

# Path to *Prosperity*

*A vision for parks, trails, and open space*



ADAMS COUNTY  
COLORADO





# Path to Prosperity is the Grand Vision

- Three-Pronged Approach
  - Restore the waterway habitat along riparian corridors
  - Institute an Open Space Ranger Program in the County
  - Provide employment opportunities, resources homeless
- Results in a landscape primed for Economic Development
- Partnership Opportunities



# Habitat Restoration

- Riparian Corridors are severely distressed
- Non-Native Species have overtaken the landscape
- Created hiding spaces, erosion issues and are choking out native species







# Current Process

- We're playing "Whack-a-Mole"
- A comprehensive approach is needed
- Much bigger than the homelessness issue
- County is spending around \$75k plus staff time
- How much are you spending on this issue?



# Habitat Restoration (reprise)

- This program has been piloted in several areas
- Habitat is much improved
- Hiding spaces are eliminated





# Open Space Rangers

- Looking to make residents feel safe
- Regular patrols of the trail system
- On bike or ATV



# Open Space Rangers (continued)

- Focus on triaging the situation with homeless
- Connecting them to resources
- Emphasis on interactions being positive and compassionate





# Homelessness to Work

- Work with a non-profit in coordination with our Workforce & Business Center to provide employment opportunities
- Focus on short-term employment for those that want a hand up
- Also provide resources to help place them in more permanent employment







## Homelessness to Work (continued)

- Short-term work in the community
- Pilot tasks in open space maintenance
- Pilot to require participant supervision at all times
- Rangers help identify need and get them to work immediately
- Also connect homeless to other community resources

# Economic Development Opportunity

- Clean, safe riparian corridors
- Opens the county to economic development in these areas
- Similar to what Denver has done with RiNo
- Time is now







# Summary

- Provide systemwide habitat restoration
  - Environment Prospers
- Ensure a safe experience for those using the trails
  - Individuals Prosper
- Provide hand up to homeless
  - Humane Approach to Prosperity
- Open these areas to Economic Development
  - Business Community Prospers
- Won't completely solve all problems related to homelessness but...
- ...All paths lead to Prosperity on the riparian corridors in Adams County