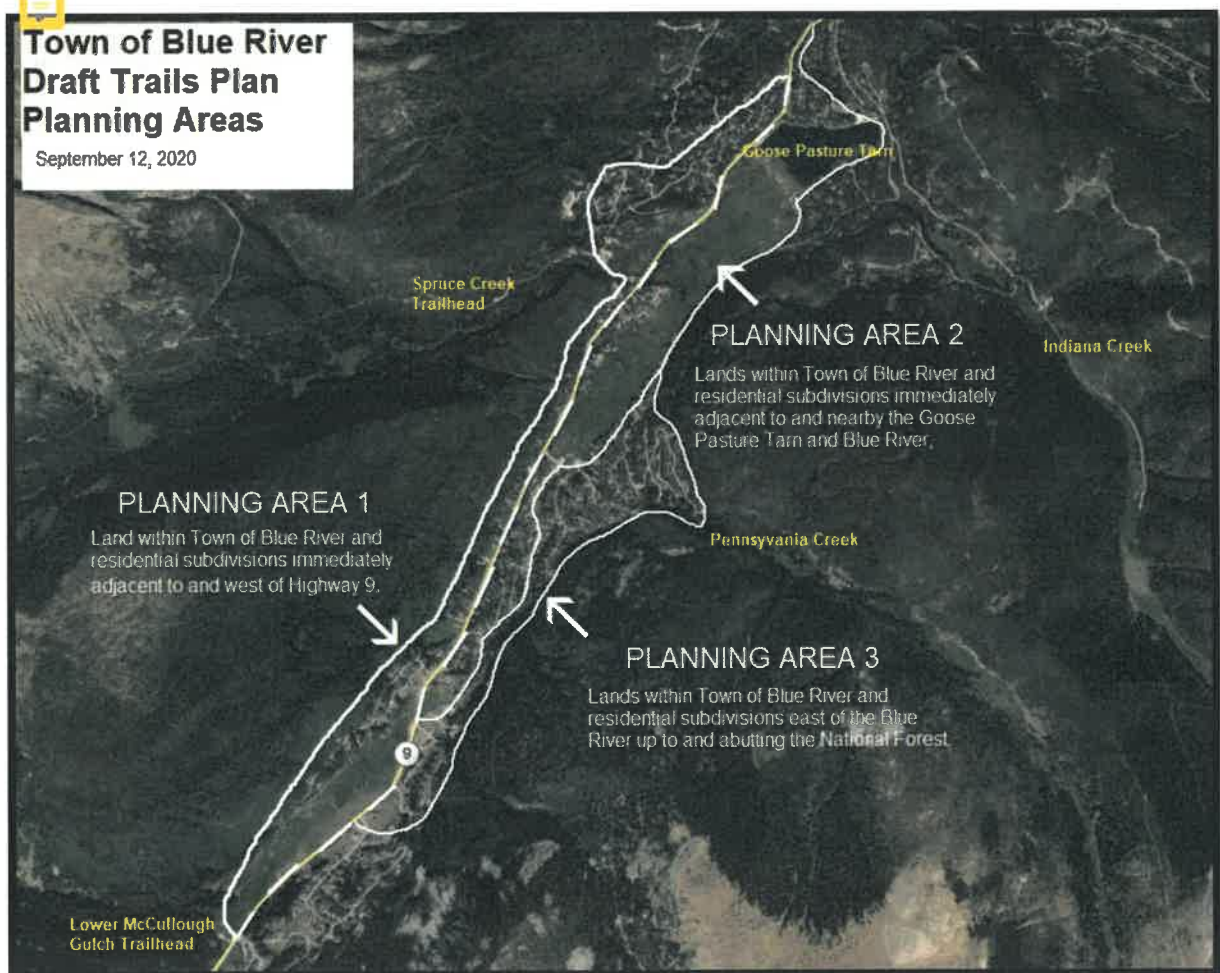
The scope for this Plan includes the entire Town of Blue River and where appropriate adjacent lands outside the town limits. To better describe the various trails and routes in the area, the Plan is divided into three planning areas within and around the Town of Blue River (see Figure 1 “Planning Area Vicinity Map”). including:

**Planning Area 1 West** – Highway 9 corridor, subdivisions west of Highway 9 and adjacent National Forest land




**Planning Area 2 - Center** – Blue River corridor, subdivisions immediately adjacent to the Blue River; and Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision,

**Planning Area 3 – East** – subdivisions east of the Blue River and abutting National Forest lands.

Along with goals and objectives for the entire Open Space and Trails Plan, noted in the previous section of this document, there are specific goals and recommendations for each planning area. The specific recommendations reflect actions that can be taken to achieve that planning area’s goals.



## Page: 13

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	Number: 3	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 3:01:56 PM -07'00'
Map needs to include Spruce Valley Ranch in Planning Area 2. Also, Town should consider hiring a professional map maker to produce a more readable, user friendly version,				

## **Planning Area 1: West -Highway 9 corridor. subdivisions west of Highway 9 and adjacent National Forest land**

Planning Zone 1 encompasses residential subdivisions within Town limits west of Highway 9. The subdivisions include Crown, Bryce Estates, Leap Year, Sunnyslope, 97 Circle, and McCullough Reserve, and Timber Valley subdivisions. . There are two trailheads outside the Town limits of Blue River including the USFS Spruce Creek Trailhead and Lower McCullough Gulch Trailhead.

### **Goals for Planning Area 1**

- a. The Blue River corridor at the southern end of the planning area is relatively undisturbed and is an important wildlife/waterfowl area. Do not encourage use nor future trail development along the river corridor in this area.
- b. Work cooperatively with Summit County, USFS and McCullough Gulch Reserve to maintain the trail connection from Rio Azul Road to the Lower McCullough Gulch Trail on National Forest land.
- c. Continue to work cooperatively with CDOT, the Town of Breckenridge, Summit County, the USFS and other partners to complete a grade-separated recpath from the junction of Boreas Pass road and Highway 9 to Hoosier Pass.
- d. With the exception of the Lower McCullough Gulch Trail there are no designated trails on National Forest lands west of Hwy 9 and immediately adjacent to the Town of Blue River. Work cooperatively with the USFS on any updates to the White River National Forest travel management plan that may propose new trails in the future.
- e. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, within subdivisions that allow for single-track non-motorized travel to connect subdivisions and provide access to established trails and open space/parks.
- f. Work cooperatively with the USFS to identify, for future construction, potential non-motorized single-track routes to connect travel routes in the Town with the Spruce Creek Trail and Burro Trail on National Forest land.

## **Planning Area 2: Center – Blue River corridor, subdivisions immediately adjacent to the Blue River; and Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision,**

Planning Area 2 encompasses land within Blue River town limits, and residential neighborhoods immediately adjacent to and nearby the Goose Pasture Tarn and Blue River; including, Spillway and Rivershore, Blue Rock Springs, Spruce Valley Ranch, '96 (western portion), Mountain View (west of Mountain View Road), Sherwood Forest, and New Eldorado (abutting the Blue River) subdivisions. Currently, there are no formal trailheads inside the Town of Blue River in the planning area. At the north end of Blue River Road, on National Forest land, is an informal parking area to access the Blue River Trail and social trail along the Blue River.

### **Goals for Planning Area 2**

- a. The Blue River corridor and Goose Pasture Tarn is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex through the planning area and is important wildlife/waterfowl habitat. Do not encourage use nor future trail development along the river corridor in this area.

- b. The terrain is very steep on eastern portion of the river in the Planning Area, making it difficult to build sustainable trails.
- c. Wayfinding/signage is needed in the area on a site-specific basis in cooperation with landowners.
- d. Work cooperatively with landowners to consider putting undevelopable land along the Blue River in conservation easement status.
- e. Identify and explore easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, from the end of Blue River Road to the Goose Pasture Tarn that allow for single track non-motorized travel.
- f. Maintain public access along the Blue River Trail from the Town of Blue River to Breckenridge along established easements in Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision.
- g. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, within Blue Rock Springs subdivision that allow for single-track, non-motorized travel to connect subdivisions and provide access to established trails and open space/parks.
- h. Work with the USFS to obtain a legal right-of-way granted to the Town of Blue River for the northern portion of Blue River Road that is located on National Forest lands.

### **Planning Area 3- East - Subdivisions East of the Blue River Adjacent To National Forest Lands**


Planning Area 3 encompasses land within Blue River town limits, and residential neighborhoods east of the Blue River up to and abutting the National Forest; including, '96 (eastern portion), Mountain View (east of Mountain View Road), Wilderness, Royal, Coronet, New Eldorado (east of Blue River), Aspen View and Timber Creek Estates subdivisions. There is a formal trailhead on land owned by Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge, known as the "Royal Placer" at the end of the Coronet Drive for 4-6 cars.

#### **Goals for Planning Area 3**


- a. Identify and explore easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, from the end of Calle De Plata to the Fredonia Gulch Road that allow for single track non-motorized travel and provide access to established Forest Service trails and roads.
- b. The Pennsylvania Creek corridor itself is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex through the central portion of the planning area and is important wildlife habitat. This must be considered in planning, design, and construction of any trails along the creek.
- c. Work with USFS on the Old Wagon Road trail that goes from Blue River Road to Coronet Drive to re-route trail to meet sustainability standards for mountain bike use and connect to Blue River Trail Extension at Royal Placer, via Coronet Drive and Holly Lane.
- d. Wayfinding/signage is needed in the area on a site-specific basis after coordination with landowners affected by the proposed improvements.



- e. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, that connect the Town Park and Old Wagon Road north of Coronet Drive with the Blue River Trail on Summit County/Town of Breckenridge lands near Pennsylvania Creek.
- f. Cooperate with landowners to secure appropriate right-of-way across lots along the Blue River Trail from Pennsylvania Creek to Calle De Plata.
- g. Work with Summit County/Town of Breckenridge on the design and construction of an improved parking plan for the trailhead at the end of Coronet Drive and access to Pennsylvania Creek Road.

Work with Summit County/Town of Breckenridge and USFS to evaluate the socially created trail network that is located immediately east of the trailhead at the end of Coronet Drive and north of Pennsylvania Creek Road. 

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This sentence should be included as a bullet item in the above list.

## Implementation Strategy

### 2 to 5 year Planning Period

Focus on securing a legal and sustainable route along the Blue River Trail (FDT606.1) corridor in Planning Area 3. Several trail segments need further work in obtaining easements, as well as access from Regal Circle near Town Park to the Blue River Trail segment on Town of Breckenridge and Summit County land in the Royal Placer. Continue to Identify and explore acquiring easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, between and within subdivision that allow for single track non-motorized travel and provide access to established trails and open space/parks within Town and onto National Forest lands.

Inventory and evaluate significant and threatened open space lands for protection of wildlife habitat and preserving environmentally sensitive areas. Partner with like-minded agencies to acquire high priority open space lands, including access to the Blue River Trail in Planning Area 2.

### 3 to 5 year Planning Period

Evaluate open space lands in Planning Area 2 that might be considered for conservation of the river corridor with the understanding that residents might access this area for fishing and enjoying the natural environment. Some more immediate consideration might be given to extending a pathway for multi-modal transportation access for residents in Blue Rock Springs Subdivision to access the Blue River Road, These residents would benefit from a pedestrian easement along Hwy 9 on private property to access the Summit Stage and / or the local trail network being developed along the Blue River Trail. Public outreach to determine willingness to participate in the Town's trail easement "donation program" should be investigated in the near term.

### 5+ year Planning Period

Planning Area 1 includes Highway 9 and the general alignment of the proposed future Hoosier Pass Rec Path. Residents on both sides of the highway would benefit from safe passage across Hwy 9 to access existing and future trail routes. Future discussions are needed as the Town does not have control over Hwy 9 speed limits or cross walks.





## Appendix A

### Trail Design




Where new trails are constructed on provided easements, substantial altering of the existing grade of the property will be prohibited. The new trails will be required to be consistent with the existing topography. Trails will be designed to minimize impact on the natural environment and will be designed according to Forest Service Standards. See Appendix B.







### Design Objectives

The Blue River Trail System will provide safe connectivity to the surrounding towns and areas. The trail design will be consistent with the culture of mission of the Town of Blue River and harmonious with the natural environment.

- Safety will be the top priority. Where possible, trails will remain off major roads and avoid use of Highway 9.
- The trails will be used by hikers, bicyclists, horses and skiers of varying abilities. Access for the physically handicapped will be provided, whenever possible.
- Design will be conducted to minimize impacts on the natural environment.
- The design will be sensitive to the area's preservation/restoration.
- Trails will provide connectivity through Town connecting to the Forest Service and Town of Blue River trails.
- Trails will be for year round use. Limitations may be put into place during "mud" seasons to limit damage and erosion.
- A detailed trail vision map will be created and referenced when determining connections. Alternatives will be explored where necessary.
- Trails shall be designed to minimize future maintenance.
- When possible trails should be planned, designed and constructed to match trail standards with the U.S. Forest Service.
- Signage shall be conforming to U.S. Forest Service standards. Signage shall be provided when entering private property restricting access to the trail.
- Trails will not be maintained in the winter.  Winter use will be limited to cross-country skiing and restricted to established trails. 

### Trail Alignment

- Trails should consider comfort, safety, enjoyment, minimal maintenance, environmental impacts for year round use. Where possible trails should be constructed with a grade of 10% or less within the Town of Blue River.
- Trails should consider sight distances, noting narrow sections, intersections, hills and curves.
- Trails should, where possible, follow the natural terrain minimizing the need for cuts into hillsides and erosion. 
- Trails should minimize the impacts to  habitat  avoid wetland areas.

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Whole document needs formatting to highlight sections, sub-sections, etc.				
	Number: 2	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 3:14:24 PM -07'00'
Both Appendix A and B are copied from the Town of Breckenridge trail planning documents. However, in the process of "cut and paste" into these appendices excerpts from the TOB plan are taken out of context and are confusing. Recommend revising both appendix A and B to contain the entire text of the TOB documents, where applicable to the TOBR.				
	Number: 3	Author: psemmer	Subject: Highlight	Date: 2/26/2021 3:15:17 PM -07'00'
	Number: 4	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 3:16:41 PM -07'00'
Why "limited to . . ." there are many other winter uses that may be permissible. Delete this sentence.				
	Number: 5	Author: psemmer	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 2/26/2021 3:17:27 PM -07'00'
"habitat" for what? Change to ",,,adjacent natural environment, wildlife habitat and avoid wetland areas.""				
	Number: 6	Author: psemmer	Subject: Highlight	Date: 2/26/2021 3:16:57 PM -07'00'

- Bridges shall be constructed with natural materials and be sustainable minimizing maintenance needs.
- Alignment should be located away from tree trunks and at the edge of heavily wooded areas to minimize vegetative clearing and tread damage from roots.
- Easements shall be placed according to owner's wishes to minimize impacts to individual lots.



## Appendix B

### Design Standards



*\*It is noted that the design standards are in alignment with and have been adopted from the Breckenridge Open Space and Trails to provide consistency.*

#### Trail Corridor

The trail corridor is the cleared area above and on either side of the tread needed to accommodate the trail and its users. It varies in size depending on the type of trail and trail use and requires clearing and limbing, grading of adjacent slopes, drainage structures, and revegetation.

#### Trail Prism






The trail prism is the cleared area necessary for safe use of the trail. To create the prism, an opening needs to be cleared through trees and shrubs. Tree trunks, projecting rock ledges, limbs, logs and brush should be removed for a minimum distance on both sides of the tread and a minimum height above the trail. The exact distances for the vertical and horizontal clearance will vary based on a trail type, width, use, etc. The opening created by this clearing should not be apparent to users, hence vegetation should be pruned selectively and irregularly to make the prism look as natural as possible. Do not disturb the natural environment outside of the trail corridor. When small trees and bushes are within the tread, do not cut them flush with the ground. Dig them out, including the roots, to avoid future erosion around them that would cause greater trail damage. When trimming branches do not cut the branch flush with the trunk. Leaving a branch nub will help the cut heal more quickly. Place felled trees and cut branches at least 10 feet from the corridor with the cut end pointing away from the trail.

A trail corridor should be at least twice as wide as the tread width. This can vary with terrain and the type of user the trail is designated. Vertical and horizontal clearance standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types (Section IV, J, pages 31-34).  

#### Sightlines

To reduce the potential for collisions or accidents, the trail user should be able to safely and clearly observe the trail ahead and upcoming intersections or obstacles. When determining sightline, the speed of the trail user will lengthen or shorten the distance required for proper reaction time to occur. In conjunction with sightline, grade should be considered. When possible, curves, stops and reduced speed zones should be on a flat grade with an adequate sightline. If a curve is required on a grade, a longer sightline should be designed. When sightlines cannot be an adequate length, a slow sign should be considered.

Design Speed	Sight Distance
20 mph	130-200'
15 mph	85-130'

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- Whole document needs formatting to highlight sections, sub-sections, etc.
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-  Number: 2 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 3:18:55 PM -07'00'
- 
- Both Appendix A and B are copied from the Town of Breckenridge trail planning documents. However, in the process of "cut and paste" into these appendices excerpts from the TOB plan are taken out of context and are confusing. Recommend revising both appendix A and B to contain the entire text of the TOB documents, where applicable to the TOBR.
- 
-  Number: 3 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 3:26:11 PM -07'00'
- 
- Section IV.J., pages 31-34 refers to the Town of Breckenridge Trails Standards and a section entitled "Trail Designations" which is not included in this document and it should be. Why is it referenced if it does not exist? Cut and paste from the TOB document to include the material here.
- 
-  Number: 4 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 3:24:52 PM -07'00'
- 
- This does not mean anything if there is no Section IV, L, pages 31-34 in this document. Delete it or reference the appropriate page in the document. Again - document needs formatting to make it easier to reference subject areas.
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-  Number: 5 Author: psemmer Subject: Highlight Date: 2/26/2021 3:19:51 PM -07'00'
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10 mph	35-60'

Above are some guidelines to use when determining sight distance, exceptions may be required for certain sections of trails. Source: Pitkin, 1994.

