



HIGH LINE CANAL

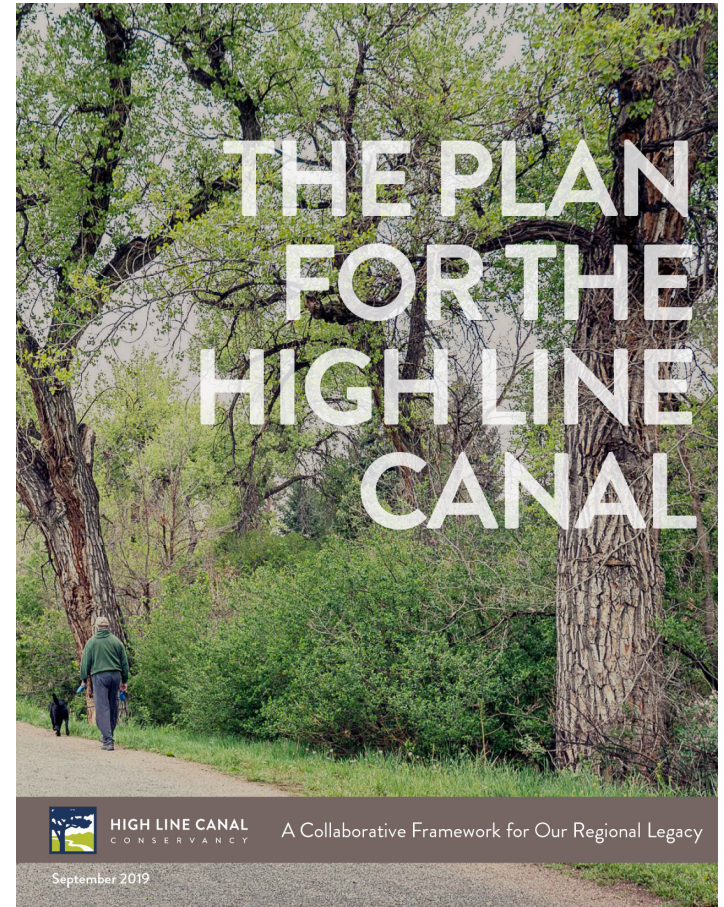
CONSERVANCY

Connecting Communities – Connecting Nature
From the Foothills to the Plains

Littleton Canal Improvements: Public Input Round 2
January 2022

Progress to Date

- Community Vision Plan (2017)
- Stormwater Operations and Master Plan (2018)
- The Plan for the High Line Canal (2019)
- Littleton Stormwater Project (2020)
- Private funding for improvement projects (2021 and beyond)
- Launch of Canal Collaborative (2022)



Conservancy Funding for Projects in Littleton

The Conservancy has raised funds from an anonymous foundation to partner with South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD) and Arapahoe County Open Spaces (ACOS) on priority improvement projects from The Plan:

- Elati Street Pedestrian Bridge Replacement
- Amenities Lee Gulch to Windermere Street
- Interpretive signage at the Lee Gulch Flume
- 50 newly planted trees

We're now launching a second round of public input!

On-Canal Amenities: Context



Interpretive Highlight: Lee Gulch Flume



Evaluating Amenity Designs and Interpretation

The goal for this round of public input is to gain feedback on different types of amenities and interpretation that could be added to the Canal in this area, with a focus on the area around the Lee Gulch Flume. You have an opportunity to:

- Review two alternative designs and provide feedback on amenities
- Provide input on interpretation

