

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



# SAINT VRAIN CREEK COALITION

## **Saint Vrain Creek Coalition Awarded CDBG-DR Grant Funds for Apple Valley Implementation Project**

*Lyons, CO – May 12, 2016* – The Saint Vrain Creek Coalition (SVCC) is pleased to announce the partial award of a Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Grant for the *Apple Valley Flood Recovery and Resiliency Implementation Project*.

Awarded funds will be spent on stream and floodplain rehabilitation and construction-related costs for the Apple Valley North (Phase I) project area. This area begins at the Rainbow Bridge (the northern bridge connecting Apple Valley Road to US 36) and extends 1.4 miles downstream along North Saint Vrain Creek. The estimated construction cost for this reach is nearly \$2 million. DOLA awarded the SVCC \$386,890 to leverage additional funding provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program. The NRCS EWP Program is a federal cost-share program administered by the CWCB and aims to take a long-term, holistic approach to stream and watershed recovery.

Although funds were also requested for Apple Valley South (Phase II) to match those committed by NRCS and CWCB, construction in this area was not funded by DOLA at this time. Apple Valley South extends from where Apple Valley North ends, to some 0.8 miles downstream to the bridge where Apple Valley Road meets US 36, near Planet Bluegrass. You can find a map showing the two areas at [saintvraincreekcoalition.org/AVmap](http://saintvraincreekcoalition.org/AVmap). The SVCC will continue to pursue funding opportunities to complete flood recovery work for all of Apple Valley.

“The Saint Vrain Creek Coalition plays an important role as the local sponsor for the Apple Valley project. This award gets us another step closer to our overall project funding target. We will continue to seek the additional \$140,027 needed for the remainder of the Phase II construction costs,” said Cecily Mui, Saint Vrain Creek Coalition Watershed Coordinator.

The SVCC is currently working on stream rehabilitation planning and design for the entirety of Apple Valley, a project also funded by DOLA. The planning and design process began in April 2016 and will

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include an alternatives analysis for the construction of flood recovery improvements within Apple Valley in two phases. Construction of the chosen design will be funded with this DOLA award along with NRCS and CWCB funds. If you would like to be included on the Coalition's email list to receive information about the Apple Valley planning and design process, please contact Erika Shioya, Watershed Program Assistant at [eshioya.svcc@gmail.com](mailto:eshioya.svcc@gmail.com) or 303-774-4513.

A number of applications by other entities in the St Vrain watershed were submitted for this most recent round of funding through DOLA. The outcome of those applications and acceptance of awards will be announced by those agencies/applicants separately.

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Apple Valley is an approximately 2.5 mile stretch along the North Saint Vrain Creek, which was severely impacted in the 2013 floods with loss of life and property, realignment of the creek channel, significant scouring, erosion, and deposition of large amounts of debris. The Saint Vrain Creek Coalition is actively seeking assistance for the property owners and residents of Apple Valley, whose road to recovery from flood damage is full of complex options and issues. Concurrently, the City of Longmont and Town of Lyons are attempting to obtain funding to repair, replace or relocate flood impacted water delivery infrastructure, which is an important component of implementing options for flood recovery in Apple Valley. In late 2015, the NRCS EWP Program Phase II identified Apple Valley as a priority project area in the St. Vrain watershed, making it eligible for the NRCS EWP cost-share program.

The SVCC was formed for the purpose of leading a collaborative, voluntary process to realize a balance of economic, social, and environmental benefits for the St. Vrain Watershed. The mission of the Coalition is to implement the St. Vrain Creek Watershed Master Plan and pursue recovery from flood impacts, resiliency to natural hazards, and protection of the watershed's natural character and multiple uses through broad stakeholder engagement and collaboration. The Coalition meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. For more information on the SVCC, visit our website at [www.saintvraincreekcoalition.org](http://www.saintvraincreekcoalition.org).

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