### Adjacent Slopes

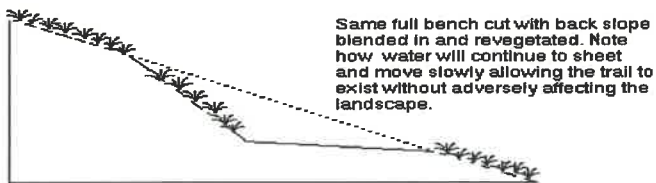
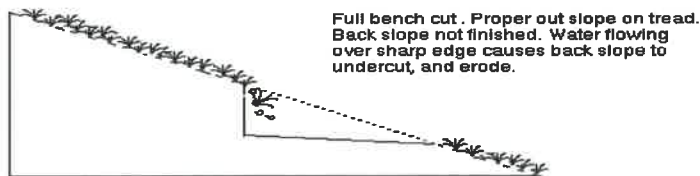
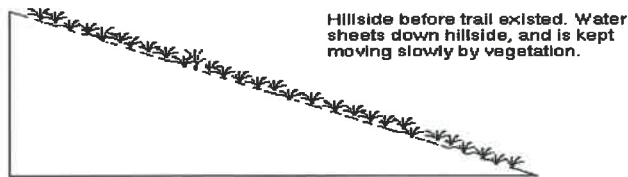
Ideally, all trails would be constructed using full-bench construction techniques (see illustration). The process of removing soil from one area and placing it somewhere else to form a base for any given activity is called cut and fill. To create a uniform trail, this technique is recommended over hauling in material from an outside location, although both are less preferable than full bench construction. Any cut and fill slopes adjacent to the tread should not exceed two horizontal to one vertical unless Town staff determines soils are of qualities that justify the stability of a steeper slope. On slopes above 30%, retaining measures (e.g. walls) may be necessary to avoid excessive disturbance created by extreme cut and fill slopes. Most cut and fill slopes should be revegetated. (See the "slope stabilization, revegetation and landscaping" and "retaining walls" sections for details on dealing with adjacent slopes.)

### Width

The width of the tread will vary depending on the type of trail, type of user, number of users and steepness of slope being traversed. Generally, equestrians require wider treads than hikers and mountain bikers. On steeper slopes (generally 30% or greater), construction at the minimum tread width may be necessary to reduce the impact of cut and fill slopes and construction costs. For wheelchair use, 5-foot tread width will allow two wheelchairs to pass one other. Width standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types.

Full bench construction is preferred over half bench or other construction techniques because it avoids long-term settlement and other stability issues.

### Full Bench Construction



### Grade

The proper grading on a trail is essential for maximum use and minimum maintenance. A grade that is too steep may deter trail use and will provide an easy path for water to flow. An increase in water on the trail creates an opportunity for erosion and trail damage.

Grade is determined with the formula  $\text{rise/run} \times 100$  (See illustration). In general, a 10% average or less for the entire trail is the most sustainable.

Run=20'

Rise=2'

Grade= $2/20 \times 100=10\%$

Details on grade are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types. However, some general guidelines when determining trail grade include:

- When trying to gain a lot of elevation, use shorter, steeper gradients, broken up by more gradual (resting) sections of trail as opposed to long even gradients, which are more tiring to the user and tend to collect and carry water. If a sustained elevation gain is necessary, (i.e., over 200 feet), every effort should be made to keep it below 6% for hard surface pathways and soft surface trails and 8% for natural and rough trails. Use the chart below for more guidelines on the size of the grade for the length of trail.
- Where shorter, steeper grades are used to break up a long, sustained pitch, it should be recognized that soft surface, natural, and rough trails with grades above 10% are more prone to erosion, especially when they exceed 15%. Maintenance and sustainability of these trail types are easiest when grades are below 10%.

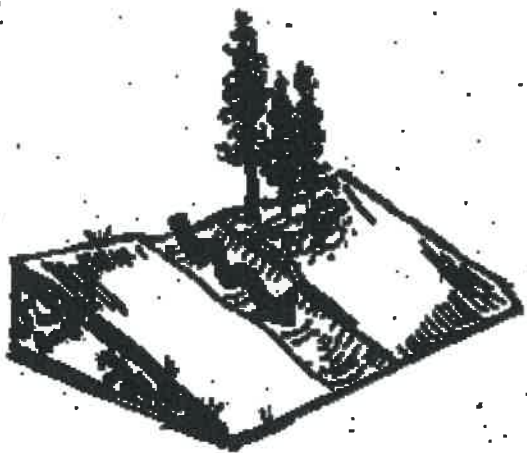
- Avoid the fall line. A trail along the fall line will become an easy path for water to flow creating significant environmental damage from erosion.
- Where possible, avoid trails constructed in flat topography as they do not facilitate effective drainage and present the possibility for the trail to retain water.
- Climbing turns and switchbacks are curves in the trail that reverse the direction of travel. They may be needed to reduce grade when gaining elevation. Climbing turns are wide, ascending curves that work only on gentle to medium slopes of less than 20%. They are preferred over switchbacks because they are easier to construct and use. A switchback is a sharp, short radius curve that should be used as a last resort on hillsides where the working area is limited and slopes are greater than 20%. Switchbacks are difficult to construct, require continual maintenance, do not always accommodate mountain bikes, and are a challenge to manage because users may shortcut the turn.

This chart provides some guidelines to use when determine the length of the trail on certain grades; exceptions may be required for certain sections of trails.  
Source: Pitkin, 1994, with some modifications by Town Trails Planner

Trail Length Limits on Grades	
Grade	Limit on Length at that grade
<5%	None
5+ to 6%	700'
6+ to 7%	400'
7+ to 8%	200'
8+ to 9%	100'
9+ to 10%	50'
10+ to 15%	25'
15%+	0'

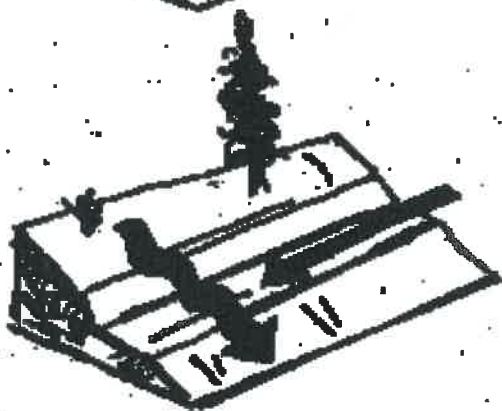
### The Half Rule

The half rule is a common rule of thumb when determining proper grade. To ensure proper drainage, a trail's tread grade should not exceed half of the grade of the hillside or side slope that the trail is traversing. If the trail is more than half of the side slope, it is considered a fall-line trail. In this case, water will flow down the trail as opposed to sheet across it. For example, a trail passing through an area with a gentle 6% side slope must have a tread grade of less than 3% in order for water to escape the fall line. Some trail conditions such as soil type and location also need to be considered when determining trail grade.



Water flowing down a hill will follow the path of least resistance, called a fall line. Trails built on the fall line will have water flowing down (rather than across) them.

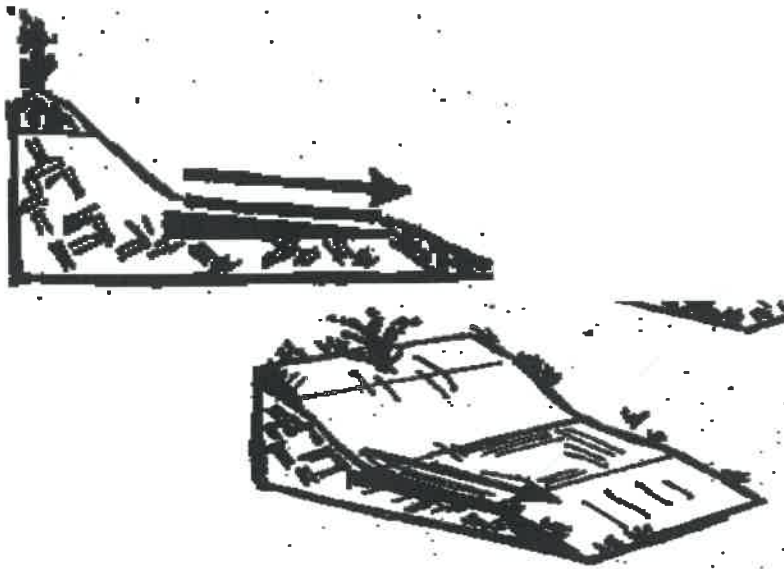
This trail does not meet the Half Rule; therefore, water will flow down the trail.  
**20% side slope 15% Trail Grade**



This trail meets the Half Rule; therefore, water will sheet across the trail.  
**20% side slope 8% Trail Grade**

### Out Slope

On trails that traverse hillsides, creating an out slope on the tread is a common erosion control method. This consists of a slight tilt in the tread that leaves the outside edge of the trail lower than the inside to promote drainage. This method is effective in getting water to cross or sheet the trail rather than follow it. In flat terrain, the edge of the trail should match existing grade and the trail should be crowned to drain the trail surface. Trails constructed with proper out slope still need to meet the Half Rule objective. Out slope, standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types.






### Switchbacks and Curves

Cross slope and curve radii are two important trail design elements that need to be considered when designing curves. During a curve, the trail briefly becomes aligned with the fall line creating the possibility of increased erosion. By building turns on a side slope of no more than 7% and building the upper part of the curve with an in slope and the lower part with an out slope you, create a curve that allows water to flow across and continue down without being captured by the trail tread. Retaining walls and armoring may also be necessary to decrease erosion and trail damage. Crowning a turn can also help mitigate erosive forces.

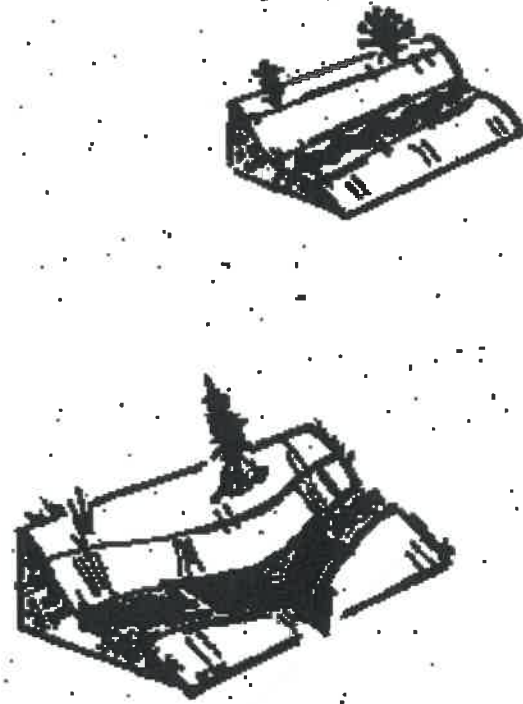
Curve radii are another important trail design element to be considered in turns. Larger turning radii protect user safety and help reduce erosion. A general rule of thumb is the faster a trail user is traveling, the wider the curve should be. A proper sightline before a curve is also necessary to prevent collisions or accidents. For more information, refer to Trail Designations Section IV, J, pages 31-34).

## Page: 25

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-  Number: 1 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 3:24:09 PM -07'00'  
This does not mean anything if there is no Section IV, L, pages 31-34 in this document. Delete it or reference the appropriate page in the document. Again - document needs formatting to make it easier to reference subject areas.
- 
-  Number: 2 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 2/26/2021 3:26:31 PM -07'00'  
Section IV,J,,pages 31-34 refers to the Town of Breckenridge Trails Standards and a section entitled "Trail Designations" which is not included in this document and it should be. Why is it referenced if it does not exist? Cut and paste from the TOB document to include the material here.
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-  Number: 3 Author: psemmer Subject: Highlight Date: 2/26/2021 3:23:35 PM -07'00'
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## Drainage

Erosion is the natural process by which soil particles are detached from the ground surface and transported down slope by the action of moving water or wind. The combination of water falling on the trail, water running down the trail, freeze/thaw, and the wear and tear of user traffic can create significant erosion problems on trails with poor drainage. In order to create a sustainable trail with low maintenance requirements, erosion on the trail needs to be mitigated. Many preventable circumstances create a situation resulting in high erosion rates on the trail, such as trails that follow the fall line or have no out slope. Such trail design issues may result in the use of multiple drainage structures and the need for more frequent maintenance. Trail alignment, grade, design and drainage structures will help prevent water on the trail and are discussed in more detail below. Water trapped on trails can cause erosion and damage to the trail (top). Grade breaks and out slope help direct the water off the trail (bottom).



**Installing well-designed drainage with adequate capacity to address erosive forces is the most important element in trail design.** Utilizing and protecting natural drainage patterns when aligning the trail while also constructing adequate cross slope during construction will remedy surface runoff in most situations. However, when runoff is concentrated uphill of the tread, the trail grade is steep, or a watercourse is likely to create drainage problems, drainage structures such as culverts, swales, drainage dips, water bars, crowning or grade breaks are required to protect the trail. The steeper the trail, the more frequently structures are needed.



The following are general guidelines for use of drainage structures.

## Grade breaks

**Definition:** Grade breaks (also called grade dips or rolling grade dips) are different from drainage dips in that they are actually planned design into the trail alignment. The drainage is created when the descending trail gently rises, then resumes its descent.

**Purpose:** This reversal in trail grade creates a low point that diverts water running down the tread off the downhill side.

**Trail Types:** Grade breaks can be used on soft surface or natural trails.

**Design:** Grade breaks are most effective when they take advantage of natural features by dropping in and out of slight dips in the terrain. Grade breaks of this nature require little or no construction, other than minor grading.

Grade Break	Spacing
Spacing	Trail Grade
500'	3-5%
300'	7-10%
100'	11-15%
<50'	>15%

Graph provides a general guideline of spacing between grade-breaks. <sup>1</sup>Source: Parker. 2001.



## Drainage Dips



**Definition:** Drainage dips are carefully shaped depressions built into an existing trail to divert water from the tread.

**Purpose:** Drainage dips are effective in removing rainwater and snowmelt runoff from the trail tread.

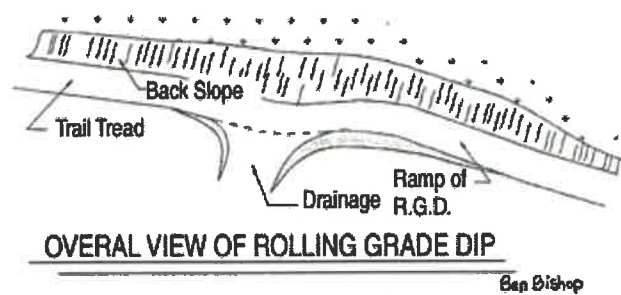
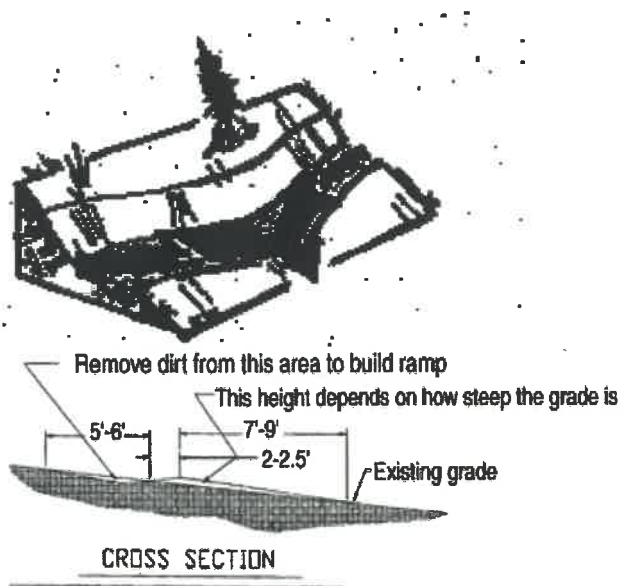
**Trail Type:** They should be used only on soft surface or natural trails with slight to medium grades.

**Design:** Drainage dips are most effective on contouring trails in which the dip drains toward the trails outside edge (a.k.a. positive drainage).

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## Water bars

**Definition:** A water bar is a reinforced drainage dip containing a raised row of fitted stones or timber that helps divert runoff from the trail. Water bars are less desirable than drainage dips and grade dips because they are jolting and may preclude some wheeled users.

**Purpose:** These heavy-duty structures are typically band-aide type remedies used to repair an existing, eroded trail.

**Material:** Natural material such as rock or rot resistant logs is preferred but rubber barriers are also available.

**Trail Type:** They should be used only on natural trails. If cyclists or wheelchairs use the trail, the preferred alternative is a more wheel-friendly drainage dip.

**Design:** Water bars should be constructed at a 30-degree angle from the trail's edge and

should extend beyond both sides of the trail to prevent water or people from going around them. The logs should be at least 6-8 inches in diameter and buried firmly. As the trail grade increased (i.e. becomes steeper), the number of water bars used should also increase.

Percent Grade	Spacing Between Water bars (feet)
2	250
5	130
10	80
15	50
20+	40

The above table provides a guideline when deciding on the spacing between water bars. Some changes may be necessary for certain trail sections. Source: Rathke and Baughman, 2006.

## Armoring

**Definition:** Armoring is the use of large rocks to “pave” the trail to prevent erosion or protect a sensitive environment. Armoring raises the trail’s elevation while still allowing water percolation.



**Purpose:** Armoring is used in seasonally wet areas, or areas with accelerated erosion areas (e.g. jump landings).

**Materials:** When armoring, it is best to use local rock material to uphold a natural look and prevent the spread of invasive plant matter.

**Trail Type:** Armoring is used on natural trails.

**Design:** Do not remove rocks that will damage vegetation or sensitive areas. When armoring, refer to recommended practices regarding trail grade.

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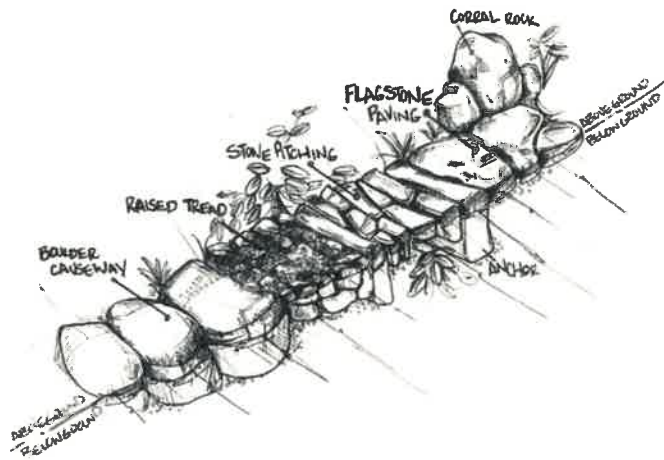


Illustration of various armoring techniques. (IMBA)



Armoring on the Lower Flume Trail.