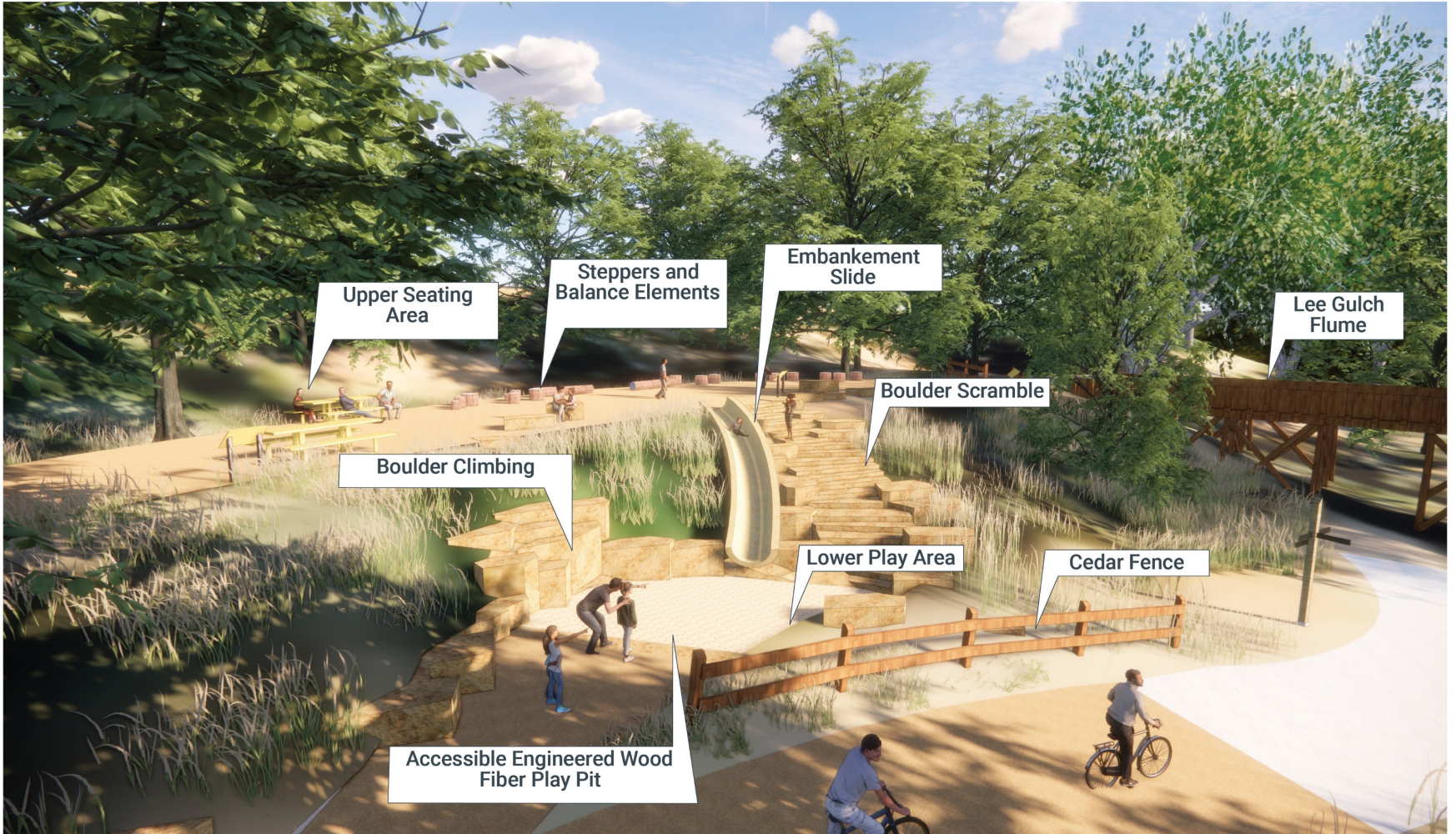


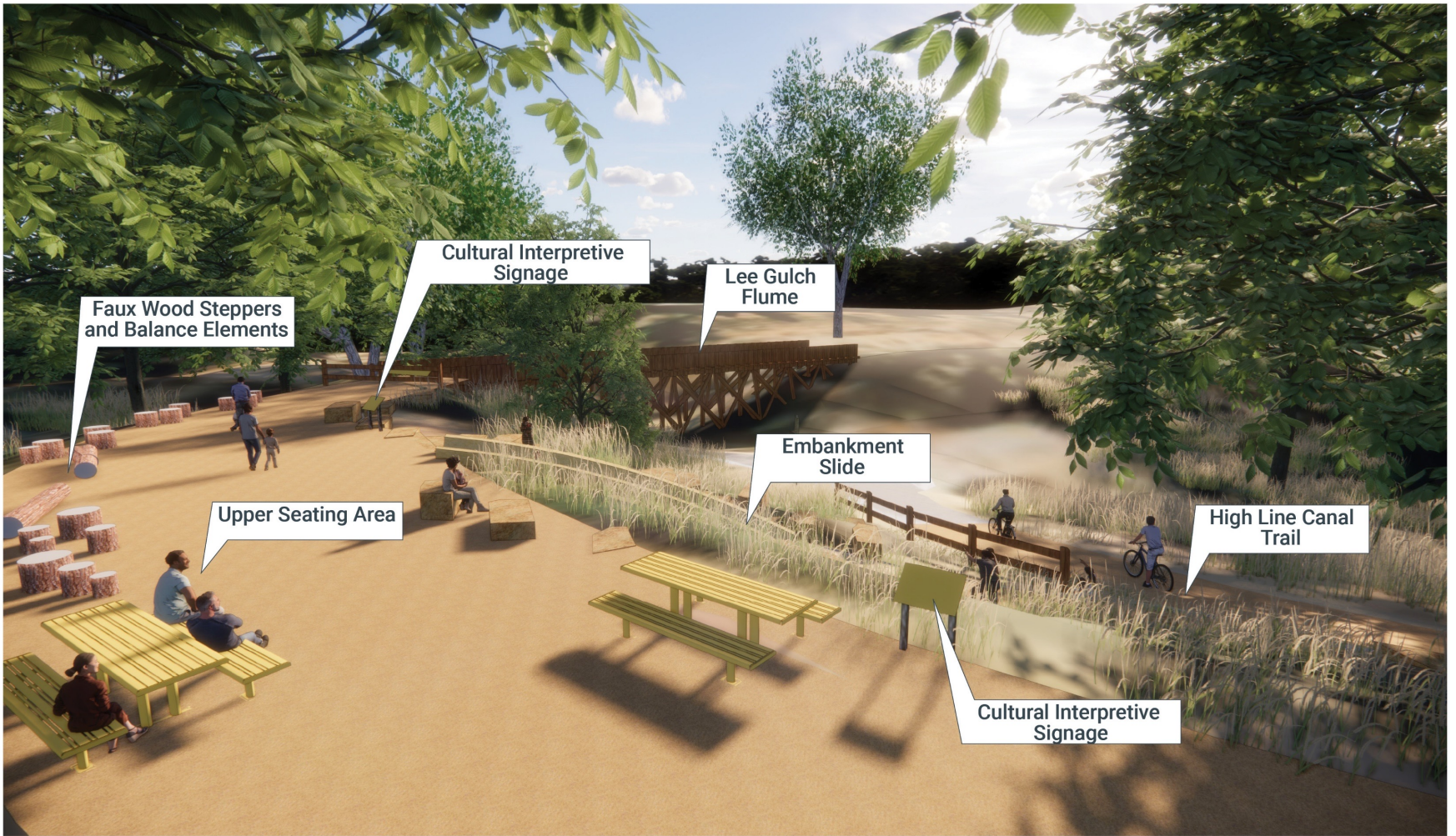
Design 1: Play and Interpret



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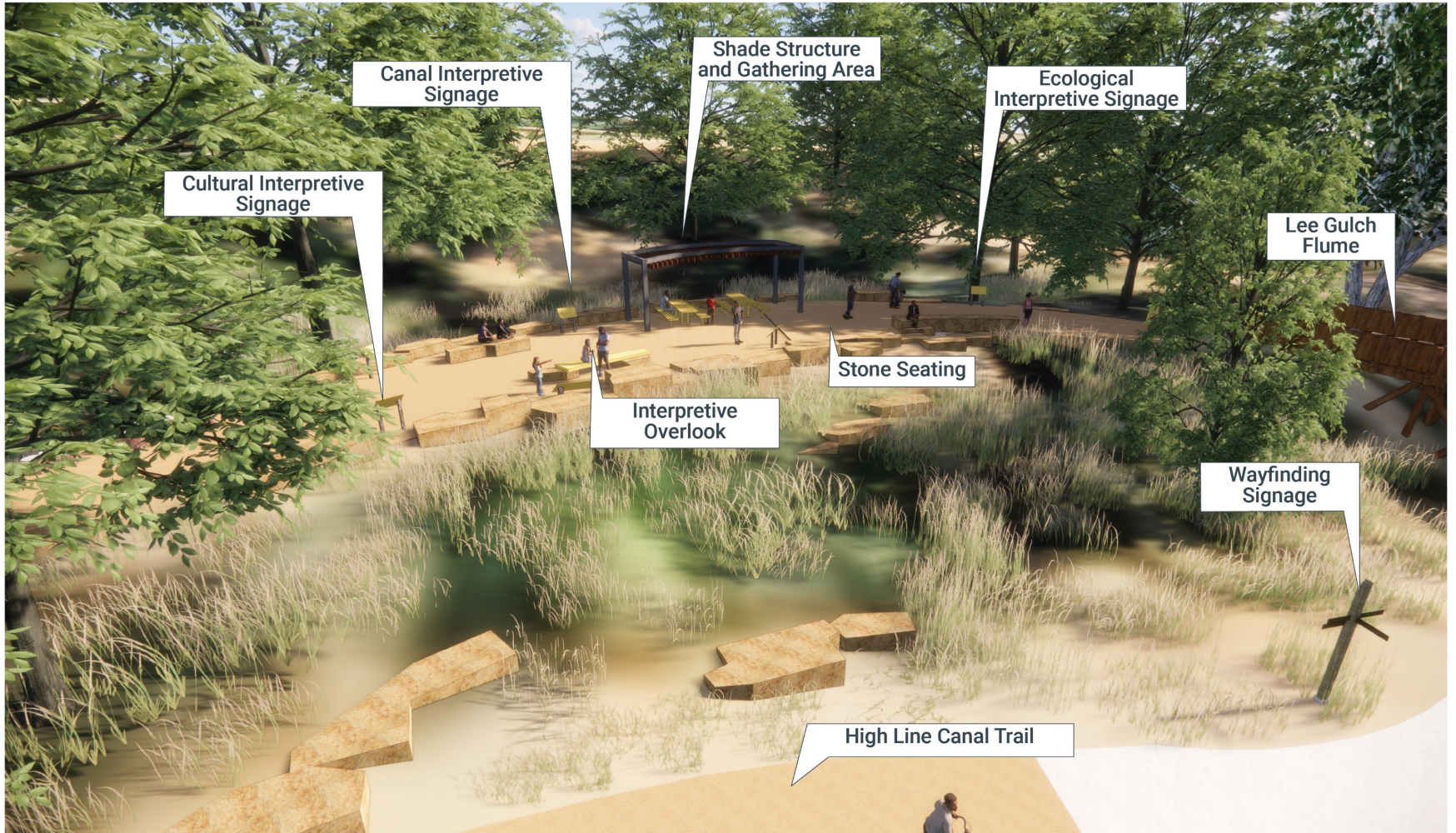


Design 2: Pause and Interpret



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Canal Interpretive Signage

Cultural Interpretive Signage

Shade Structure and Gathering Area

Ecological Interpretive Signage

Lee Gulch Flume

Stone Seating

Interpretive Overlook

Wayfinding Signage

High Line Canal Trail



Areas for Input

Physical Designs

- Play and Interpret vs. Pause and Interpret
- Consider the appropriate intensity of improvements

Educational Content

- Types of educational and interpretive signage
- Themes for education and interpretation

The High Line Canal: A Legacy of Our Agricultural Heritage



The High Line Canal

The route that both the High Line Canal (Canal) in the early 1870s, never thought of as the world of today, would find is a narrow path to water or access to the world of a long distance. To its builders, the Canal was not a way to bring water to the South Plains. It was the water, first, that led to a new home to sustain who came for the gold in 1859 near the confluence of the South Plains River and Cherry Creek.

