# WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS TENTATIVE ITINARY/AGENDA May 28 & 29, 2014 Laramie, Wyoming

# Wednesday, May 28, 2014

9:00 AM	Open Session Final CEO Candidate's Interview with Board of Directors Holiday Inn, Timberline Room, 204 S. 30 <sup>th</sup> St., Laramie, Wyoming
12 Noon	Lunch – Board and CEO Candidates – Holiday Inn
1:30 PM	Board/Staff Retreat – Timberline Room, Holiday Inn University of Wyoming Business Partners
5:00 PM	Retreat Ends
6:30 PM	Board/Staff Dinner – Holiday Inn
THURSDAY, N	1AY 29, 2014 – UWY Hilton Garden Inn Convention Center – 2229 E. Grand

# <u>Avenue, Laramie</u>

8:30 AM	Public Meeting Begins
	Call to Order – Rex Lewis, Co-Chair
	Welcome & Introductions
	Minutes Approval
	February 27, 2014
	March 14, 2014 (Call-in Meeting)
9:00 AM	Agribusiness Update – Cindy Weibel, Division Director
9:15 AM	Rural Development/Main Street Update – Mary Randolph, Division Director
9:30 AM	Personnel, Budget and Audit Committee – Mike Wandler, Chair
	<ul> <li>Financial Updates – Diane Joyce, CFO</li> </ul>
	Personnel Update
10:00 AM	Business and Industry Update – Ben Avery, Division Director
	WY Economic Development Association
	WY Chamber Partnership
10:20 AM	Business Development Committee – Cactus "Paul" Covello, Chair

•	Loan/Portfolio Program
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- WY Industrial Development Corp Revolving Line of Credit Renewal
- Challenge Loan Report of Examination
- Challenge Loan Program History and Status
- Small Business Investment Credit Program (SBIC) Annual Report
- Past Due, Charge Off Balances and Loan Loss Analysis Reports

10:40 AM	Break
11:00 AM	<ul> <li>Community Development Committee – Jim Espy, Chair</li> <li>Business Ready Communities Allocation Plan Applications</li> </ul>
12:00 Noon	Lunch – Provided for Board/Staff
12:45 PM	(Continued) Business Ready Communities Applications
1:45 PM	Community Development Block Grant Applications
3:45 PM	Old/New and Other Business
	Executive Session
4:45 PM	Resume Public Meeting
	CEO Search Committee Report
	Next Meeting – August 27 & 28, Powell

5:00 PM Adjournment

Investment Ready Communities

# Wyoming RUSINESS COUNCIL

# Wyoming Business Council Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Report and Recommendations to the Wyoming Business Council

May 29, 2014

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Addendum – Correspondence

# BRC Program Financial Summary

	BRC	Appropriation S	Summary			
BFY 2003/2004 Appropriation	1				\$	8,400,000
BFY 2005/2006 Appropriation	1				\$	25,000,000
Governor's Supplemental Budge	et				\$	11,600,000
BFY 2007/2008 Appropriation	1				\$	46,000,000
Supplemental Budget, March 20	007				\$	33,250,000
Unobligated Unemcumbered Da		s (reverted back t	to the budget rese	rve account)	\$	(5,000,000)
BFY 2009/2010 Appropriation		× ·	U	,	\$	79,250,000
FY2010 Budget Cut					\$	(4,000,000)
BFY 2011/2012 Appropriation	1				\$	50,000,000
BFY 2013/2014 Appropriation	n (beginning July	1, 2012)			\$	50,000,000
Advance on 2015/2016 Approp	priation, March	2014			\$	10,000,000
BFY 2015/2016 Appropriation	(beginning July	1, 2014)			\$	64,130,000
Total Appropriations to Date					\$	368,630,000
(CFP)		transfer up to \$10M	from the BRC budget	to the Community I	Facilit	ties Program
				to the Community I	Facilit	ties Program
	Award	Award Summa Disbursements	ry	Outstanding Balance		justed Award
		Award Summa	ry	Outstanding	Adj	
(CFP)	<b>Award</b> \$311,500,768	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance	Adj	justed Award
(CFP)	<b>Award</b> \$311,500,768	Award Summa Disbursements	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance	Adj	justed Award
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds	<b>Award</b> \$311,500,768 <b>Availa</b>	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845	Adj	justed Award
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds Funds expended from CFP P	Award \$311,500,768 Availa	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273 able BRC Funds ration (2009/10)	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845 \$(7,118,745)	Adj \$	<b>justed Award</b> 287,894,118
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds Funds expended from CFP P Wyoming Telecommunication	Award \$311,500,768 Availa	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273 able BRC Funds ration (2009/10)	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845 \$(7,118,745) \$(250,000)	Adj \$	<b>justed Award</b> 287,894,118
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds Funds expended from CFP P Wyoming Telecommunication Loan Repayments	Award \$311,500,768 Availa Program Authoriz Is Broadband Ini	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273 able BRC Funds ration (2009/10)	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845 \$(7,118,745)	Adj \$	jus ted Award 287,894,118 80,735,882
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds Funds expended from CFP P Wyoming Telecommunication Loan Repayments Total of Available BRC Funds 5	Award \$311,500,768 Availa Yrogram Authoriz Is Broadband Ini 5.29.14	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273 able BRC Funds ration (2009/10)	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845 \$(7,118,745) \$(250,000)	<b>Adj</b> \$ \$	justed Award 287,894,118 80,735,882 10,345,755
(CFP) Subtotal BRC Funds Funds expended from CFP P Wyoming Telecommunication Loan Repayments	Award \$311,500,768 Availa Yrogram Authoriz Is Broadband Ini 5.29.14	Award Summa Disbursements \$210,827,273 able BRC Funds ration (2009/10)	<b>Deobligations</b> \$ 23,606,650	Outstanding Balance \$77,066,845 \$(7,118,745) \$(250,000)	<b>Adj</b> \$	justed Award 287,894,118 80,735,882

# BRC Application and Program Summary

Currently there is \$10,345,755 available in Business Ready Community (BRC) funds. Twentythree applications were received this round. One was ineligible, one was withdrawn. The application requests total \$24,404,707.

	BRC	APPLICATION SUMMARY				
Applicant	Project	Grant/Loan Type	Requested	Staff Recommendations from existing funds	Staff Recommendations from BY 2015/2016 funds	Staff Consent List
Alpine, Town of	Melvin Brewing	Business Committed	\$ 2,949,425	\$ 2,949,425		
Laramie, City of	Western Research Institute	Business Committed - Grant	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000		
Laramie, City of	Western Research Institute	Business Committed - Loan	\$ 3,619,184	\$ 3,000,000		
Afton, Town of	Transformation Initiative	Readiness	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 600,000		
Edgerton, Town of	Water & Sewer Extension	Readiness	\$ 243,800	\$ 243,800		x
Lincoln County	Fiber Optics Extensions	Readiness	\$ 1,401,456		\$ 1,401,456	x
Rawlins, City of	Road Improvements	Readiness	\$ 468,000	\$ 468,000		x
Riverton, City of	IDEA, Inc. Business Park	Readiness	\$ 1,500,000			
Torrington, City of	Cold Springs Substation	Readiness	\$ 1,887,101		\$ 1,887,101	x
Albany County	Greater Wy. Big Brothers Big Sisters	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Casper, City of	Platte River Revival	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Cowley, Town of	Cowley Recreation Complex	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Evanston, City of	Bear Meadows	Enhancement	\$ 498,655		\$ 498,655	x
Gillette, City of	Downtown Plaza	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Greybull, Town of	Greybull Recreation Center	Enhancement	\$ 320,000		\$ 320,000	x
Kemmerer, Town of	Sports Field Access & Parking	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Lovell, Town of	Camper Park	Enhancement	\$ 31,695	\$ 31,695		x
Natrona County	Casper Mountain Biathlon Complex	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Park County	Fairgrounds Community Building	Enhancement	\$ 485,391		\$ 485,391	x
Rock Springs, City of	Visitor Complex	Enhancement	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Albany County	Hospice House	Senior Care	\$ 1,000,000		\$ 1,000,000	x
Sheridan, City of	Daybreak Senior Facility	Senior Care	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	x
Totals			\$24,404,707	\$ 10,292,920	\$ 9,592,603	
Total Available BRC funds (in	clusive of \$10M from BFY 2015/2016 made a	available)		\$ 10,345,755		
BRC Funds Remaining if Reco	BRC Funds Remaining if Recommendations are awarded				\$ 52,835	
2015/16 BFY Allocation (Availa	able July 1) for Traditional BRC projects			\$ 50,000,000		
Funds remaining after July 1, 2	unds remaining after July 1, 2014 if Recommendations remaining are awarded					

Business Committed applications and projects involving a private developer are contingent upon a favorable review of the proposals by the Attorney General. Other contingencies for projects are described in the project information that follows.



**Project Description** 

The town of Alpine requests a \$2,949,425 Business Committed grant to install infrastructure for the expansion of Melvin Brewing. The grant will pay for construction of a 20,000 square foot building and utility extensions to the site. Alpine will own the land, building and infrastructure. The town will lease the facility to Melvin Brewing. Brewery equipment will be purchased, installed and owned by the Melvin Brewing Company.

## The Business

Melvin Brewing Company is the evolution of Thai Me Up (TMU) Restaurant's in-house brewery which was opened in 2000. In 2009, the business recruited a master brewer and grew production to 200 annual barrels and \$200,000 in

annual revenue from the brewery.

The company plans to invest \$2,841,513 in the associated equipment and installation of same for this project. The company currently employs four full time employees including two brewers, one assistant brewer and one cellar rat (industry term for one who labors in the cellar or barrel room). As the brewing operations expand the company projects they will hire 30 new employees from the Alpine area over the next three years. Positions will include additional assistant brewers, cellar rats, sales and marketing, distribution management and administration. This expansion will allow production to increase to 50,000 barrels distributed throughout the United States.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The project will create a facility that will add to the tax base of the community and add quality jobs for the area. The expansion project will create permanent jobs with a median wage of \$22.00 per hour, and benefits that include a retirement plan, medical insurance, profit sharing,

training and education. The project will strengthen existing community infrastructure to support existing and future economic development projects. Should Melvin Brewing cease to exist, Alpine would own a 20,000 square foot industrial building with infrastructure and access that they will be able to market.



#### Lease and Revenue Recapture

The town of Alpine will lease the facility to Melvin Brewing for 15 years. The total amount of lease payments to be recaptured will be the grant amount of \$2,949,425 with an additional 3%. The town will offer payment forgiveness components for the 3% based on jobs created, retained and timely payment of lease.

Recaptured funds will be used for public infrastructure improvements that support economic development, a revolving loan fund, façade improvements, downtown development, beautification, marketing, matching funds for future grants, economic development studies and plans and the support of the local economic development commission.

## Timeline

Construction will begin August 2014, and is anticipated to be completed in December 2014.

# **Project Funding**

The total eligible project cost is \$3,539,962 of which the town of Alpine is requesting \$2,949,425 of Business Committed funds. The in-kind match for this project is \$317,700 for water and sewer tap fees and engineering. The cash match of \$272,837 is provided by Melvin Brewing. Excluding non-construction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$150 per square foot.