## Culverts

**Definition:** A culvert is a covered channel or pipe that takes a watercourse under a trail.

**Purpose:** Culverts can be used to accommodate drainages that carry more than occasional storm runoff or which continue to flow after rainfall has ceased. Culverts can also be used for low flow and intermittent stream crossings, and for side swale drainage.

**Trail Type:** Culverts are commonly used on both hard surface pathways and soft surface trails.

**Materials:** A culvert is typically made of metal or plastic.

**Design:** Due to the complexity of culvert design, installation should be coordinated with the Town Engineering Department and the Town Trails Planner.

## Swale Crossings

**Definition:** A swale crossing is a low spot in the trail that allows water to flow across the trail under controlled circumstances.

**Purpose:** Swale crossings are used when water flows are minimal and/or intermittent.

**Trail Type:** Swale crossings can be used on all trail types although they are not recommended on hard surface pathways.

**Materials:** On crusher fine trails, swales with minimal flows can be made with crusher fines but in areas of concentrated flow, concrete or stone paving should be used.

**Design:** Usually swale crossings are small and can be stepped or jumped across.

## Side Swales

**Definition:** Side swales are broad, shallow ditches, which parallel the trail.

**Purpose:** They prevent runoff water from reaching the trail surface and give water on the tread a lower place to drain.

**Trail Type:** Side swales can be used on all trail types.

**Design:** Side swales either can empty into natural drainages or be drained at intervals by culverts under the trail.



## Crowning

**Definition:** Crowning is a method of trail construction where the center part of the tread is

built up to allow water to run off each side.


**Purpose:** Crowning assists with drainage by forcing water off of the trail tread.

**Trail Type:** This technique is most commonly used on flat soft surface and natural trails and should be used only if both sides of the trail have someplace to drain.

**Design:** Crowning should be steep enough to shed water, but not too steep as to cause discomfort for trail

## Environmentally Sensitive and Hazardous Areas

Trails should avoid environmentally sensitive and hazardous sites whenever possible. If unavoidable, special alignment and construction methods must be used to protect the site from negative environmental impacts and provide for safety of the trail user.

The following are guidelines for constructing a trail at or near environmentally sensitive and hazardous sites. The [Town's Water Quality and Sediment Transport Control Standards](#) may supersede these requirements and there may be other permits necessary such as Clean Water Act permits, etc. 

- Construction impacts to the area surrounding the trail should be minimized when building a trail. When possible, trails in environmentally sensitive areas should be constructed using hand tools. Whenever possible, the use of heavy equipment should be avoided to prevent impacts to sensitive environments.
- The trail alignment should be planned to preserve significant vegetation.
- Plants native to the site should be used in revegetation of environmentally sensitive areas that have been disturbed. (See the "slope stabilization, revegetation and landscaping" section for details on revegetation.)
- Deviation from these guidelines via special alignment or construction methods may be necessary to reduce impacts and/or disturbance to environmentally sensitive and hazardous areas. Town staff must approve these deviations.
- Trails that cross or are located adjacent to wetlands must be designed for minimal impact. Boardwalks or other structural techniques may be required.
- When aligning trails, the use of areas with existing disturbance such as existing social trails, utility line easements, abandoned ditches and abandoned road cuts should be considered.
- Development of trails in areas of critical wildlife and plant habitat may require site-specific studies to determine impacts, mitigation and appropriate alignments.
- In order to protect environmentally sensitive areas during and after trail construction, erosion control methods such as siltation fences and straw bale barriers may be required. Revegetation may also be required.

## Winter Trails

In most cases, Town trails will be used in both summer and winter. Winter trail use will be primarily oriented toward on-snow usage such as Nordic skiing or snowshoeing. When locating trails that can support winter use consider:

- Aligning trails to take advantage of opportunities for shade and wind protection (i.e., locating in northern exposures and maximizing shading from evergreens).
- Avoiding conflicts with roadside snow storage by placing trails a minimum setback of 20 feet from any road to be plowed during winter.
- Widening the trail corridor to provide for a safer and more enjoyable winter travel corridor.
- Installing additional signage that is high enough to be visible during winter and far enough away from plowed routes to also ensure winter visibility. Blue diamond markers are typically used to mark winter travel routes.

As trails used for Nordic skiing become steeper, the minimum horizontal clearance should increase. This increased width does not need to be cleared of all vegetation but should



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provide skiers a wide area for turning, “herring boning” and snowplowing when the trail is snow covered. Steep Nordic ski trails may need to provide gently sloped clearings and run-outs for skiers to slow down, particularly at switchbacks. For additional information on the design of Nordic trails, please contact Town staff.

In general, winter trails to be plowed to accommodate heavy use should be hard surface pathways. Soft surface and natural surface trails with design features that cannot support plowing equipment will not be plowed. Where the potential for groomed and developed winter trail systems exists (such as Nordic centers), wider easements, or separate trails, may be necessary to accommodate both groomed trails and other public use.

### **Existing Trails**

If an existing trail must be realigned, the new trail should, when appropriate, duplicate or improve the original trail's standards and character as much as possible. 


### **Trails with Universal Access**

Trails should be designed, particularly hard surface pathways in the more heavily populated areas of Town, to accommodate access by the physically disabled. A trail should not exceed a 5% grade where access by physically disabled users is possible. In addition, special design considerations (such as modified drainage structures) should be incorporated. Due to mountainous conditions, some hard surface pathways may not be accessible to the entire spectrum of physically disabled users. While it is clearly not practical for all trails in a mountain community to be fully accessible to the disabled, the Town will make every effort to comply with the standards set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 (ADA) and in the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) bike and pedestrian trail guidelines, where reasonably appropriate. Most natural trails and some soft surface trails are not expected to comply with ADA, or may be identified as acceptable for only a more advanced level of physically disabled user.

### **Wetlands and Water Crossings**

When dealing with riparian environments, special precautions need to be made in order to mitigate or prevent sedimentation and damage to sensitive ecosystems. Preventing and minimizing impacts to wetland areas is critical to aquatic health and, in relation to trails, can often be accomplished by minimizing vegetation removal and soil disturbance. If construction on stream banks, lakes, shores and wetlands is unavoidable, the trail tread should be raised using turnpikes, boardwalks, or armoring. To avoid water quality impacts from chemical leaching from treated wood, structures should be constructed with natural untreated wood, precast concrete or steel. If the wood is pretreated, the structure should be isolated in poly wrap below grade. If trails enter wetland areas, permits may be required, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted.

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This is very weak in giving guidance on how to deal with existing unsustainable trails. Needs work.

## Slope Stabilization, Revegetation and Landscaping

Revegetation is important to control erosion and stabilize slopes, as well as to improve aesthetics. It is important that revegetation be sensitive to existing on-site plant species in order to maintain a natural character and balance. The most important areas for revegetation are where major disturbance occurs, usually related to hard surface pathways. Another disturbance area of concern is related to cut and fill slopes or full bench cuts on steeply sloping sites (over 30%). Town staff must be consulted regarding all revegetation plans. The following guidelines should be followed in all cases.

- Care should be taken to maintain existing vegetation (including the understory) wherever possible.
- Plantings should consist of low maintenance, drought resistant, and native species.
- On-site native plant species should be identified and revegetation should occur with an appropriate mixture of these native plants if possible. This is especially important in environmentally sensitive areas.
- Non-native plant species or standard high-altitude seed mix should not be used where such revegetation would promote invasion by introduced species that are not found on site and which would have an adverse effect on native plants. This is especially important in environmentally sensitive areas.
- In environmentally sensitive areas it may be best not to plant anything but instead to simply prepare and mulch the seedbed with a seed-free erosion control/mulch blanket.
- In areas of minimal disturbance and with sparse under story vegetation (lodge pole pine forests), revegetation may not be necessary, but excavated soils should be widely dispersed away from the corridor.
- The type of plants and the formality of plantings should complement the natural and man-made plantings around the site and neighborhood. The trail corridor should either seem like part of a native ecosystem or part of an adjacent landscaped area.
- Revegetation should occur as soon as grading work is completed and weather permits. Revegetated sites should be maintained until sufficient establishment has occurred to reasonably stabilize the site.

The following guidelines should be followed where there is major disturbance:

- Temporary slope stabilization and revegetation will be necessary during construction, and until permanent drainage and successful revegetation is achieved.
- Landscaping may be necessary to recreate natural character, minimize visual impact or to create a buffer between the trail and adjacent uses. Landscaping recommendations in the Town Development Code should be followed. 



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Add "Town of Blue River Noxious Weed Management Plan (2021) to this sentence.

## Structures

Structures are trail corridor improvements necessary for user comfort or to solve specific drainage, grading, safety and water crossing situations. For public safety and economy, most structures should be designed by a design professional. Trail structures should complement the character of the surrounding landscape. Typical structures related to trail development are: retaining walls, bridges, boardwalks, turnpikes, fences, steps, stairways, railings and other user amenities such as restrooms and benches. Some structures have already been discussed in the Drainage section of this manual.

### Retaining Walls

**Definition:** A retaining wall is a vertical structure usually consisting of rock or timber that enables construction of a trail around obstacles, stabilization and widening of trail sections and stabilization of trails on loose soil.

**Purpose:** Retaining walls are often used to reduce erosion on cut and fill slopes when slopes exceed a stable angle. In addition, retaining walls may be necessary to reduce the size of a cut and fill, or minimize disturbance on an environmentally or visually sensitive site. The **town Engineer** should be involved during the design and construction of retaining walls.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used in wall construction such as rock or wood. To decrease long term maintenance, rock is preferred.

**Design:** Walls located in visually sensitive areas should be designed to blend with the surroundings. Retaining walls should not be too continuous, thereby avoiding a channelized feeling. The wall should tilt into the slope. An inward tilt of 1 foot for every 4 feet of height is the maximum recommendation with a ratio of 2:1 being more typical and acceptable.

**Trail Type:** To avoid both the "engineered" look and abrupt drop-off sometimes created by retaining walls, they should be used only in select circumstances (especially when developing soft surface, natural or rough trails).

### Bridges


**Purpose:** Bridges are used to cross a natural or man-made drainage that has a year-round flow and also to span a ravine or gully-type terrain feature.

**Trail Type:** Bridges should be used to cross a perennial stream where a water crossing would create hazardous conditions or damage to the environment.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

**Design:** Bridges should be designed to withstand floods and should be placed to avoid sharp curves or deflections. Bridge width should be able to accommodate the largest trail use such as bikes, horses, or pedestrian. Emergency access or maintenance vehicles may also need to be considered in the design phase.

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Change to "Town Staff"

On most bridges, the minimum width should be the same as the approach trail plus the horizontal clearance. An exception to this would be a simple bridge on a pedestrian-only soft surface, natural or rough trail. On hard surface pathways and multi-use soft surface trails, bridges should be 2 to 4 feet wider than the approaching trail. Railings may be required where the distance from the ground is 30 inches or more (see "railings" for additional details). Bumpers and ramps may also be required on trail-based bridges. On natural and rough trails, with small streams that can be stepped over during normal flow, a bridge may not be necessary. In this case refer to the section on armoring. Where bridges are necessary on these trails, design should be simple and incorporate use of native materials, when possible. Bridges must be approved by the **Town Engineering Department** and in many cases will have to be designed by a civil engineer.

#### **Tips for Successful Bridge Building:**


- 1) Make bridges strong enough to support the heaviest potential user and snow loads
- 2) For wooden bridges choose a material that is rot resistant. Bark must be stripped off the logs to prevent rot and insect damage
- 3) For wooden bridges, use screws or bolts not nails
- 4) Extend approach ramps onto the trail
- 5) Avoid letting bridge stringers touch the ground. Sit stringers on stones or replaceable wood
- 6) Bridges and their approaches should not have sharp turns; this can be dangerous when icy or wet
- 7) Design the bridge so that travelers can see each other on either end



#### **Fences**

**Purpose:** Fences should be installed only when physical separation is necessary for safety and/or to preserve adjacent landowner privacy.


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?? "Town Engineering Department" See comment above -- This section is a direct paste from the Town of Breckenridge document and needs to be edits to apply to the Town of Blue River. Delete ""Town Engineering Department" and replace with the appropriate town official that would approve retaining wall and other construction.

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 Number: 3      Author: psemmer      Subject: Sticky Note      Date: 2/26/2021 3:51:53 PM -07'00'  
The Town of Breckenridge plan, from which most of this appendix is copied, includes a good section on Boardwalks and Turnpikes. Both are important trail structures for trails in wetlands and poor draining areas. The text from the Breckenridge plan on Boardwalks and Turnpikes needs to be included in this section since there is a likelihood that the Town of Blue River may want to build in the willow complex near the tarn or other wetland areas along the Blue River.

**Design:** Where possible, fencing should be located only on one side of the trail at a time. Fencing designs which create a narrow corridor effect for long stretches should be avoided. Whenever possible, fences should be no closer than 5 feet from the trail edge. Where fences are necessary along both sides of a trail, minimum width should be 20 feet between the two sections of fence. Fencing should be compatible with wildlife migration patterns.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

## Steps or Stairs

**Purpose:** Steps can be used on sections of trail where elevation must be gained quickly, usually in areas where the grade exceeds the recommended maximum.

**Design:** Where steps are located on steep grades, a handrail may be required on one or both sides to provide for safety and user comfort (see "railings" for additional details). When stairs are located in the more urban areas of Town, design should comply with Town building codes.

**Trail Types:** Steps are not recommended for trails used by horses, bikes and the disabled.

**Materials:** Stone is preferred for steps, however, treated timber can also be used.



## Railings

**Purpose:** Railings are recommended on high volume, hard surface pathways and soft surface trails where a steep drop off exists within 5 feet of the trail edge. Railings can be used on trails as necessary for user safety and comfort.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

**Design:** Railings on pedestrian trails should be 42 inches high. Railings on multi-use hard surface pathways which receive considerable use by bicyclists should be 54 inches high. For general use in mixed bicycle/pedestrian situations and in zones which are not high speed bike zones, 42 inch railings are preferred. Railing ends should be flared away from the trail at either end of the railing. Where railings are used on trails located in the more urban areas of Town, design should comply with Town building codes.

### **Trailheads and Signage**

Signage at the trailhead and throughout the trail should be used to inform and educate trail users. Properly located signs can be an indicator of location, distance, property boundaries or restricted uses, preventing unwanted conflicts, or confusion. Listed below are some objectives for trail signage. Town staff must approve all signs.


- Signs should be consistent with those used throughout the Town.
- Signs should be legible; this includes typography, vocabulary and other design elements.
- Signs should inform users of the trail's use types, direction, location of the trail, location of private property, or other information that can assist and inform trail users.
- Signs should be low maintenance and be capable of withstanding extreme weather conditions and abuse.
- Signs should not obstruct the trail or natural scenery. Informational signs can be grouped together at the trailhead while warning signs should be located to give trail users a chance to react.
- Over use of signs can diminish the natural effect while under use can leave the trail user confused.
- Rot resistant wood or stone should be used to maintain the most natural appearance.

## Intersections

Intersections should be highly visible and provide good sight distance, clear zones and proper signage. Accommodation of sufficient stopping sight distance at roadway intersections is critical and adequate warning should be given to permit trail users to stop before reaching the intersection, especially on downgrades. On high volume trail/vehicular intersections, a flat approach grade is especially important and appropriate striping and regulatory signage may be necessary. (See the Signage Chapter for details on intersection signs.) In less developed areas containing low volume soft surface or natural trails, less formal intersections may be possible (depending on the volume of traffic) and signage may not be necessary. The appropriate road management department or agency should be contacted regarding trail/road intersections. Their involvement at the design phase may be necessary. Whenever possible, a 90-degree intersection is preferable to one with a lesser angle.



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 Number: 1      Author: psemmer      Subject: Sticky Note      Date: 2/26/2021 3:58:55 PM -07'00'

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The Town of Breckenridge plan, from which most of this appendix is copied, includes a good section on Trail Designations (hard surface, soft surface and natural surface trails). The information is important to be able to develop a trail network that address various user types and experiences. The text from the Breckenridge plan on Trail Designations needs to be included in this section since a comprehensive trails plan ought described the full array of trail types to be offered. Note - this TOBR document does reference this information as "Section IV,J,,pages 31-34" in several places in the document. However, there is no text of the section referenced.


## Appendix C 1

### Additional Town of Blue River Resources

<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/town-plans>

- Town of Blue River Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Blue River Capital Improvement Plan

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 Number: 1      Author: psemmer      Subject: Sticky Note      Date: 2/26/2021 4:00:02 PM -07'00'

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Considered deleting this as an appendix since the only time these documents are mentioned is on page 5 and they are adequately referenced at that citing.



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Number: 1 Author: psemmer Subject: Sticky Note Date: 5/6/2022 9:13:45 AM

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Delete this appendix. The USFS design standards are already incorporated into Appendix B. This chart refers to "ROS" (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum). Unless there is a definition of ROS and reference to the complete USFS Trail handbook that defines ROS this chart as a stand alone appendix does not mean anything to the reader and is not applicable to the Town of Blue River.

Number: 2 Author: Subject: Sticky Note Date: 5/6/2022 9:12:53 AM

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Add Appendix C - Open Space and Trails Master Plan Map, when final version is ready.

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# Town of Blue River Open Space & Trails Plan

Adopted  
December 15, 2020  
Revised May XX, 2022

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## I. Introduction

The Town of Blue River is a small residential community situated in the upper Blue River basin of Summit County, Colorado. The founding fathers of the town, in the 1960's, envisioned a rural neighborhood community of platted subdivisions with access to many outdoor recreation resources including the Goose Pasture Tarn, Blue River, Pennsylvania Creek and adjoining National Forest, to name a few. The Town recognizes that preserving open space and enhancing trail access through the Town and adjoining upper Blue River Basin is critical to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in and around Blue River. This Open Space and Trails Plan (Plan) has been created to provide guidance to the Town Trustees for future open space and trail related priorities and decisions. It is recognized that a balance must be achieved between increased recreation use in the Town and the maintenance of a quality neighborhood community life, and that a major focus on the Plan should provide a means for preserving and improving an interconnected recreational trail network and protection of significant open space areas.

