

# Boulder County Proposed Compost Facility

March 2021



## Agenda

1. Overview & History
2. Design & Application
3. Public Outreach
4. New Information
5. Staff Recommendation



# Overview & History

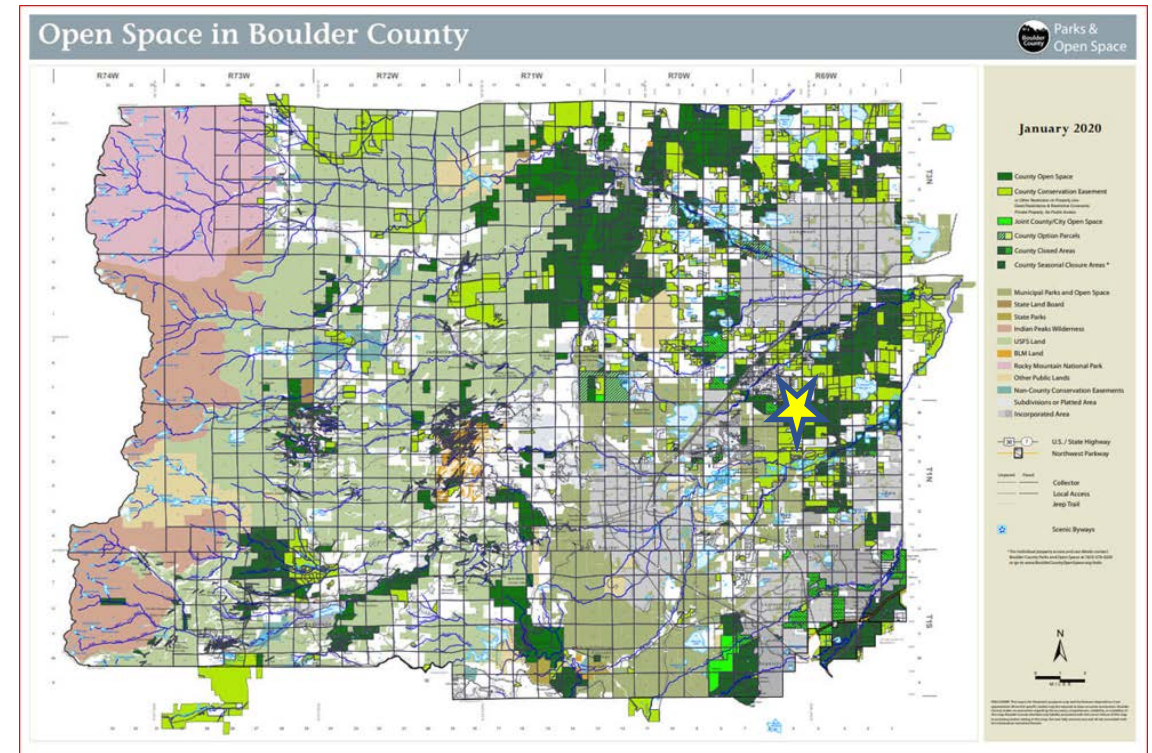
- History of strong support for zero waste solutions in Boulder County
- Climate change a strategic priority
- Benefits of compost
- Sustainability tax





