

**Verbatim Comments from the Metzger Farm Open House
March 25, 2009**

Please note that (Broomfield) and (Westminster) indicate where the person making the comment lives.

My family would like to see some agricultural education at the farm. Now more than ever it's important to educate people, especially children, about where our food comes from. Consider working with schools to plant gardens and teach about how food gets to our refrigerators. Please include farm animals and education about them as well. If there is space, please consider holding farmers markets there. Better yet—develop it into a small working farm. Another idea is to convert one of the buildings into a farm/agriculture-centered children's museum. Thank you! I look forward to this addition to our community and hope to be able to volunteer time to this valuable project. (Unknown)

Great project! Like to know time line for project and in particular, when trail access under Federal Blvd. via the existing underpass, will happen. (Westminster)

Great project! Very excited—can't wait to enjoy the facilities. It adds so much to the quality of life for Broomfield and Westminster. It will be a charming gateway to Broomfield. My pride in my new town is going up! Hurry! Hurry! (Broomfield)

Love the trails that would allow access from Crofton Park. Any chance of incorporating the undeveloped property at the northeast corner of 124th & Lowell-- Making it part of this open space? (Broomfield)

I hope there will be ongoing efforts to mitigate prairie dogs from the farm site. The Big Dry Creek Trail is "scorched earth" because of prairie dogs. I would hate to see this beautiful site become the same. We suggest an area be established for a community vegetable garden. We commend Broomfield and Westminster for making this possible. (Broomfield)

Thank you for buying this property and saving it for open space. My ancestor moved to Broomfield in 1894. From 1905 to 1953, her family farmed 80 acres east of 120th and Sheridan. She had close ties to the Metzger family and babysat the Metzger children. I drove past the farm for years and prayed someone would save it. Now, I can hardly wait to be able to hike the trails. We have six generations that have lived in Broomfield as my daughter and her family still live there. The project is so special to me! (Broomfield)

I think the plan looks great and believe that it will be extremely well received and appreciated by the community. I very much like the trails as mapped and the interconnections with the Dry Creek and Broomfield trails. I ask that existing wildlife be permitted to coexist in this haven, including coyotes. Sign 124th Avenue as a no parking area. I strongly favor this project. (Broomfield)

Being a homeowner next to the space, I am very happy to see this project take off. The only thing at the moment that comes to mind would be a community garden area with spots available for rent. (Unknown)

Love the concept and the plan! I can hardly wait until this is up and going strong. I also appreciate that this is a joint venture between Westminster and Broomfield. Thank you. (Broomfield)

Having the Metzger family at the meeting was a nice touch. (Broomfield)

Love the concept and the plan! I can hardly wait until this is up and going strong. I also appreciate that this is a joint venture between Westminster and Broomfield. Thank you. Following suggestions: Suggest “no parking” signs along 124th Avenue. I wonder if local Westminster and Broomfield artists would donate artwork. Proposed sidewalk along Lowell. . .would like to see it meander rather than follow the straight line of Lowell. Can shrubs or trees be planted to mask the sidewalk from Lowell? (Broomfield) Like the idea of 4’ trails near fishing dock as opposed to 3’. Might accommodate groups of children or wheelchairs better. Any plans to accommodate weddings? How about a bench or two and shade tree along Trail marked “17” for seniors? I would love to contribute to the success of Metzger Farm by acting as a docent. I’d like to relate historical stories and explain unique parts of the landscape and wildlife. How fun! (Broomfield)

This appears to be a wonderful proposal. We’ll look forward to seeing it happen—hopefully sooner than later. Thank you for only the Lowell vehicle access. (Unknown)

Please, no public parking on 124th! I live at 124th & Irving Drive. With Broomfield Public Works on 124th, there is quite a lot of traffic already. The street does not seem designed for heavy traffic. Plan looks good overall! (Broomfield)

We are delighted with your plans! We are excited to see it go forward! (Broomfield)

Looks great—sounds like a great addition. (Unknown)

I would suggest a strong effort to eliminate parking on 124th Avenue. If parking is necessary, have it inside the Metzger Farm, unless you plan/establish a parking lot, I’m afraid there will be safety problems encountered. Let us know when future meetings are held so we can support you and the Plan. (Broomfield)

Now that the City of Broomfield has voted to delay the expansion of Lowell Blvd., I am concerned that there will be no sidewalk installed along the west side of the property. This will make access to the farm dangerous since Lowell is narrow and traffic runs fast there. (Unknown)

I wanted to let the Open Space Advisory Board know about an organization that may be able to provide support to the Master Plan should the option to host special events such as “an autumn harvest celebration, . . . temporary demonstrations of farm life activities such as . . . farm animals” (from the Metzger Farm Open House Brochure) occur in the future. The Colorado Draft Horse Association (CDA) has many members that would be an excellent source for informational support as well as possibly bringing animals to special events. The Colorado Draft Horse Association’s purpose is to: (A) To promote appreciation and interest in draft horses by participation in civic affairs, and demonstrating use of draft horses. (B) To encourage wholesome individual and group activities relating to draft horses. (C) To increase knowledge of the use of, and the care for draft horses.

I spoke with the organization's president, Dennis Kuehl, about this possibility and will provide the organization with a copy of the brochure handed out at the recent open house along with a copy of this letter. I explained that such activities are on the long-range option list, however the CDA will be meeting in May to discuss the direction the organization wants to go and this possibility will be included in their discussion. (Westminster)

It would be great to include some sort of community vegetable garden near the farm house in remembrance of the historical Metzger family vegetable garden. This could be available to local residents or adopted by local schools (or charter/private schools) to teach the whole idea of growing healthy vegetables and eating food grown locally which seem to be a popular trend today. If the budget doesn't allow this in the short term a space near the farm house should be reserved in the master plan for it in the future. Is the windmill operational? Can it be used to generate power, again another opportunity to teach the community about harnessing wind power, and possibly help offset the cost of electrical expenses associated with the farm. Again this may be out of the budget for now but something to consider for the future. I don't believe the sidewalk along 120th Avenue is included in this master plan but it would sure be nice to see it meander a little. (Westminster)

The idea of using stimulus money to retrofit the windmill to show how wind energy can be harnessed would be an interesting idea to investigate. (Denver)