This Plan is intended to promote the retention and improvement of a meaningful, well-conceived open space and trail network to preserve and enhance a community amenity for the Town of Blue River residents. The trails outlined in this Plan target non-motorized use, unless otherwise indicated. "Open space" is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the public. This focus is due in part to the Town's mission to support quiet, sustainable recreational use in a natural, mountain residential community. Many of the trails identified in this Plan connect to trails managed by other jurisdictions, primarily Summit County government and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). It is recognized that the Town needs to cooperate with these entities to complete the trail system outlined in this Plan.

This Plan is a master plan, which means that it outlines an idealized open space and trail system that inevitably crosses private property. Private property rights are respected and recognized by the Town, and achieving the vision set forth in this Plan will require cooperation from many private landowners both in and out of Town boundaries. The Town has many strategies at its disposal to foster this cooperation, including the development review process, property acquisition, tax incentives and voluntary easement dedication, to name a few.

In the Town of Blue River, residents and visitors stress the importance of a sustainable coexistence with our environment and an interconnected open space and trail system within Town and adjacent public lands. The Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Plan represents the ideas, both visionary and practical, of Town residents.

## II. Blue River Open Space and Trails Committee

The Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Plan is based largely on the efforts of the Town of Blue River Open Space and Trails Committee (Committee). The Committee was established in the fall of 2018 in conjunction with the recommendations of the Town of Blue River Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). After an extensive public involvement process the CIP identified 19 projects for further evaluation and prioritization using criteria developed and agreed upon by the Town Board and its committees. One of the 19 projects was “Develop Trail Network Study”; with two specific tasks: “1) Breckenridge to Blue River/Fairplay Bike Trail Connection – Participate in a planning study to progress the long-term community vision of completing a local bike path from Breckenridge to Blue River and south to Fairplay over Hoosier Pass; and, 2) Developing Town Trail Network – Conduct trail network planning study for trails through Town with connections to existing trails in the Blue River area including the Flume Trail, East trails and trail to Pennsylvania Gulch.” The mission of the Trails Committee is: *To assist the Board of Trustees with determining possible trail projects mainly geared towards enhancement of existing trails and possible future trails within the Town of Blue River.*

To complete its mission, the Trails Committee reviewed the recorded subdivision plats within the Town of Blue River trails on adjacent National Forest land and known authorized and unauthorized trails and routes used by Town residents and visitors. Over 90 routes were inventoried totaling 9.5 miles.

In the process of inventorying the subdivision plats, it was noted that for many of the recorded subdivision plats “Pedestrian”, “River Access”, “Access Road” and “Private” easements are granted and conveyed “to the owners of the lots thereon” or “to the owners of property in the Town of Blue River” and not to the Town of Blue River. Because of the way the easements are recorded in the plats, the Town of Blue River, as a governmental entity, may not have the authority for use, occupancy, operation, and maintenance of existing easements within subdivisions. Additionally, some social trails across private lots may have implied historic use that has not legally been granted by the landowner. Therefore, it is recommended that in order to develop a comprehensive trail system using existing, as well as new, rights-of-way that the Town acquire new easements where necessary on designated routes to be identified in a trail system plan.

In January 2020, the Committee held an open house to share their trails vision and gather resident feedback for the future of trails in Blue River. Residents identified the concern for maintaining and acquiring open space lands as an important element to include in a comprehensive trails plan. To address this concern the Committee was tasked with including the identification and evaluation of significant open space lands in its planning efforts. Generally, “Open Space” is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the public.

The Plan will be updated regularly to provide desired recreational experiences for a variety of users while addressing environmental and cultural resources, and general maintenance concerns. Currently, Town of Blue River trails will be limited to non-motorized recreational uses to avoid and minimize user conflicts. In addition to Town staff, volunteer projects will be organized for work in the Town of Blue River. More specifically this document is intended to:

- 1) Provide a comprehensive plan for public recreational trail network for the Town of Blue River residents.

- 2) Outline a functioning residential access or commuting trail network that connects efficiently with other modes of transportation (e.g. Town roads, Highway 9, and authorized trailhead parking).
- 3) Partner proactively with the USFS on the maintenance of existing trails; rehabilitation, restoration, re-routing or abandonment of unsustainable trails; and the development of new trails on National Forest lands surrounding the Town of Blue River.
- 4) Identify important trail-based recreation opportunities and facilities to enhance recreational opportunities in Town and the surrounding areas.
- 5) Balance trail use and access within residential communities and important open space lands to minimize negative impacts due to increased recreational uses.
- 6) Design and implement a wayfinding and signage program that orients trail users to designated trail and open space lands while respecting private lands and is branded and linked with the Town of Blue River.
- 7) Identify important trail portals and trailheads and access locations to facilitate recreational and commuting uses.
- 8) Identify important open space lands that are environmentally sensitive and contribute to the Town's quality of life and rural mountain character.
- 9) Utilize creative protection techniques to preserve and protect the Town's significant and threatened open spaces.
- 10) Provide public access to cultural and geographic landmarks such as the Blue River, Goose Pasture Tarn and Town Park(s).
- 11) Develop an action implementation schedule that identifies and prioritizes open space and trails projects on an annual basis.
- 12) Honor and respect private property rights associated with public use on and adjacent to private lands.

This Plan is a targeted document that outlines specific existing and proposed open space and trails resources that the Town would like to secure or create. Broader community goals and directives can be found in the Town of Blue River Comprehensive Master Plan and Capital Improvements Plan, located at <https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/town-plans>. Specific trail construction guidelines are found in Appendix B - Trail Design Standards.

### **Recent Accomplishments**

- In 2019, the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee collaborated with Friends of the Dillon Ranger District to host Blue River's first Trails Day event. Trail cleanup was conducted off Calle de Plata and a section of the Blue River Trail.
- An easement was obtained off of Calle de Plata connecting to Fredonia Gulch Road as one section of trail connection on the south end of Town.
- In January 2020, the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee held an open house to share their trails vision and gather resident feedback for the future of trails in Blue River.
- In March 2021, the Town of Blue River acquired an easement on Lot 451 Coronet Subdivision to allow for access from Coronet Drive to the Blue River Trail on National Forest land.

### **III. Guiding Principles and Policies**

#### **A. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Blue River Trail System will provide safe connectivity to the surrounding towns and areas. The trail design will be consistent with the culture of mission of the Town of Blue River and harmonious with the natural environment. By following approved trail standards and guidelines, keeping constant communication with Town Staff, and using current Forest Service and Summit County trails as an example, the Town of Blue River's trail system can retain the following important qualities:

- Safe public access
- Minimization of user conflicts
- Sustainability
- Quality construction and maintainability
- Effective signage
- A variety of enjoyable experiences for various user types and skill levels

To ensure that these objectives are achieved, the Town will adopt the Town of Blue River Trail Standards to be used during trail construction and maintenance to provide developers, staff, the public, and trail users with a foundation upon which trail work can be performed.

The Town of Blue River Trail Guidelines (Appendix A) and Trail Design Standards (Appendix B) describe the fundamentals of trail design, trail maintenance standards, trail signage standards, slope stabilization and revegetation, and basic definitions of trail terms. When a trail is conceived or planned in the Town of Blue River, several options are available to obtain legal access to the trail, including easements, land exchanges, purchases, and development agreements.

#### **B. TRAIL STANDARDS**

A primary goal for the trail system in the Town of Blue River is to assure sustainability of all existing and proposed trail resources. Sustainability on natural surface routes is defined as the characteristic of a travel surface to support currently planned and future uses with minimal impact to the natural systems of the area. Sustainable routes require little rerouting and minimal maintenance over extended time periods. They have minimal soil loss or movement while allowing the naturally occurring adjacent plant systems to inhabit the area. Sustainable routes also minimize negative effects on wildlife and other natural resources. Proper trail alignment, grading and drainage are necessary to create a sustainable trail.

Sustainable trails minimize the need for ongoing trail maintenance by using construction techniques and materials designed for long term self-sustaining use, and by using on-site materials as much as possible. Appropriate design minimizes or eliminates expensive future maintenance and repairs while establishing an enjoyable trail experience for users.

There are specific sustainability standards that apply to different user groups and their impacts. The U.S. Forest Service, Summit County and adjoining Town of Breckenridge have developed and incorporated many of these accepted standards. In order to provide for continuity of design, maintenance and management of trail resources within the Town and adjoining land jurisdictions. These standards will be referred to in the construction and maintenance for all trails in the Town.

Where the protection of environmental (e.g., wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife habitat, etc.) or historic (e.g., mining structures and artifacts) resources is compromised due to unsustainable route alignment or user behavior, these issues will be addressed through custodial maintenance reroutes or closure of the trail resource.

### **C. SIGNAGE**

Signs inform trail users of important information about route location, safety considerations, rules/regulations, and education and interpretation. Signs should be carefully designed and installed to inform trail users and avoid “sign pollution,” or an overabundance of signs. Signs should be strategically located, clear, concise, and legible. Signs will be placed at the main trail access points, trail intersections, and other key locations. More heavily traveled routes will be well-signed, while more remote routes will have fewer or no signs to reflect and maintain the backcountry character.

### **D. TRAIL ACCESS PORTALS**

Numerous trail portals, intersections of trails and roads, provide access to the trails within the Town. Some portals may have managed parking, (e.g., Blue River Park) whereas many portals do not have parking facilities available. Trail access areas in the Town will be evaluated on an ongoing basis to determine appropriate infrastructure requirements such as the need for designated parking areas, trail information kiosks, signs, benches, or other public facilities. Signs may include bulletin board/kiosk and access portal signs as well as wayfinding signs. All signage will incorporate a uniform design and provide applicable information and regulations. Access portal signs may identify route names or identification label and permissible uses. Where trails provide access to adjoining land management jurisdictions (U.S. Forest Service, Summit County and Town of Breckenridge) consideration will be given contiguity of permissible uses and trail management direction.

### **E. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The successful management of the Town of Blue River trails system depends upon mutual respect among the various user groups, and communal respect for the invaluable environmental and cultural resources being protected for the benefit of all current and future residents and visitors. The adjacent trail resources in Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge are governed by the Rules and Regulations for County Open Space Properties reviewed by the Breckenridge Town Council and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 2007 and as amended. The Forest Service rules and regulations and area-specific Forest Supervisor Orders apply on the National Forest Lands. It is recommended that the Town of Blue River incorporate these two sets of regulations to create consistent and enforceable rules for its trails and across jurisdictional boundaries.

A person may ride a Class 1 or Class 2 electric assisted bicycle on the paved portions of the Town of Blue River trail system and on the roads within Town. “Class 1 electric assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour. “Class 2 electric assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance regardless of whether the rider is pedaling but ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.

Trail user education is preferred as the most efficient method of obtaining compliance to regulations.

## **IV. Goals and Policies/Actions**

### **Goal A. Develop, maintain and improve trail access and quality recreation opportunities.**

- Policy/Action 1. Provide diverse year-round non-motorized trail recreation opportunities.
- Policy/Action 2. Identify and manage trails that provide appropriate recreational experiences while protecting the area's natural and historic resources as well as minimizing user conflicts.
- Policy/Action 3. Secure easements, property interest, or other agreements and authorizations to retain and enhance public recreational access to existing and proposed routes and trailheads.
- Policy/Action 4. Design and build trail portals to address desired trail uses, volume of use and the long- and short-term capacity of the resource.

### **Goal B. Plan and provide for the sustainable maintenance of trails and trail portals.**

- Policy/Action 1. Close and restore user created routes that are not part of the identified travel system.
- Policy/Action 2. Use trail design and construction standards that incorporate sustainability guidelines.

### **Goal C. Manage the travel system in cooperation with other public and private entities.**

- Policy/Action 1. Create and expand public/private partnerships, including "Adopt-a-Trail" programs.
- Policy/Action 2. Work to minimize existing and potential conflicts between property owners and recreational users.

### **Goal D. Provide public information to promote stewardship and appropriate recreational use.**

- Policy/Action 1. Install signage at trailheads/portals with appropriate information.
- Policy/Action 2. Post pertinent information to encourage sustainable resource use and facilitate law enforcement.
- Policy/Action 3. Continue to work cooperatively to make Town regulations consistent and enforceable across jurisdictional boundaries, including USFS Supervisor's Order or other mechanisms.
- Policy/Action 4. Provide accurate information about trails and access points to social media and publishers of trail guides and maps.

### **Goal E. Develop, maintain and improve travel signage.**

- Policy/Action 1. Provide uniform signage to direct users to appropriate recreational opportunities.
- Policy/Action 2. Incorporate Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly messages on signs to educate users on rules and codes of conduct.
- Policy/Action 3. Install directional signage at trail intersections identifying routes and allowed uses.

**Goal F. Identify, acquire, and protect environmentally sensitive areas to preserve and maintain unique natural areas, wetland and wildlife habitat, the rural mountain character, and access to present and future recreation opportunities.**

- Policy/Action 1. Identify and evaluate undeveloped lands in order to decide which areas should be recommended to be protected and managed as open space.
- Policy/Action 2. Identify specific properties and acquire property interests, when zoning and development regulations are not a viable alternative, to protect and enhance the recreational trail network within the Town.
- Policy/Action 3. Acquire property interests to protect the Blue River corridor and the scenic backdrop visible along Highway 9 through the Town when land use regulations are not a viable alternative.
- Policy/Action 4. Secure easements, property interest, or other agreements and authorizations to preserve the natural open space character of the Goose Pasture Tarn and surrounding undeveloped lands.
- Policy/Action 5. Prepare site specific open space protection management reports for acquired open space parcels that identifies strategies to be implemented to protect the open space qualities of the parcel.

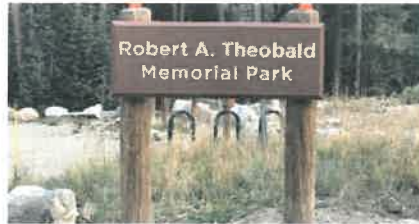
## **V. Town Park and Open Space Lands**



Photo credit: James Quigley, Louise Placer

### A. TOWN PARK

In, 2012 with the assistance of a grant from the Greater Outdoors Colorado fund, and a land donation from the Theobald Family, the Town of Blue constructed the Robert A. Theobald Memorial Park. The park was designed with the Town's natural environment in mind. It includes several youth playground features, a small trail system and interpretive signs to provide education of the natural features found within the park. The Town and Open Space & Trails Committee will continue to enhance features and activities for families and visitors to Town.



### B. OPEN SPACE LANDS

The Town of Blue River and the Blue River Open Space & Trails Committee seeks to preserve and enhance the serene mountain environment within the Town of Blue River. With this mission in mind, it is desired, when possible, to acquire land for this purpose. Open space land is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is visible or accessible to the residents and visitors in the Town of Blue River.

The Town of Blue River owns several parcels of land that are protected and managed to preserve and maintain wildlife habitat, the rural mountain character, unique natural areas and high quality of life for all. Current areas include Town owned land south of the Goose Pasture Tarn, wetland areas in the Timberline Subdivision and New Eldorado Subdivision.

This Plan recognizes the importance of living with wildlife and preserving environmentally sensitive areas and encourages utilizing creative protection techniques to preserve and protect the Town's significant and threatened open spaces. The Open Space and Trails Plan focuses on lands that most contribute to the Town's quality of life and rural mountain character, including those with the following characteristics, in no particular order:

**Access:** Lands that provide trailheads or public access to recreation areas on National Forest and other significant properties.

**Buffers:** Natural and undeveloped lands which separate and buffer the impacts of development, define the boundaries of urbanized areas, and contribute to the rural mountain quality of the Town.

**Extensions:** Land adjacent to publicly held property which meets open space criteria guidelines, and which can combine with other open space properties to enlarge and / or connect existing open space parcels.

**Recreational:** Lands with significant recreational value, particularly non-motorized passive uses not requiring intensive maintenance or management; including lands or easements providing for public use of existing and proposed trails.

**Unique Lands:** Lands possessing unique values such as outstanding (but not necessarily generally visible) scenic quality, rare flora, riparian quality, wetlands, critical wildlife habitat, fragile alpine areas, or unusual geologic, or topographical formations.

**View Corridors:** Lands with high aesthetic appeal and variety within major view sheds, whose lands are generally visible, apparent, and appreciated by residents and visitors and through preservation will maintain the rural mountain appearance of Summit County.

The Committee recognizes that one of the challenges when protecting open space lands is finding the most appropriate methods of protection. It is important to satisfy both the Town's desire to protect land for open space values and landowners' desires for use of their property. Due to the limited financial resources available for direct purchase of open space lands, and the current market value of property within the Town of Blue River, it is not feasible for the Town to purchase every desirable open space parcel. It is therefore critical to use a variety of protection/acquisition measures and allow open space funds to be spent in the most cost-effective manner. The recommended approaches to land protection include partnerships with likeminded organizations, conservation easements, regulatory techniques, potential transfer of development rights, access easements, land exchanges and fee simple ownership. These and other measures will be explored on a case-by-case basis as significant open space lands are identified and determined to be suitable for further analysis.

