

## Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Carrying Capacity Public Meeting Response

Background: The Larimer County Natural Resources Department is considering a menu of options to address over-capacity issues at Horsetooth Mountain Open Space trailheads. The various options already implemented include improving traffic circulation at the upper trailhead, installing no parking signs to prevent parking along county road 38E, and hiring park aides to assist with parking and circulation of traffic at the trailheads. In addition, we are proposing to reconfigure the Blue Sky Trailhead and increase parking to 51 spaces, use social media and a webcam to alert visitors when the upper trailhead is full and construct a connector trail between the Swan Johnson and Stout trails to provide more direct access to the popular destination of Horsetooth Falls. Comments listed below were received at a public meeting held October 28th, via email and from the county website.

Concerns	Response
Concerns about the proposed new trail connection between Swan Johnson and Stout trails.	We have decided to table this option for consideration during a future update to the Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Management Plan. The management planning process will be an open, public process where various trail and trailhead improvements will be considered
Larimer County should consider a tiered fee structure to address overcapacity at trailheads.	We are not considering a tiered fee structure at this time - we regularly evaluate our fees and may consider this in the future based on complexity and feasibility to implement.
Concerns with parking along the County Road 38E shoulder.	"No Parking" signs will be installed along CR38E. As CR38E comes on schedule for county road improvements, we will work with the County Road and Bridge Department to evaluate options for improved safety for foot/bike travel.
Concerns about parking in neighborhoods with parking lots are full.	We respond to calls/reports of illegal parking in neighborhoods. Ranger staff will meet with adjacent neighbors/HOA representatives to discuss possible measures to address these concerns.
Develop ways to alert visitors that the parking lot is full before they arrive.	We currently provide information via social media on when trailhead parking lots are full (follow us on Twitter, like us on Facebook to receive this information). We are in the process of installing a webcam at the upper Horsetooth Mountain trailhead and creating a website so the public can monitor trailhead capacity remotely.