

**United States Senate**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

December 3, 2021

The Honorable Michael L. Connor  
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

LTG Scott A. Spellmon  
Chief of Engineers and Commanding  
General  
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 20310

Dear Secretary Connor and General Spellmon:

As you begin to distribute funding provided in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Division J, Title III), we ask that you consider allocating funding for Investigations and Construction for the South Platte River and Tributaries project in Adams and Denver Counties, Colorado.

The South Platte River and its associated tributaries form an integral river corridor in the Denver metro area. As you know, this is the only project in the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 with dual authorization for ecosystem restoration and flood risk management. The City and County of Denver, working in partnership with the Corps' Omaha District, requests \$4 million in Investigations funding to complete Pre-Construction Engineering and Design for the most urgently needed portion of the project. They also request a New Construction Start and \$100 million to begin implementation.

As an important ecosystem for wildlife, a hub for recreation, and key aspect of the area's water supply and quality, these investments will ensure the health and longevity of the river system and mitigate flooding. The project will restore nearly 450 acres of riparian and wetland habitat along the South Platte River, protect approximately 460 homes and businesses from flooding, and relieve the majority of these structures from the flood insurance requirement. The project also provides additional voluntary flood risk management measures to approximately 176 structures along Harvard Gulch. These measures are important because many of the structures are located in economically disadvantaged and underserved communities that can least afford to bear the costs of damaging floods.

We appreciate your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Bennet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Hickenlooper". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name being the most prominent.

John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator