

Fee Waiver Staff Report

Date: April 25, 2025
To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners
Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager
From: Terence T. Quinn, AICP, Director of Community Development *TQ*
CC: Steven Shoultz, CPRP, Assistant Director of Parks, Trails and Building Grounds
Subject: **FEE WAIVER REQUEST OF \$1,210 FROM SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE ANNUAL BLUFFS 8K TRAIL RUN**

OWNER:
DOUGLAS COUNTY
100 THIRD STREET
CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104

REPRESENTATIVE:
RYAN DABERKOW
SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS & REC
4810 E. COUNTY LINE RD.
LITTLETON, CO 80126

Board of County Commissioners Meeting: May 13, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

South Suburban Parks & Recreation requests a fee waiver of \$1,210 for the use of the Bluffs Regional Park to host the annual Bluffs 8K Trail Run for 250 people on August 24, 2025.

II. BACKGROUND

South Suburban Parks and Recreation and the City of Lone Tree have hosted a regional 8K trail run at Bluffs Regional Park every August since 2016. The Bluffs 8K Trail Run is a community-focused event that attracts around 250 participants annually. South Suburban Parks and Recreation charges minimal registration fees to make the event affordable and accessible to the community.

III. REQUEST

South Suburban Parks & Recreation requests a fee waiver of \$1,210 for the Bluffs Regional Park for the Bluffs 8K Trail Run on August 24, 2025.

IV. STAFF ASSESSMENT

The Board of County Commissioners has the sole authority to waive or reduce all park use fees and may choose to waive the event fee of \$1,210.

ATTACHMENTS

Fee Waiver Request **PAGE**
Page 2

Dear Douglas County Board of County Commissioners:

South Suburban Parks and Recreation has been hosting a regional 8K trail run at Bluffs Regional Park in the month of August for the last eight (9) years. This race is organized by South Suburban Parks and Recreation and supported by the City of Lone Tree.

In 2022, and years prior, South Suburban paid a permit fee of \$100 to host the community race. In 2023, the permit cost increased to \$275. While preparing our 2024 budget, we anticipated the same permit fee of \$275. However, that spring we were informed the permit fees for 2024 would be \$935, more than triple the cost in 2024.

The Bluffs 8K Trail run, scheduled to take place on Sunday, August 24 at 8:00am, is a community-focused event that draws about 250 people. While South Suburban collects minimal registration fees, the goal is to provide this recreation amenity at an affordable cost to anyone interested.

As a government partner, South Suburban is requesting that the permit fee to use the Bluffs Regional Park Trail for the 200+ participant race be the same as 2023, \$275, or waived, if feasible.

As a Park and Recreation entity that also manages trails, we can understand the impact a large volume of people can have on a trail. To minimize these conditions, we take steps to ensure that significant trail damage does not occur, and careful to maintain the trails' quality.

The three (3) water stations are all equipped with multiple staff and/or volunteers, who collect all the trash and pack it out upon completion. The trash is then disposed of in our own trash receptors and removed from the site. We have taken pride in upholding the trail and ensure Douglas County Trails staff are not impacted.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request for a fee waiver or reduction. We look forward to our continued partnership in the future.

Ryan Daberkow

Athletics Manager