## VI. Trail Planning Areas

The scope for this Plan includes the entire Town of Blue River and where appropriate adjacent lands outside the town limits. To better describe the various trails and routes in the area, the Plan is divided into three planning areas within and around the Town of Blue River (see Figure 1 "Planning Area Vicinity Map") including:

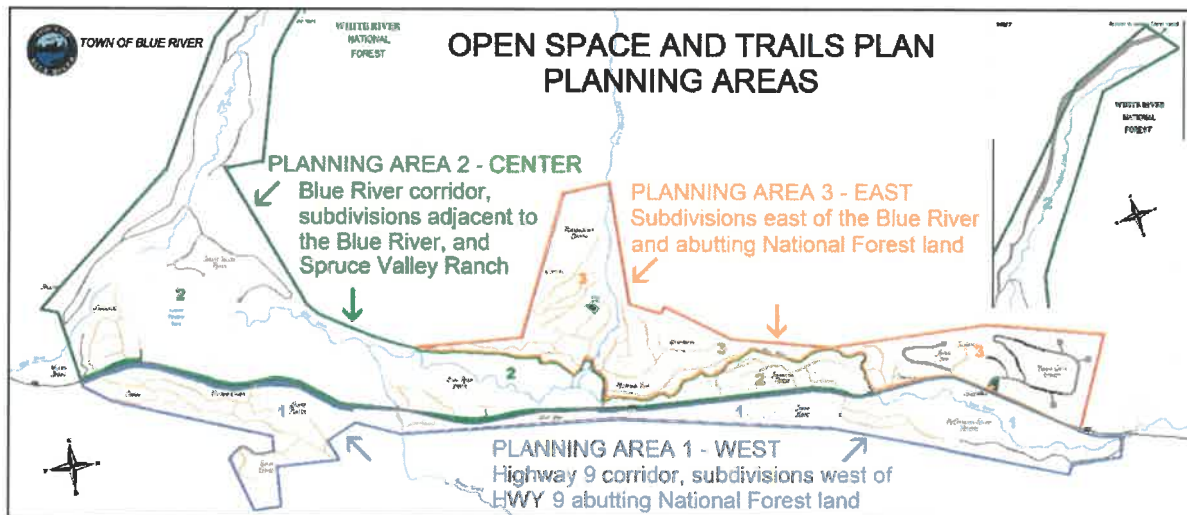
**Planning Area 1 -West** – Highway 9 corridor, subdivisions west of Highway 9 and adjacent National Forest land.

**Planning Area 2 - Center** – Blue River corridor, subdivisions immediately adjacent to the Blue River, and Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision.

**Planning Area 3 – East** – subdivisions east of the Blue River and abutting National Forest lands.

Along with goals and objectives for the entire Open Space and Trails Plan, noted in the previous section of this document, there are specific goals and recommendations for each planning area. The specific recommendations reflect actions that can be taken to achieve that planning area's goals.

**Figure 1. Planning Area Vicinity Map**



### **A. Planning Area 1: West -Highway 9 corridor, subdivisions west of Highway 9 and adjacent National Forest land**

Planning Area 1 encompasses residential subdivisions within Town limits west of Highway 9. The subdivisions include Crown, Bryce Estates, Leap Year, Sunnyslope, 97 Circle, and McCullough Reserve, and Timber Valley subdivisions. There are two trailheads outside the Town limits of Blue River including the USFS Spruce Creek Trailhead and Lower McCullough Gulch Trailhead.

#### **Goals for Planning Area 1**

- a. The Blue River corridor at the southern end of the planning area is relatively undisturbed and is an important wildlife/waterfowl area. Do not encourage use nor future trail development along the river corridor in this area.
- b. Work cooperatively with Summit County, USFS and McCullough Gulch Reserve to maintain the trail connection from Rio Azul Road to the Lower McCullough Gulch Trail on National Forest land.
- c. Continue to work cooperatively with CDOT, the Town of Breckenridge, Summit County, the USFS and other partners to complete a grade-separated recpath from the junction of Boreas Pass Road and Highway 9 to Hoosier Pass.
- d. With the exception of the Lower McCullough Gulch Trail there are no designated trails on National Forest lands west of Hwy 9 and immediately adjacent to the Town of Blue River. Work cooperatively with the USFS on any updates to the White River National Forest travel management plan that may propose new trails in the future.
- e. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, within subdivisions that allow for single-track non-motorized travel to connect subdivisions and provide access to established trails and open space/parks.
- f. Work cooperatively with the USFS to identify, for future construction, potential non-motorized single-track routes to connect travel routes in the Town with the Spruce Creek Trail and Burro Trail on National Forest land.

## **B. Planning Area 2: Center – Blue River corridor, subdivisions immediately adjacent to the Blue River, and Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision,**

Planning Area 2 encompasses land within Blue River town limits, and residential neighborhoods immediately adjacent to and nearby the Goose Pasture Tarn and Blue River, including, Spillway and Rivershore, Blue Rock Springs, Spruce Valley Ranch, '96 (western portion), Mountain View (west of Mountain View Road), Sherwood Forest, and New Eldorado (abutting the Blue River) subdivisions. Currently, there are no formal trailheads inside the Town of Blue River in the planning area. At the north end of Blue River Road, on National Forest land, is an informal parking area to access the Blue River Trail and social trail along the Blue River.

### **Goals for Planning Area 2**

- a. The Blue River corridor and Goose Pasture Tarn is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex through the planning area and is important wildlife/waterfowl habitat. Do not encourage use nor future trail development along the river corridor in this area.
- b. The terrain is very steep on eastern portion of the river in the Planning Area, making it difficult to build sustainable trails.
- c. Wayfinding/signage is needed in the area on a site-specific basis in cooperation with landowners.
- d. Work cooperatively with landowners to consider putting undevelopable land along the Blue River in conservation easement status.
- e. Identify and explore easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, from the end of Blue River Road to the Goose Pasture Tarn that allow for single track non-motorized travel.
- f. Maintain public access along the Blue River Trail from the Town of Blue River to Breckenridge along established easements in Spruce Valley Ranch subdivision.
- g. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, within Blue Rock Springs subdivision that allow for single-track, non-motorized travel to connect subdivisions and provide access to established trails and open space/parks.
- h. Work with the USFS to obtain a legal right-of-way granted to the Town of Blue River for the northern portion of Blue River Road that is located on National Forest lands.

## **C. Planning Area 3- East - Subdivisions East of the Blue River Adjacent to National Forest Lands**

Planning Area 3 encompasses land within Blue River town limits, and residential neighborhoods east of the Blue River up to and abutting the National Forest; including, '96 (eastern portion), Mountain View (east of Mountain View Road), Wilderness, Royal, Coronet, New Eldorado (east of Blue River), Aspen View and Timber Creek Estates subdivisions. There is a formal trailhead on land owned by Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge, known as the "Royal Placer" at the end of the Coronet Drive for 4-6 cars.

### **Goals for Planning Area 3**

- a. Identify and explore easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, from the end of Calle De Plata to the Fredonia Gulch Road that allow for single track non-motorized travel and provide access to established Forest Service trails and roads.
- b. The Pennsylvania Creek corridor itself is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex through the central portion of the planning area and is important wildlife

habitat. This must be considered in planning, design, and construction of any trails along the creek.

- c. Work with USFS on the Old Wagon Road trail that goes from Blue River Road to Coronet Drive to re-route trail to meet sustainability standards for mountain bike use and connect to Blue River Trail Extension at Royal Placer, via Coronet Drive and Holly Lane.
- d. Wayfinding/signage is needed in the area on a site-specific basis after coordination with landowners affected by the proposed improvements.
- e. Identify significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, that connect the Town Park and Old Wagon Road north of Coronet Drive with the Blue River Trail on Summit County/Town of Breckenridge lands near Pennsylvania Creek.
- f. Cooperate with landowners to secure appropriate right-of-way across lots along the Blue River Trail from Pennsylvania Creek to Calle De Plata.
- g. Work with Summit County/Town of Breckenridge on the design and construction of an improved parking plan for the trailhead at the end of Coronet Drive and access to Pennsylvania Creek.
- h. Work with Summit County/Town of Breckenridge and USFS to evaluate the socially created trail network that is located immediately east of the trailhead at the end of Coronet Drive and north of Pennsylvania Creek.

## **VII. Implementation Strategy**

### **2 to 5 year Planning Period**

Focus on securing a legal and sustainable route along the Blue River Trail (FDT606.1) corridor in Planning Area 3. Several trail segments need further work in obtaining easements, as well as access from Regal Circle near Town Park to the Blue River Trail segment on Town of Breckenridge and Summit County land in the Royal Placer. Continue to Identify and explore acquiring easements for significant travel routes, separated from roads where reasonable, between and within subdivision that allow for single track non-motorized travel and provide access to established trails and open space/parks within Town and onto National Forest lands. (See Appendix C - Open Space and Trails Master Plan Map).

Inventory and evaluate significant and threatened open space lands for protection of wildlife habitat and preserving environmentally sensitive areas. Partner with like-minded agencies to acquire high priority open space lands, including access to the Blue River Trail in Planning Area 2.

### **3 to 5 year Planning Period**

Evaluate open space lands in Planning Area 2 that might be considered for conservation of the river corridor with the understanding that residents might access this area for fishing and enjoying the natural environment. Some more immediate consideration might be given to extending a pathway for multi-modal transportation access for residents in Blue Rock Springs Subdivision to access the Blue River Road. These residents would benefit from a pedestrian easement along Hwy 9 on private property to access the Summit Stage and/or the local trail network being developed along the Blue River Trail. Public outreach to determine willingness to participate in the Town's trail easement "donation program" should be investigated in the near term.

### **5+ year Planning Period**

Planning Area 1 includes Highway 9 and the general alignment of the proposed future Hoosier Pass Rec Path. Residents on both sides of the highway would benefit from safe passage across Hwy 9 to access existing and future trail routes. Future discussions are needed as the Town does not have control over Hwy 9 speed limits or cross walks.

## **VIII. Appendices**

**Appendix A - Trail Guidelines**

**Appendix B – Trail Design Standards**

**Appendix C – Open Space and Trails Master Plan Map**

## **Appendix A - Trail Guidelines**

### **Guidelines for Trail Design**

Where new trails are constructed on provided easements, substantial altering of the existing grade of the property will be prohibited. The new trails will be required to be consistent with the existing topography. Trails will be designed to minimize impact on the natural environment and will be designed according to Appendix B – Trail Design Standards.

#### **A. Sustainability**

Trails that require little rerouting and minimal maintenance over extended periods of time and can support currently planned and future uses with minimal impact to the natural systems of the area are considered sustainable. Proper trail alignment, grading and drainage are necessary components of a sustainable trail.

##### **Characteristics of a Sustainable Trail**

- Connects selected control points
- Gets water efficiently off the trail
- Offers different experiences for various users with differing ability levels
- Encourages users to stay on the trail
- Follows natural contours
- Grade follows The Half Rule (Grade does not exceed half the side-slope)

##### **Characteristics of an Unsustainable Trail**

- Results in significant tread incision and gulying
- Results in severe erosion or washout
- Contains multiple or braided treads
- Impacts private property
- Causes sedimentation in nearby watercourses

#### **B. Design Objectives**

The Blue River Trail System will provide safe connectivity to the surrounding towns and areas. The trail design will be consistent with the culture of mission of the Town of Blue River and harmonious with the natural environment.

- Safety will be the top priority. Where possible, trails will remain off major roads and avoid use of Highway 9.
- The trails will be used by hikers, bicyclists, horses and skiers of varying abilities. Access for the physically handicapped will be provided, whenever possible.
- Design will be conducted to minimize impacts on the natural environment.
- The design will be sensitive to the area's preservation/restoration.
- Trails will provide connectivity through Town connecting to the Forest Service and Town of Blue River trails.
- Trails will be for year-round use. Limitations may be put into place during "mud" seasons to limit damage and erosion.
- A detailed trail vision map will be created and referenced when determining connections. Alternatives will be explored where necessary.
- Trails shall be designed to minimize future maintenance.

- When possible, trails should be planned, designed, and constructed to match trail standards with the U.S. Forest Service.
- Signage shall be conforming to U.S Forest Service standards. Signage shall be provided when entering private property restricting access to the trail.
- Trails will not be maintained in the winter.

### **C. Trail Alignment**

- Trails should consider comfort, safety, enjoyment, minimal maintenance, environmental impacts for year-round use. Where possible trails should be constructed with a grade of 10% or less within the Town of Blue River.
- Trails should consider sight distances, noting narrow sections, intersections, hills and curves.
- Trails should, where possible, follow the natural terrain minimizing the need for cuts into hillsides and erosion.
- Trails should minimize the impacts to the adjacent natural environment, wildlife habitat and avoid wetland areas.
- Bridges shall be constructed with natural materials and be sustainable minimizing maintenance needs.
- Alignment should be located away from tree trunks and at the edge of heavily wooded areas to minimize vegetative clearing and tread damage from roots.
- Easements shall be placed according to owner's wishes to minimize impacts to individual lots.

## **Appendix B – Trail Design Standards**

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## **Acknowledgements**

Much of the information in this document is a reproduction of material from the Town of Breckenridge Trail Standards and Guidelines (2007), which is a compilation of material from trail's plans in other mountain communities such as a *Trails Design and Management Handbook* from the OpenSpace and Trails Program in Pitkin County and Eagle County, Park City (Utah), and the City of Aspen's trail's manuals. Illustrations in this document are provided courtesy of the International Mountain Biking Association.

National Standards from the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service, Colorado Department of Transportation, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials were also reviewed and when applicable, were incorporated into this document.

## **I. Town of Blue River Trails**

In the Town of Blue River residents and visitors stress the importance of a sustainable coexistence with our environment and an interconnected trail system within Town and adjacent public lands. By following the guidelines set forth herein and using current trails in Town and in Summit County as examples, the Town of Blue River's trail system can retain the following important qualities:

- Safe public access
- Minimization of user conflicts
- Sustainability
- Quality construction and maintainability
- Effective signage
- A variety of enjoyable experiences for various user types and skill levels

To ensure that these objectives are achieved, the Town of Blue River Trail Standards shall be used during trail construction and maintenance to provide developers, staff, the public, and trail users with a foundation upon which trail work can be performed. Also included in this document are the fundamentals of trail design, trail maintenance standards, trail signage standards, slope stabilization and revegetation, and basic definitions of trail terms.

When a trail is conceived or planned in the Town of Blue River, several options are available to obtain legal access to the trail, including easements, land exchanges, fee simple purchase, development agreements and condemnation.

## **II. Trail Design Standards**

### **A. Trail Corridor**

The trail corridor is the cleared area above and on either side of the tread needed to accommodate the trail and its users. It varies in size depending on the type of trail and trail use and requires clearing and limbing, grading of adjacent slopes, drainage structures, and revegetation.

#### **1. Trail Prism**

The trail prism is the cleared area necessary for safe use of the trail. To create the prism, an opening needs to be cleared through trees and shrubs. Tree trunks, projecting rock ledges, limbs, logs and brush should be removed for a minimum distance on both sides of the tread and a minimum height above the trail. The exact distances for the vertical and horizontal clearance will vary based on a trail type, width, use, etc. The opening created by this clearing should not be apparent to users, hence vegetation should be pruned

selectively and irregularly to make the prism look as natural as possible. Do not disturb the natural environment outside of the trail corridor. When small trees and bushes are within the tread, do not cut them flush with the ground. Dig them out, including the roots, to avoid future erosion around them that would cause greater trail damage. When trimming branches do not cut the branch flush with the trunk. Leaving a branch nub will help the cut heal more quickly. Place felled trees and cut branches at least 10 feet from the corridor with the cut end pointing away from the trail.

A trail corridor should be at least twice as wide as the tread width. This can vary with terrain and the type of user the trail is designated. Vertical and horizontal clearance standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types (see Section III. J.).

## **2. Sightlines**

To reduce the potential for collisions or accidents, the trail user should be able to safely and clearly observe the trail ahead and upcoming intersections or obstacles. When determining sightline, the speed of the trail user will lengthen or shorten the distance required for proper reaction time to occur. In conjunction with sightline, grade should be considered. When possible, curves, stops and reduced speed zones should be on a flat grade with an adequate sightline. If a curve is required on a grade, a longer sightline should be designed. When sightlines cannot be an adequate length, a slow sign should be considered.

<b>Sightlines</b>	
Design Speed	Sight Distance
20 mph	130-200'
15 mph	85-130'
10 mph	35-60'

Above are some guidelines to use when determining sight distance, exceptions may be required for certain sections of trails.

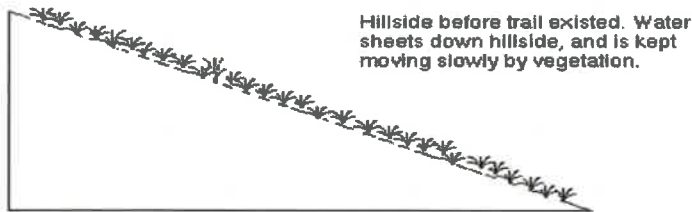
## **3. Adjacent Slopes**

Ideally, all trails would be constructed using full-bench construction techniques (see illustration). The process of removing soil from one area and placing it somewhere else to form a base for any given activity is called cut and fill. To create a more uniform trail, this technique is recommended over hauling in material from an outside location, although both are less preferable than full bench construction. Any cut and fill slopes adjacent to the tread should not exceed two horizontal to one vertical unless Town staff determines soils are of qualities that justify the stability of a steeper slope. On slopes above 30%, retaining measure (e.g. walls) may be necessary to avoid excessive disturbance created by extreme cut and fill slopes. Most cut and fill slopes should be revegetated. (See the "slope stabilization, revegetation and landscaping" and "retaining walls" sections for details on dealing with adjacent slopes.)

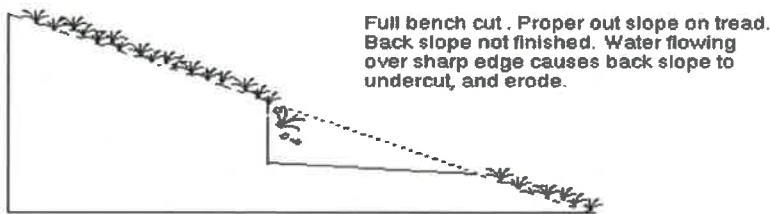
## **4. Width**

The width of the tread will vary depending on the type of trail, type of user, number of users and steepness of slope being traversed. Generally, equestrians require wider treads than hikers and mountain bikers. On steeper slopes (generally 30% or greater), construction at the minimum tread width may be necessary to reduce the impact of cut and fill slopes and construction costs. For wheelchair use, 5-foot tread width will allow two wheelchairs to pass one other. Width standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types.

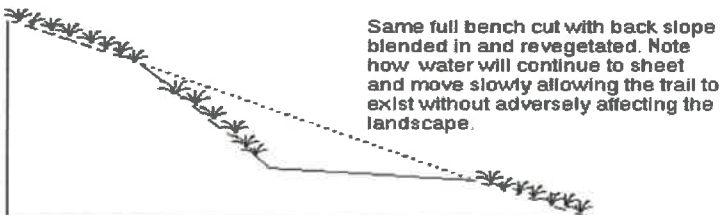
## **Full Bench Construction**



Hillside before trail existed. Water sheets down hillside, and is kept moving slowly by vegetation.



