



# Board of County Commissioners

## PUBLIC NOTICE -- GROSS RESERVOIR COMMUNITY IMPACT MITIGATION FUND

March 10, 2023

Dear Property Owner,

Your home, property, or residential address in the vicinity of Gross Reservoir has been identified as a potential location to consider\* as part of the *Denver Water v. Boulder County* Settlement Agreement, which established a \$5 million Gross Reservoir Community Impact Mitigation Fund ("the Fund"). The fund is designed to provide direct payments to eligible property owners who are (or are expected to be) adversely impacted by Denver Water's Gross Reservoir Expansion Project.

The Settlement Agreement, signed in November 2021 between Boulder County and the Denver Board of Water Commissioners, requires Boulder County to develop standards or formulas that ensure a fair and equitable distribution of the \$5 million fund among households. Where possible, the standards or formulas will consider the type and severity of noise, light, and air/dust impacts on eligible households from the multi-year construction project.

A full copy of the agreement is available for review at [boco.org/GrossReservoir](https://boco.org/GrossReservoir).

**You do not need to respond to this notice for your property to be considered for the Settlement Agreement payout distribution.** The Board of County Commissioners will determine the addresses that will receive a payout and the amount of the payment from the Fund. The Board will base its decision on community/neighbor surveys, professional environmental analysis, and input/feedback from a community advisory working group. See [boco.org/GrossReservoir](https://boco.org/GrossReservoir) for additional information.

### Community Advisory Working Group

In the fall of 2022, Boulder County began working on the idea of an advisory working group that will represent the community's interest, and numerous community members have expressed interest in serving. Boulder County is working with Peak Facilitation, Inc. of Broomfield, Colorado, to assemble and convene the advisory group to solicit community feedback on how best to distribute the initial round of funding.

Within the next few months, the advisory group will review and provide input on scenarios for determining which properties are eligible for the first round of compensation. Boulder County also will reserve some funding to compensate residents for anticipated impacts from Denver Water's tree removal activities in years 2025 and 2026.

The public is invited to observe the advisory group meetings (dates TBD) virtually through Zoom and to email comments to [grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org](mailto:grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org) at any time.

**Claire Levy** County Commissioner **Marta Loachamin** County Commissioner **Ashley Stolzmann** County Commissioner

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, CO 80306 • [www.BoulderCounty.org](http://www.BoulderCounty.org) • [commissioners@bouldercounty.org](mailto:commissioners@bouldercounty.org)

## Stay Connected

Notifications about the process for distributing money from the impact fund will be sent to Boulder County's Gross Reservoir email distribution list and updated on the county's public website.

To stay informed:

- **Sign up for the email list** at: [boco.org/GrossReservoirNews](https://boco.org/GrossReservoirNews)
- **Visit our website** at: [boco.org/GrossReservoir](https://boco.org/GrossReservoir) for updates and meeting dates/times
- **Complete the survey** at: [boco.org/GrossReservoirSurvey](https://boco.org/GrossReservoirSurvey) to provide Boulder County with details about your property and the impacts you're experiencing from the Denver Water Gross Dam Expansion Project

Our staff coordinator for the Gross Reservoir Community Impact Mitigation Fund distribution project, Barb Halpin, has been meeting with residents, keeping us updated on the project, and taking input from the community for the past 10 months. She can be reached at [grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org](mailto:grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org) or 720-564-2830 with any questions.

We recognize that money is not an adequate substitute for your peace of mind and the quiet enjoyment of your home, and that the amount provided by the Settlement Agreement will not be sufficient to mitigate the impacts of Denver Water's project.

Determining how best to distribute the money from the Denver Water Settlement Agreement will be a complex and challenging process. There is no easy formula or set of standards that make this task simple and straightforward. Nor will we be able to achieve anything close to "perfect" given the circumstances under which we are working.

We appreciate your patience and understanding in allowing us to take the time to thoroughly research the environmental impacts of the long-term construction project, listen to members of the community, and do our best to make sure that all points of view are collected and considered before any money is distributed from the Fund.

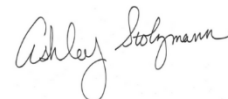
Sincerely,



Commissioner Claire Levy



Commissioner Marta Loachamin



Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann

**\*Receipt of this letter does not mean that you will receive a payout from the Settlement Agreement.** An extended mailing list was used to inform the broader Gross Reservoir community of the mitigation fund and the payout determination process. The formula for distribution of the money will be determined by early summer, and all updates and announcements regarding the distribution process will be sent via email through the county's Gross Reservoir distribution list. We hope to begin issuing checks to eligible property owners by July or August 2023.