Melvin Brewing will provide additional private investment of \$2,560,576 for brewing equipment and installation (\$1,041,766) as well as working capital (\$1,518,810). This infusion is a combination of investment by the owners and equity investment by venture capitalists.

# **Regional Comments by Elaina Zempel**

The Melvin Brewing project would construct a 20,000 square foot building with access road and sewer/water extension lines on a six acre parcel along Palisades Reservoir. Job creation estimates range from 30-50 within a five-year time period. Melvin Brewing Company will be

Sources		
BRC amount	\$2	2,949,425
Cash Match	\$	272,837
In Kind Match	\$	317,700
Total eligible project cost	\$3	3,539,962
BRC % of total eligible project costs		83%
Local % of total eligible project costs		17%
Uses		
Land Acquisition Costs		
Land	\$	376,837
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	87,095
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	7,500
Project inspection fees	\$	67,030
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	137,100
Building Components:		
Electrical Systems	\$	197,500
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	449,200
Landscaping	\$	40,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	820,000
Interior Finishes	\$	100,000
Fire Protection	\$	103,500
Remediation	\$	10,000
Other (waste treatmt system, contractor.fee)	\$	289,040
Miscellaneous/Other (tap fees, ERUs)	\$	473,700
Contingencies (11%)	\$	381,460
Total Uses	\$3	3,539,962

a production brewery based in Alpine, Wyoming, focused on the production and sale of ultrapremium craft beer. The Star Valley in north Lincoln County was especially hard hit following the 2008 recession. Lincoln County's unemployment rates were the highest in the state until recently when they fell behind Teton County. Alpine is uniquely positioned to be able to fill the job openings created by Melvin Brewing with the high unemployment rates in both Lincoln County and nearby Teton County.

The Town of Alpine also has new water and wastewater treatment facilities that are only utilizing 30-40% of their capacity and so are well positioned to handle the needs of Melvin Brewing.

# **Attorney General Opinion**

Pending

# **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding this project as requested from existing funds and contingent upon the following:

- Secure all equity funding and bank financing by August 1, 2014.
- Provide an executed Contingency and Development Agreement between the town of Alpine and Melvin Brewing.



v	0		Alpine - Me	elvin Brewin	ıg		
	Ev	aluation Cri	teria	Criteria Met		Notes	
				New	28.2	2	
	Direct Creation	n ( <b>3yrs</b> )			Retained		
Primary	Future Creatio	n					
Job Creation		T in a la	Corrector (all		Y1	Y2	Y3
(Jobs bringing			n County (all stry), 2012	Low	\$16.62	\$16.53	\$16.55
new wealth to the	Wages	muus	stry), 2012	High	\$32.85	\$33.58	\$34.87
community)		Mean		Mean/Avg.	\$26.25	\$24.03	\$23.19
		Median	\$17.14	Median	\$29.29	\$25.80	\$23.82
	Develops Com Unique Marke		nentum in	Yes	This will be size in the ar	the only brew rea.	very of
	Helps Meet D	emand for S	ocial Services	N/A			
	Helps Diversif	ication Effor	rts	Yes	A new indus Alpine.	stry (brewing	) for
Community	Fulfill Community and Economic Development Goals			Yes			
Workforce Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses			Yes			
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training			Yes	Business will provide training for specialized positions.		
	Economic Development Recapture Plan			Yes	to continue i	unds will ena nfrastructure ts and econo t efforts.	-
	Satisfactory Pe	rformance o	on Past Projects	Yes			
	Business Start	սթ			<b>Business</b>	Гуре	
	Business Relo	cation/Recr	uitment		Business Type		
Business Development Investment	Business Expansion			Yes	<b>Business Type Research</b> Brewing is currently being done in Jackson. Alpine will be a new site and expanded operations.		
	Primary Busin	ess		Yes			
	Private Invest			Yes	\$2M investor equity		
	Increase in Bu			Yes			
			s of a Business	Yes			
	Increase in Ma			Yes	1		
Additional	Leverage Add	itional Priva	te Investment	Yes			
Evaluation	BRC Loan			No			
Criteria			ourism Commun				
	Project Readin	ess		Yes			



Staff Recommendation: \$3,000,000 Grant, \$3,000,000 Loan

# **Project Description**

The city of Laramie requests a \$3,000,000 Business Committed grant and a \$3,619,184 loan to construct a 20,000 square foot administrative and laboratory building for the expansion of Western Research Institute (WRI) adjacent to its Advanced Technology Center on North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Laramie. The city requests a loan term of 20 years and a 0.5% interest rate. The city of Laramie will own the building and will enter into a lease/purchase agreement with WRI.

# The Business

WRI was established in 1983. It is a \$16 million not-for-profit research organization known for its work in advanced energy systems, environmental technologies and highway materials research and technologies. WRI operates nationally and internationally. They plan to add 20 jobs in the first three years of the project. Positions pay an average of \$25.00 per hour, and have benefits.

In addition to the 20 jobs to be created, WRI will continue to hire interns from the University of Wyoming and provides them with a hands-on research and technology experience.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The primary goal of the project is to provide up to date laboratory space to grow WRI and keep pace with industry standards. WRI's growth plans project hiring 20 additional technical, professional and administrative employees over the next three years bringing their total workforce to 100. STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) industries are growing in the nation and are targeted businesses for Laramie's future development.



# Lease and Revenue Recapture

The city of Laramie's revenue recapture and reinvestment plan includes utilizing a 30-year lease and potential sale proceeds to repay the BRC loan. Laramie will recapture approximately \$90,000 annually. All lease payments (inclusive of the BRC loan repayments) will be applied to the purchase of the building. These local recaptured funds will be retained by the city of Laramie and reinvested into the city's Economic Development Fund. The city has identified the following priorities for reinvestment:

- 1. Water Development in the North Third Street Corridor This is a prime area for business expansion but lacks adequate water and sewer infrastructure. The city is pursuing funding for this project which is large and complex. Recapture funds may be used as match to this project which would open hundreds of acres for economic development.
- 2. Beautification of the North Third Street Corridor Beautification features may include landscaped berms to mask industrial and manufacturing sites, pedestrian and bike trails.
- 3. Other economic opportunities as they arise such as infrastructure extension, economic incentives, revolving loans, marketing, public enhancements, property acquisition or development and working capital for new business growth.

## Timeline

Construction is anticipated to be completed by January 2016.

## **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$8,489,184 of which \$6,619,184 is being requested from Business Ready Communities funds. Western Research Institute will provide \$1,059,868 in cash match from their reserves. The \$810,132 of in-kind match includes: \$100,000 for land acquisition; \$40,000 in engineering for water system upgrade; \$614,707 in design and pre-construction fees; and \$55,425 in permitting and legal fees paid from WRI in cash. Excluding non-construction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$378 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Tom Johnson**

As Laramie continues to increase its presence in the technology sector (Cirrus Sky Park, Wyoming Technology Business Center, Underwriters Laboratories), research and development become critical to the community's economic more development efforts. The Western Research Institute's (WRI) expansion is another piece of this puzzle. WRI continued to grow its footprint nationally even during the teeth of the recession, and now, they are poised to continue this growth in a state of the art facility. At the same time, they have

~	
Sources	
BRC Grant amount	\$ 3,000,000
BRC Loan amount	\$ 3,619,184
Cash Match	\$ 1,059,868
In Kind Match	\$ 810,132
Total eligible project cost	\$ 8,489,184
BRC % of total eligible project costs	78%
Local % of total eligible project costs	22%
Uses	
Land Acquisition Costs	
Land	\$ 107,000
Non-Construction Costs	
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 594,707
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$ 50,000
Project inspection fees	\$ 181,117
Construction Costs	
Site work	\$ 313,317
Building Components:	
Electrical Systems	\$ 815,417
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$ 1,818,462
Landscaping	\$ 96,608
Foundation and/or Structural Framing sy	\$ 1,554,698
Interior Finishes	\$ 758,395
Fire Protection	\$ 66,974
Other (fixed lab equipment)	\$ 500,338
Misc. (well upgrade, ins, construct fees)	\$ 999,581
Contingencies (8%)	\$ 632,570
Total Uses	\$ 8,489,184

a real need to expand off campus and consolidate their administrative and research functions together in one space, creating the type of synergy they have needed for years.

We've worked with the company and have reviewed their business plan and current financial statements. The company is on strong financial footing and can fulfill the long-term lease obligations of this project.

## **Attorney General Opinion**

Pending

## **Staff Recommendation**

This project request is for a \$3,000,000 grant and a \$3,619,184 loan. The request will require waving of the rules as the request is above the \$3 million allowed in rule, "Under extraordinary circumstances the Council may recommend a waiver of the rule requirements if the Council determines the waiver is consistent with the purpose of the Business Ready Community Program". Staff is not recommending the waiver as this project did not come to the attention of the Business Council staff as a unique economic development opportunity but rather because of an escalating lease expense and the likelihood of the lease being cancelled in the present WRI facility. After further analysis of the WRI financials, staff projects the business can utilize commercial financing in the amount of \$619,184.

Staff recommends funding this project with a \$3 million grant and a \$3 million loan at 0.5% interest for a term of 30 years. Staff recognizes extending the term to 30 years will allow the business to have a more reasonable cash flow position as they finance the additional funds through commercial/private sources. Funds are contingent upon the commitment of additional funds, approximately \$619,184, to complete the project. Additionally, funds are contingent upon necessary loan documentation to fully secure the loan and complete the note/s and loan agreement/s. Below is a list of items that will be required for the loan portion of this request. Staff may request additional information as needed. Further, all the legal counsel from WBC, city of Laramie, and WRI must weigh in on the necessary documentation.

