



Ecosystem Restoration Ordinance Update

May 4, 2023



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Articles III and V of Chapter 56 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code

Operate and Maintain Stormwater and Sanitary Sewer Systems to:

- preserve water quality;
- mitigate pollution; and
- manage potential drainage and flooding impacts, including **impacts to ecosystems and natural habitats.**

Current Systems

\$1.2+ Billion in Total Assets

(Storm-72%, Sanitary-23%, Other-5%)

STORM

- 1000+ miles pipe, 15k manholes, 23k inlets
- 50+ miles open channel
- 8 Lift Stations

SANITARY

- 1500+ miles pipe, 35k manholes
- 7 Lift Stations

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- 325 streetside stormwater planters
- 16 regional facilities

**LAND, BUILDINGS, SOFTWARE,
VEHICLES, EQUIPMENT, ETC.**



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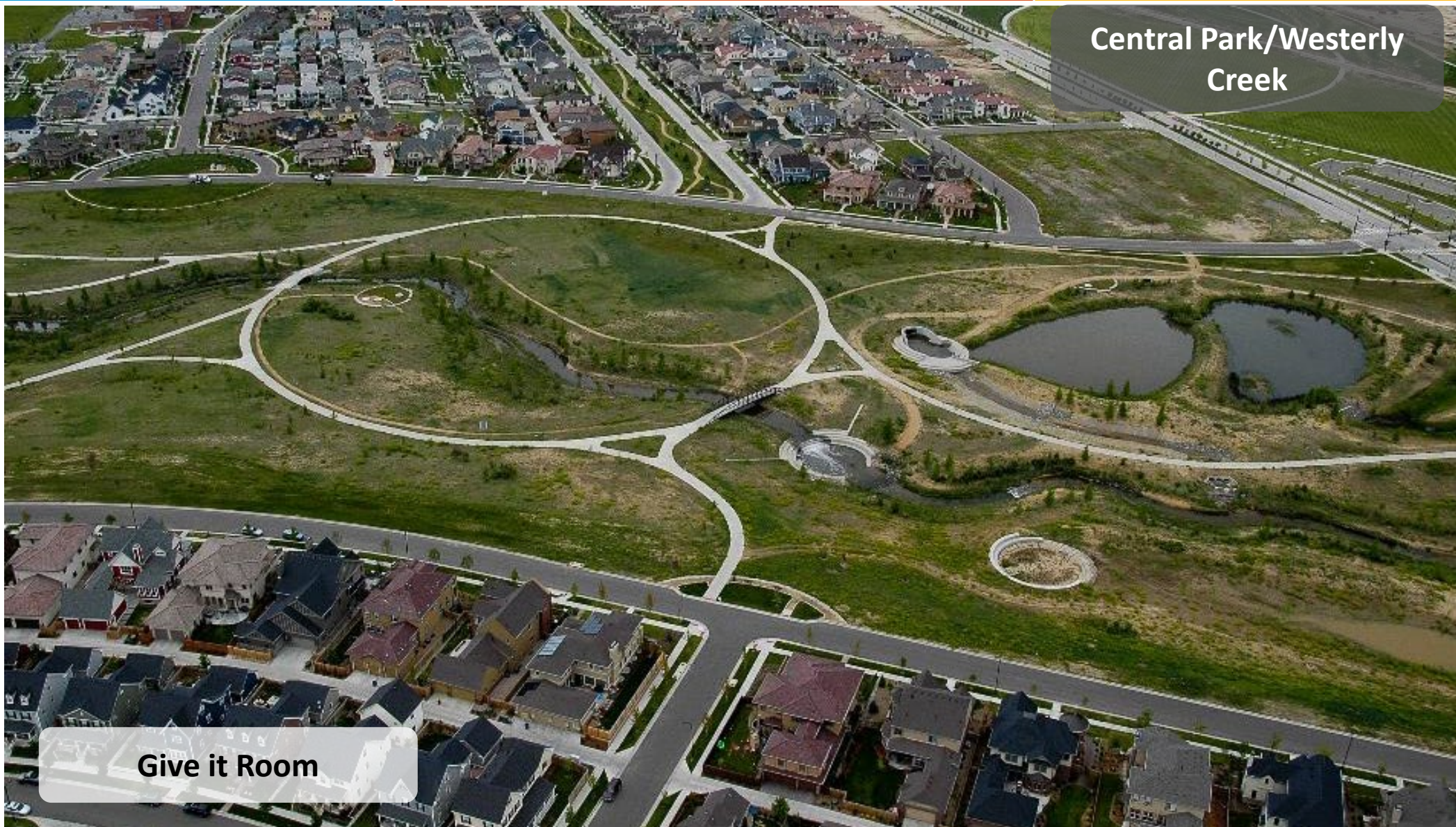
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Water Resource Management

The practice of water resource management has evolved from hard engineered structures to “control” water to protect from flooding toward nature-based solutions that provide multiple benefits (i.e. flood mitigation, environmental, social, resiliency, etc.).

These are designed to:

- view water as a community asset and amenity;
- apply a holistic watershed approach;
- preserve and restore the ecosystem; and
- improve natural habitats to support native species.



