

June 6, 2025

Gov. Jared Polis
State Capitol Building
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 136
Denver, CO 80203

RE: CO150 Walkway Proposal

Dear Gov. Polis:

Neighbors for Greater Capitol Hill (NGCH) hosted a neighborhood forum attended by more than 30 people on Thursday, May 29, 2025, to learn for the first time about the CO150 Walkway from the Capitol Plaza over Lincoln Street to the northwest corner of Veterans Park.

NGCH is a Denver registered neighborhood organization (RNO) that serves an area roughly bounded by York/Josephine Streets on the east, 6th Avenue on the south, Broadway on the west, and Glenarm Place/23rd Avenue on the north.

Danielle Oliveto, your deputy chief of staff, and Anne Pharamond, a member of the design team responsible for planning the CO150 Walkway, presented the design concept and the rationale for the walkway, along with illustrations of how it would look as it winds west from the Capitol Plaza and over Lincoln Street.

After their presentation, John Deffenbaugh, CEO of Historic Denver, discussed why his organization opposes what he called a "completely unnecessary" project that creates "a functionally useless bridge through this historic site ... [and] does extensive damage."

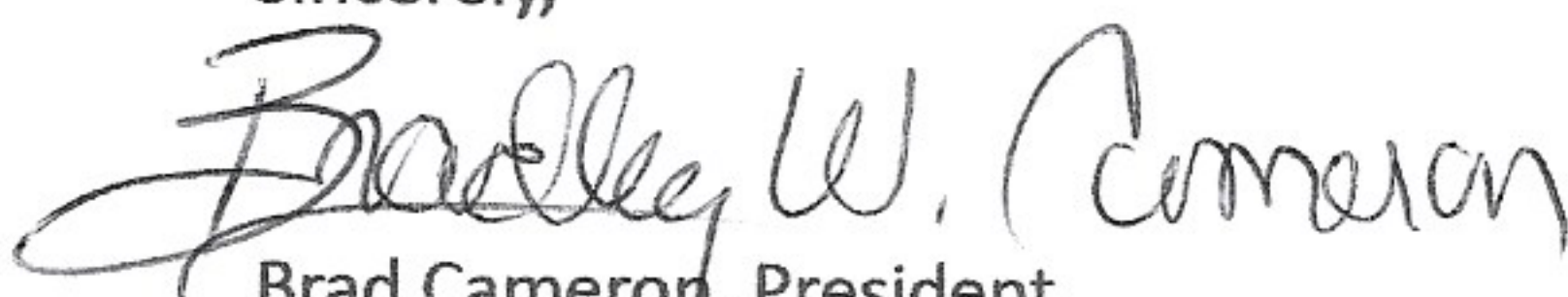
After hearing from both positions, a show of hands was taken. All but two voted to oppose the CO150 Walkway as proposed. There was one abstention.

The objections voiced by the forum's attendees included that:

- The proposed bridge will add unnecessary and disruptive visual clutter to the beautiful and historic green park space of the Capitol, Lincoln Veterans Park and Civic Center Park.
- It will also detract from the main purpose of Veterans' Park, which is to commemorate the important service of all Colorado veterans.
- The bridge will also be extremely expensive at a time when there are many more important issues for the State and its citizens to prioritize.
- There has been very little meaningful public outreach to obtain citizens' opinions about the project.

After the forum adjourned, the NGCH Board of Directors voted unanimously for our RNO to oppose the walkway. Besides the design of the walkway, we also are dismayed by the lack of transparency and engagement that the Colorado 150 organizers have had with the neighborhoods adjacent to and surrounding the State Capitol on this very visible and extensive proposal.

Sincerely,


Brad Cameron, President
Neighbors for Greater Capitol Hill