- Documentation:
  - Resolution from the city authorizing ability to borrow specifically for the proposed note and authorization to pledge collateral. This also must include who is designated to sign the note on behalf of the city.
  - WRI Resolution/Operating Agreement/Articles to exhibit authorization to enter into a lease agreement with the city. This also must include who is designated to sign the lease on behalf of WRI.
- Underwriting:
  - Three years of audited Financial Statements from the City of Laramie.
  - Three years of complete financial statements from WRI. (Have summary of financials)
  - Projections (Have in business plan FY 14 to FY 18)

- Interim Financial Statements from WRI
- Detailed Sources and Uses table.
- Copy of proposed lease including lease payments.
- Details of other debt terms.
- Security:
  - o Deeded land from WRI to the City of Laramie
  - Land needs to be in public ownership
  - Title commitment/title insurance
  - Survey (verify legal description)
  - $\circ$  Environmental
    - At least an environmental questionnaire needs to be completed. A records search or a phase one may be recommended depending on outcome of the questionnaire.
  - Appraisal (appraiser engaged by WBC)
    - Plans & Spec of building
    - Contract/Budget
    - Flood Cert
  - UCC Security Agreement
- Builder's Risk Insurance/Final Insurance
- Construction Loan Agreement
  - Will define construction draw process
  - o Lien waivers
- Construction Note
- Term Loan Agreement if deemed necessary by WBC staff
- Term Note
- All servicing, origination, and other fees are at the cost of the city. Servicing fee is 0.5% annually not to exceed \$5000

Detaneu Anarys			Lorom	ie - WRI			
			Laram				
	Ev	aluation Crit	teria	Criteria Met		Notes	
	Direct Consetion				New	20	
	Direct Creation	n ( 3yrs)			Retained		
Primary	Future Creatio	n					
Job Creation			~		Y1	Y2	Y3
(Jobs bringing		-	County (all	Low	\$20.13	\$20.13	\$20.94
new wealth to the	Wages	indus	try), 2012	High	\$20.94	\$20.94	\$22.24
community)	U	Mean	\$17.69	Mean/Avg.	\$20.67	\$20.67	\$21.45
		Median		Median	\$20.94	\$20.94	\$21.78
			ł	8		1	
	Develops Com Unique Marke		nentum in	Yes		arch and stro to the Univer	-
	_			27/4	connection	to the Oniver	sny
	Helps Meet D			N/A	D 11' CT		
	Helps Diversif			Yes	Building ST	EM industry	
	Fulfill Commu Development (	•	nomic	Yes			
Community Workforce	Improved Abil Expand Busine	•	a, Attract,	Yes			
Development	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training			Yes	WRI provid opportunitie	les internship s.	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan			Yes	-	funds will ena develop the N dor.	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects			Yes			
	Business Start	սթ			Business	Туре	
	Business Relocation/Recruitment				Business	Туре	
Business Development	Business Expa	nsion		Yes	building on Wyoming c	<b>Type Resea</b> rently operating the University ampus. The allow for add b space.	/ of new
Investment	Primary Busin	ess					
	Private Invest	ment		No			
	Increase in Business Revenue			Yes	WRI to take	ate facility wi e on additiona pes of contrac	1/
	Viability and T Plan	horoughness	s of a Business	Yes			
	Increase in Ma	arket Share		Yes	Up to date 1	lab	
	Leverage Add	itional Privat	te Investment	Yes			
Additional	BRC Loan			Yes			
Evaluation	Main Street or	Certified T	ourism Commun	N/A			
Criteria	Project Readin			Yes			
	i i oje er Keauli	103					



#### **Project Description**

The town of Afton requests a \$3,000,000 Community Readiness grant for public infrastructure. Planned improvements include: an enhanced sewer line along Second Avenue; Sewer line up-sizing along Lincoln Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues; and street surfacing enhancement along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Highway 89. The town will own and maintain the infrastructure.

Afton is addressing this project in two ways. First, in May 2013 the town established a 10 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to study and identify deficient public infrastructure. This planning was completed in February 2014. Second, this BRC funding request and execution of \$3M in infrastructure improvements will accommodate and sustain future economic growth. Due to the

expected growth in Afton in the coming years, the mayor and town council initiated an infrastructure study to insure their state of readiness.

In 2011, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) announced the construction of a temple in Afton. The temple in Afton will be the first temple ever to be constructed in Wyoming. Temples constructed in other places have produced a major impact on the local economy. Some communities increase in population, property values rise, and visitation to the temple requires hotels, eateries, and more. Afton's planned infrastructure improvements will not benefit the temple in any way. However, it will help the town accommodate the growth they anticipate because of the temple construction and sustain it over the long term. This is an infrastructure project to address anticipated business and commercial growth in Afton.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The goal of the project is to enhance crucial public infrastructure which, if not upgraded, will be an impediment to economic development. It will enable the town to accommodate new growth and continue to provide adequate service to residents.

The town will benefit from increases in user fees and tap fees as well as increased sales tax from retail.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

This is not a revenue generating project. Any increase in use fees will be used to operate and maintain the infrastructure.

#### Timeline

The RFP for engineering will be issued in the Fall of 2014. Once awarded, the town expects the design and engineering to be complete by early 2015 with construction being completed by the fall of 2015.

## **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$3,675,000 of which the Community Readiness grant request is \$3,000,000. The match includes \$225,000 in cash from the town of Afton and in-kind contributions of \$239,321 from WYDOT for sidewalks (as a part of the Safe Routes to Schools project, \$80,000 that the town of Afton paid for the planning study and \$130,679 from the Lincoln County School District #2 in property that will be traded to the town.)

## **Regional Comments by Elaina Zempel**

The Star Valley in North Lincoln County was especially hard hit following the 2008 recession. Lincoln County's unemployment rates were the highest in the state until recently when they fell

Sources			
BRC amount	\$3	3,000,000	
Cash Match	\$	225,000	
In Kind Match	\$	450,000	
Total eligible project cost	\$3,675,000		
BRC % of total eligible project costs		82%	
Local % of total eligible project costs		18%	
Uses			
Non-Construction Costs			
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	300,000	
Project inspection fees	\$	67,000	
Construction Costs			
Demolition and removal	\$	250,000	
Other (water & sewer line)	\$2	2,323,000	
Contingencies (25%)	\$	735,000	
Total Uses	\$3	3,675,000	

behind Teton County. Lincoln County conducted an Economic Development Master Plan in 2012 which identified tourism as one of the highest potential business/industry for the Star Valley but also recognized that the entire valley lacked a nationally recognized hotel franchise. Additionally, the Scenic Byway Designation for Highway 89 ties into the southern entrance to Jackson and the Teton/Yellowstone National Parks.

Hotel studies did not warrant construction of a hotel development in the town of Afton until the LDS church announced that Wyoming's first temple would be constructed there. Since that time the town has received several unsolicited visits/inquiries from potential hotel builders. Indeed, Marriott identified a parcel in the center of Afton on which to build. Unfortunately, the parcel was not served by the town's sewer and the permit was withdrawn.

The town recently funded and completed a wastewater CIP to identify and prioritize needed infrastructure. The Afton Transformation Initiative will install and upgrade sewer lines along  $2^{nd}$  Avenue, Lincoln Street between  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Avenue and surface enhancements on  $1^{st}$  Avenue and Highway 89. These improvements will allow commercial development, such as hotels, in the town of Afton.

Several businesses located in the town of Afton and along Highway 89 are currently served by septic systems. Growth associated with LDS temple locations indicates that Afton could experience significant expansion. Without upgrades to Afton's sewer system, business/commercial growth will be negatively impacted.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends partial funding from existing funds which would enable the town of Afton to complete the necessary sewer upgrades to Lincoln Street (between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and the surface enhancements to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Highway 89. Staff does not recommend funding the sewer improvements on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The area is entirely residential and will not be re-zoned nor is it capable of supporting commercial development. This residential street is the road the tourists/visitor's would use to travel to Intermittent Springs (a local tourist attraction). However, there are no restroom facilities at the falls and there is no signage along 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue now and no plans to install signage indicated in the application to support the sewer upgrade in this residential area.

Staff recommends funding in the amount of \$600,000.



	Afton		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	Improved sewer service will make areas available for development that were previously on septic systems.
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	Yes	The improvements will allow Afton to capitalize on the LDS temple growth they anticipate.
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	
Community Workforce Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Previously unimproved lots will be available.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	Funds recaptured will be used to maintain the infrastructure.
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	Anticipated growth in Afton already attracted one hotelier to invest in the community. Improved infrastructure will leverage others.
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



#### **Project Description**

The town of Edgerton requests a \$243,800 Community Readiness grant to extend water and sewer lines and some road improvements to make a commercial area ready for development. Grant funding as requested would extend water and sewer service to a commercial business area and make improvements to the gravel road that provides access to the properties as well.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The project will connect an existing business to water and sewer service and provide improved access to the site. Further, this project is being designed such that additional undeveloped lots could be served as water and sewer lines could be extended to the east. Lock-Tite Anchors is an oil field services company with 20 full time employees. Previously located in Midwest, the building in which the company was located was

sold leaving Lock-Tite without a building. The owner purchased a parcel of land in Edgerton and is in the process of building an 80' x 120' building in an existing industrial area. However, the area does not have water or sewer service. The company intends to utilize portable toilets and bottled water to meet their needs initially. Additionally, it will allow Kilts trucking, already located in the area, to connect to water and sewer service. Finally, a third business, Basic Energy Services will be able to expand their services by being able to provide a bulk water sales tap. This is an important revenue source for the town as there are no bulk water sales in Edgerton and there is a high demand for such by the oil and gas industry. The availability of water provides fire protection for all the businesses.

The project will provide local employment opportunities. The construction of the Lock-Tite Anchors facility will increase the town's tax base through the assessed valuation of the facility.

Town revenues will also be increased through revenues from the water and sewer system fees and the bulk water sales.



#### **Revenue Recapture**

The revenue for this project will be generated by the water and sewer tap fees and assessed valuation taxes. Three new water taps and two sewer taps are estimated. Each water tap fee is \$300 and the sewer tap is \$350. Further, user fees paid monthly will generate an estimated \$141 per month in water and sewer fees. The assessed valuation on the building will be determined once constructed. These revenues will be returned to the operations and maintenance of the water and sewer systems.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated that the construction will be completed by November 2014.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$261,491 of which the Community Readiness grant request is \$243,800. The \$17,691 local cash match will come from the town's reserves. BRC Community Readiness project requests less than \$250,000 require a 5% match.

#### **Regional Comments by Kim Rightmer**

Given its location and the fact that it is surrounded largely by BLM and Anadarko property, the town of Edgerton has had very little opportunity to further economic development over the years.

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	243,800
Cash Match	\$	17,691
Total eligible project cost	\$	261,491
BRC % of total eligible project costs		93%
Local % of total eligible project costs		7%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	38,016
Construction Costs		
Other (water & sewer line)	\$	203,159
Contingencies (8%)	\$	20,316
Total Uses	\$	261,491

Activity in the Salt Creek oil field remains steady, making Edgerton an ideal location for businesses serving the oil field industry. Unfortunately, there are few, if any, improved lots for companies to build upon. There are currently two businesses operating from lots not served by water and sewer systems and a third business poised to begin construction on an unimproved lot next to them.

This grant will enable the town of Edgerton to extend its existing sewer and water lines along these three lots, thereby serving the three companies and their employees as well as to unimproved property adjacent to them.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from existing funding.



	Edgerton		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	Lots will be improved with water and sewer as well as improved access.
Community	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	Yes	The improvements will make bulk water sales available which is a new commodity for Edgerton.
Workforce	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	
Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Previously unimproved lots will be available.
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	N/A	
Additional	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	Lock-Tite Anchors will build a building and locate in Edgerton.
Evaluation	BRC Loan	No	
Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



Staff Recommendation: Fund as Requested

#### **Project Description**

Lincoln County requests a \$1,401,456 Community Readiness grant to install conduit necessary for a fiber line to be looped through Sage Junction. In addition to redundant connection, the project also proposes, "last mile connectivity" for the Kemmerer-Diamondville community. This would enable the county, city and town governments, local BLM and Forest Service offices, the local hospital, school district and the Events and Training Center could connect to provide better service, educational and training programs. Lincoln County will own the conduit and will lease it to companies expressing an interest in running fiber in that conduit.