Full bench cut . Proper out slope on tread. Back slope not finished. Water flowing over sharp edge causes back slope to undercut, and erode.



Same full bench cut with back slope blended in and revegetated. Note how water will continue to sheet and move slowly allowing the trail to exist without adversely affecting the landscape.

Full bench construction is preferred over half bench or other construction techniques because it avoids long-term settlement and other stability issues.

### **D. Trail Tread**

When most people visualize a trail, they think only of the actual surface portion of the trail on which users travel- also known as the trail tread. The following are important considerations when considering how to design and construct the trail tread:

#### **1. Grade**

The proper grading on a trail is essential for maximum use and minimum maintenance. A grade that is too steep may deter trail use and will provide an easy path for water to flow. An increase in water on the trail creates an opportunity for erosion and trail damage.

Grade is determined with the formula  $\text{rise/run} \times 100$  (e.g., Rise=2'; Run=20'; Grade=2/20 x 100=10%). In general, a 10% average or less for the entire trail is the most sustainable.

Details on grade are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types. However, some general guidelines when determining trail grade include:

- When trying to gain a lot of elevation, use shorter, steeper gradients broken up by more gradual (resting) sections of trail as opposed to long even gradients, which are more tiring to the user and tend to collect and carry water. If a sustained elevation gain

is necessary, (i.e., over 200 feet), every effort should be made to keep it below 6% for hard surface pathways and soft surface trails and 8% for natural and rough trails. Use the chart below for more guidelines on the size if the grade for the length of trail.

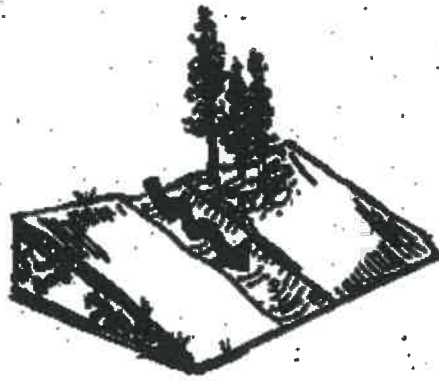
- Where shorter, steeper grades are used to break up a long, sustained pitch, it should be recognized that soft surface, natural, and rough trails with grades above 10% are more prone to erosion, especially when they exceed 15%. Maintenance and sustainability of these trail types are easiest when grades are below 10%.
- Avoid the fall line. A trail along the fall line will become an easy path for water to flow creating significant environmental damage from erosion.
- Where possible, avoid trails constructed in flat topography as they do not facilitate effective drainage and present the possibility for the trail to retain water.
- Climbing turns and switchbacks are curves in the trail that reverse the direction of travel. They may be needed to reduce grade when gaining elevation. Climbing turns are wide, ascending curves that work only on gentle to medium slopes of less than 20%. They are preferred over switchbacks because they are easier to construct and use. A switchback is a sharp, short radius curve that should be used as a last resort on hillsides where the working area is limited and slopes are greater than 20%. Switchbacks are difficult to construct, require continual maintenance, do not always accommodate mountain bikes, and are a challenge to manage because users may shortcut the turn.

This chart provides some guidelines to use when determine the length of the trail on certain grades, exceptions may be required for certain sections of trails.

Trail Length Limits on Grades	
Grade	Limit on Length at that grade
<3%	None
5+ to 6%	700'
6+ to 7%	400'
7+ to 8%	200'
8+ to 9%	100'
9+ to 10%	50'
10+ to 15%	25'
15%+	0'

## 2. The Half Rule

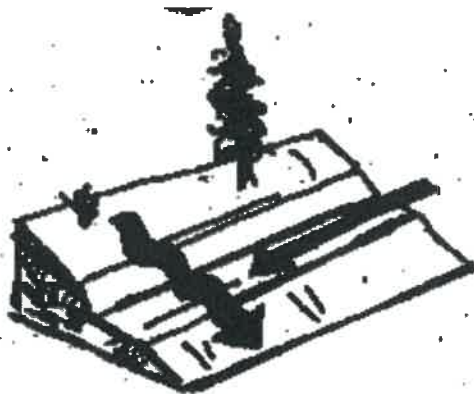
The half rule is a common rule of thumb when determining proper grade. To ensure proper drainage, a trail's tread grade should not exceed half of the grade of the hillside or side slope that the trail is traversing. If the trail is more than half of the side slope, it is a fall-line trail. In this case water will flow down the trail as opposed to sheet across it. For example, a trail passing through an area with a gentle 6% side slope must have a tread grade of less than 3% for water to escape the fall line. Some trail conditions such as soil type and location also need to be considered when determining trail grade.



Water flowing down a hill will follow the path of least resistance, called a fall line. Trails built on the fall line will have water flowing down (rather than across) them.



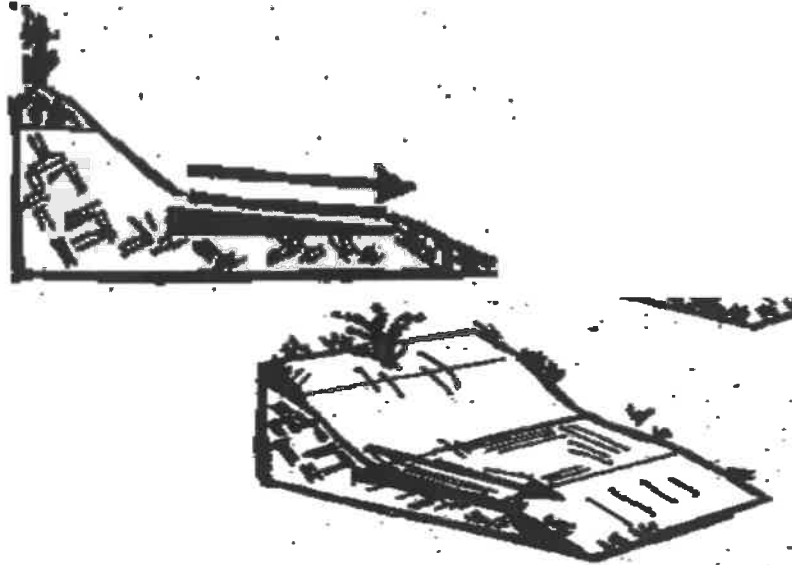
This trail does not meet the Half Rule, therefore, water will flow down the trail.  
**20% side slope 15% Trail Grade**



This trail meets the Half Rule, therefore, water will sheet across the trail.  
**20% side slope 8% Trail Grade**

### 3. Out Slope

On trails that traverse hillsides, creating an out slope on the tread is a common erosion control method. This consists of a slight tilt in the tread that leaves the outside edge of the trail lower than the inside to promote drainage. This method is effective in getting water to cross or sheet the trail rather than follow it. In flat terrain, the edge of the trail should match existing grade and the trail should be crowned to drain the trail surface. Trails constructed with proper out slope still need to meet the Half Rule objective. Out slope standards are located within the standards and guidelines for trail types.



### 4. Switchbacks and Curves

Cross slope and curve radii are two important trail design elements that need to be considered when designing curves. During a curve, the trail briefly becomes aligned with the fall line creating the possibility of increased erosion. By building turns on a side slope of no more than 7% and building the upper part of the curve with an in slope and the lower part with an out slope you create a curve that allows water to flow across and continue down without getting captured by the trail tread. Retaining walls and armoring may also be necessary to decrease erosion and trail damage. Crowning a turn can also help mitigate erosive forces.

Curve radii are another important trail design element to be considered in turns. Larger turning radii protect user safety and help reduce erosion. A general rule of thumb is the faster a trail user is traveling, the wider the curve should be. A proper sightline before a curve is also necessary to prevent collisions or accidents. For more information refer to Trail Designations (see Section III. J.).

### E. Drainage

Erosion is the natural process by which soil particles are detached from the ground surface and transported down slope by the action of moving water or wind. The combination of water falling on the trail, water running down the trail, freeze/thaw, and the wear and tear of user traffic can create significant erosion problems on trails with poor drainage. In order to create a sustainable trail with low maintenance requirements, erosion on the trail needs to be mitigated. Many preventable circumstances create a situation resulting in high erosion rates on the trail, such as trails that follow the fall line or have no out slope. Such trail design issues may result in the use of multiple drainage structures and the need for more frequent

maintenance. Trail alignment, grade, design and drainage structures will help prevent water on the trail and are discussed in more detail below.



Water trapped on trails can cause erosion and damage to the trail (left). Grade breaks and out slope help direct the water off the trail (right).

**Installing well-designed drainage with adequate capacity to address erosive forces is the most important element in trail design.** Utilizing and protecting natural drainage patterns when aligning the trail while also constructing adequate cross slope during construction will remedy surface runoff in most situations. However, when runoff is concentrated uphill of the tread, the trail grade is steep, or a water course is likely to create drainage problems, drainage structures such as culverts, swales, drainage dips, water bars, crowning or grade breaks are required to protect the trail. The steeper the trail, the more frequently structures are needed. The following are general guidelines for use of drainage structures.

### 1. Grade Breaks

**Definition:** Grade breaks (also called grade dips or rolling grade dips) are different from drainage dips in that they are planned and designed into the trail alignment. The drainage is created when the ascending trail gently rises, then resumes its descent.

**Purpose:** This reversal in trail grade creates a low point that diverts water running down the tread off the downhill side.

**Trail Types:** Grade breaks can be used on soft surface or natural trails.

**Design:** Grade breaks are most effective when they take advantage of natural features by dropping in and out of slight dips in the terrain. Grade breaks of this nature require little or no construction, other than minor grading.

Grade Break	Spacing
Spacing	Trail Grade
500'	3-5%
300'	7-10%
100'	11-15%
<50'	>15%

Graph provides a general guideline of spacing between grade breaks.

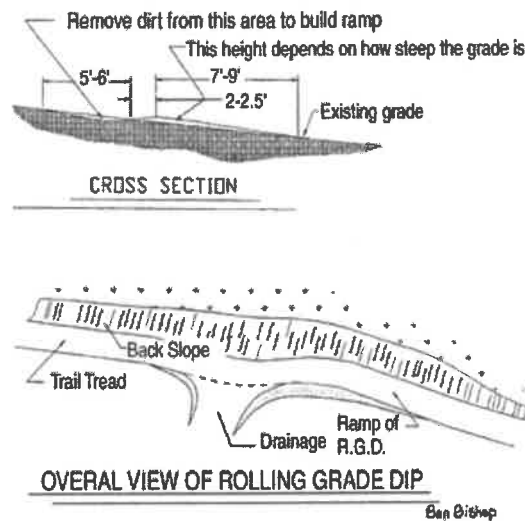
## 2. Drainage Dips

**Definition:** Drainage dips are carefully shaped depressions built into an existing trail to divert water from the tread.

**Purpose:** Drainage dips are effective in removing rainwater and snowmelt runoff from the trail tread.

**Trail Type:** They should be used only on soft surface or natural trails with slight to medium grades.

**Design:** Drainage dips are most effective on contouring trails in which the dip drains toward the trail's outside edge (a.k.a. positive drainage).



## 3. Water bars

**Definition:** A water bar is a reinforced drainage dip containing a raised row of fitted stones or timber that helps divert runoff from the trail. Water bars are less desirable than drainage dips and grade dips because they are jolting and may preclude some wheeled users.

**Purpose:** These heavy-duty structures are typically band-aid type remedies used to repair an existing, eroded trail.

**Material:** Natural material such as rock or rot resistant logs is preferred but rubber barriers are also available.

**Trail Type:** They should be used only on natural trails. If cyclists or wheelchairs use the trail, the preferred alternative is a more wheel-friendly drainage dip.

**Design:** Waterbars should be constructed at a 30-degree angle from the trail's edge and should extend beyond both sides of the trail to prevent water or people from going around them. The logs should be at least 6-8 inches in diameter and buried firmly. As the trail grade increased (i.e., becomes steeper), the number of waterbars used should also increase.

Grade Break	Spacing Between Waterbars (feet)
2	250
5	130
10	80
15	50
20+	40

The above table provides a guideline when deciding on the spacing between waterbars. Some changes may be necessary for certain trail sections.

#### 4. Armoring

**Definition:** Armoring is the use of large rocks to “pave” the trail to prevent erosion or protect a sensitive environment. Armoring raises the trail’s elevation while still allowing water percolation.

**Purpose:** Armoring is used in seasonally wet areas, or areas with accelerated erosion areas (e.g. jump landings).

**Materials:** When armoring, it is best to use local rock material to uphold a natural look and prevent the spread of invasive plant matter.

**Trail Type:** Armoring is used on natural trails.

**Design:** Do not remove rocks that will damage vegetation or sensitive areas. When armoring, refer to recommended practices regarding trail grade.

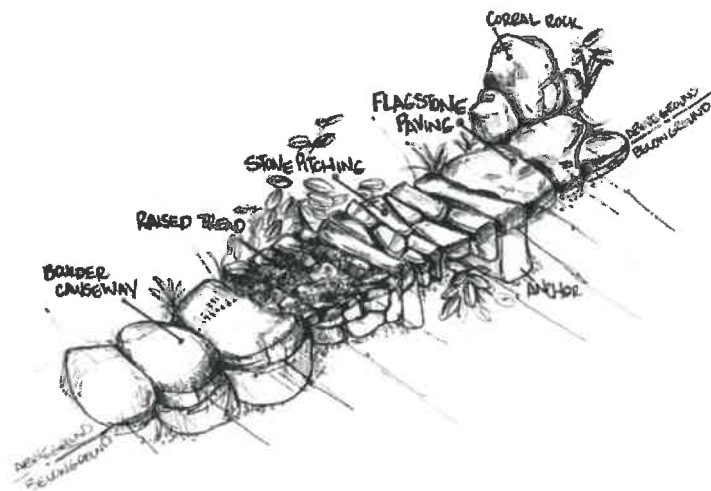


Illustration of various armoring techniques. (IMBA)



Armoring on the Lower Flume Trail.

## 5. Culverts

**Definition:** A culvert is a covered channel or pipe that takes a watercourse under a trail.

**Purpose:** Culverts can be used to accommodate drainages that carry more than occasional storm runoff or which continue to flow after rainfall has ceased. Culverts can also be used for low flow and intermittent stream crossings, and for side swale drainage.

**Trail Type:** Culverts are commonly used on both hard surface pathways and soft surface trails.

**Materials:** A culvert is typically made of metal or plastic.

**Design:** Due to the complexity of culvert design, installation should be coordinated with the Town Engineering Department and the Town Trails Planner.

## 6. Swale Crossings

**Definition:** A swale crossing is a low spot in the trail that allows water to flow across the trail under controlled circumstances.

**Purpose:** Swale crossings are used when water flows are minimal and/or intermittent.

**Trail Type:** Swale crossings can be used on all trail types although they are not recommended on hard surface pathways.

**Materials:** On crusher fine trails, swales with minimal flows can be made with crusher fines but in areas of concentrated flow, concrete or stone paving should be used.

**Design:** Usually swale crossings are small and can be stepped or jumped across.

## 7. Side Swales

**Definition:** Side swales are broad, shallow ditches which parallel the trail.

**Purpose:** They prevent runoff water from reaching the trail surface and give water on the tread a lower place to drain.

**Trail Type:** Side swales can be used on all trail types.

**Design:** Side swales can either empty into natural drainages or be drained at intervals by culverts under the trail.



## 8. Crowning

**Definition:** Crowning is a method of trail construction where the center part of the tread is built up to allow water to run off each side.

**Purpose:** Crowning assists with drainage by forcing water off the trail tread.

**Trail Type:** This technique is most commonly used on flat soft surface and natural trails and should be used only if both sides of the trail have someplace to drain.

**Design:** Crowning should be steep enough to shed water, but not too steep as to cause discomfort for trail users.

### **III. Other Trail Considerations**

#### **A. Environmentally Sensitive and Hazardous Areas**

Trails should avoid environmentally sensitive and hazardous sites whenever possible. If unavoidable, special alignment and construction methods must be used to protect the site from negative environmental impacts and provide for safety of the trail user.

The following are guidelines for constructing a trail at or near environmentally sensitive and hazardous sites. The Town's building codes may supersede these requirements and there may be other permits necessary such as Clean Water Act permits, etc.

- Construction impacts to the area surrounding the trail should be minimized when building a trail. When possible, trails in environmentally sensitive areas should be constructed using hand tools. Whenever possible, the use of heavy equipment should be avoided to prevent impacts to sensitive environments.
- The trail alignment should be planned to preserve significant vegetation.
- Plants native to the site should be used in revegetation of environmentally sensitive areas that have been disturbed. (See the "slope stabilization, revegetation and landscaping" section for details on revegetation.)
- Deviation from these guidelines via special alignment or construction methods may be necessary to reduce impacts and/or disturbance to environmentally sensitive and hazardous areas. Town staff must approve these deviations.
- Trails that cross or are located adjacent to wetlands must be designed for minimal impact. Boardwalks or other structural techniques may be required.
- When aligning trails, the use of areas with existing disturbance such as existing social trails, utility line easements, abandoned ditches and abandoned road cuts should be considered.
- Development of trails in areas of critical wildlife and plant habitat may require site-specific studies to determine impacts, mitigation, and appropriate alignments.
- In order to protect environmentally sensitive areas during and after trail construction, erosion control methods such as siltation fences and straw bale barriers may be required. Revegetation may also be required.

#### **B. Winter Trails**

In most cases, Town trails will be used in both summer and winter. Winter trail use will be primarily oriented toward on-snow usage such as Nordic skiing or snowshoeing. When locating trails that can support winter use consider:

- Aligning trails to take advantage of opportunities for shade and wind protection (i.e., locating in northern exposures and maximizing shading from evergreens).
- Avoiding conflicts with roadside snow storage by placing trails a minimum setback of 20 feet from any road to be plowed during winter.
- Widening the trail corridor to provide for a safer and more enjoyable winter travel corridor.

- Installing additional signage that is high enough to be visible during winter and far enough away from plowed routes to also ensure winter visibility. Blue diamond markers are typically used to mark winter travel routes.

As trails used for Nordic skiing become steeper, the minimum horizontal clearance should increase. This increased width does not need to be cleared of all vegetation but should provide skiers a wide area for turning, “herring boning” and snowplowing when the trail is snow covered. Steep Nordic ski trails may need to provide gently sloped clearings and runouts for skiers to slow down, particularly at switchbacks.

