

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER

**Topic: Meyer Ranch Park - Our Lady of the Pines Trail Easement
JCOS24-12**

Presented by: Hillary Merritt, Deputy Director, 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) proposes relocating an existing trail easement on property owned by Our Lady of the Pines (the Pines), located at 9444 Eagle Cliff Road in Conifer (Property), to provide better alignment for a trail connection.

Background:

In 2005, JCOS received a trail easement on the Pines property through a dedication in an exemption survey. The Pines and JCOS agree that this alignment does not suit either party's needs and parties desire to realign the current trail dedication location in favor of a new trail easement location that better connects Meyer Ranch Park to Aspen Park.

Discussion:

The Pines has agreed to realign the existing easement such that the easement will be located as a 30-foot-wide easement on the west side of the Property for trail construction and maintenance. The new easement location enhances habitat connectivity, supports biodiversity, and aids in long-term natural resource conservation efforts. Both easement locations are approximately 0.93 acres, and the new trail alignment will provide a better visitor experience than alternative routes.

On May 1, 2025, the JCOS Advisory Committee approved Resolution #25-07 recommending the project to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

Fiscal Impact: ☐ yes ☒ no

SPA Review: Brett Deady, reviewed May 27, 2025. Support, no concern.

County Attorney Review: Anthony Chambers, reviewed and approved May 27, 2025.

Facilities Review: Support, no concern. Mark Danner, May 23, 2025

BIT Review: Support, no concern. Andy Corbett, May 27, 2025

Fleet Review: Support, no concern. Janice Mayer, May 27, 2025

County Human Resources Review (new FTE only): N/A

Recommendations:

That the Board of County Commissioners consider the recommendations made by JCOS Staff and the Open Space Advisory Committee in Resolution #25-07, approving the new easement location and authorize execution of the required documents at a future hearing.

Originator:

Hillary Merritt, Deputy Director

Contacts for Additional Information:

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