All West (a communications company) will commit to installing fiber in one of the three available conduits. Other providers are encouraged to expand into the area and utilize the remaining conduits.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The primary public benefit will be more reliable telecommunications as this project will add redundancy to the system. Reliable, fast telecommunications is a requirement of many of today's industries and community services. Not having such service may eliminate a community from consideration as a place to locate or industry may limit their investment. Health care, government and education increasingly rely on broadband services. Installing the conduit for fiber greatly reduces the investment required by a fiber provider and may be the incentive that

tips the scales for a company to invest.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

Lincoln County will maintain any recaptured revenues in a separate bank account and report to the County Treasurer as "Revenue Recapture Funds – Telecom Conduit Project." Allowable uses of these funds, subject to the normal budgeting requirements of Lincoln County, will be limited to the following:



- Funds may be used to provide a match for Lincoln County applications for BRC business committed, community readiness or data center projects
- Funds may be used to provide a match for Lincoln County applications for Community Facilities projects which have an economic development component
- Funds may be used to promote the community's telecommunications capability provided by the first or a subsequent phase of this project
- Only if the funds recaptured are based on a lease, percentage of revenue, or other measure that provides a long term stream of revenue may the revenue be used to fund up to 25% of the operation and management costs of the Lincoln County economic development program.

## Timeline

It is anticipated the project will be completed by the end of October 2014.

# **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,613,076 of which \$1,401,456 is being requested from Community Readiness grant funds. The inkind match of \$211,620 will come from Lincoln County in fees paid for engineering, permitting and easements.

# **Regional Comments by Elaina Zempel**

Kemmerer/Diamondville's dependence on coal production industry is at significant risk and the community is working hard to diversify its economy. Without a higher speed internet service, that will be a difficult task.

Sources			
BRC amount	\$1,401,456		
In Kind Match	\$ 211,620		
Total eligible project cost	\$1,613,076		
BRC % of total eligible project costs	87%		
Local % of total eligible project costs	13%		
Uses			
Non-Construction Costs			
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 111,390		
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$ 100,230		
Construction Costs			
Other (fiber optic installation)	\$1,401,456		
Total Uses	\$1,613,076		

Currently, the communities of Kemmerer/Diamondville have a fiber line from I-80 along State Highway #189. The fiber was originally installed as part of the Wyoming Equality Network project in 1998. However, speeds are advertised at 12 Mbps but tests indicate a 5-6 Mbps speed is more realistic for most of Kemmerer/Diamondville. The line also dead-ends in the community. The community is too small to warrant heavy investment by private service providers and realize the benefit of a looped line and higher internet speeds. Subsequently, the community falls further and further behind in the pursuit of diversification and business/industry recruitment and retention.

The unique partnership between AllWest and Lincoln County is a step in the right direction in helping to provide a looped system and higher internet speeds to Kemmerer/Diamondville. Lincoln County will own and install a three-duct fiber conduit from Sage Junction to Kemmerer/Diamondville. AllWest will fill one of the conduits with fiber and provide broadband services. Lincoln County will be able to offer the remaining two conduits to other interested providers. The conduit infrastructure investment reduces the out-of-pocket expenses to a service provider

enough that AllWest is, at least, willing to make the investment. Additionally, the conduit will be extended out on State Highway #189 anticipating further connection with LaBarge, Big Piney, Marbleton, and beyond.

# **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation.

	Lincoln County		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	Additional capacity and redundancy of fiber will aid in the creation of future jobs.
Community	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Without these improvements no business with fiber requirements would be possible.
Workforce	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific	Yes	
<b>De ve lopme nt</b>	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Service previously unavailable will be accessible.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	Any type of distance learning or job training will be improved.
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	This initial investment may entice other providers to run fiber in the area.
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



# Staff Recommendation: Fund as Requested

# **Project Description**

The city of Rawlins requests a \$442,000 Community Readiness grant to construct a new roadway to connect Airport Road to the Comfort Inn entrance off Cedar Street on the east entrance to Rawlins. The street will be 550 feet in length, 29 feet wide, paved, with curb and gutter, sidewalk, landscaping, street lights, fire hydrants and 12" PVC water main in front of three lots that are currently vacant. The water line will be used to supplement a 6" line located a block south from most of the hotels and retail businesses along that side of Cedar Street. The city will own and maintain the infrastructure.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

This is an infrastructure project that will enable much needed commercial development in Rawlins. The infrastructure will make available

three lots in the area by providing access, water and improved fire protection. Upgraded water lines are necessary to provide better fire protection for the hotels, retail businesses and the WalMart store that is being built in that area. Additionally, the project will complement the construction of a 77 room Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott representing an investment of \$7.4 million. Already under contract by the Rawlins Hotel, LLC, the Fairfield Inn and Suites will create approximately 13 full time jobs.

The city of Rawlins was selected as the pilot community to conduct the first Wyoming Tourism Assessment to become a Certified Tourism Community in 2010. Workforce development for tourist related businesses, branding and street signage, civic pride, expanded visitor service, retail operations, hotel package development and expanded tourism related activities are all part of the plan. Another hotel will benefit Rawlins' tourism efforts and offer visitors another choice for

their stay.

The Rawlins Transportation Plan includes short and mid-term improvements for access management for businesses on the south side of Cedar Street between Alton and Airport Roads. The project will help to meet those goals.

# **Revenue Recapture**

Projected revenue streams that will be recaptured by the city of Rawlins include:



<u>Year 1 – 2015</u> One time sewer tap fee, \$2,500 One time storm sewer tap fee, \$900 One time tap fee for each additional toilet (\$300 x 80 toilets), \$24,000 One time water connection fee for 6" tap, \$10,000 Parts and labor on 6" water tap, \$3,630 One time fire protection tap, \$750 x 2, \$1,500 Estimated five year sales and bed tax fees, \$193,047 Estimated water and sewer bill for 2015, \$32,000 Property tax, \$49,753 Landfill and recycling fee, \$168 Total, year one, \$317, 498

#### <u>Year 2 – 2016</u>

Estimated water and sewer bill, \$32,000 Estimated bed and sales tax, \$214,271 Property tax, \$49,753 Landfill and recycling fees, \$168 Total, year two, \$296,192

#### <u>Year 3 – 2017</u>

Estimated water and sewer bill, \$34,000 Estimated bed and sales tax, \$226,550 Property tax, \$49,753 Landfill and recycling fees, \$168 Total, year three, \$310,471

#### <u>Year 4 – 2018</u>

Estimated water and sewer bill, \$35,000 Estimated bed and sales tax, \$232,112 Property tax, \$49,753 Landfill and recycling fees, \$168 Total, year four, \$317,033

#### <u>Year 5 – 2019</u>

Estimated water and sewer bill, \$36,000 Estimated bed and sales tax, \$236,452 Property tax, \$49,753 Landfill and recycling fees, \$168 Total, year five, \$322,373 Grant funds will be recaptured from the Fairfield Inn and Suites property in the first two years. Revenue recaptured by the city of Rawlins will be used for infrastructure improvements within the city of Rawlins including street and water line improvements and beautification efforts.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project will be completed by the end of December 2014.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$520,000 of which \$442,000 is being requested from Community Readiness grant funds. The in-kind match of \$26,000 will come from the city of Rawlins in fees paid for architectural and engineering fees. The Rawlins Hotel, LLC Fairfield Inn and Suites is providing a cash match of \$52,000.

#### **Regional Comments by Pat Robbins**

The city of Rawlins, in partnership with the Carbon County Economic Development Corporation, is working to expand the economic base of the city as well as improve the overall appearance of the community. To that end, the city of Rawlins is submitting a Community Readiness BRC application for the purpose of constructing the necessary infrastructure to facilitate development on the east end of Rawlins.

Sources	 
BRC amount	\$ 442,000
Cash Match	\$ 52,000
In Kind Match	\$ 26,000
Total eligible project cost	\$ 520,000
BRC % of total eligible project costs	85%
Local % of total eligible project costs	15%
Uses	
Non-Construction Costs	
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 74,300
Construction Costs	
Site work	\$ 348,400
Landscaping	\$ 3,000
Fire Protection (hydrants)	\$ 10,000
Other (drop inlet)	\$ 10,000
Contingencies (17%)	\$ 74,300
Total Uses	\$ 520,000

The grant, which will construct a road with curb and gutter, water lines and landscaping, is for \$442,000 which will immediately provide access and services to a \$7.4 million dollar private investment by a developer for the construction of a new hotel creating thirteen new jobs. An impact report on the project shows the project will directly and indirectly support 13 jobs in the local economy and will support directly and indirectly a payroll of \$411,108, and generate \$61,367 in property and sales taxes to the local community annually.

The project will also facilitate future business development by providing access to other underutilized sites: one 1.3 acres and one 3.2 acres. It will also improve traffic flow and fire protection to the east end of Rawlins, which will become critical once the new Wal-Mart store, under development, is completed.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from existing funding.



	Rawlins		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	Two lots will be available for development in addition to the 13 jobs that will be created by the Fairfield Inn and Suites.
Community	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Additional service or retail will be possible with the lots that will be improved by the infrastructure and access.
Workforce	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	
Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Service previously unavailable will be accessible.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	Any type of distance learning or job training will be improved.
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	This initial investment may entice other providers to run fiber in the area.
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



**Riverton** 

# \$1,500,000 Community Readiness Grant for the Riverton Business and Industrial Park

Staff Recommendation: Do Not Fund

## **Project Description**

The city of Riverton requests a \$1,500,000 Community Readiness grant for the purchase of land located north of Federal Boulevard between Webbwood and Honor Farm Roads to be developed as a business, retail and potentially housing park within the city of Riverton. The city would then transfer ownership to IDEA, Inc., the local economic development agency, to manage and market.

Riverton is essentially land locked due to state and tribal land ownership. The city is currently facing enormous growth pressures. The passage of SF90 authorized the sale of public lands in order to achieve their best use. As such, 302 acres of land belonging to the Department of Corrections (Honor Farm) were able to be considered. This land offers potential for the city of Riverton to grow to the north. The Office of

State Lands and Investments (OSLI) is the state agency charged with administering the process for these land determinations. In January 2014 the OSLI determined that the Honor Farm parcel could be considered for disposal – that it may be land not necessary for the Department of Correction's operations. This is a Category II classification. The OSLI authorized an appraisal to be done. IDEA, Inc., Riverton's economic development agency requested and paid for the property appraisal. OSLI has subsequently reviewed and accepted that appraisal.

The prescribed process for disposal of state lands now requires the OSLI now conduct a detailed analysis. This analysis will explore any and all uses of the property, ancillary benefits and detriments to selling the property and will yield a range of alternatives. If disposal remains a reasonable alternative, a recommendation will be forwarded to the State Board of Land Commissioners (SBLC) comprised of the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor and Superintendent of Public Instruction. The recommendation may assert the full parcel could be sold or any portion thereof. The SBLC makes the final decision on the sale of the land.

If the decision is made to sell any or all of the land, the land will go to public auction. This entire process can take nine months to a year. Riverton is requesting BRC funds now in order to be able to have funding secured and be able to bid at that public auction when and if it occurs.

