

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER**

**Topic: Coal Creek Canyon Study Area - United Power Utility  
Easement JCOS25-14**

**Presented by: Hillary Merritt, Shared Services Director, Parks & Open  
Space**

**Date: 1/27/2026**

- For Information
- For Discussion/Board Direction
- Consent to Place on Business/Hearing Agenda

**Issue:**

Jefferson County Parks and Open Space (JCPOS) proposes granting a utility easement to United Power on land located in the Coal Creek Canyon Study Area, from Brumm Trail Road to Highway 72.

**Background:**

In 2025, JCPOS granted access to United Power to upgrade its powerlines located in the Coal Creek Canyon Study Area, as part of their wildfire mitigation program. The survey for this area showed that the utility lines existed, but there were no recorded easements.

At the request of the County, United Power completed the utility line upgrade by placing the utility line underground. The utility line upgrade was approved using a Construction, Maintenance, and Access Permit, subject to an easement agreement to be completed post construction.

**Discussion:**

The project restoration was completed to the County’s satisfaction and JCPOS proposes to grant United Power a utility easement on 88,865 square feet or 2.04 acres. United Power will be charged a processing fee of \$1,500.

On January 8, 2026, the Open Space Advisory Committee approved Resolution #26-01 recommending the project to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

**Fiscal Impact:**  yes  no

**Budget & Strategy Review:** Brett Deady, reviewed January 15, 2026. Support, no concern.

**County Attorney Review:** Anthony Chambers reviewed and approved January 15, 2026.

**Facilities Review:** Support, no concern. Mark Danner, January 14, 2026

**BIT Review:** Support, no concern. Andy Corbett, January 15, 2026

**Fleet Review:** Support, no concern. Janice Mayer, January 14, 2026

**County Human Resources Review (new FTE or Total Rewards Request):** None

**Recommendations:**

That the Board of County Commissioners consider the recommendations made by JCPOS Staff and the Open Space Advisory Committee in Resolution #26-01, approving the grant of a utility easement, and authorizing execution of the required documents at a future hearing.

**Originator:**

Hillary Merritt, Shared Services Director

**Contacts for Additional Information:**

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