**Meeting Purpose**
- Educate about the preliminary design phase, schedule and decision making process
- Establish Design Workgroup purpose and responsibilities
- Review examples of similar projects and gather initial input on design preferences

**Welcome**
Andy Mountain welcomed meeting attendees and explained how the Design Workgroup will provide input on what the community will want to see and do in the 39th Ave. Open Channel linear space. Jennifer Hillhouse also welcomed participants and stressed how important the group is in the planning process to design and construction. Andy then reviewed the agenda and facilitated introductions. As part of the introductions, each attendee shared an interesting fact with the group about the person sitting next to them.

**Role and Responsibility of the Design Workgroup**
After group introductions, Andy Mountain further discussed the role of the Design Workgroup and reviewed the workgroup charter. Members were asked to agree and sign. He explained how Design Workgroup members are charged with representing the broader community. He encouraged members to engage their neighbors and other community members about what amenities are important to them in the preliminary design of the open channel. Members will help act as a conduit of information and elicit feedback from the community. They will also support the project team with additional outreach including posting to neighborhood social sites like Nextdoor, and help disseminate information within the project area and at community open houses.

**Project Overview**
Jennifer Hillhouse provided an overview of the program and general project background. She described the channel as a linear park that will provide conveyance for the Montclair basin to the existing outfall at Globeville Landing Park. She mentioned that detention for the basin was determined to be located in City Park Golf Course, for which there is also a Design Workgroup. Other project components were briefly described including: Park Hill Detention and associated pipe systems. She then explained the possible alignment options for the channel and considerations that will include historic resources, utilities, environmental, minimizing property impacts, bike/pedestrian connectivity and vehicular connectivity, and cost.

During the overview discussion, workgroup members asked a series of questions. Here are a few key themes:
- Timeline – schedule of design and construction and notification to those impacted by channel alignment
- Benefits to the Cole neighborhood from an amenity and economic perspective
- A desire to involve the community, in particular youth (schools), in the design process
The project team noted impacted properties would be notified as soon as possible within the next two months. The Design Workgroup will focus on key design and core elements to help determine the design process for the project and precise location for the channel. The workgroup expressed an interest in having the community, in particular, the youth and area schools involved with the design and possible construction/finalization phase.

**Preliminary Design Process**
Meredith Wenskoski reviewed the design process, guidelines and schedule. She explained the contractor selection process and a timeline for the project.

She explained the design build approach noting how the team will weigh the best value versus lowest cost and how innovation can lead to cost savings.

Jamie Price informed the group that the City will be out in the project area over the next few months marking utilities, surveying sites for topography, digging for groundwater and testing soil contaminants, etc. as part of the preliminary design process.

Key themes taken from the question portion of this agenda item include:

- Historical preservation and studies conducted by the City
- Clarification on the project budget
- Establishing a community involvement requirement and youth participation as part of the contractor selection process
- Environmental justice and water quality

There was a brief discussion on environmental quality and EPA standards for the project. The project team ensured workgroup members that the preliminary testing is based on Federal standards. The team also indicated that the current conceptual budget range will be provided at the next meeting and send out historical surveys to requesting members within the next two weeks.

**Hopes, Fears, and Must-Haves Group Exercise**
Meredith Wenskoski reviewed images of similar open channel designs and identified elements to inspire the group when thinking of what could be incorporated into the channel design. These included stormwater structures, walls, landscaping, water quality, amenities and shared streets.

Andy Mountain defined the exercise as an activity where each workgroup member identified hopes, fears and must-haves for the channel. Here are the high-level themes from the activity:

**Hopes**
- A valuable and desirable improvement for residents
- Design reflects the community
- Bike/walk path integration
- Make it an attractive place where people want to be

**Fears**
- The channel or process becomes a barrier/community divider
- Designing a boring, uninviting, unattractive, scary place
- Designing something we can't maintain
• Property impacts, residential and historic
• Won’t be a realistic cost and budget

**Must-Haves**

• Remember the project purpose
• Aesthetically pleasing; somewhere we want to be
• Access to businesses; community connectivity
• Safety and lighting

The raw list of Hopes, Fears, and Must-Haves are included at the end of this meeting summary.