# **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The public benefit of this project is the addition of retail jobs and increased revenue to the city, county and state in the form of sales and property taxes. The primary goal and objective of this project is to gain access to lands that cannot currently be developed. To date, there is no formal

plan for the property and how it will be specifically utilized. IDEA has stated that if the land is purchased, they will work with the city of Riverton and the neighboring landowners to create a plan for the site that will promote business growth. They would then seek developers to fulfill that vision.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

If the land were to be purchased by the city of Riverton, it would then be transferred to IDEA Inc. IDEA Inc. proposes to work with the city of Riverton to develop a site plan, sell the land to developers who have the ability to bring the site plan to fruition. Funds received from the sale of the land would be used to further the economic development goals of Riverton and Fremont County. The first use of funds would be to pay off the loans incurred by IDEA Inc. that provide the matching funds for the grant. The second use of sale proceeds would be to pay loans from other projects that have been completed. After the loans are paid, funds will be used to run the day to day operations of IDEA Inc., pay the contract with Manufacturing Works which provides and Economic Development Director to write grants, manage projects and perform other required duties, develop and savings account so that future projects can be funded locally, implement the community's Strategic Development Plan and work to develop a business innovation center for entrepreneurs in the community.

No specific dollar amounts were provided for the loan repayments or the Manufacturing Works contract; however it is noted in the recapture plan provided that the day to day operations of IDEA, Inc. are minimal.

#### Timeline

It is not known when the OSLI will conclude their detailed analysis of the potential land disposal nor what their conclusion will be. If they recommend disposal and if the SBLC agrees that disposal is appropriate, the public auction will be held 30 days following the SBLC decision. This could be late fall 2014 or early 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The land was appraised at \$1,662,000. The total project cost is \$1,765,000 of which \$1,500,000 is being requested from BRC Community Readiness grant funds. The cash match of \$265,000 is provided by IDEA, Inc. through a bank loan. The amount of cash match contributed plus the grant funds exceeds the appraised value of the land to make available the opportunity to bid above that appraised value at public auction.

Sources			
BRC Amount	\$1,500,000		
Cash Match	\$ 265,000		
Total eligible project cost	\$1,765,000		
BRC % of total eligible project costs	85%		
Local % of total eligible project costs	15%		
Uses			
Land Acquisition	\$1,765,000		
Total Project Cost	\$1,765,000		

#### **Regional Comments by Roger Bower**

I support this project. Riverton and Fremont County face significant growth impacts from several potential energy projects now in the early development and planning stages. Cameco

Resources, a uranium miner, expects to employ or contract 83 positions. Energy Fuels is proposing an open pit/underground uranium mine at Sheep Mountain which is eight miles south of Jeffery City. This operation will probably impact Lander more than Riverton as Lander is closer. They plan on employing approximately 200 workers. They have just merged with Strathmore Minerals of Riverton who is also in the permitting phase of open pit uranium mines at the Gas Hills. This operation will employ another 200 workers. Encana and Burlington Resources are in the permitting phase for their Moneta Divide project for 4,150 oil and gas wells 40 miles east of Riverton along highway 20/26 to Casper. The planned employment for this project is 600 workers.

Wind River Job Corps campus broke ground August 2013. When in operation, this will create 115 new positions in the Riverton area. Riverton has very low unemployment particularly for the skill sets needed for this school.

If only half of this comes true the Riverton area will be under severe stress for developable land for commercial and residential uses. An analysis I did using the Regional Economic Model Impact (REMI) tool and depending on worker choice for housing (Fremont or Natrona Counties) Fremont County could grow by 12,500 citizens in the next 20 years. Assuming 2.5 residences per acre, 5,000 acres would be necessary to house this population in moderate density housing.

With the two projects that are in the process of occurring now (Cameco and Job Corps) which will hire 200 employees, this 300 acre parcel could be in demand. Patient public funding can assist Riverton to mitigate this growth.

# **IRC Staff Recommendation**

Staff recognizes the potential business development merits for this project but Investment Ready Communities Division (IRC) staff cannot make a favorable recommendation at this time. The following issues must be addressed in more detail and certainty.

1. The BRC Community Readiness rules require "a specific strategy or plan of action." The application materials indicated "...over time as the land is developed there will be multiple zone changes. Part of the long term plan is to work closely with the city to fit the new business park into the city's master plan for future growth. This potential business park is not a part of the city's master plan for future growth at this time." Further the application states, "The proposed future use is to develop the land into a business and retail park. A site utilization plan will be developed in partnership with the City of Riverton." IRC staff does not have a comprehensive understanding or assurance for the future use of the project. While IRC staff understands the unique character of this situation, the material submitted is not sufficient to comply with the BRC rules.

2. There is no asset to be purchased at this time. As the Office of State Lands and Investments has not completed their analysis, it is undetermined if any, all or some portion of the Honor Farm lands will be recommended for sale. Thus, at this point, IRC staff is unsure of how much acreage will be for sale and if the dollar amount of the land will change.

3. Finally, IRC staff has serious concern about providing grant funds for the purpose of bidding at a public auction and competing with other private parties. An IDEA, Inc. representative stated, "IDEA does reserve the right to participate in the auction and increase our bid if, in our opinion, the land would be better suited with IDEA, Inc. as the owner. One such circumstance is the possibility of someone bidding on the land to purchase it and prevent future development."

If the WBC Board does recommend funding for the project, IRC staff recommends the funding only be available if the purchase price is the appraised amount of \$1,662,000. This will insure that the BRC funds will not be used to directly compete for the land with other potential buyers. Further, if funding is recommended, IRC staff recommends a comprehensive and detailed plan for the property be completed and accepted by staff by July 31, 2014. This will insure that the project comports with BRC Community Readiness rules.



	Riverton		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	If the land is developed into a business park there will be future job creation potential.
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Additional service or retail will be possible.
Community	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	No	Unknown as there is no comprehesive project plan.
Workforce Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	No	Unknown as there is no comprehesive project plan. However staff recognizes an economic development potential with proper planning.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	No	


## **Project Description**

The city of Torrington requests a \$1,887,101 Community Readiness grant to construct a new electric substation, 34.5 kV transmission line and underground line extension into the Cold Springs Business Park. This will allow for the development of nine existing lots, an additional 30 acres in Phase II and up to 158 acres in Phase III. Additionally the transmission line and substation will provide redundancy of service to 14 other industrial/commercial customers and a residential area in the vicinity of the business park.

It should be noted that Torrington had greater reserves to dedicate to the project but owing to a regulatory issue, were required to spend down those reserves and provide customer refunds. This allowed them to keep adequate reserves but not for a one-time larger investment such as the

sub-station. Their lack of investment in the project was not due to lack of planning.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

Goshen County Economic Development Corporation participated in the Wyoming Business Council Industrial Site Evaluation and Certification Program. During this process, the site selection consultants identified the lack of electric service capacity as a barrier to obtaining site certification. The proposed project will allow Torrington to build the infrastructure necessary to attract new primary industry and aid in the expansion of existing industry, improve the tax base and provide quality jobs.

A measurable outcome will be to obtain certification for Cold Springs Business Park by the Wyoming Business Council Industrial Site Evaluation and Certification Program.

## **Revenue Recapture**

The infrastructure improvements will become part of the city electric department infrastructure.

## Timeline

It is anticipated the project will be completed by September 2016.

Sources	
BRC amount	\$1,887,101
Cash Match	\$ 200,180
In Kind Match	\$ 287,149
Total eligible project cost	\$2,374,430
BRC % of total eligible project costs	79%
Local % of total eligible project costs	21%
Uses	
Non-Construction Costs	
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 287,149
Construction Costs	
Electrical Systems	\$1,815,027
Contingencies (13%)	\$ 272,254
Total Uses	\$2,374,430

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$2,374,430 of which \$1,887,101 is being requested from Community Readiness grant funds. The in-kind match of \$287,149 will come from the city of Torrington in design fees and construction administration. The city of Torrington's Electric Fund will provide the cash match of \$200,180.

#### **Regional Comments by Tom Johnson**

The need for increased electrical redundancy and capacity has been well documented by the community. Further, the project will allow Goshen County Economic Development Corporation to develop additional lots and infrastructure to the area which in turn will help with future job creation, retention and expansion. Finally, this project allows the Cold Springs Business Park to be site certified increasing its visibility and marketability with the site



selector community. As Torrington's economy and workforce continue to expand, this business park and these lots become valuable community resources.

#### **Staff Recommendation**



	Torrington		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	Yes	Improved electirical service will make lots available for development.
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	The lots at the Cold Springs Business park will be capable of handling many different needs.
Community	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific	Yes	
Community Workforce Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Previously unimproved lots will be available
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	Funds recaptured will be used to maintain the electrical system.
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	Future business park tenants will surely bring private funds to the table.
Evaluation Criteria	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



**Albany County** 

\$500,000 Community Enhancement Grant to Renovate the Nellie Iles School Building

> Staff Recommendation: Fund as Requested

## **Project Description**

Albany County requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant to renovate the countyowned Nellie Iles school building which houses the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Mentoring Center. Since 2007, BBBS has leased the Nellie Iles school building from Albany County School District #1 for use as office space, after school programs, juvenile justice programs and a youth recreation center. The county was recently awarded a Community Facilities (CFP) grant which enables the county to acquire the property, stabilize the building (roofing, down spouts, heating, electrical systems, fire alarm system and ADA improvements.

However, Albany County was not awarded the full \$1 million they requested due to a lack of available funds in the CFP program. Thus, Albany County and BBBS are requesting the

enhancement grant funds to complete interior renovations that while not integral the stabilization and system improvements of the building, are finishing touches that will make the space more inviting and will increase the amount of usable space thereby increasing the ability of BBBS to offer more services. Further, the fully renovated building will be an asset to the community.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The mentoring center is a hub for youth services in Albany County. Services include community based mentoring, on-site mentoring, afterschool programs, and two restorative juvenile justice programs. In 2012, approximately 650 youth benefitted from use of the facility. Sixty-five percent (65%) of those served were at or below the poverty level. The benefits of community based mentoring to quality of life and future earnings potential of youth served have been demonstrated through multiple high-quality, peer-reviewed and replicated research studies. The

mentoring center improves, in measurable ways, social acceptance, scholastic competence, educational expectations, grades, parental trust, and adult relationships. Recently published (July 2013) in the Wall Street Journal, a Social Return on Investment study found that every dollar invested in BBBS mentoring programs results in an average



return of \$18 as a result of higher taxes and increased lifetime incomes of youth served.

