



MEMORANDUM

To: CCBWQA Board of Directors
CC: Jane Clary, Wright Water Engineers, CCBWQA Technical Manager
From: Elysa Loewen, Pollution Abatement Project Manager
Date: February 19, 2026
Subject: **Cherry Creek Upstream at Dransfeldt– Project Summary**

Project Background:

The Project is on Cherry Creek near Dransfeldt Road, just downstream of Cherry Creek at KOA project which was completed in the summer of 2021 (see attached project site map). The stream improvements are approximately 12 miles upstream of the reservoir. The Project sponsors are CCBWQA, Town of Parker (Parker), and the Mile High Flood District (MHFD), which is the project lead. The proposed stream improvements have been designed by Muller Engineering and began construction by the awarded contractor (CEI) in April 2024.

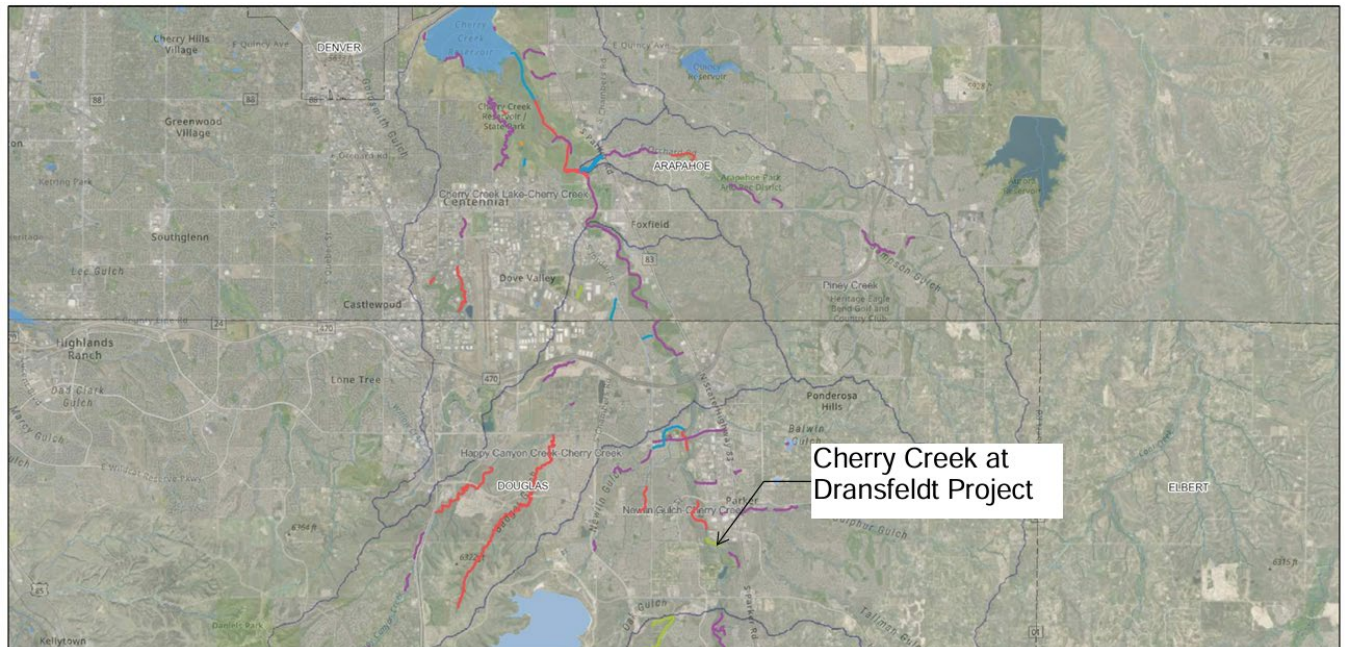


Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map

Existing Conditions

Existing water quality conditions along Cherry Creek at the Dransfeldt Extension included disconnected sandy soils with poor vegetation and unstable and incised portions of channel. The overall existing channel rating in the Cherry Creek Major Drainageway Assessment (2022) was considered a 2.5 (ranking of 1-5). The potential lift to water quality with improvements was estimated to increase water quality to a score of 4.5 (+2.0).

Priority 2							
	Com Val	Hydro	Hydra	Geom	Veg	WQ	Avg
Existing Rating	3	4	3	2	3	2.5	2.9
Potential Rating	5	4	4	5	4	4.5	4.4
Potential Lift	2	0	1	3	1	2	1.5

Figure 2: Cherry Creek Major Drainageway Plan - Cherry Creek at Dransfeldt Assessment



Figure 3: Existing Channel (2024)



Figure 4: Existing Channel Bank (2024)

Design Approach

The design approach to stream water quality improvements was to utilize a higher functioning lower maintenance (HFLM) design approach to stabilize the active channel to prevent existing and future erosion, improve connection to overbanks to reduce channel shear stress and enhance riparian and upland vegetation.

Construction

Construction started in Spring of 2024 and was substantially completed in Fall of 2025.

Funding

The project was funded by Mile High Flood District (23.8%), Town of Parker (65.8%) and CCBWQA (10.4%). This project was led by Mile High Flood District. The project total budget was \$8.41 million and actual cost included maintenance and vegetation establishment budget is \$8.08 million.

Water Quality Benefits

The proposed stream restoration benefits the water quality in Cherry Creek and ultimately Cherry Creek Reservoir by reducing bank and bed erosion which immobilizes phosphorus in the adjacent soils. It is estimated that this 0.45-mile-long project will immobilize an estimated 41 pounds of phosphorus annually.

Summary

Water Quality Benefit of Phosphorous reduction ≈ Estimated 73 pounds of phosphorus per year

Total Budgeted Cost = \$8.41 Million

Total Actual Cost* = \$8.08 Million *Based on costs incurred to date and estimated vegetation maintenance costs

Authority's Share = \$837,070.11

Engineer: Muller Engineering Company

Contractor: Concrete Express Inc.

Enclosure: Post Project Photos



Figure 5: Cherry Creek Looking Downstream - Upstream of Dransfeldt Extension



Figure 6: Cherry Creek Looking Upstream - Upstream of Dransfeldt Extension



Figure 7: KOA Trib upstream of Cherry Creek Confluence



Figure 8: Cherry Creek Downstream of Dransfeldt Extension