

**Goldfield Corridor Plan
December 2 and 3, 2025
Community Open Houses
Community Questions and Public Comments**

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Goldfield Corridor Plan stakeholders organized two community open houses to gather input on the Concept Plan. An in-person workshop was held on December 2 at the Widefield Parks & Recreation Center, and a virtual workshop was held on December 3 via Zoom. Below is the list of questions and comments received by the community, organized by topics.

TRAFFIC, ROADWAY FUNCTION, SAFETY, ACCESS

Questions

- Why prioritize the walking trail instead of fixing the roads that lead to the trail?
- How will the proposed trail connect to the trail that currently dead-ends at Fontaine (i.e., the Crews Gulch Trail)?
- What caused the damage to the bridge?
- What is the difference in cost between fixing the current damage and the maintenance of the trail?
- Will more traffic lights be needed if there is no road?
- What will the traffic impact be if a parking lot is added along Fontaine for the patrons of this new trail system?
- Why was the traffic impact study done on only one day?
- What date and year was the traffic impact study conducted?
- Can signage be added to allow users to safely cross Fontaine to access the proposed trail?
- Why can't a trail be made that parallels the road?
- If they were to develop a trail parallel to the road, would this reduce the problem?
- How much would it cost to make the road safe again?
- Can a camera be installed to address safety concerns?

Comments

- Traffic has increased on Fontaine; taking a left-hand turn would make this worse.
- Crosswalks will not allow people to safely cross Fontaine because drivers do not stop for crosswalks.
- The trails in El Paso County are not well-maintained. Adding more trails will make maintenance more difficult.
- It is inconvenient to have to take alternate routes that go around Bluestem Prairie Open Space rather than use Goldfield Drive.
- There is not an open space problem; there is a traffic problem.
- Some people do not like rumble strips.

DUMPING, CRIME, POLICING, SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

Questions

- The trash is an issue. People who dump their trash along Goldfield Drive will start dumping it elsewhere, including behind residents' homes. Where will the trash go?
- How do the gates prevent dumping if you can still access the road?
- Could they put a closed park gate at night?

Comments

- Illegal dumping is not the issue. If that were the case, stakeholders would have installed a FLOCK camera as they did in multiple safe communities.
- The crime and safety problems are a result of not having police in the area. Leave the road and access in place and focus on increasing police presence. The problem is a lack of police.
- The reason people are dumping their trash on Goldfield Drive is that it is too expensive to discard trash through legal means.
- People who dump their trash will find another place to do it if Goldfield Drive is closed, including in the backyards of the community. The trash will just be displaced.
- There is a lot of trash that is dumped along Goldfield Drive. There should be better solutions to address the illegal dumping.
- The problem is a lack of enforcement by the police.
- People are going to be people and commit crimes regardless of whether the road is in place.

OPEN SPACE, CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE, ENVIRONMENT

Questions

- Is the area around the reservoir not already preserved as open space? How would adding trails help preserve open space?
- Does the conservation easement on Bluestem Prairie Open Space allow for the construction of the parking lot and trail?
- Why is the focus on this body of water (i.e., Big Johnson Reservoir) when there are two ponds in dire need of maintenance, and one of the ponds is empty at the Willow Springs Pond?

Comments

The website mentions that birding opportunities increase — birders disagree with this.

COST, FUNDING, FINANCIAL IMPACT, MAINTENANCE

Questions

- Has there been a financial impact study?
- What is the cost of the bridge replacement?
- If Goldfield Drive is no longer a road, the county will not have to pay to maintain it. Who will pay to maintain the trail then?
- If the road is closed, it will deteriorate over time. Who will pay for the transition to a gravel road?

Comments

They cannot maintain or keep the lakes filled with water at Willow Springs Pond. This trail will result in another unmaintained recreation project.

EMERGENCY ACCESS, UTILITIES, OPERATIONS

Questions

- How will emergency vehicles get through the gates?
- Who authorized the digging of Johnson Reservoir?
- How would utilities access the corridor if the road is closed?

Comments

- Fences that have been put up to ensure safety have been broken.
- There used to be a gate on the north and south ends of the road, but they were broken and never repaired.

RECREATION, TRAIL DESIGN, TRAILHEADS, AMENITIES, DOG ACCESS

Questions

- Will there be restrooms of any sort? Who is going to cover that cost?
- Would there be access for dogs?
- What would the impact be on student access to the school in southern areas?

Comments

- Moving the parking lots is fine.
- This would be the only north–south route for non-motorized vehicles in the area and would be a great long-term benefit.

LAND OWNERSHIP, STAKEHOLDERS, PROCESS, OUTREACH

Questions

- Who are the stakeholders by name?
- Who owns the land?
- Why are more people not aware of this project?

Comments

People are not excited about this plan.

COMMUNITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Questions

How will this impact property values?

Comments

- Closing the road would most benefit the stakeholders involved and not the community.
- The road is how some people experience the nature of the area.

TRAIL NETWORK CONNECTIONS, REGIONAL LINKS

Questions

Does this connect to a more comprehensive trail plan?

Comments

The accessibility to the reservoir will be greatly reduced if Goldfield Drive is closed.