BBBS programs and services contribute significantly to quality of life factors businesses might take into account when considering locating in Laramie. Since the BBBS program has been involved in the juvenile justice programs, juvenile arrest rates have been reduced by more than 50% in the past 13 years. Laramie has a 91% high school graduation rate. Juveniles out of community placements have been reduced by 73%. The mentoring center helps make Laramie a safe, healthy place where families want to raise their children. Also, because the center serves as the statewide headquarters for BBBS, it plays a role in the success of the other BBBS centers around the state.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

The infrastructure improvements will not generate revenue.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project can be completed by December 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,329,754 of which \$500.000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$829,754 is the recently approved CFP grant. Related to the CFP grant, Albany County previously provided \$175,000 for acquisition and \$96,000 cash was provided by the Laramie Economic Development Excluding non-construction Corporation. costs, the construction is projected to cost \$107 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Tom Johnson**

I fully support this BRC Community Enhancement project for Phase II – Renovation and Rehabilitation of the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center. This project represents the culmination of several years of

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match-CFP grant award	\$	829,754
Total eligible project cost	\$1	1,329,754
BRC % of total eligible project costs		38%
Local % of total eligible project costs		62%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	38,379
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	17,542
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	16,000
Demolition and removal	\$	15,000
Building Components:		
Electrical Systems	\$	3,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	21,500
Interior Finishes	\$	176,575
Remediation	\$	27,500
Other (hoisting/lift equipment: ADA compliancy)	\$	25,000
Miscellaneous/Other	\$	123,364
Contingencies (8%)	\$	36,140
CFP grant awarded 4-10-14	\$	829,754
Total Uses	\$1	1,329,754

work between the County and Big Brothers Big Sisters and ultimately it will ensure countless measurable quality of life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families. It fits within the goals of the Community Enhancement program – namely to improve the quality of life within a community in order to make it more attractive for business development. The community mentoring center provides a hub for Albany County youth services including community based mentoring, on site mentoring, afterschool programming and two restorative justice programs. It is anticipated the annual number of youth serviced in the facility and throughout the state via the

BBBS statewide organization will increase from 1200 to 1500 over the course of six years. This facility will also provide for needed community gathering space for the not-for-profit community. Lastly this project will retain 48 employees (those who work for the local program and those who provide administration and support to the six other BBBS programs throughout the state).

## **Staff Recommendation**



	Albany County - BBBS			
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes	
	Future Creation	No		
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Market Niches	No		
Community Workforce Development	Helps Meet Demand for Social Services	Yes	Approximately 650 youth are served annually. The building houses the offices for the statewide BBBS organization integral to the development of successful young people.	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	The current use of the building includes a variety of services for youth. Absent the current tenants the building would still be a valuable and vesatile asset.	
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes		
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes		
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	Youth are better prepared for the workforce as a result of the programs provided through the mentoring center.	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No		
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes		
	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No		
Additional Evaluation	BRC Loan	No		
Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A		
	Project Readiness	Yes		



### **Project Description**

The city of Casper requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant for Phase I of the Platte River Revival. The project is a restoration project for 13.5 miles of the North Platte River and its banks that traverse Casper.

The Two Fly Foundation, a private organization comprised largely of oil and gas related entities, has dedicated themselves to promoting the North Platte as a premier fly fishing venue. They host an annual tournament the proceeds of which assist charities and river rehabilitation projects. In 2006, the Two Fly Foundation and the city of Casper, partnered to establish a clean-up day on the North Platte River. This public private partnership has grown to include eighteen private companies and organizations and nine governmental agencies working towards the same goal. Annually since 2006, the Platte River Revival Volunteer Day draws over 300 volunteers. They have removed thousands of Russian olives,

planted 300 new trees and removed over one million pounds of debris. These efforts have revitalized native vegetation, improved bank stability and enhanced the view of the river corridor.

The North Platte River Environmental Restoration Master Plan was completed in 2012. Implementation of that plan began in 2013 with completion of a hydrologic study and beginning construction design. The Master Plan was funded primarily by the Two Fly Foundation (\$90,000). The hydrologic study and restoration design was funded with a \$70,000 grant from the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust and \$100,000 from the city of Casper. Twelve sites were identified based on bank habitat restoration, land ownership and access, public use and benefit and overall aesthetic potential. Seven in-river sites that include adjacent river bank restoration were selected based on existing primary stream stressors, proximity to publically owned land, river access, and potential for increasing fish habitat.



This grant application is to request funding for the Morad Park site, a city owned park. Nearly all strategies and public benefits of the larger project apply to the Morad Park site. Though this is only one portion of the larger project and the first phase, each section can be completed as stand-alone project. The city of Casper will maintain all improvements.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The restoration of the North Platte River will improve physical, chemical and biological components of the river and downstream waters. At the same time, it will aid in changing the river from an eye sore to an attractive place with highly valued land bordering it. In addition to the numerous environmental benefits this project will result in increased property values along the river, increased commercial development throughout the river corridor, reduced river corridor blight, decreased property loss of high value riverfront property and decreased infrastructure repair expenses, added enhancement to the growing fly-fishing tourism industry, strengthened economic diversity through tourism (e.g. eco-tours, recreational tours), increased sales at Casper's fly shop businesses, increased sales of fishing licenses, created construction jobs with the multiplier effect for vendors who supply materials, equipment and maintenance for the duration of the restoration process and increased community pride from developing the river as a community asset.

## **Revenue Recapture**

The Morad Park In-River Restoration Project will enhance an area that is available to anyone free of charge. There are no usage or admission fees therefore there will be no direct revenue recapture.

## Timeline

It is anticipated the project can be completed by November 2014.

## **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,010,538 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$510,538 is provided by the city of Casper's Capital Funding account (\$250,208 cash), the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (\$200,000 cash), Russian olive removal (in-kind valued at \$60,330) by the city of Casper, BLM, and private sector volunteers.

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	450,208
In Kind Match	\$	60,330
Total eligible project cost	<b>\$</b> 1	1,010,538
BRC % of total eligible project costs		49%
Local % of total eligible project costs		51%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	101,808
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	60,330
Other (in-river construction costs)	\$	808,000
Contingencies (4%)	\$	40,400
Total Uses	<b>\$</b> 1	1,010,538

#### **Regional Comments by Kim Rightmer**

The Platte River Restoration plan is one comprised of numerous phases. This grant request is for Phase I. It kicks off this ambitious and well-crafted effort to rejuvenate the river within the city's boundaries. Morad Park is probably one of the community's most used parks due to the fact that

it is the only one where dogs are allowed to be off leash. The Platte River Trail runs through the park with the Audubon Bird Sanctuary and Game and Fish offices immediately to the west and Fort Caspar a little further north. The Parks also features a small boat launch area and picnic facilities. It sits at the intersection of Wyoming Boulevard and Hwy 220/CY Avenue – one of the busiest intersections in Casper. Without a doubt the North Platte River and Morad Park are significant amenities in Casper that contribute greatly to the community.

The city of Casper has shown its commitment not just to this first phase but to the whole 12 - phase project with both cash and in-kind commitments. Casper has joined forces with both public and private entities to create a team committed to the restoration of the river, the enhancement of the quality of life within the community and furthering its economic vitality.

## Staff Recommendation



	Casper		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Enchances tourism/recreation development.
Community Workforce	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	The project provides youth services important to the county and preserves an important building.
Development	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The river restoration project focuses on a unique amenity in the community. It's a resource in itself in terms of recreation development and also as a community attraction.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	In addition to numerous private individuals who volunteer, the project received cash donations from the Wy. Wildlife and Natural Reource Trust and the Two Fly Foundation.
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



control.

## **Project Description**

The town of Cowley requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant for completion of the Cowley Recreation Complex Project. The proposed complex will be an addition to an existing baseball field which is adjacent to Rocky Mountain School District #1.

Proposed improvements include a commercial lighting system to facilitate use of the field after dark for the purpose of holding night games, double headers and full day tournaments. In addition the complex will include a spray park, play area and picnic space, and sled hill. The baseball field is capable of being converted to an ice rink in winter months and the sled hill will serve as natural seating for a T-ball and soccer field in front of and at the bottom of the hill. The area will be fenced for security and traffic

The town will own the facility and will be responsible for the operations and maintenance.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

An outdoor public recreation facility that is properly designed, located and maintained can improve the quality of life in the area it serves. It will make the community a more desirable place to live, work and visit. Not only will residents of Cowley be able to avail themselves of

the opportunities the complex will offer but so will the residents of Lovell, Byron, Deaver, and Frannie.

Being able to host tournaments will bring teams and their families into the area for a longer period of time perhaps enticing them to support local businesses that provide food, lodging and other concessions which will improve the local economy and increase sales tax revenues.



Further, the Cowley Recreation District will provide two additional part time employees for staffing the facility.

The success of the project will be measured through the collection of daily attendance logs, monitoring for increases in user fees from community memberships and visitor passes and tracking the sales tax revenues.

### **Revenue Recapture**

As the expansion to the ball field consists of new and unrelated activities, it is difficult to ascertain or project the exact revenue that will be generated by user fees. However, any funds generated from the use fees will be dedicated to the operation and maintenance of the recreation complex.

## Timeline

It is anticipated the project design can commence August 2014 and that construction could begin October 2014. The community hopes for completion by June 2015.

## **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,158,000 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$658,000 is provided by the town of Cowley. This includes \$271,000 in cash contributions from the Daniels Fund (\$50,000), Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (\$10,000), Wyoming Arts and (\$53,000), Wyoming Forestry Parks Division (\$5,000), Mineral Royalty grant (\$75,000), the Bank of Lovell (\$4,000), Pepsi (\$4,000) and the town of Cowley (\$70,000). In-kind contributions of \$387,000 include the donation of the land from the town of Cowley valued at \$300,000, a cinder block building from a local donor that will house the spray park mechanical equipment valued at \$62,000 and labor from town of Cowley employees valued at \$25,000.

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	271,000
In Kind Match	\$	387,000
Total eligible project cost	<b>\$</b> 1	1,158,000
BRC % of total eligible project costs		43%
Local % of total eligible project costs		57%
Uses		
Land Acquisition Costs		
Land	\$	261,400
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	77,550
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	159,425
Electrical Systems	\$	248,500
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	62,800
Landscaping	\$	96,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	189,000
Misc (concrete picnic tables/pads)	\$	20,775
Contingencies (5%)	\$	42,550
Total Uses	\$1	1,158,000

## **Regional Comments by Leah Bruscino**

This project is the capstone to years of work the community has done to create family recreation opportunities in a small town that is recognized as a great place to live (as evidenced by the number of building permits compared to surrounding communities and population growth compared to the county and surrounding areas).

The project will extend the hours of use for the ball fields by adding lighting that will allow for double header games, tournaments and extended practice. The lighting will also benefit the adjacent enhancements included in the scope of the project.

The spray park, play area, and picnic space will provide a family amenity that can be enjoyed by all ages. It will enhance the ball field since families will want to come and enjoy the ball games while at the same time enjoy a picnic and play in the spray park. With the addition of the sledding hill and ice skating the park will become a year round amenity that will serve the whole area. The community has already invested significant time and money to create this recreation space over the years so it is truly a priority for them.

I fully support the project and all the work the community has done to position itself as a vibrant, family-friendly community that is ripe for future investment. If you haven't been to Cowley lately, I highly recommend a trip to see what a clear vision Cowley has for itself.

## Staff Recommendation



	Cowley		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Enchances tourism/recreation development.
Community Workforce Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	The project provides youth and recreation opportunities important to the community.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The recreation complex will be a significant community attraction.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



## **Project Description**

The city of Evanston requests a \$498,655 Community Enhancement grant for the Bear Meadows Enhancement Project. Formerly the locations of the ice ponds/ice house for providing ice to the railroad cars carrying fresh produce, the area was also home to a lumber yard before becoming vacant and untended. The proposed project is what the community envisions as Phase I of a project that will ultimately be a multipurpose outdoor recreation space in the core of the community. Grant funds will be used to develop 5.59 acres, owned by the city, into an area suitable for a variety of activities including Little League Baseball, youth and adult soccer, pee-wee and adult football, music concerts, art festivals and more. The area will also be available to the general public for everyday use as a park.

