

Realtor Association's Support of 'Completing' the Beltway Makes No Sense

For several years now, I have been the lone voice of reason at Jeffco's Realtor association, arguing against the boondoggle that won't die — currently called the Jefferson Parkway.

A few years ago, with the encouragement of Gov. Bill Owen's CDOT, there was an effort to extend C-470 through Golden and connect it with the rest of the metro area's beltway. Millions of dollars were spent on transportation studies which, to their credit, disproved proponents' claims that the highway would satisfy transportation needs.

As each study showed that arterial improvements made more sense than completing a beltway, CDOT ignored the report and tried another study, until finally Gov. Bill Ritter called off the effort.

Undeterred, the Jeffco Commis-

sioners created a "public highway authority" (funded with taxpayer money) to lure private investors to build a toll road from the county's airport south of Flatirons Mall to Highway 93 five miles north of Golden. This road does not connect with any portion of the beltway at either end, but is nevertheless promoted as "completing the beltway."

This road, if built by some unsuspecting foreign investor, will serve no purpose other than to (1) spur development of real estate south of Rocky Flats and (2) create pressure to connect the fragment to the rest of the beltway. All this is to support the kind of development and congestion that has overwhelmed the other three quadrants of the metro area.

Key to building this "toll road to nowhere" is the use of Jeffco open space funds to buy a 300-foot right of way along the eastern border of Rocky Flats — not directly, but

through a land swap. It is not unreasonable to call this a misappropriation of open space funds to build a "privately funded" toll road.

I don't understand why the Realtor Association continues to support this toll road and its ultimate connection to the rest of the beltway, given that it will only spur development (and traffic congestion) that none of us want to see.

Marc Williams, the leading candidate for Arvada Mayor, is the leading proponent of this scheme and should be defeated.

Part-Time Job Opening at Golden Real Estate

I'm looking for someone to work one day a week helping us maintain our listing and transaction files. If you have "transaction coordinator" or similar experience, this could be your job..

I'm also looking for landscaping help now that we've repaved our parking lot, leaving a couple open areas.

This Week's Featured New Listing

Another Solar-Powered Home at a Great Price

Stonebridge Crossing is a 30-home subdivision east of Easley Road on 55th Drive. This home at 16488 W. 55th Drive is one of homes which is furthest from Easley Road and hence from any traffic noise. It backs to a horse property and sides to open space which is maintained with the HOA's \$25/year dues. Take the narrated video tour on the website, and you can tell how quiet it is from the lack of background noise. The home has a photovoltaic system (installed last year) which generates all the electricity needed by its owner. The seller also made some other great improvements including adding radiant floor heating in the kitchen and home theater. There are too many features to describe in this ad.. Visit the website to learn more.



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