



## 2024 Trail Funding Application Form

Boulder County Parks & Open Space  
2024 Trails Partnership Pilot Funds

*Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2024.*

Date: April 29, 2024

Name of Organization: Town of Lyons

Contact Person: Dave Cosgrove

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Total Amount of Funding Requested: \$175,375.

Type of project: **Design and Construction.**

The Town of Lyons is submitting this trail funding request for design and construction of a trail extension off the west end of the Martin Parcel onto County Road 69. Our goals are to enhance and expand access to outdoor recreational opportunities within our community. Over the years, Lyons has supported several ambitious projects aimed at expanding trail networks and access to parks, which have significantly contributed to the quality of life for Lyons residents, Boulder County residents and visitors who share in the appreciation of increased access to public open space.

One standout initiative Lyons has pursued over the years with the County is the Martin Parcel Trail project, which seeks to establish a vital trail connection from Bohn Park across the Martin Parcel to Boulder County Rd 69 utilizing the existing road right-of-way. This endeavor demonstrates Lyons commitment to fostering outdoor recreation and connectivity while engaging in collaborative efforts with Boulder County to ensure proper surveying, design, permitting, and potential construction assistance.

This trail connection has been included in the Municipal Open Space and Trail Request discussion with Boulder County and Lyons staff for the past several years. It has been identified as a future trail connection in town master planning documents since 2017. The goal of this connection is to increase safety and access for all trail and open space users, as it gets cyclists, equestrians, runners and pedestrians off of the busier State Highway 7, providing a trail connection via Bohn Park and the recently annexed Martin Parcel.

In addition to providing a stronger and safer connection for trail users and open space visitors, this connection can also help to alleviate congestion, parking, and overflow at the busy Picture Rock Trailhead by providing parking at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Trailhead or Bohn Park in the Town of Lyons.

Town of Lyons staff is working on a comprehensive wayfinding plan and program, and this new connection could be added to the townwide signage to let visitors know how to safely access both Heil Valley and Hall Ranch. This same trail connection would take cyclists, runners, walkers, birders, and others out to County Rd 69 and provide access to both Picture Rock and Heil Valley

or a short stroll up Old South St Vrain and over the South St Vrain Creek Bridge, over to Hall Ranch. The county has provided survey information which shows that CR 69 does intersect the Martin Parcel south of the S. St Vrain Creek. It has also been noted that with a little clean up at the road ROW, access can be created to the roadway, which is a gravel road.

Lyons is a welcoming community to all and increasing public access to open space for all is a goal of town staff as well as our elected board. As part of the wayfinding plan noted above, directional signage for the regional trail connections would be in English and Spanish. Whenever we increase access and trail connections, we also reduce barriers, allowing for better access for everyone.

If awarded, Town of Lyons staff would go out to bid for design and construction. The budget would include design, as well as erosion control management, trail materials, fence for private property that abuts the trail, as well as planting trees for screening and future shade, as well as critical wildlife habitat. Staff anticipates that if funded the design, permitting and construction will be completed by the end of 2025.

Staff would be sure to coordinate with US Fish and Wildlife, US Army Corps, Boulder County, and all other appropriate parties, for any clearances that might be required. Much streambank work and restoration has already been completed in this area and town staff is comfortable in both understanding meeting any requirements for permitting and/or mitigation. An initial environmental assessment was likely completed by the County as part of its Federal Acquisition Program following the 2013 flood. To date, the Town has not conducted a separate environmental assessment on the property.

The Town of Lyons has successfully managed nearly \$70 million dollars in federal grants for flood recovery from the devastating 2013 flood. More recently, staff have successfully managed a Safe Route to School Grant as well as a DRCOG/CDOT grant for road improvements along US-36 eastbound. Our staff has knowledge and expertise with thorough grant reporting and spending requirements.

We have attached an engineer's opinion of cost which includes the clearances noted above in case they are necessary. The Town's Parks Department currently maintains over 5 miles of trails within the Town. Once completed, town staff will maintain the trail as part of our annual trails management and maintenance plan. The map of the vicinity area is included below, and we are also submitting the survey of the ROW from Boulder County.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthy project to connect and enhance access for all our well-loved and well utilized open space which surrounds Lyons.



Trail Connection from Marin Parcel Open  
Space to County Rd 69