This first phase will involve excavation, irrigation, the purchase and installation of top soil, sod and some access/service road construction and improvements. The planning has been in the works for many years. In 1983, the Better Environment And River (BEAR) Project, Inc. was created to address improvements to the Bear River corridor. A great deal has already been accomplished including a general clean-up of the area. The river was revised to create rapids and pools for kayaking. There is an extensive trail system and recently a Rotary Club donation allowed for the installation of a multi-station fitness course.

The Parks Division of the Evanston Parks and Recreation Department contains only 16 parks or sports fields most of which are not viable for tournament level events. The local competitive

youth soccer club had to play all "away" games last season as there was no field in Evanston to accommodate them. With the completion of Phase I of the Bear Meadows Enhancement Project, a formerly unusable property will become functional and appealing in terms of local residents and an amenity the community can highlight to prospective businesses.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The city has identified six goals. One, complete the project construction within budget constraints and within a reasonable time frame. Two, have a functional open space for



events and sporting activities. Three, attract a variety of events. Four, increase the overall economy of surrounding businesses. Five, improve the overall aesthetics of the Bear River corridor, and six, increase the amount of funding for the remaining phases of the projects. The city is committed to monitoring the construction process and costs. Once completed, the city will also track events and will survey surrounding businesses for three to five years to determine if profits have increased, if they have been impacted by the aesthetic improvements. Finally, the last goal will be calculated by the number of donations, public and private, received after completion of the first phase.

An outdoor public recreation facility is an amenity that makes the community a more desirable place to live, work and visit. Numerous studies document the physical and mental health benefits of natural and usable open space. Property values tend to increase with such an amenity nearby. The central location makes this space readily available to everyone living or visiting the community to enjoy.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

This project is not intended to generate revenue. The city hopes to gain by making their community more enticing.

## Timeline

It is anticipated the project design can commence sometime between August and October, 2014 and be completed by November 2015.

### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,248,655 of which \$498,655 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$750,000 is provided by the city of Evanston in the amount of 625,000 (land valued at \$500,000 and cash of \$125,000) and the BEAR Project, Inc. (cash of \$125,000).

## **Regional Comments by Elaina Zempel**

The Bear River Meadow project is an extension of the rehabilitation of the Bear River. The BEAR (Better Environment and River) Board, created in 1983 planned for the rehabilitation of the river and surrounding environs. The city received a Community Enhancement in 2006 to

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	498,655
Cash Match	\$	250,000
In Kind Match	\$	500,000
Total eligible project cost	\$1	1,248,655
BRC % of total eligible project costs		40%
Local % of total eligible project costs		60%
Uses		
Land Acquisition Costs		
Land	\$	500,000
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	101,162
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	5,600
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	207,043
Landscaping	\$	267,158
Misc (road improvements, utility conduits)	\$	83,236
Contingencies (13%)	\$	84,456
Total Uses	\$1	1,248,655

remove debris from the river channel and place 5000 tons of rock resulting in kayaking, canoeing, inner-tubing and fishing opportunities. The project was very successful and has become a significant recreation area to the residents of Evanston as well as an attraction to

recreation enthusiasts from other surrounding communities and the Wasatch Front. The City's Parks and Recreation Department along with the BEAR Board have made further improvements with the most recent addition of a multi-station fitness course.

Adjacent to the current improvements is a five and a half acre parcel viewable from the  $6^{th}$  Street overpass. This parcel housed the old lumber and ice yards. Although the buildings are gone, the land is in need of clean up and improvement. This includes topsoil/sod and irrigation system to provide sustainable landscaping. Improvements will allow this parcel to provide a multi-use area for open-space, sporting activities and event hosting. The acreage is within easy walking distance of the historic downtown.

Evanston has a long, successful history in grant management. This project has been part of their vision for many years.

## **Staff Recommendation**



	Evanston		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Enchances tourism/recreation development.
Community Workforce Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	The project provides youth and recreation opportunities important to the community.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional faciliies will be a marketable amenity.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
Evaluation	BRC Loan	No	
Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



Staff Recommendation: Fund as Requested

#### **Project Description**

The city of Gillette requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement for the grant convertible street/public plaza project. The proposed plaza will be one block on Third Avenue from Gillette Avenue east to Kendrick Avenue. The street will be able to remain open to traffic when not being utilized for an event. The plaza will feature a street section of 40 feet wide colored concrete. The sidewalks will be 10 feet wide Removable bollards will be used along Gillette Avenue, at the alley and along Kendrick Avenue to close a portion of, or the entire length of the plaza depending upon the expected crowd size for an event or gathering. Planters on both sides of the plaza will feature trees. Seating is also available on both sides of the plaza. The parking lot on the south side, owned by the city, may also be used as space to incorporate into an event. Special catenary

lighting, which is suspended across the plaza, looks like the Gillette downtown street lights of the 1920s and 1930s and is incorporated into the plaza. This special feature not only promotes night time use of the plaza but also is similar to the lighting used at other focal points along Gillette Avenue.

This project is one component of the overall redevelopment of Gillette's downtown. The first phase which includes water and sewer replaces, street revisions and aesthetic improvements will

be completed by November 2014. This phase and the planning grant that drove the project implementation were partially funded with Business Ready Community funds.

The downtown plaza, as part of the economic development strategy for the business district, is directly linked to the overall effort to not only sustain but also create additional economic health for the community. It provides a community gathering place which plays a role in the long-term comprehensive approach to downtown development.



The city will own the plaza and will be responsible for the operations and maintenance.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The proposed public plaza will bring many immediate and long-term economic benefits which will bolster the quality of life for the citizens in the community. Opportunities exist to coordinate not only with the downtown businesses and community groups to use the public plaza, but also with a focus on tourism, the Convention and Visitors Bureau might be interested in hosting an even as well as the Chamber of Commerce, Association for Visual Arts or the CAM-PLEX. It will be a public gathering place that does not currently exist.

Success will be judged first by the completion of the plaza. The second indicator of success will be how much the plaza is utilized by the downtown business groups and other organizations in the community. Main Street will have a role in coordinating events. Permits will be issued by the city Clerk's office and the city's public works department will handle set up for events. These are measureable indicators.

Additionally, the city will be able to measure new jobs created, new businesses moving into the downtown area and the amount of tax revenue generated by additional economic activity.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

Revenue recapture for this project will be nominal with the only direct revenue potential coming from permit fees. At this time, the focus would primarily be to encourage and promote the use of the facility to attract customers downtown to support local merchants. Any revenue that is recaptured will be directed back to the operation and maintenance budget.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project design can commence late in 2014 and that construction could begin April 2015. The community hopes for completion by July 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,036,715 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$536,715 is provided by the city of Gillette.

#### **Regional Comments by Dave Spencer**

This project is a follow on to the BRC Downtown Development project funding approved as a part of the \$7 million rebuild of Gillette Avenue in January. This project will provide a downtown plaza for events and markets adjacent to Gillette Avenue. This development, like the larger project, is part of the WBC funded downtown development plan completed in 2010 in cooperation with

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	536,715
Total eligible project cost	\$1	,036,715
BRC % of total eligible project costs		48%
Local % of total eligible project costs		52%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	86,393
Project inspection fees	\$	86,393
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	392,680
Demolition and removal	\$	20,120
Electrical Systems	\$	167,300
Landscaping	\$	205,290
Contingencies (8%)	\$	78,539
Total Uses	\$1	,036,715

the Gillette Main Street program and the city. The cash match leverage is high with the city committing over \$500,000 to complete the project. It is important to approve funding at this time to have a smooth development process in conjunction with the Gillette Avenue rebuild which will take place this summer. Gillette, as usual, has completed its in-depth planning and is implementing that planning. They have consistently been able to plan and execute economic development projects in a manner which provides a great deal of confidence in their projects. This project will provide many opportunities to leverage the downtown and enhance the opportunity and amenity value of the downtown.

## **Comments by Kim Porter, Wyoming Main Street/Rural Development**

The Wyoming Main Street Program is pleased to recommend the Gillette Downtown Convertible Street-Public Plaza Project for BRC funding. The City of Gillette has made a huge commitment to the downtown area with the beginning of a major renovation of Gillette Avenue and they are in the process of approving funding for a Main Street Manager. This plaza will bring more people downtown, which will increase sales for downtown merchants and will add to the quality of life for residents and visitors of Gillette. Gillette Main Street has strong partners in the Chamber, Visitors Bureau and Economic Development agencies. These partnerships will ensure the plaza is used to its fullest capacity.

## **Staff Recommendation**



	Gillette		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Provides a new gathering space for different types of events.
Community Workforce Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	The project will build on the overhaul of downtown Gilette and will provide a forum for additional community events.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional faciliies will be a marketable amenity.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No	
Additional	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
Evaluation	BRC Loan	No	
Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



## **Project Description**

The town of Greybull requests a \$320,000 Community Enhancement grant for improvements to the Herb Asp Community Center, informally known as the Greybull Recreation Center. The changes will provide additional space which will expand the number of recreational and learning opportunities. This will be accomplished through partial demolition of the existing office area and reconfiguration of interior walls to allow increased class sizes for classroom instruction and to create a dedicated space for dance or other instruction. The redesign will allow relocation of the bathrooms from the gym area into the office section which will enhance the gym area by allowing the removal of two privacy walls that encroach on to the recreational surface. A relocation of the bathrooms from the gym to the office will allow for re-design/expansion of the roller rink office

to facilitate efficient equipment storage and operations. The final major construction item will be the installation of a fire suppression system, as per fire code regulations.

Constructed in the early 1900s, the building is log construction. A structural assessment was done February 2014 and concluded the building was sound. The assessment recommended that the building be evaluated for code related improvements which will be done with the remodel.

The town of Greybull owns the building and the lot. The town is also responsible for the costs of operation and maintenance. In addition the town and the Parks and Recreation District commit

an annual budget item of \$30,000 for capital improvements to manage major maintenance such as exterior log care, roof repairs and other large projects.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The goal of this project is increased usage of the core community gathering place. The main indicator of success will be an increase in the number of users of the Recreation Center and an increase in the number of opportunities offered by the Recreation Center. Currently the center offers 12 activities and one event per month with activities drawing about 150 people per month



and events drawing 30 to 400 per month. Greybull would like to see activities increase by one or two per month every year for the first four years following the project completion. They also anticipate a 10% increase in activity attendance in each of the four years following the project.

This enhancement was one of the top five projects identified by the community assessment to beautify the town, increase community pride, and bring economic development to the area. This project will be completed along with the installation of "welcome" signs at each entrance to the town, the creation of an aerial firefighting museum, tennis court/basketball court improvements, and the establishment of a business in the call center building.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

The enhancements to the recreation center may generate additional revenue depending on the type of additional classes offered in the new space. All revenues collected are spent on office supplies, small office equipment, and associated office costs.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project will commence this summer. The community hopes for completion by September 2014.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$640,000 of which \$320,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$320,000 is provided by the town of Greybull in the value of the lot and building. Further, the town of Greybull has invested \$105,972 in the facility over the past three years to make improvements and they estimate an additional investment of \$180,000 over the next six years beyond what will be accomplished with the grant. Excluding non-construction costs, the renovation is projected to cost \$28 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Leah Bruscino**

This Greybull Recreation Center Enhancement project is a timely project that fits into the comprehensive planning the community as done and the priorities the community has set.

