

Poudre River Downtown Project

POUDRE RIVER PROJECTS OPEN HOUSE – PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS

6-26-13

Thank you for listening & putting this downtown project together. Fort Collins has to be the only decent sized town that doesn't have a white water park. The time is right. I support & hope you work on putting in a white water park in the area from college Ave down through the "boat ramp" & beyond. Please keep in mind that any such park will need close by parking. Kayakers going to play will need to park basically "park & play". They don't necessarily continue down the river. The boating community has raised something like \$60,000 over the years to help support this. Matt Evens who used to own the Mountain Shop originally spearheaded this.

Let's get this done. A white water play park will also bring economic benefit of being a destination area. Check with all the towns that have already done this. People will eat, drink, stay over, etc. Plus enhance an already great town. Remove all obsolete dams too. So people can float all the way through town without going over dangerous dams. Or put in boat ramp. 30+ years kayaking, former owner of poudre river kayaks.

I would like to see a whitewater park somewhere on the Poudre river in the vicinity of La Porte/fort Collins. I would like it to be accessible by bike trail if possible.

Mountain Buzz.com – kayak/rafter site

The rock report also

Fish habitat considered in design of white water

Danger spot on trail @ railroad/behind Northside Aztlan Center

I'd also like to see a whitewater park. Right now local boaters have to drive to Lyons or further. Salida is a great example of how to integrate a white water park into the community so everyone, even non-boaters can enjoy it.

White water park/restaurants along the river

Please consider a true white water play park in downtown Fort Collins. I feel like this is very important to our community.

How about setting up a program which would enable people to buy water in stream in perpetuity shares could be available in different denominations. It would help the city with in-stream flows.

I'd like to facilitate our readers to participate in this project development. As a local outdoor blogger, my readers are the kind of people who are about don't have a lot of time. Let me know how I can help.

Please consider constructing a white water park that would be suitable for all levels. Kayakers, tubers, rafters, fisherman could all use this area. Kayakers travel long distances to paddle. Out of staters with little after would come stay in hotels, eat out, drink out and spend money in town. Local kayakers travel frequently to golden and lyons to play. Being local would benefit fort Collins.

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I am a long time resident of fort Collins, please seriously consider a whitewater park. There would be multiple benefits to the community. Revenue, beautification, fun, use by families, fisherman etc. there are many good examples already in the state. Golden steamboat springs, glenwood springs, lyons all have kayak parks. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would rather the river not be artificially changed to white water. It seems that flat water would have much more use to more people. Canoe's sea kayak, tubes, and you would drift through the town by the new developments. White water kayakers have their spots up river. Let's protect what they have but no reason to create whitewater in an area it doesn't exist. Most likely they would be disappointed with the result anyway. Couldn't create class II or above very easy.

Please include in downtown river project master plan a white water park on the river. Especially if there are going to be river improvements to the diversion dams and structures around college ave. the gradient is perfect for 2-3 play features for kayaking, improve fish habitat and provide numerous other recreation opportunities such as tubing, fishing nature walks etc. for kayaking specifically a venue for teaching kids, rescue courses and training and would provide for slalom, sup, freestyle and other competitive events

Fort Collins needs a kayak whitewater park on the downtown river project. Currently many kayakers head to Lyons to use their white water park. Typically we will go out to restaurants/bars in Lyons afterwards, this reduces the visits to fort Collins restaurants/bars. A whitewater park will increase tourism visits from in & out of state visitors

As a kayaker from Kansas, I can attest to the amount of money play parks bring to the cities who have taken the initiative to build them. My group of friends take entire vacations planned around cities with whitewater parks. I plan to visit the Lyons park as long as the water is floating. I hate to drive that far 2-3 times/week. But it is the closest place to practice and play. I would love to see a park (kayak whitewater play/park in fort Collins.

I can speak for myself and all of my kayaking friends and acquaintances when I say that we want a whitewater kayak park in town. Most of us live anywhere from 3-6 hours every weekend to spend money in other towns where there are better kept rivers and play parks to suit our needs. The amount of revenue these parks bring, not to mention keep in the town would well support the cost and provide a gathering place for families, fisherman and tourists to enjoy this natural luxury which we are letting go to waste. I believe the infinite benefits of building such a park are not being given enough weight and request that you weigh these in your decision to make fort Collins more beautiful, more family friendly and more profitable.

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The city should seriously consider adding a whitewater play park to the downtown river project. Whitewater play parks are extremely popular in front range cities such as Lyons, Golden, Denver, Pueblo and almost every city in the mountains in Colorado a whitewater playpark would provide recreation for non-kayakers and really enhance the atmosphere in the Poudre River corridor area at downtown. The playpark would also attract out of town visitors and bring business to Fort Collins and the downtown area.

