

South Platte Basin Roundtable

November 30, 2022

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colorado Water Plan Grant Request - Letter of Support for the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group (South Metro Water Supply Authority as Applicant)

Dear Honorable Board Members,

The South Platte Basin Roundtable has supported the efforts of the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group or “SPROWG” since concept inception in 2015. Since the first Colorado Water Plan was released, additional efforts have been made to define a South Platte River basin-wide project aimed at efficient use of existing supplies utilizing storage and other infrastructure.

The SPROWG concept offers a regional, multi-use basin-wide approach to meet a variety of future water needs in the South Platte Basin that won't be met by conservation, reuse and other presently planned projects. A SPROWG Task Force of over 100 stakeholders was used to educate water users on the concept and began the first outreach within the basin. Task Force members included environmental and recreational interests, agricultural producers and ranchers, and water providers and conservancy districts. Many members of both the Metro and South Platte Roundtables participated in this effort. The concept was a focus in both the 2015 and 2022 (updated) South Platte Basin Implementation Plans (SPBIP) to meet future potential South Platte Basin supply gaps.

The purpose of this specific effort is to conduct extensive outreach among stakeholders and to build a committed coalition of partners who are willing to pursue and invest in the SPROWG concept. Through this outreach, the concept will be refined into a detailed vision for further planning purposes toward the advancement of the SPROWG concept.

It is the South Platte Roundtable's understanding that the SPROWG stakeholder group is now applying for a Colorado Water Plan grant of \$120,407.50. It is also my understanding that the SPROWG stakeholder group will be contributing \$52,480 in cash funding and additional in-kind support in the form of staff resources, project guidance and technical oversight for this project. The South Metro Water Supply Authority will act as fiscal agent and primary applicant. The South Platte Roundtable fully supports this grant request.

Sincerely,



Sean Chambers, Chair
South Platte Basin Roundtable

Cc: Garrett Varra – Needs Assessment Committee Chair