BACKGROUND

The High Line Canal Conservancy is working with Douglas County to implement priority enhancements to improve access, provide amenities and interpret the Canal’s unique history. The small, informal parking lot at Waterton Road has been identified as a priority area to improve access and accessibility at the start of the High Line Canal trail while providing interpretation and education about the Canal where the ditch and the Platte River emerge from Waterton Canyon.

In the spring of 2023, more than 200 community members spoke up for the Canal to help prioritize improvements and share ideas for education and interpretation.

FEEDBACK REACH

44,500+ total
205 survey respondents
17 participants in site walks, open house & meetings

TRAIL USE

92.1% recreational
7.9% other

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

42.0% walking
36.0% biking
9.0% running
9.0% birding

FREQUENCY OF TRAIL USE

18.6% 1-2 times per week
18.1% 3+ times per week
15.8% never or infrequently
47.5% couple times per month

RACE OR ETHNICITY

White/Caucasian
Hispanic/Latino(a)/Spanish Origin
Other
Prefer Not to Say

2+ race/ethnicity
HIGH LINE CANAL ORIGIN TRAILHEAD
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND INPUT SUMMARY

ACCESS AND ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

- Improved path connecting the parking lot to the trail access
- Additional signage along Waterton Canyon Rd to the trailhead
- Improved parking lot
- Directional signage from the parking lot to the trail near the trailhead gate
- More welcoming landing area on the trail near the trailhead gate
- Other
- None

EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE THEMES

- History and heritage
- Environmental
- Making and running the Canal
- The Canal’s function today

SITE ELEMENTS PREFERENCES

- Shade structure
- Benches/seating
- Bike amenities
- Tables
- Other
- Lighting

WHAT WE HEARD:

- A bathroom at the trailhead is important
- Accessibility of the trail for people with disabilities is a priority
- Respect the quiet, natural aesthetic of the trail in this location
- Trail surface improvements could help make trail more accessible
- Prioritize sun and rain shelters
- Safety and trail etiquette education are important
- Telling the story of the Canal, water and local history is a priority
- Safer connection from Origin Trailhead to the Waterton Canyon Trailhead
- Safer crossings of Waterton Road