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CLEAR CREEK COUNTY OPEN SPACE ANNOUNCES TUNNEL 5/OXBOW TRAILHEAD REOPENS

Media Partners,

After more than two years, the Tunnel 5/Oxbow Trailhead is open again to the public as of today June 22nd, at noon. It has been closed for the construction of additional segment of the Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Greenway in Clear Creek Canyon. Building trail in Clear Creek Canyon is very difficult and expensive, as one is placing a trail between the highway and the Creek. This portion was made possible thanks to funds from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), CPW Non-Motorized Trails Program, Colorado the Beautiful (DNR), CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program, Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), and The Clear Creek County Conservation Trust Fund.

Part of the Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Greenway, this portion begins on the west side of the Tunnel 5/Oxbow Trailhead where it connects with the previously completed 3.75 miles of trail heading downstream to Mayhem Gulch and beyond in Jefferson County. It adds to the existing trail allowing users to travel four miles one way on 10-foot wide concrete with metal railings where needed. With the reopening of the Trailhead, users can begin their adventure in Clear Creek County rather than having to go into Jefferson County. In addition, the rock climbing routes near the Trailhead are now accessible.

“With the completion of this portion of the Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Greenway Canyon Phase 2 Project, we are one step closer to getting to Idaho Springs,” Clear Creek County Open Space Coordinator Martha Tableman said. “We know everyone who has been waiting to experience the Oxbow Trailhead and the Trail as it goes downstream will be thrilled to use it again and see the improvements.”

The Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Greenway is a key portion of the Peaks to Plains Trail selected by the Governor's “Colorado the Beautiful Initiative” as one of the “16 in 2016” most important trail gaps, missing trail segments, and unbuilt trails across the state. This project is one more step towards eliminating a critical missing link in the statewide system. To the west, the trail connects with the existing trail network through Summit County, onto Vail, Glenwood Springs, as well as south over Fremont Pass to Leadville.