Today, the Canal is an essential strand of water flowing through a living, metropolitan area. Its original purpose, however, was to create a water-based way to stop here and grow crops, slowly creating communities here on the high plain at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. As you see, the Canal irrigated 25,000 acres of farms and ranches through 160 headgates. By allowing agriculture to prosper, the High Line Canal supported healthy growth of the region.

The High Line Canal, including its 160 headgates, was completed in 1878 and still stands. The project that built the Canal is integral from Western Colorado to the river valley of the Canal from where you stand.

The High Line Canal Being Built
Early of Canal Work

The High Line Canal as Green Stormwater Infrastructure

The High Line Canal is no longer an efficient way to deliver water. "Canal" water, the Canal's name since 1964, sometimes has 50-100% of the Canal's water is lost to evaporation.

Today, in addition to irrigation deliveries, the Canal is taking on a new purpose as green stormwater infrastructure to capture runoff from roofs and other built-up areas. It helps during the water to runoff to roads and gutters in its way into the ground. Managing stormwater in the Canal benefits the natural landscape, increasing wildlife diversity and building resilience to a changing climate.

This location in Sedona Park is one of the first sections of the Canal to become green stormwater infrastructure. That design here shows how the Canal has been changed to meet its new purpose. The Canal channel has been expanded back to have a more gradual slope, creating a green space to move in the channel. Runoff is held temporarily in the Canal channel and is naturally filtered, captured, and stored. Eventually, the water either flows into the canal or seeps into the ground.

The High Line Canal in Douglas County

In the 19th century, Douglas County had some of the most fertile lands along the front range, supported by the South Plains River, Plum Creek, Cherry Creek, and eventually the High Line Canal.

The Canal provided irrigation water to farms and ranches through 23 headgates in Douglas County, which allowed water to flow to these properties. Many of these grass remain along the Canal today, including headgate number 10, which you can see from here in your visit.

The Mitchell-Melzer cabin, the 1870s homestead house pictured above, is preserved along the Canal at mile 3. Anne C. Melzer, who served as a partner in the First Regiment of the Colorado Volunteers, reached a claim for 160 acres, which she built on the site of the Mitchell-Melzer cabin. She sold the property to Frederick Neuman in 1873, who sold it to F. W. and Judith Melzer in 1875. The very year the Canal was completed, the Melzers and their descendants owned and ranched the property for over 100 years, using High Line Canal water to grow wheat, corn, and hay and the area ranch.

High Line Canal Quick Facts

- Operates 160 miles from north of the city to the south
- Delivers water through 160 headgates
- 17 miles long
- Serves 160,000 acres
- Home to 160 species of birds, 160 species of mammals and 160 species of plants

Find Yourself

Use the map to find your location on the High Line Canal. The map shows the location of the Canal and the High Line Canal. For more information, visit www.highlinecanal.org.

YOU ARE HERE



Opportunities for Input

Public input will be open 1/18 through 2/8

Survey

- Fill out the survey and share with your network

Virtual Q&A Drop-In

- Tuesday 2/1 from 9-10 am
- Wednesday 2/2 from 4:30-5:30 pm

On-Canal Site Walk

- Saturday 2/5 from 10:00-11:30 am

Register at HighLineCanal.org/SpeakUp/

Thank You!

To learn more and fill out a survey visit:

Register at highlinecanal.org/speakup/

Feel free to reach out with specific comments:

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THANK YOU.



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