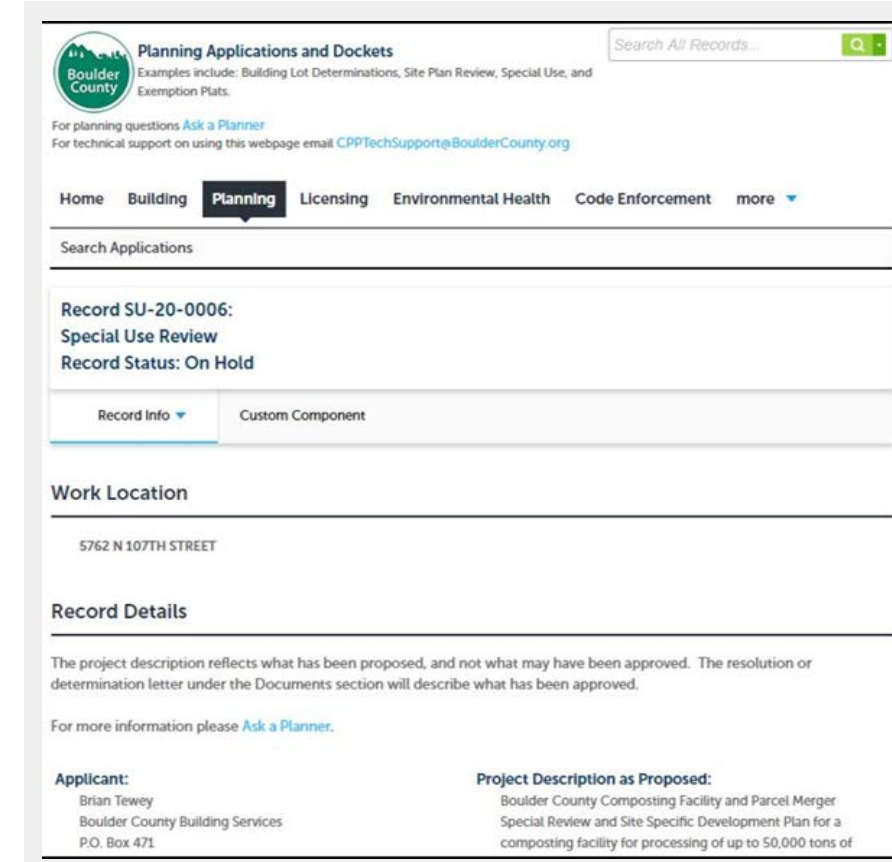
# Overview & History

- A cross departmental effort mapped potential C&D recycling and composting sites within county limits
- Minimal sites met all the criteria and after much deliberation three potential sites were revealed as potentially viable
- Consultants hired to analyze sites for specific zero waste uses
- Site concerns found at two of the three locations, so the Former Rainbow Tree Nursery location becomes a viable option
- Staff presented site analysis to the prior BOCC
- In November 2019, BOCC directed staff to put out RFP for design to get real cost estimates of building a compost facility



# Design Review & Application Processes

- Public Works issues RFP for Architectural Consultants March 2020
- Architectural consultant team selected July 2020: PEH Architects, SCS Engineering, and A1 Organics
- Special Use Review Application (Architectural Schematic Design Drawings and Application) submitted to CP&P October 2020
- Quasi-judicial process part of SUR because Boulder County is the applicant
- Limits ability of staff to communicate with decision-makers (BOCC) until public hearings
- Updated construction estimate significantly higher than pre-design estimate
- Value engineering takes place to get design to \$12M



The screenshot displays the Boulder County Planning Applications and Dockets website. The header includes the Boulder County logo, the title "Planning Applications and Dockets", and a search bar. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with options: Home, Building, Planning (highlighted), Licensing, Environmental Health, Code Enforcement, and more. The main content area shows the details for Record SU-20-0006, titled "Special Use Review" with a status of "On Hold". It includes a "Record Info" dropdown menu and a "Custom Component" button. The "Work Location" is listed as "5762 N 107TH STREET". The "Record Details" section contains a disclaimer: "The project description reflects what has been proposed, and not what may have been approved. The resolution or determination letter under the Documents section will describe what has been approved." Below this, there is a link to "Ask a Planner". At the bottom, the "Applicant" is identified as Brian Tewey, Boulder County Building Services, P.O. Box 471. The "Project Description as Proposed" is for a "Boulder County Composting Facility and Parcel Merger Special Review and Site Specific Development Plan for a composting facility for processing of up to 50,000 tons of".



# Public Outreach During Design Process

- Compost Facility website developed August of 2020
  - *4,455 visits to-date*
- FAQ webpage established September of 2020
- Email listserv established August of 2020
  - *1,167 subscribers*
- Online question/comment form
  - *443 forms submitted to-date*
- Neighboring property owner informational session held on-site Oct. 6, 2020
- Media coverage by Daily Camera, Times Call, Colorado Public Radio, Channel 7 Denver, CBS 4 Denver, Longmont Leader, Yellowscene, & Lefthand Valley Courier
- Public hearings planned with Planning Commission and BOCC if Special Use Review moved forward



# Request for Application Withdrawal

## What Has Changed:

- Updated project cost estimates show substantial increase from 2019 preliminary estimates
- Value engineering to reduce costs may affect overall facility design & intended operations
- Over 500 comments received by PW from the public both in support and in opposition
  - *Numerous comments also received by Commissioners Office, CP&P, and POS*
- Withdrawal allows for additional analysis of options and renewed conversation between staff, the public, and decision makers regarding the project & potential composting solutions



# Questions & Comments