**Next Steps**

Andy Mountain thanked members for attending and providing their initial input. The team promised to send out an email on Thursday, June 16 with the meeting presentation and group exercise themes. The next meeting is planned for mid-July and will be a longer meeting format that includes a tour of similar open channel concepts and the current project site. The group agreed that a 5-5:30 p.m. time on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday is best for the workgroup’s regular meetings. Attendees were asked to reply to the follow-up email to provide any absolute restrictions on meeting times and/or dates.

**Attendees**

**Design Workgroup Members:**
Kevin Benard
Cynthia Brashears-Wake (Cole Neighborhood Association)
Mike Dugan (Cole Neighborhood Association)
Warren Karberg
Philip MacDougall
Deborah Montoya
Mark Oberholzer
John Olson (Historic Denver)
Jack Paterson (Denver Parks and Recreation Board)
Michelle Segarra
Beckah Terlouw (Clayton United)
Jack Young

**Project Team:**
Jamie Alvarez (GBSM)
Jennifer Hillhouse (CCD)
Robert Krehbiel (Matrix Design Group)
Andy Mountain (GBSM)
Jamie Price (Matrix Design Group)
Chris Proud (NDCC)
Marcus Pulsipher (Design Workshop)
Becky Simon (CCD)
Michael Sapp (CCD)
Meredith Wenskoski (Livable Cities Studio)
Hopes, Fears, and Must-Haves Group Exercise

**Hopes**

**A valuable and desirable improvement for residents**
“Valuable + desirable improvement for community residents”
“Dog park”
“Mural wall along residents property line – safety and visual continuity”
“Natural landscaping – native”

**Design reflects the community**
“That youth can be engaged in the aesthetic design of art/landscape”
“That it is reflective of neighborhood diversity (i.e.: let’s not go Stapleton like.)”

**Bike/walk path integration**
“Increased integration of the neighborhood”
“Integrate with pedestrian/bike transportation”
“Bike path/walk path”

**Make it an attractive place where people want to be**
“That the community feels like the city has created a meaningful area, and not just done what it “has” to do.”
“Transformative for the community”
“Tourist area – economic development”
“That it will attract people to explore”
“Other neighborhoods are envious of our new ‘park’”
“Hope it beautifies our neighborhood”
“Improve feel of neighborhood”
“Visual improvements”

**Fears**

**The channel or process becomes a barrier/community divider**
“Separation (real or perceived) of the neighborhood”
“Orphaned block, 3900 block of High gets cut off”
“Wider division of stakeholders”

**Designing a boring, uninviting, unattractive, scary place**
“Concrete ditch”
“Something boring”
“Neighborhood ends up behind a wall – no beautification”
“Steel or metal fencing boarding residential homes – not secure”
“Barren channel without amenities and aesthetic features”
“Gang activity at night”

**Designing something we can’t maintain**
“Trash in canal”
“Unmaintained allowing for visually unpleasant area”
“Landscape not up kept”
“Maintenance funds for upkeep”
“Environmental hazards”

**Property impacts, residential and historic**
“Property acquisitions and poor workmanship”
“Destruction of valuable historic fabric”
“Loss of property”
“Traffic issues on Williams”
“Parking”

**Won’t be a realistic cost and budget**
“That it goes over budget and then funding cuts are made to the appeal”
“Cost escalations for channel and overall project”
“Must be done on time”
“Must have budget for upkeep”

**Must-haves**

**Remember the project purpose**
“Sufficient flood control effectiveness per project goals”
“Minimal property loss and actual flood protection”
“Integration of 39th Avenue design with other parts of the project”

**Aesthetically pleasing; somewhere that we want to be**
“Aesthetically pleasing”
“Pretty!”
“Opportunities for enhancement”
“Trees”
“Bike trail space”
“Some fun and creativity”
“Engaging amenities”
“A go-to space for Cole, Clayton, and surrounding communities”
“Historic building preservation”

**Access to businesses; community connectivity**
“Access to businesses”
“Community involvement and positive economic development”
“Youth engagement, community buy-in”
“Park, recreational and connectivity features”

**Safety and lighting**
“Lighting on paths”
“Gravel path”
“Walls to separate home from access road”
“Good lighting”
“Must have lighting”
“Must have proper lighting plan”