Central Park/Westerly
Creek

Give it Room



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Westerly Creek



Before



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Westerly Creek



During



Westerly Creek

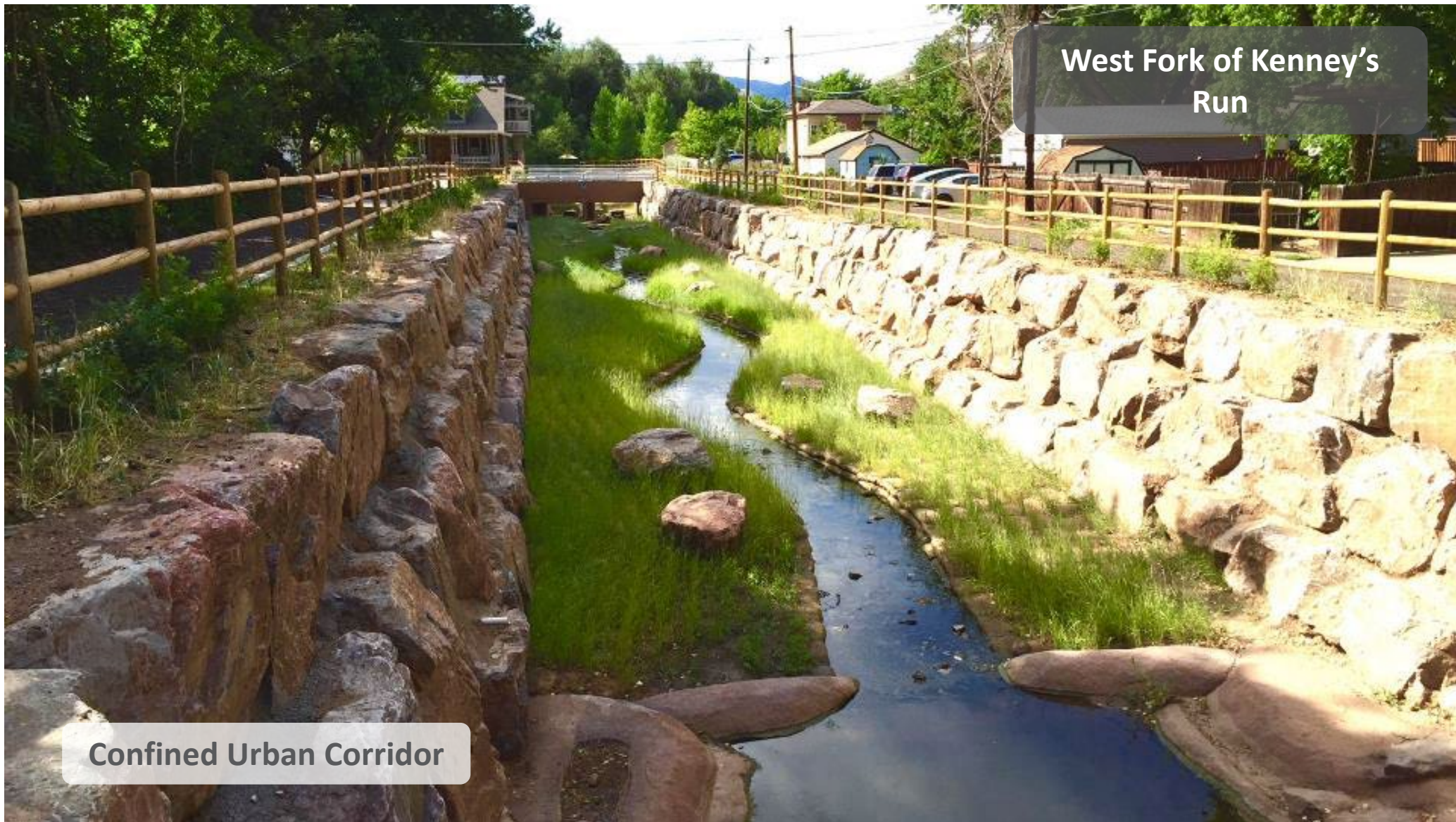


After



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West Fork of Kenney's
Run

Confined Urban Corridor



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Maintenance Costs



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Purpose of the Ordinance changes

To align the language of our enabling legislation to:

- more accurately reflect industry best practices;
- better support the goals of the Denver One Water Plan;
- clearly support multi-beneficial projects like the Waterway Resiliency Program; and
- critical to approaching our water management in a sustainable and resilient manner.

Specific language proposed revisions:

Section 1: Purpose (language added)

Section 2: Authority of the Manager of DOTI (affirms ED's existing authority to prioritize allocation of wastewater resources)

Section 3: General Provisions and legislative findings (added a purpose that includes the specific language)

Section 4: Definitions (modified definition of stormwater drainage system)

Section 5: Administration by manager of DOTI (affirms ED's existing authority to prioritize allocation of wastewater resources)

Section 6: Legislative intent (added language to the purpose)

Section 7: Administration (affirms ED's existing authority to prioritize allocation of wastewater resources)