Meeting Purpose
- Provide an update on project status and gather input from workgroup members
- Tour project site to explore current conditions and Westerly Creek to inform design and amenity preferences

Welcome & Introductions
Andy Mountain facilitated introductions and explained the goals for the night. The group would be focused on opportunities and challenges broadly related to the linear park look/feel, connectivity/access and amenities/activation.

Design Workgroup members shared feedback they had received from the community on hopes, concerns and must-haves for the project. There was general support throughout the community with hope that the project will become a community asset. Some community members had concerns that the project may not meet expectations, especially if there were to be an unplanned decrease in funding. Others were concerned about potential impacts to parking, access and noise levels. There was general desire to keep the High Street Bar open and to get a better sense for the actual look and potential design of the project. Community members must have a voice in the process.

Jennifer Hillhouse outlined that sufficient funds were in place to meet project goals (including safety, green space and improved water quality, among others). Additional funding opportunities would be pursued and leveraged to further enhance the project. Andy Mountain outlined the opportunities for public input, including the August 3rd Community Workshop and Hopes, Concerns, Must-Haves survey.

Project Update
Jennifer Hillhouse provided an update on the status of the project. The team is conducting utility surveys and geotechnical analysis. This information in addition to the priorities identified by the Design Workgroup and community at large will help to determine the channel footprint. She thanked workgroup members for their patience.

Project Site and Westerly Creek Tour
Stop 1: 39th Avenue to High St.
Meredith Wenskoski indicated the general area where the open channel would begin at 39th and Franklin St. The project team described the concept of a shared street which would extend along 39th Avenue from Franklin to Williams. The shared street would accommodate multi-modal travel and slow the flow of traffic to ensure a safe space with community character. The road past Franklin towards 40th Avenue would remain a more standard roadway.

At 39th Ave. and High St., Meredith and Robert Krehbiel described an existing underground pipe which currently runs under the Coke facilities to the South Platte River. The project will
utilize this existing pipe for smaller stormwater flows while the open channel will accommodate the moderate/larger flows seen in more significant storm events. This area of the open channel will have to be wider so that it can capture and turn incoming stormwater as it flows in from multiple directions. Workgroup members expressed concern over impacts to access this point of the project area and maintaining a connection to the southern portion of the neighborhood. While the shared street will not extent to High St., a sense of continuity from the shared street to this space will be key.

Workgroup members also expressed a desire to reduce impact to historic resources. This would include High Street Bar, historic homes and Rock Drill Lofts.

**Stop 2: Market Lead**
Workgroup members and the project team drove past Market Lead, a city-owned stretch of land between York and Steele streets. Meredith Wenskoski indicated this area would contain a multi-use trail connecting Steele to Franklin. The trail would also connect to the Bruce Randolph School.

**Stop 3: Greenway Park & Westerly Creek**
The project team highlighted the amenities and activation pockets of East/West Greenway Park, such as playgrounds, seating areas, a rock climbing wall etc. Meredith pointed out the water quality benefits provided by surrounding vegetation. Workgroup members noted the bridges and crosswalks connecting spaces across the park.

The project team noted these areas, including Westerly Creek, are examples of how recreational areas are integrated into a greenway along with flood protection. However, Westerly Creek is on a much larger scale than the space proposed for the 39th Avenue greenway and open channel.

**Key Tour Takeaways and Input Exercise: Design Preferences**
Andy Mountain facilitated a discussion of key tour takeaways and input for design preferences. Workgroup members were provided general images to act as references and inspirations for the linear park. These images fell into three categories of design elements: Connectivity & Access, Linear Park Look/Feel and Activation & Amenities. The following key input themes for each category emerged:

**Connectivity & Access**
- Preserving north/south connectivity across the channel at High Street
- Design 39th Avenue to slow traffic and improve safety and maintain the quiet, calm feel of the historic neighborhood
- A shared street concept on 39th Avenue is important (accommodating vehicles, bikes and pedestrians without dedicating specific areas for each)
- Maintaining a “street-like feel” on 39th east of Williams is important. If not a full street or shared street, it should feel welcoming and not like a downgraded street to the east
- Access/crossings should be varied and include vehicle, bike and pedestrian space (e.g. differentiate between functional access-driven crossing areas and more playful access/crossing areas near activation locations)
**Linear Park Look/Feel**

- Design should reflect the urban-neighborhood, historic, mixed residential/industrial character of the surrounding community
- Use the linear park as a way to integrate green spaces and natural elements into the design
- There should be a strong emphasis on visibility into and out of the greenway to help ensure and promote safety
- Visual differentiation among planting areas to help create interest, structure, lines, textures and place is important
- Prioritize plantings that can bring an element of color (through leaves, flowers, etc.)

**Activation & Amenities**

- Sheltered/shaded areas (e.g. picnic areas, gathering places) are important
- Flexible spaces that can easily adapt to multiple uses/activities are preferred (e.g. an volleyball game one day and picnic spot the next)
- Prioritize design elements that can serve multiple purposes (e.g. retaining walls with seating integrated)
- A preference for smaller areas to activate, rather than large open spaces
- Integrated activation areas that have the opportunity to engage and activate multiple demographics (kids, parents, neighbors)

**Next Steps**

Andy Mountain outlined next steps, including a follow-up email to the Design Workgroup with images for further feedback and the August 3rd Community Workshop.

**Attendees**

**Design Workgroup Members:**
- Kevin Benard
- Jordan Block
- Deborah Montoya
- Mark Oberholzer
- John Olson (Historic Denver)
- Jack Paterson (Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board)
- Leslie Twarogowski (Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board)

**Project Team:**
- Anna Cawrse (Design Workshop)
- Rachele DiFebbo (GBSM)
- Anna Dille (Design Workshop)
Cincere Eades (CCD)
Miles Graham (GBSM)
Jennifer Hillhouse (CCD)
Robert Krehbiel (Matrix Design Group)
Andy Mountain (GBSM)
Chris Proud (NDCC)
Becky Simon (CCD)
Michael Sapp (CCD)
Meredith Wenskoski (Livable Cities Studio)