In general, winter trails to be plowed to accommodate heavy use should be hard surface pathways. Soft surface and natural surface trails with design features that cannot support plowing equipment will not be plowed. Where the potential for groomed and developed winter trail systems exists (such as Nordic centers), wider easements, or separate trails, may be necessary to accommodate both groomed trails and other public use.

### **C. Existing Trails**

The Town of Blue River contains many existing trails. Most fit into the natural trail category. Few, if any, design considerations were applied during their development. Consequently, most existing trails meet few of the standards recommended in this document.

As trails of this nature become Town easements, it may be necessary to bring the trail up to the standards listed in this document, from a usability, safety, and maintenance perspective as well as to minimize liability to the Town. However, the Town recognizes that bringing an existing trail up to current standards is not always possible or desirable. In reviewing proposals for trail projects, the Town Staff shall have the discretion to exempt certain trails from standards that are not possible to meet based on the existing condition of the trail. Armoring or other trail building techniques may be necessary to address such concerns.

If an existing trail must be realigned, the new trail should, when appropriate, duplicate or improve the original trail's standards and character as much as possible.

### **D. Trails with Universal Access**

Trails should be designed, particularly hard surface pathways in the more heavily populated areas of Town, to accommodate access by the physically disabled. A trail should not exceed a 5% grade where access by physically disabled users is possible. In addition, special design considerations (such as modified drainage structures) should be incorporated. Due to mountainous conditions, some hard surface pathways may not be accessible to the entire spectrum of physically disabled users. While it is clearly not practical for all trails in a mountain community to be fully accessible to the disabled, the Town will make every effort to comply with the standards set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 (ADA) and in the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) bike and pedestrian trail guidelines, where reasonably appropriate. Most natural trails and some soft surface trails are not expected to comply with ADA or may be identified as acceptable for only a more advanced level of physically disabled user.

### **E. Wetlands and Water Crossings**

When dealing with riparian environments, special precautions need to be made in order to mitigate or prevent sedimentation and damage to sensitive ecosystems. Preventing and minimizing impacts to wetland areas is critical to aquatic health and, in relation to trails, can often be accomplished by minimizing vegetation removal and soil disturbance. If construction on stream banks, lakes, shores, and wetlands is unavoidable, the trail tread should be raised using turnpikes, boardwalks, or armoring. To avoid water quality impacts from

chemical leaching from treated wood, structures should be constructed with natural untreated wood, precast concrete, or steel. If the wood is pretreated, the structure should be isolated in poly wrap below grade. If trails enter wetland areas, permits may be required, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted.

## **F. Slope Stabilization, Revegetation and Landscaping**

Revegetation is important to control erosion and stabilize slopes, as well as to improve aesthetics. It is important that revegetation be sensitive to existing on-site plant species in order to maintain a natural character and balance. The most important areas for revegetation are where major disturbance occurs, usually related to hard surface pathways. Another disturbance area of concern is related to cut and fill slopes or full bench cuts on steeply sloping sites (over 30%). Town staff must be consulted regarding all revegetation plans. The following guidelines should be followed in all cases.

- Care should be taken to maintain existing vegetation (including the understory) wherever possible.
- Plantings should consist of low maintenance, drought resistant, and native species.
- On-site native plant species should be identified, and revegetation should occur with an appropriate mixture of these native plants if possible. This is especially important in environmentally sensitive areas.
- Non-native plant species or standard high-altitude seed mix should not be used where such revegetation would promote invasion by introduced species that are not found on site and which would have an adverse effect on native plants. This is especially important in environmentally sensitive areas.
- In environmentally sensitive areas it may be best not to plant anything but instead to simply prepare and mulch the seedbed with a seed-free erosion control/mulch blanket.
- In areas of minimal disturbance and with sparse under story vegetation (lodgepole pine forests), revegetation may not be necessary, but excavated soils should be widely dispersed away from the corridor.
- The type of plants and the formality of plantings should complement the natural and man-made plantings around the site and neighborhood. The trail corridor should either seem like part of a native ecosystem or part of an adjacent landscaped area.
- Revegetation should occur as soon as grading work is completed and weather permits. Revegetated sites should be maintained until enough establishment has occurred to reasonably stabilize the site.

The following guidelines should be followed where there is major disturbance:

- Temporary slope stabilization and revegetation will be necessary during construction, and until permanent drainage and successful revegetation is achieved.
- Landscaping may be necessary to recreate natural character, minimize visual impact or to create a buffer between the trail and adjacent uses. Landscaping recommendations in the Town Development Code and Town of Blue River Noxious Weed Management Plan (2021) should be followed.

## **G. Structures**

Structures are trail corridor improvements necessary for user comfort or to solve specific drainage, grading, safety, and water crossing situations. For public safety and economy, most structures should be designed by a design professional. Trail structures should complement the character of the surrounding landscape. Typical structures related to trail development are retaining walls, bridges, boardwalks, turnpikes, fences, steps, stairways, railings, and other user amenities such as restrooms and benches. Some structures have already been discussed in the Drainage section of this appendix.

### **1. Retaining Walls**

**Definition:** A retaining wall is a vertical structure usually consisting of rock or timber that enables construction of a trail around obstacles, stabilization and widening of trail sections and stabilization of trails on loose soil.

**Purpose:** Retaining walls are often used to reduce erosion on cut and fill slopes when slopes exceed a stable angle. In addition, retaining walls may be necessary to reduce the size of a cut and fill, or minimize disturbance on an environmentally or visually sensitive site. The Town Staff should be involved during the design and construction of retaining walls.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used in wall construction such as rock or wood. To decrease long term maintenance, rock is preferred.

**Design:** Walls located in visually sensitive areas should be designed to blend with the surroundings. Retaining walls should not be too continuous, thereby avoiding a channelized feeling. The wall should tilt into the slope. An inward tilt of 1 foot for every 4 feet of height is the maximum recommendation with a ratio of 2:1 being more typical and acceptable.

**Trail Type:** To avoid both the "engineered" look and abrupt drop-off sometimes created by retaining walls, they should be used only in select circumstances (especially when developing soft surface, natural or rough trails).

## 2. Bridges

**Purpose:** Bridges are used to cross a natural or man-made drainage that has a year-round flow and to span a ravine or gully-type terrain feature.

**Trail Type:** Bridges should be used to cross a perennial stream where a water crossing would create hazardous conditions or damage to the environment.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

**Design:** Bridges should be designed to withstand floods and should be placed to avoid sharp curves or deflections. Bridge width should be able to accommodate the largest trail use such as bikes, horses, or pedestrian. Emergency access or maintenance vehicles may also need to be considered in the design phase.

On most bridges, the minimum width should be the same as the approach trail plus the horizontal clearance. An exception to this would be a simple bridge on a pedestrian-only soft surface, natural or rough trail. On hard surface pathways and multi-use soft surface trails, bridges should be 2 to 4 feet wider than the approaching trail. Railings may be required where the distance from the ground is 30 inches or more (see "railings" for additional details). Bumpers and ramps may also be required on trail-based bridges. On natural and rough trails, with small streams that can be stepped over during normal flow, a bridge may not be necessary. In this case refer to the section on armoring. Where bridges are necessary on these trails, design should be simple and incorporate use of native materials, when possible. Bridges must be approved by the Town Staff and in many cases will have to be designed by a civil engineer.

### Tips For Successful Bridge Building:

- 1) Make bridges strong enough to support the heaviest potential user and snow loads
- 2) For wooden bridges choose a material that is rot resistant. Bark must be stripped off the logs to prevent rot and insect damage
- 3) For wooden bridges, use screws or bolts, not nails
- 4) Extend approach ramps onto the trail
- 5) Avoid letting bridge stringers touch the ground. Sit stringers on stones or replaceable wood
- 6) Bridges and their approaches should not have sharp turns; this can be dangerous when icy or wet
- 7) Design the bridge so that travelers can see each other on either end



### 3. Boardwalks

**Definition:** Boardwalks are elevated structures usually of wood or recycled plastic that can be used to minimize environmental impact when crossing over or traveling adjacent to wetlands or occasionally flooded areas.

**Purpose:** Boardwalks are designed to span wet or boggy areas.

**Materials:** All wood used in boardwalk construction should be pressure treated or a rot resistant timber. Boardwalk decking can also be comprised of recycled plastic materials.

**Design:** The bottom of the stringers of a boardwalk should be above high-water levels. The design of the boardwalk should avoid interference with the flow of floodwater and floating debris. In most situations it is better to build as little as possible that will have to resist the force of high-velocity floodwaters. See "guidelines for environmentally sensitive areas" for details on building trails near or through wet areas.

### 4. Turnpikes

**Definition:** Turnpikes (also called causeways) are raised trail treads that typically consist of logs or rocks embedded along the sides of the trail to hold fill material (e.g. gravel and crusher fines) in place.

**Purpose:** The intent of a turnpike is to carry soft surface, natural or rough trails above short sections of seasonally damp and marshy ground, which is saturated with water in spring but remains dry for most of the year.

**Materials:** A layer of geotextile fabric should be placed between the fill material and damp ground to prevent subsidence of the trail.

**Design:** A turnpike should have a 1 to 2-inch crown and shallow side swales to facilitate drainage. The turnpike should not alter water flows in ways that disturb nearby ecosystems and should not be used to cross wetlands where surface water is present.



## 5. Fences

**Purpose:** Fences should be installed only when physical separation is necessary for safety and/or to preserve adjacent landowner privacy.

**Design:** Where possible, fencing should be located only on one side of the trail at a time. Fencing designs which create a narrow corridor effect for long stretches should be avoided. Whenever possible, fences should be no closer than 5 feet from the trail edge. Where fences are necessary along both sides of a trail, minimum width should be 20 feet between the two sections of fence. Fencing should be compatible with wildlife migration patterns.

**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

## 6. Steps or Stairs

**Purpose:** Steps can be used on sections of trail where elevation must be gained quickly, usually in areas where the grade exceeds the recommended maximum.

**Design:** Where steps are located on steep grades, a handrail may be required on one or both sides to provide for safety and user comfort (see "railings" for additional details). When stairs are located in the more urban areas of Town, design should comply with Town building codes.

**Trail Types:** Steps are not recommended for trails used by horses, bikes and the disabled.

**Materials:** Stone is preferred for steps, however, treated timber can also be used.



## 7. Railings

**Purpose:** Railings are recommended on high volume, hard surface pathways and soft surface trails where a steep drop off exists within 5 feet of the trail edge.

**Purpose:** Railings can be used on trails as necessary for user safety and comfort.

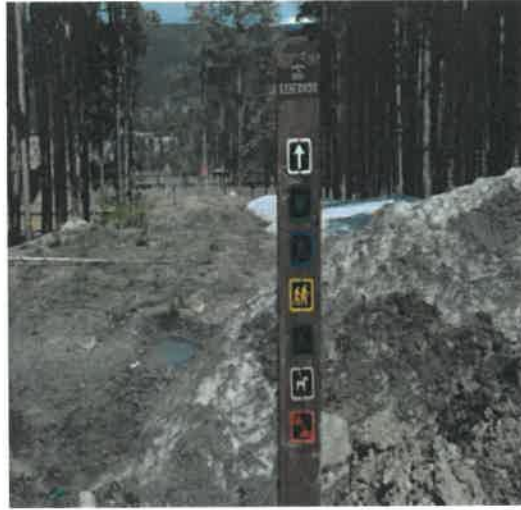
**Materials:** Whenever possible, natural materials should be used.

**Design:** Railings on pedestrian trails should be 42 inches high. Railings on multi-use hard surface pathways which receive considerable use by bicyclists should be 54 inches high. For general use in mixed bicycle/pedestrian situations and in zones which are not high-speed bike zones, 42 inch railings are preferred. Railing ends should be flared away from the trail at either end of the railing. Where railings are used on trails located in the more developed areas of Town, design should comply with Town building codes.

## H. Trailheads and Signage

Signage at the trailhead and throughout the trail should be used to inform and educate trail users. Properly located signs can be an indicator of location, distance, property boundaries or restricted uses, preventing unwanted conflicts, or confusion. Listed below are some objectives for trail signage. Town staff must approve all signs.

- Signs should be consistent with those used throughout the Town.
- Signs should be legible; this includes typography, vocabulary, and other design elements.
- Signs should inform users of the trail's use types, direction, location of the trail, location of private property, or other information that can assist and inform trail users.
- Signs should be low maintenance and be capable of withstanding extreme weather conditions and abuse.
- Signs should not obstruct the trail or natural scenery. Informational signs can be grouped together at the trailhead while warning signs should be located to give trail users a chance to react.
- Overuse of signs can diminish the natural effect while under use can leave the trail user confused.
- Rot resistant wood or stone should be used to maintain the most natural appearance.



## I. Intersections

Intersections should be highly visible and provide good sight distance, clear zones, and proper signage. Accommodation of enough stopping sight distance at roadway intersections is critical and adequate warning should be given to permit trail users to stop before reaching the intersection, especially on downgrades. On high volume trail/vehicular intersections, a flat approach grade is especially important and appropriate striping and regulatory signage may be necessary. In less developed areas containing low volume soft surface or natural trails, less formal intersections may be possible (depending on the volume of traffic) and signage may not be necessary. The appropriate road management department or agency should be contacted regarding trail/road intersections. Their involvement at the design phase may be necessary. Whenever possible, a 90-degree intersection is preferable to one with a lesser angle.

## J. Trail Designations

### 1. Hard Surface

**Definition:** A primary characteristic of a hard surface trail is its inability to absorb water. Material for such a trail may include concrete, asphalt, cement, or crushed stone.

**Uses:** A major use of hard surface trails is to easily accommodate handicap accessibility and heavy use. Paved trails, such as bike paths or recpaths, should be used to link trails, residential areas, and the center of town to accommodate recreationists as well as commuters.

**Materials:** Asphalt is preferred due to its flexible qualities and ability to accommodate the expansion and contraction of soils cause by severe temperature changes that occur in Blue River.

**Standards:** Hard surface trails should be well designed, well-constructed, and properly maintained. The following chart is a guideline when building a hard surface trail. Changes may be necessary to accommodate natural obstacles, sensitive areas, or historical amenities.

Hard Surface Trails	
Width	8'-12'
Surface	Asphalt is preferred
Grade	6% or less is preferred
Radius	Refer to AASHTO guidelines
Sight Distance	75' or more
Easement Width	20'-25' minimum

Side Slope	less than 12%, no more than 15%
Vertical Clearance	12'
Horizontal Clearance	at least 2' from side of tread
Cross Slope	2% minimum



## 2. Soft Surface

**Definition:** Soft surface trails have a high permeability rate and consists of an applied surface such as crusher fines or road base.

**Uses:** This tread is intended to be more rural than a paved pathway. Soft surface trails can accommodate single track, trails in rural areas, and link to larger trails or points of interest.

**Materials:** Crusher fines or road base.

**Standards:** Soft surface trails require less preparation than hard surface trails. Constructing a soft surface trail requires the removal of sub grade obstacles such as roots and rocks, the incorporation of proper drainage structures, and the placement of a geotextile fabric to prevent the placed fill material from sinking. These trails should be well designed, well-constructed, and properly maintained. The following chart is a guideline when building a soft surface trail. Changes may be necessary to accommodate natural obstacles, sensitive areas, or historical amenities.

Soft Surface Trails	
Width	4' minimum
Surface	Crusher fine and road base
Grade	3-5% preferred; 8% maximum
Radius	20' minimum
Sight Distance	75' minimum
Easement Width	15' minimum
Side Slope	Less than 12% preferred; 15% maximum
Vertical Clearance	10'
Horizontal Clearance	36"-48" from either side of the tread
Cross Slope	2% minimum



### 3. Natural Surface

**Definition:** Natural surface trails (a.k.a. backcountry or rough trails) should provide access to open space, neighborhoods, and other trails. They are usually located in less developed areas, should blend with their surroundings, and should require little maintenance with only a few drainage structures.

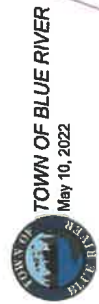
**Uses:** Natural surface trails can accommodate mountain bikers, equestrians, and pedestrians.

**Materials:** Mineral soil and other earthen materials.

**Standards:** Natural surface trails should be designed at grade to minimize erosion. Sections of grades over 12% may be unavoidable but should be short and should never exceed 20%. These trails should be well designed, well-constructed, and properly maintained. The following chart is a guideline when building a natural surface trail. Changes may be necessary to accommodate natural obstacles, sensitive areas, or historical amenities.

