

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER**

**Topic: Jeffco Trails Plan Updates**

**Presented by: Emily Guffin, Trails and Access Program Manager, Open Space**

**Date: 6/10/2025**

☐ For Information

☐ For Discussion/Board Direction

☒ Consent to  
Place on Business/  
Hearing Agenda

**Issue:**

Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) staff requests the Board of County Commissioners to consider adopting the Jeffco Trails Plan updates, including Appendix A: Trail Definitions, Standards, and Recommended Maintenance Standards; the updated Jeffco Trails Plan Implementation Resources document; and the new Jeffco Trails Plan interactive project map.

**Background:**

The Jeffco Trails Plan was adopted in 2020 to help guide the development of an interconnected and comprehensive trail system throughout Jefferson County. The Plan takes a holistic approach, focusing on hard surface and natural surface trails beyond the boundaries of JCOS Parks. Developed under the direction of the Jeffco Trails Council and collaboratively with local agencies, park and recreation districts, and non-profit partners, the Jeffco Trails Plan aims to improve safety, connectivity, and equitable access along and to trails within Jefferson County.

**Discussion:**

Since the Jeffco Trails Plan was adopted, staff has received input from partners that additional resources would be helpful to include as part of the Jeffco Trails Plan. These resources include trail definitions, standards, and recommended maintenance standards, as well as improvements to the proposed project maps. These updates serve to achieve many goals, including:

- Providing a consistent and enjoyable visitor experience along trails within Jefferson County
- Encouraging the development of durable and sustainable trails that are sensitive to the local ecology

- Providing partners with a technical resource for developing and maintaining trails
- Informing what types of trails are eligible to be funded through the Trails Partnership Program
- Documenting proposed trail projects in a living document that can be updated to reflect changing jurisdictional circumstances

The trail definitions, standards, and recommended maintenance standards were developed collaboratively with internal JCOS teams and shared with the Jeffco Trails Council, various other County divisions, Cities, and Park and Recreation Districts. The mapping updates were developed collaboratively with the JCOS Mapping, Data, and Analysis team.

On May 1, 2025, the JCOS Advisory Committee approved Resolution #25-08 recommending the project to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

**Fiscal Impact:** ☐ yes ☒ no

**SPA Review:** Support with no concerns, Brett Deady, 5/19/2025

**County Attorney Review:** Reviewed and approved, Anthony Chambers, 5/21/2025

**Facilities Review:** No fiscal impact, Mark Danner, 5/15/2025

**BIT Review:** No impact, Rebecca Hascall, 5/28/2025

**Fleet Review:** Support with no concerns, Janice Mayer, 5/19/2025

**County Human Resources Review (new FTE only):** Does not apply

**Recommendations:**

That the Board of County Commissioners consider the recommendations made by JCOS Staff and the Open Space Advisory Committee in Resolution #25-08, approving the Jeffco Trails Plan updates and adopting the updates at a future hearing.

**Originator:**

Emily Guffin, Trails and Access Program Manager  
[eguffin@co.jefferson.co.us](mailto:eguffin@co.jefferson.co.us), 303.271.5946

**Contacts for Additional Information:**

Rachel Brenna, Strategy and Planning Director  
[rbrenna@co.jefferson.co.us](mailto:rbrenna@co.jefferson.co.us), 303-271-5991