

Larkspur Shareback Request

Date: September 23, 2025

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

From: Dan Dertz, Director of Open Space and Natural Resources

CC: Martha Marshall, Budget Director
Terence T. Quinn, AICP, Director of Open Space and Natural Resources
Steve Shoultz, CPRE, Asst. Director of Parks, Trails, and Building Grounds
Kati Cater, AICP, Asst. Director of Planning Resources

Subject: **Larkspur Shareback Request from the Parks, Trails, Historic Resources and Open Space Sales Tax**

County Open Space Advisory Committee:
Board of County Commissioners Hearing:

September 5, 2025 @ 5:30 PM
September 23, 2025 @ 1:30 PM

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Larkspur (Larkspur) is requesting \$25,000 of their municipal shareback funds from the Parks, Trails, Historic Resources, and Open Space Sales and Use Tax in the amount of \$25,000, which will be used to make improvements to the town's trail network.

II. BACKGROUND

In 2022, voters approved the Parks, Trails, Historic Resources, and Open Space, Sales and Use Tax (Douglas County Resolution R-022-085), an extension of the previous voter approved tax in 1994, (Douglas County Resolution R-994-062). The resolutions provide for a portion of the net proceeds from the tax to be attributable to each municipality located wholly within Douglas County and are referred to as 'municipal shareback funds.' Municipal shareback funds build annually, beginning in 1994, and are used at discretion of the municipalities. Municipalities may request a portion or all their shareback funds at any time. The request is reviewed and recommend by the County Open Space Advisory Committee (COSAC) to the Board of County Commissioners.

On September 5, 2025, Larkspur's request was presented to COSAC. The funds will be used to make improvements to the town's trail system. This trail system connects directly with Douglas County's portion of the Colorado Front Range Trail. If approved, the remaining balance for Larkspur will be approximately \$43,000. COSAC voted unanimously, (8-0) to recommend approval of the request.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTION

COSAC recommends that the municipal shareback funds in the amount of \$25,000 be distributed to the Town of Larkspur to be used according to the town’s request.

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August 21, 2025

Dear Dan Dertz,

The Town of Larkspur would like to request funds from the open space share back fund. These funds would finish the final pieces of the Colorado Front Range Trail and be applied to some maintenance needs in the Larkspur Community Park. I have listed the items below. We are planning on doing these projects this fall.

Colorado Front Range Trail

Signaled crosswalk on Upper Lake Gulch Road: \$6,287.70

Installation of the poles: \$500

Fencing required on private property in a section of the Trail: \$9000

Trail signage: \$1000

Larkspur Community Park

Breeze material and weed barrier for walkway paths throughout the park: \$8,000

This comes to a total of \$24,787.70. I would like to request \$25,000 from our account that has a balance of \$68,658.99.

Mayor Sherilyn West

303-550-2516