



## City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks

---

P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306; 303-441-3440  
[www.ci.boulder.co.us/openspace/](http://www.ci.boulder.co.us/openspace/)

November 8, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) department contracted with Scott Gordon to design a multi-use trail system on an OSMP property (Anemone Hill) which lies next to the City proper. The terrain is very steep and very rocky making any trail a challenge to design. In addition, we asked that he follow our rather conservative trail standards. On top of that, the project was very controversial for both OSMP staff and for the community. It was also very high profile in the community. Because of all these issues, it seems that we were constantly going to Scott with requests for modifications and even additional trail segments to design.

Throughout this whole process, Scott was very positive and helpful. He acted in an ethical and professional manner. He was very accommodating, always getting us the requested deliverables on time despite the short notice on changes and/or additions. This meant that he often had to work outside of the traditional 8-5, M-F work schedule, which he did with no complaints.

Scott's knowledge of trail design and construction principles is second to none. In the design process, he is very thorough, thoughtful, and creative. He produced a trail design that included all our design specifications such as sustainability, durability, user conflict management, and respect for natural resources in the area. He also always had an eye on costs to insure these did not get out of hand.

Another aspect of the contract with Scott was the public process which included, initially, three to four meetings but morphed into six. In each of these meetings Scott acted very professionally and was considered very knowledgeable by almost all who attended. He presented his trail designs in a manner that laymen could easily understand the reasoning behind them. While we did not convince everyone that we should build the whole system Scott designed, it was not due to any shortcomings in the design but rather preconceived ideas on what trails should be constructed on this property. In the end, the City Council did accept a portion of the trail system he designed and the department has built one section this year.

Should you want to discuss any aspect of Scott's qualifications, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jim Reeder  
Land and Visitor Services Division Manager  
City of Boulder, Open Space and Mountain Parks  
303.859.1555