

URGENT: WHAT WE WANT TO SAY TO CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 7

Dear Save South Boulder Members and Friends;

On Tuesday, August 7, at 7:00 (**note changed start time!**) in the Municipal Building on Broadway at Canyon, City Council will be deciding which flood mitigation options they will “move forward” to the Concept Design stage. In the last few months, and especially the last two weeks, we’ve made significant progress in getting the City Staff to modify their designs and recommendations. Because many misconceptions still abound regarding what is necessary and what will work, we also have been meeting with City Council members and the members of regulatory boards to help them understand our concerns about the critical need to address protection of life and safety and of open space and natural areas. Most especially we have helped them understand why we support an upstream detention solution for flood waters, not the concepts before the Council.

We are encouraged. But it is imperative that we put forward a consistent message to Council members on Tuesday night. City Council still is the only body that can decide which flood mitigation option to move forward. While people have listened to us, none of the above modifications we recommend have been approved yet BOby the City Council. Please come, speak, offer to pool your time to others, and provide moral support.

Public comment will begin shortly after the meeting starts at 7:00. Sign-up for people who want to speak will begin about 30 minutes before the meeting begins. Speakers are allowed **two minutes**. **Speakers can get one minute more if another person “pools”** by donating their own time. “Poolers” must sign up before the meeting, indicate with whom they are pooling, and must be present in the Council Chambers when their speaker is called.

Please consider telling the City Council that Save South Boulder supports the following:

Our Talking Points

- We ask the City Council to move upstream detention solutions forward to the preliminary design phase, and to bear in mind the following considerations:
- Priority should be given to enhancing public safety and protecting lives and property of downstream residents of South Boulder Creek.

- The project should be built to 500-year flood standards. This cost-effective strategy greatly increases both community benefits and protection for residents at an estimated 10%-15% cost greater than the 100-year standard. The 500-year standard removes many more residences from the floodplain, and public safety is enhanced by greater protection against overtopping and closure of South Boulder Road and Hwy 36 in a flood event. Overtopping would close off the primary entrance points for emergency services.
- Flood mitigation options should support upstream detention solutions that obviate the need for a flow restriction on South Boulder Creek at Hwy36 and minimize groundwater flow problems.
- Maximum consideration should be given to protection of OSMP and State Natural Area lands in the South Boulder Creek area.
- The greatest amount of flood waters should be detained in the former quarry pits on CU's property, not on protected Open Space and State Natural Area land
- Consideration should be given to restoring the Open Space-Other lands at CU-South to as healthy a natural environment as possible.
- We support ongoing collaboration between the community, the City Council and Staff, and all regulatory boards to achieve consensus on the best plan for expeditious flood mitigation, protection of lives, public safety and property, and safeguarding of open space and natural areas land.
- We also want to acknowledge all the effort that the City Staff has devoted to these concerns in past months on behalf of our community.