

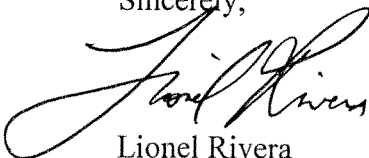
The City of Colorado Springs has acted aggressively and responsibly to address issues with Fountain Creek. We actively participate in regional cooperative efforts to protect Fountain Creek, including the Fountain Creek Vision Task Force and co-funding the Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan with the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District. Colorado Springs has invested hundreds of millions in improvements to our wastewater collection and treatment systems, including a \$10-million investment in the Fountain Creek Recovery Project. In addition, the City of Colorado Springs Stormwater Enterprise is aimed specifically at improving the City's ability to control stormwater runoff. These commitments, along with required mitigation for the SDS project, will continue to further improve the condition of this regional waterway.

Because the additional analysis and methodology of the SIR yielded similar results as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), the SIR provides increased credibility and enhances the quality of the DEIS. The City of Colorado Springs believes the Bureau of Reclamation's reexamination of several issues through the SIR will lead to constructing an even better project.

It is now time for the Bureau of Reclamation to take the findings of the DEIS and the SIR and draw an extensive study process to conclusion through the publication of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). The Project Participants have participated in the SDS environmental review process since 2003, and all of the Project Participants – based on planning scenarios – could exceed their water storage and delivery capacity in the next several years without action from the Bureau of Reclamation on the SDS Project.

Again, we support the conclusions of the DEIS and the SIR. We also support the implementation of the Participants' Proposed Action. We ask the Bureau of Reclamation to move forward in preparing its Final Environmental Impact Statement for the good of our community and the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lionel Rivera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Lionel Rivera
Mayor
The City Of Colorado Springs