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MEMORANDUM NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD

DATE: February 19, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: John Bartholow, on behalf of the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB)

SUBJECT: West Central Area Plan – Open Space Recommendations

The NRAB endorses the Open Space Recommendations that are a portion of the update to the West Central Neighborhoods Plan.

We received a briefing on the plan update at our last regular meeting, with particular attention given to the opportunities for additional open spaces and access to those areas. The Board was pleased to see how a variety of environmental concerns have been considered and integrated into the proposed plan. It is also gratifying to know that the draft "Nature in the City" effort is already earning dividends.

Most of the questions from Board members dealt with the interface between the West Central Area and other areas of the city, particularly CSU and the Mason corridor. But the open space recommendations were considered solid and should contribute nicely to cross-cutting goals that support wildlife habitat, floodplain management, and greater public access.

We urge Council to adopt these components of the draft plan in March.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Bartholow Chair, Natural Resources Advisory Board

cc: Darin Atteberry Susie Gordon