It's unbelievable that we haven't exploited the river and what it could offer environmentally and recreationally. It's a true asset it would seem like a huge missed opportunity if we did not develop a white water play park in conjunction with other river corridor developments. There are too many case studies and success stories illustrating the versatility and economic benefits.

Water in prouder – enough for all projects don't let glades take our river develop more access points to Poudre for tubers and paddlers. Remove/reconfigure dams in city – dangerous to children and tubers. Encourage float paddling on large general ponds. PS- they are general quarries not natural areas.

Please consider adding a white water play park near the downtown area. Growing up near boulder I was able to see how a whitewater park can be a community gathering feature

Fort Collins is home to a very dedicated river enthusiast community. For many of us kayakers a play park would mean at least dollars spent on fort Collins businesses rather than boulder, Lyons, Denver, Salida, Breckenridge, Vail, and the list goes on. Without the play park in Lyons, it wouldn't exist. The Lyons outdoor games attracts 100's per year. We have been looking forward to this for too long.

I would like to see a white water kayak park in fort Collins. Currently I travel to Lyons to practice in their ww park. And it has been a great place to learn. It would be great to have one in Fort Collins and would attract people from all over the region. It would attract boaters and spectators and add to the community. Please put in a ww kayak park.

My family and I (wife, 3 kids ages 6,9,13) move to fort Collins by choice in June 2013. We love this city and are thrilled to call Fort Collins home. We are a paddling family and the one thing I have noticed lacking is a community play park of the white water variety. We have traveled to and enjoyed such play parks in Casper Wyoming, Salida, Lyons, and Golden. If Fort Collins were to create such a play park, the benefits would be multiple. The economic impact would of course be good for the city. Further kayakers would be able to enjoy the fun as well as canoes, surfers, tubers, and stand up enthusiasts alike. There are many many examples of how a community and river have been enhanced or even revitalized by way of creating a white water play park. Heck just ask those in Charles City, IA.

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The existing structure/rubble dams have resulted in a longitudinal profile that lends itself well to construction of a whitewater feature or features that will be of minimal impact on existing flood levels or fish passage. Proper construction of such a structure may even lower flood levels and improve fish passage. Not to mention improve aesthetics. The change in elevation over the existing feature is likely great enough to allow for the construction of multiple drops (perhaps in multiple channels that run-flow at various flow rates). A well constructed park would also improve safety for tubers and other novice river users. The location of the site is also prime. North fort Collins is up and coming and such a park could do nothing but help with this face life. By the way. I worked in stream restoration for 4 years and would love to have been involved with such a great project that is so straight forward.

If we can't afford (financially or conservationally a kayak park. We can at least make the river through town canoe/kayak friendly. Redesign the dams or get rid of them. Get river access from Taft all the way through town and beyond. Put out some designated lunch/picnic spots. Forget glade

Forget glade. We need a whitewater park

Larimer/weld safety of river = deadly
Manage out take of ditch waters = too much at once drives up river

Visibility to river from major corridor
Image of river/city
City head @ high flows point along college, ex: Poudre Pet & Feed/south facing slope

Restaurant on the river/watch in-river activities
Accessible visible people place

Connections through lee Martinez/trails
Access from neighborhoods – no through streets
Boulder Creek as example of white water areas Lyons.

I am not a paddler, but I enjoy spectating and feel the use of the river is optimized by an in town facility (paddle park) hope my kids and grand kids will have an opportunity to enjoy the river

Fc needs to connect to the river. The river as a wild natural experience. The Poudre is also part of a much larger system both man-made and natural
Prefer to connect to the river in its natural state.
Whitewater park would be a great enhancement and attraction

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A lot of fly fishers love the Poudre in town as well. Seems like maintaining the natural habitat would be beneficial for fishing as well.

Whitewater Park has been sought by the local paddling community for more than 10 years. We have initiated efforts and raised funds. In this direction, it would be used by tubers and families as well when the river is low.

Please build us a kayak play park. It would be a fantastic place to recreate for tubers, kayakers, fisherman and children alike. Also it would guarantee in town flow for everyone. And earn revenue for the city. I love this town and its culture. But if we don't utilize our natural resources and beauty we will only be another town. Water by college is fantastic enough to form at least 3 features spreading out use on the river. Forming one will encourage a high use area. Were all very excited about this.

A kayak play park would be fantastic. People would make it a destination for it. It would be great to have a place to play as the river goes down & there isn't much upstream. Regulating flow would help if that is possible. Many people love this river. Make it as fun safe & accessible for many as possible.

I would love to have a whitewater park considered as part of the downtown project. I am a member of the whitewater community as both a user and guide and would love to have the city more directly tied to the whitewater industry that makes this state so famous and wonderful

For kayaking through town, it would be nice to be able to boat the whole route. Now we portage in 2 areas where access to the road/river is difficult – broken concrete – steep. Making that friendly would be great.