

October 29, 2007

U.S. Congressman Doug Lamborn
5th Congressional District
3730 Sinton Rd Suite 150
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Tom Massey
Colorado State Representative
District 60
200 E. Colfax
Denver, Colorado 80203

Buffie McFayden
Colorado State Representative
District 47
200 E. Colfax
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear _____,

Our Campaign to restore the Cañon City Hogbacks would certainly appreciate your assistance and/or guidance as to where we can go to commence the necessary action to clean up and prevent further health and sanitation problems that exist in and from the Cañon City Hogbacks area.

PROBLEM:

The City of Cañon City owns Skyline Drive and the Hogback area directly below Skyline Drive. Since the City of Cañon purchased this area a number of years ago, very little has been done with the area. The City attempted to keep out ATV's and dirt bikes and other vehicles by placing large rocks and some pipe fences in areas of entry. A few signs were installed stating the area should not be trespassed upon. The City has taken absolutely no action to even attempt to enforce their initial closure. The area is not managed or environmentally protected and erosion is making an impact on our local storm water issue. ATV's, dirt bikes and other vehicles are in this area daily. A group of organized neighbors met and presented an educated, concerned approach to the needs of homeowners that are being directly affected by this problem. The mayor on City Public Television stated, "The Hogback Area has been on the City's task list for 14 years". This is evidence that the City had not taken any action at all on the Hogbacks areas need for enforcement, management, environmental protection, erosion control and action to abate the noise that emanates from the area and blankets an area of over a half mile east into the residential heart of the city north of the downtown area.

The number of ATV and dirt bike riders is continuing to increase. These vehicles have become many kids' toy of choice. Many of the riders in this area are underage, and are riding the streets to get to and from the Hogback area. With the usage of this area by teens and some young adults, there is furthering deterioration due to an increase of their trash, beer containers, refuse and noise pollution. With the closure of the motor biking area west of Pueblo we have observed a drastic increase in use in the Hogbacks. With more closures to ATV motorized vehicles and restrictions coming due on the Forests and BLM properties the Hogback area is feeling the increased pressure.

We need professional public service assistance to convince the City Council of Cañon City that they must initiate remedial action and close the area with positive closure fencing and enforcement. Then, if and when it is possible that the erosion is stabilized and a management plan is in place there could be public use for open space. We have a plan of vision that would address the recreational use by specific regulated persons on ATV's, bicycle use and walker and hiker use. We ask that you take a look at the website created for this campaign. We will appreciate hearing from you with your suggestions and or directions towards achieving our objectives to correct this community problem.

Respectfully,

Monica McGowan
Skyline Hogbacks Preservation Representative
Cañon City, CO 81212

<http://www.geolor.com/SkylineHogbacks/Skyline-Hogbacks-Preservation-Campaign.htm>