Natural Surface Trails	
Width	18" minimum
Surface	Mineral Soil
Grade	8% or less preferred; 20% maximum
Radius	4' minimum
Sight Distance	50' minimum
Easement Width	15' minimum
Slope	Less than 30% preferred; 70% maximum
Vertical Clearance	10'
Horizontal Clearance	Minimum 1 ft from either side of the tread
Cross Slope	3% minimum

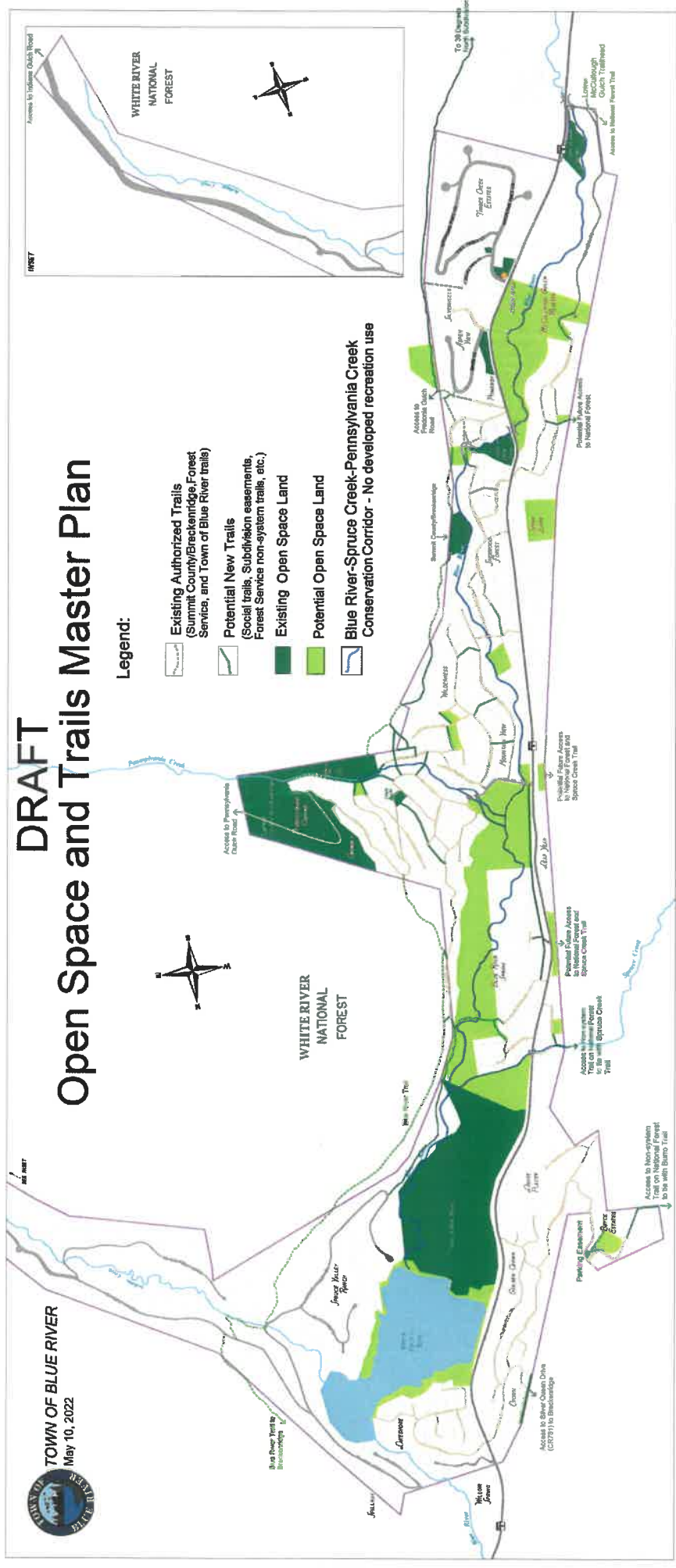
**C – Open Space and Trails Master Plan Map**  
(To be inserted)



# DRAFT Open Space and Trails Master Plan

Legend:

- Existing Authorized Trails  
(Summit County/Breckenridge, Forest Service, and Town of Blue River trails)
- Potential New Trails  
(Social trails, subdivision easements, Forest Service non-system trails, etc.)
- Existing Open Space Land
- Potential Open Space Land
- Blue River-Spruce Creek-Pennsylvania Creek  
Conservation Corridor - No developed recreation use





## 2021

Board of Trustees		Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ken Robertson		2022 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dan Cleary		2022 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	Via Zoom	Excused	X	Excused	X	X	X
Ted Pilling		2022 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused	X	Excused	X	X	X
Toby Babich		2024 Mayor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Joel Dixon		2024 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mark Fossett		2024 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	X	Via Zoom	Excused	X	X	X	X
Kelly Finley		2024 Trustee	X	X	X	X	X	Excused	Via Zoom	Excused	Excused	X	X	Excused

Planning & Zoning		Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	August Spec	September	October	November	December
Travis Beck		2023	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused	Excused	Absent	X	X	X	X
Jonathan Heckman		2023	X	X	Late	X	Absent	X	X	Absent	Absent	X	X	Excused	X
Dan Farber		2023	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tim Johnson		2025	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused	Excused	X	X	X	X
Doug O'Brien		2025	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused	Excused	X	X	X	X
Tori Aldala		2025	X	X	X	X	X								
Ben Stuckey		2025	Excused	Absent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Troy Waits		2025							X	Excused	Absent	X	X	X	X

Open Space & Trails Committee		Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Paul Semmer	2022	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cancelled	Cancelled	X	X	X	X
Wiley Asher	2023	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	Absent	X	X
Mark Fossett	2024	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused			X			
Joel Dixon	2024	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excused			X	X	X	X
Ben Kadlec	2025	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Addienne Stuckey	2025	X	X	X	Excused	X	Excused	Excused			X	X	X	Excused
Bob Rehner	2025							X			X	X	X	X
Ron Snowoshi	2025	X											Excused	Excused
Matt Parker	2025	X	Excused	X	X	X	X	Excused	Resigned					

City/Envsion/LAB	Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Chien Advisor/ LAB													
Bruce Queen	2022	X	Absent	Absent	Excused	Cancelled	X	X	X		X	Absent	Excused
Amanda Weisler	2022	Absent	X	X	X	Cancelled	Excused	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Excused
Tori Aldala	2023	X	X	X	X	Cancelled		X					
Tim West	2023	X	X	Absent	Excused	Cancelled	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kelly Timley	2024	X	Excused	Absent	X	Cancelled	Excused	Excused	X	X	Excused	Excused	X
Christine Armitage	2025	X	Absent	Absent	X	Cancelled	Excused	Absent	Absent	X	Absent	Absent	Absent
Stephen Kucera	2025	X	X	Absent	X	Cancelled	Excused	X	X	X	Absent	Absent	Absent
Noah Hopkins	2025	X	Absent	X	Excused	Cancelled	Excused	Excused	Excused	X	X	X	X
Pauline Stein	2025	X	X	Absent	X	Cancelled	Excused	X	X	Absent	Excused	X	Excused
Doug Smith	2025	X	X	Absent	X	Cancelled	Excused	Excused	Excused	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent

[illegible]



## Meeting Attendance Records 2022

Board of Trustees	Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Ken Robertson	2022-Trustee	X	Excused	X									
Dan Cleary	2022-Trustee	X	X	X									
Ted Pilling	2022-Trustee	X	X	X									
Toby Babich	2024-Mayor	X	X	X	X								
Joel Dixon	2024-Trustee	X	X	X	X								
Mark Fossett	2024-Trustee	X	X	X	X								
Kelly Finley	2024-Trustee	X	X	X	X								
Ted Pilling	2026-Trustee				Excused		Excused						
Ted Slaughtcr	2026-Trustee				X								
Noah Hopkins	2026-Trustee				Excused								

Planning & Zoning	Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Travis Beck	2023	Excused	X	Cancelled		Cancelled	X						
Jonathan Heckman	2023	Absent	Unable to connect				Absent						
Bryan Hardy	2023		X				X						
Tim Johnson	2025	X	X				X						
Doug O'Brien	2025	Absent	X				X						
Ben Stuckey	2025	X	X				X						
Troy Watts	2025	X	X				X						

Open Space & Trails Committee	Term Expiration	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Paul Semmer	2022	X	X	X	X								
Wiley Asher	2023	X	X	X	X								
Ben Kadlec	2025	X	X	X	X								
Adrienne Stuckey	2025	X	X	Excused	X								
Bob Rehner	2025	X	X	X	X								
Ron Snowowski	2025	X	X	X	X								
	2025												

Citizen Advisory/LAB	Term Expiration	January	February	March	2-Mar	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Bruce Queen	2022	Excused	Cancelled	Absent	Absent	Excused								
Tim West	2023	X		noting										
Christine Armitage	2025	X		Absent	Absent, noting	X								
Stephen Kucera	2025	X		Absent	X	Absent								
Noah Hopkins	2025	Excused		X	X	X								
Pauline Stein	2025	X		X	Excused	X	Absent							
Doug Smith	2025	X		Absent		Absent								





**Blue River Staff Report**  
May 2022

Town of Blue River  
0110 Whispering Pines Circle  
Blue River, CO 80424

970-547-0545  
[michelle@townofblueriver.org](mailto:michelle@townofblueriver.org)  
<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov>



## Communications & Happenings

- **Cleanup Day**
  - This year's cleanup day will be Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be two dumpsters located at Town Hall and available for all Blue River residents. Cleanup is encouraged along Hwy 9; Town Park and throughout the neighborhoods. Trash bags will be available at Town Hall.
- **Weed & Seed 2022**
  - Weed & Seed will kick off June 21<sup>st</sup>. Residents are asked to pull and mitigate their noxious weeds and bring them bagged to Town Hall. In return, residents may receive a packet of wildflower seeds. The program will run until August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Audit**
  - The Town audit has started. We are working with McMahan & Associates once again. There will be a presentation in June when the audit is complete.
- **Signs**
  - The Town Manager met with Frank Just to replace several signs in town. A natural boulder barrier will also be placed at the Town's pedestrian easement off of Davis Court. While barriers and signs had been placed to prevent vehicles from driving through the easement to access the National Forest, these were thrown aside. The boulders will allow for pedestrians and bicyclist to utilize the easement while preventing vehicles from driving through and keeping with the natural environment.
- **CDOT Region 3 Updates**
  - Staff attended the quarterly Region 3 meeting with the County and other municipalities. There are no projects in 2022 that will impact Blue River. Hwy 9 from Sherwood Forest to Boreas Pass is scheduled for resurfacing in 2023.
  - Current CDOT projects include the box lane at Exit 205 in Silverthorne; Vail Pass and a fix of the road in Frisco from the new round about. Several future projects are being looked at from different funding sources for the future. There is a call for potential projects for multimodal transportation funding due July 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Concerns over hazmat trucks were discussed referencing the accident occurring May 10<sup>th</sup> with a semi. These continue to be a concern and ongoing conversations are taking place.
- **Tarn**
  - Work is continuing on the Tarn. There was a slight set back due to an unexpected fix but the fix is being addressed and it is anticipated work will be back on track after spring run-off. A presentation will be given to the Trustees in June.
- **Broadband**
  - Staff has been attending meeting and trainings to look into developing broadband in Blue River starting with lines down Hwy 9. This is in partnership with the Town of Breckenridge. Staff is developing an overall broadband plan and will be working with Breckenridge, CDOT, the County and partners to hopefully apply for funding utilizing American Rescue Plan funds as a match.
- **Roads**
  - The Wheeler has conducted some pothole repairs. Weather has made additional work challenging. They will be out again at the end of May, beginning of June to conduct summer maintenance. Extra work is planned on Lakeshore to address drainage and a low spot in the road causing issues during melt off. Additional work is planned on Starlit. Most other areas of town will only need basic maintenance. This will be evaluated as the summer progresses.

## **Town Statistics**

Facebook Page Likes

Town-1,289

Police Department-898

Instagram-1071 followers

Twitter-68 followers

Residents on Email List-962

Blue River News-1,120

**Business Licenses-252**

**Lodging Registrations-187**

## **Building Statistics**

**April 2022**

**Permits Issued: 13**

**YTD: 42**

**Inspections: 37**

**New Construction 2022: 1**

**Certificates of Occupancy: 1**

## **Municipal Court**

**April/May 2022**

Total tickets written for April Court: 13

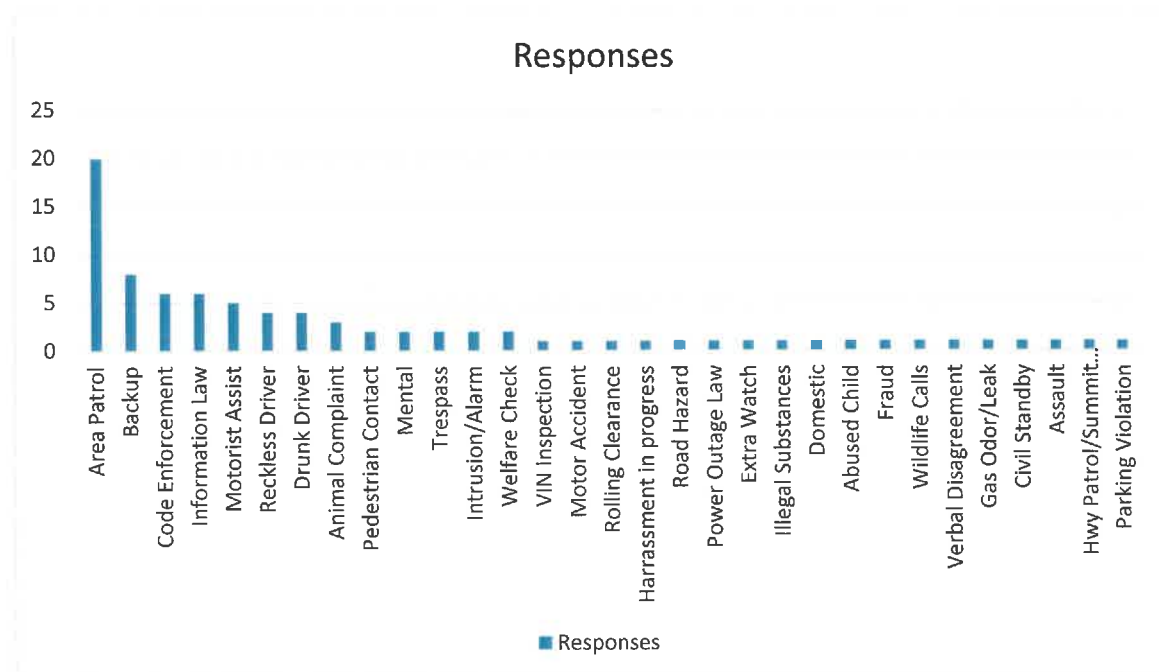
Total on the May Docket: 11

Total May Failure to appear(s): 0

Total May OJW(s): 0



For the month of April 2022:





### **April 2022 Report**

For the month of April, the Blue River Police Department recorded 143 incidents.

#### **Training**

All officers completed their daily training bulletins as well as Officer Well-Being training, Defensive Driving Principles, and Driving Safety for First Responders.

#### **Critical Statistics Incident numbers**

1. Presentation of Weapons – 0
2. Uses of Force – 0
3. Vehicle Pursuits – 0

#### **Public Safety**

During this month one DUI crash was recorded, as well as one Felony arrest and one misdemeanor arrest. We are currently waiting for DA's Office to sign on a Felony assault warrant involving serious bodily injury. We are still helping with back-up calls involving Breckenridge PD as well as help with the "pass" and HWY 9. We have seen an increase in vehicular traffic, and officer are spending most of their patrols addressing traffic safety issues.



## **Financial Summary Report**

Prepared by: Michelle Eddy, Town Manager

April 30, 2022

### **Revenues:**

Revenues have picked up due to strong sales and lodging tax collections. Building and Court are currently tracking behind budget. Overall revenues are up 23.16% to budget.

### **Expenses**

Overall expenses are 9.36% below budget for the year. The Police Department is tracking over budget by 5.42% year to date primarily due to over time associated with a shortage of staff and additional administrative expenses.

### **Reserve Accounts\*As of 4/30/2022**

#### Unrestricted

Reserve accounts Alpine Bank:	\$1,340,151.29
Reserve account First Bank:	\$100,001.00
CD's Citiwide Bank:	\$211,251.72
Colorado Trust:	\$535,753.67
CSAFE:	\$100.00
Petty Cash	\$1,148.16
Illiquid Trust Funds:	\$1,187.42
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$2,189,593.26</b>

#### Restricted

American Rescue Plan Funds:	\$115,754.68
Conservation Trust:	\$116,977.76
<b>Total Reserves Restricted</b>	<b>\$232,732.44</b>



## Michelle Eddy

---

**From:** Jim Keating <jkeating@rwbfire.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** Michelle Eddy  
**Cc:** 'Kelly Owens'; 'Carol Saade'  
**Subject:** Agency Update

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

The following is an update of notable activity at the Red, White & Blue Fire Protection District:

- During the week of March 21<sup>st</sup> Chief's Keating, Nelson, Kline, Local 4325 President Capt. Tim Caldwell and Board Member Dean Lippert traveled to Orlando, FL. to participate in the District's re-accreditation hearing appearing before the CFAI Commission. The District was successful in obtaining its third accreditation. Our District was first accredited in 2012 then re-accredited in 2017 and now in 2022 which will run through 2027. During the March hearings in Orlando the Commission on Fire Accreditation International have now granted accreditation to 301 agencies worldwide. Currently Emergency Service Agencies in the United States, Canada, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and the United Kingdom have been accredited. The Center Public Safety Excellence (CPSE and Commission On Fire Accreditation International (CAFI is now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year of reviewing the practices, procedures and overall operations of Emergency Services Agencies worldwide. In January of 2020 Chief Jim Keating of Red, White & Blue was appointed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs to serve on the CAFI Accreditation Commission and has since served as a Commissioner.
- I am pleased to announce that beginning on June 1, 2022 Red, White & Blue will have a formal Wildland Division and that Division will carry the full time responsibilities for Mitigation, Partner Relationships, Public Education, Wildfire Grant Management, Resource Management and Response. I have appointed Capt. Matt Benedict to manage this new Division, for those of you that are not familiar with Capt. Benedict he has been with this District for two decades and been heavily involved in wildfire preparedness and response through that period. Capt. Benedict is also certified to actively participate in a management role with Type 3 and 4 Federal Wildfire Response Teams. He has established strong working relationships with our local Federal Forest Service partners as well many local HOA's and citizens groups for wildfire preparedness and response. Capt. Benedict will be converting from his current operations schedule of 48 hours on shift to 96 hours off shift to a standard 40 hour work week to meet the needs of the position. As we have watched our wildfire liability grow immensely since the occurrence of the Peak 2 Fire in 2017 it's clearly the time that we must place more dedicated focus on Wildfire for the safety of our own staff, our public and our visitors. As most are aware our District has placed much emphasis on Mitigation, Public Wildfire Education and especially Response and has been successful with those efforts. Just a few years ago work only began in early spring to prepare for the wildfire season and we were able to end that effort at or just before the first snow and now as we have all acknowledged a wildfire can occur at most any moment. As I write this update our area is already headed for a critical wildfire season with the rapid snowmelt and little runoff. As our primary governmental partners we will be calling upon you to participate and support the development of this vital program as we work to strengthen and grow our limited defenses in order to prevent and respond to devastating wildfires. More information will be forthcoming as this new program develops.

Thanks, Chief Jim Keating

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## Michelle Eddy

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**From:** Dan Cleary Planning Cx <cleary.upperblue@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** Michelle Eddy  
**Subject:** Cleary UBPC Report, Re: May 2022

Michelle,

Nothing to report this month. Our UBPC meeting has been cancelled. I was nominated to serve as the UBPC rep to the Countywide Planning Commission during April's UBPC meeting to fill in for Jay Beckerman, (elected to Breck Town Council).

Going forward, my reports will be a month behind since the UBPC meets after Blue River's Trustees meeting.

Thx,

DC