The town of Greybull has been very active and

strategic in economic and community development. They have created an economic development committee that meets regularly to identify and take advantage of opportunities and address challenges. The town of Greybull is also participating in the county-wide economic development planning process that is currently underway.

Sources	
BRC amount	\$ 320,000
In Kind Match	\$ 320,000
Total eligible project cost	\$ 640,000
BRC % of total eligible project costs	50%
Local % of total eligible project costs	50%
Uses	
Land Acquisition Costs	
Land	\$ 320,000
Non-Construction Costs	
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 32,000
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$ 5,000
Construction Costs	
Building Components:	
Electrical Systems	\$ 19,000
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$ 28,600
Interior Finishes	\$ 139,000
Fire Protection	\$ 38,000
Remediation	\$ 32,000
Contingencies (9%)	\$ 26,400
Total Uses	\$ 640,000

In the fall of 2013 the town hosted a Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) Community Assessment. The top three priorities identified were economic development, tourism/recreation, and housing. This project addresses the need for recreation opportunities. Enhancing family recreation is especially important now with the loss of the community swimming pool.

In January, the town applied for a CDBG Planning grant to look at the feasibility of acquiring and developing a piece of state-owned land on the edge of town to address the housing shortage. This grant to enhance the recreation center will allow for better use of an existing facility. Creating smaller class rooms will make the facility more useful all day long. With the relocation of the restrooms it will allow for better supervision in the large gym, creating a safer environment for youth.

Addressing housing and recreation will make the job creations goals of the economic development committee more attainable as families want to live and invest in the community.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

	Greybull		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
Community Workforce Development	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Provides a flexible use gathering space for different types of events.
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	Enhances tourism/recreation development.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional capabilities of the facility will be a marketable amenity.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	There is classroom space available.
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
	BRC Loan	No	
Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Communi	N/A	
Cincina	Project Readiness	Yes	



## **Project Description**

The town of Kemmerer requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant for improvements to the Kemmerer Sports Field Access and Parking Facilities. The Lincoln County School District #1 recently constructed a new stadium within walking distance from the high school, middle school and the recreation The stadium was constructed with a center. variety of funding including the school district, city and a bond paid by the residents of the school district. There remains a need for road and parking improvements in order to effectively accommodate the field. They include building a paved 30' wide access road from Del Rio street to the parking area of the new stadium, paving the parking area and adding lighting and ADA access to the parking from the stadium, adding an ADA accessible bicycle and walking access to the field from Canyon Road, milling and

overlaying Canyon Road from Highway 189 to Del Rio Road, adding any needed ADA ramp access and a street light at Canyon and Del Rio, striping all of Canyon Road to add bicycle lanes to the roadway and providing way-finding signs from Canyon and SH 189 to the field for attendees to have direction where to park for the field.

The city of Kemmerer will own and maintain the improvements. Their maintenance management system includes a schedule of crack sealing and seal coating. They monitor and repair or replace striping as necessary. The improvements would be subject to the regular snow removal plan. All maintenance and repair is budgeted routinely.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The "industry" of children's sports is a documented tourism and economic development tool. The design and construction of the new stadium provides for more seating and it is handicapped accessible. The addition of lighting and easy access to the facility offers an opportunity for Kemmerer to host regional or night events that was not previously possible. Bringing in families for sporting or other events will boost the local economy. Additionally, it will be an amenity that might encourage workers who previously chose to live elsewhere to consider Kemmerer. The city will work with the Fossil Basin Promotion Board for promotion of activities.

Success will be measured by increased hotel and retail uses, working with local industry to track the number of employees living in the community, monitoring attendance at stadium events.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

There will not be a revenue recapture from this infrastructure.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project will commence this summer (July 2014) and will be complete in approximately seven months (January 2015).

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$3,937,334 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$3,437,333 is provided by the Lincoln County School District (\$3,200,000 field construction cost) and the city of Kemmerer (\$237,334 cash).

#### **Regional Comments by Elaina Zempel**

The Lincoln County School District#1 is in the process of updating their high school facilities. The existing auxiliary gym needed to be demolished and a new one was not an eligible expense under the School Facilities Program.

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	237,334
In Kind Match	\$3	3,200,000
Total eligible project cost	\$3,937,334	
BRC % of total eligible project costs		13%
Local % of total eligible project costs		87%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	37,467
Construction Costs		
Other (parking lot & road construction)	\$	624,449
Miscellaneous/Other	\$	12,489
Contingencies (9%)	\$	62,929
Stadium construction	\$3	3,200,000
Total Uses	\$3	3,937,334

The community held and passed a special bond issue for the construction of a new multipurpose, year-round, activity complex.

A new gymnasium, football field, track oval and complimentary amenities (i.e. restrooms, concessions, home/visitor stands and dressing rooms) are being constructed. When completed, all portions of the sports complex will be located on property adjacent to the high school alleviating the necessity of the players/students/fans crossing State Highway 189 for football and track events. The new complex is located on Canyon Road, a connector road, owned by the city of Kemmerer. The complex is also adjacent to the city's recreation center.

West of the facility is an unimproved parking lot and access road owned by the city of Kemmerer. Upgrading of the parking lot, access road and Canyon Road improvements including bicycle lanes and subsequent striping will allow dual access to the complex and alleviate traffic congestion following events.

This amenity enhancement allows the community the ability to offer current/potential families reasons to make Kemmerer their home. A disproportionate number of workers at local industries are located out of the area. Improvements to the educational offerings can help restore the numbers of out of town workers to a more typical level.

Although not necessarily required, a Use Agreement between the city of Kemmerer and LCSD#1 may be of value.

## **Staff Recommendation**



	Kemmerer		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
Community Workforce Development	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Provides a flexible use facility for different types of events. The additional events that can be held in the new stadium may capture additional business in the community.
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	Enhances tourism/recreation development.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional capabilities of the facility will be a marketable amenity.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	Yes	The community taxed themselves in order to insure the construction of the new stadium.
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



Lovell

\$31,695 Community Enhancement Grant for the Lovell Camper Park Improvements

Staff Recommendation: Fund as Requested

## **Project Description**

The town of Lovell requests a \$31,695 Community Enhancement grant for improvements to the Lovell Free Camper Park. The park has been in existence since the early 1960s. There has never been a fee to stay in the park. It is the belief of the town that it should remain free as it enables the community to promote it through free camping websites.

The town relies on this amenity to attract and keep tourists in town for a longer period of time. A three night stay is allowed. There is at least one family that the community knows decided to move to Lovell after staying there a few days. There are no other private camper parks in Lovell. The only other RV park in the vicinity is at the Horseshoe Bend Marina which is managed by the National Park Service.

The camper park is not currently actively marketed but will be once the improvements are made and the community feels there is more to The Lovell Chamber of Commerce will be involved in that promotion as the promote. improvements to the park are a community project. The Eagle Scouts are installing chain link fence along an irrigation canal that runs next to the camper park. The scouts also refurbished the picnic tables. The improvements that are planned with the funding from the enhancement grant include: the addition of two single stall bathroom facilities which will allow for the restrooms being available when the existing shower facilities are in use; installation of a single stall handicap accessible shower and bathroom facility with concrete sidewalk for compliance and ease of access; remove and replace existing roof; replace 100' of clay water and sewer line; install new code-compliant electrical service; install foot bridge from camper park to Little League ball fields, playground and picnic area (across the irrigation canal); remove 10 trees to allow for better access to camp sites by larger recreational vehicles; Add gravel base to roadways; install 10' x 20' concrete pad and picnic shelter; replace existing railroad ties posts used to delineate roadways with curbs in order to allow for better clearance by larger RVs; install new registration/information kiosk to advertise local attractions; modify existing dump station and fresh water fill station; and replace split rail fence with three-rail vinyl fence.

The park will continue to be owned, operated and maintained by the town of Lovell.

## **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

As there has been no on-site monitoring in the past the town has relied on water usage as a measure of use of the park. They will continue to monitor water usage to determine if there is an increase once the improvements are completed. Additionally, the cleaning person employed by

the Parks Department will record the number of vehicles in the park on a daily basis when cleaning services are done prior to 8:00 a.m.

Comments in the log at the park as well as information gathered from businesses and residents of the community will be measured to determine if the park is being used for longer stays and how campers learned of it.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

There will not be revenue recapture from this infrastructure.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the project will commence early in the fall (September 2014) and will be complete by December 2014.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$61,115 of which \$31,695 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$33,420 is provided by the town of Lovell's Parks Department (\$13,775 cash), Tree City USA award ((\$2,000 cash), and in-kind services totaling \$17,645 (old fence removal and new fence installation, engineering fees, footbridge materials and installation) provided by the town of Lovell, the Eagle Scouts, DOWL-HKM Engineering, Big Horn Basin Electric, Lovell High School, Burlington Northern Santa Fe.

#### **Regional Comments by Leah Bruscino**

The Lovell Free Camper Park project is a small project but it is based on community strengths and opportunities and leverages an asset that is an important part of the Lovell

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	31,695
Cash Match	\$	15,775
In Kind Match	\$	17,645
Total eligible project cost	\$	65,115
BRC % of total eligible project costs		49%
Local % of total eligible project costs		51%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	7,000
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	1,500
Demolition and removal	\$	1,000
Electrical Systems	\$	4,500
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	3,800
Landscaping	\$	5,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	12,100
Interior Finishes		4,200
Remediation	\$	1,000
Other	\$	800
Miscellaneous/Other (fencing,dump station, etc)	\$	21,715
Contingencies (4%)	\$	2,500
Total Uses	\$	65,115

visitor experience. Lovell's location is a regional draw for year-round recreation and garners a large number of national and international visitors due to its proximity to Yellowstone, the Big Horn Canyon National Recreation Area and the Bighorn National Forest.

I believe projects that are a part of a tourism package help create the quality of life available for residents. Growing the amenities necessary for tourism will make the community more livable, creating a place where people want to live, work and raise a family. Drawing visitors to the community is also a calling card to draw people who will want to bring a business and invest in the community. This camper park is just one piece of a possible visitor experience.

While small, this grant will leverage a variety of in-kind resources that will create pride in the project and community and may lead to future support and involvement.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends funding as requested from existing funding.

	Lovell		
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes
	Future Creation	No	
Community Workforce Development	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No	
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	The community is able to offer this free stay to campers in their community and entice them to stay additional days.
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	Enhances tourism/recreation development.
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional capabilities of the facility will be a marketable amenity.
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial	No	
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No	
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes	
Additional Evaluation Criteria	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No	
	BRC Loan	No	
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Commu	N/A	
	Project Readiness	Yes	



**Project Description** 

Natrona County requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant to build a Biathlon Complex on Casper Mountain adjacent to the current Nordic ski trails. This project will be Phase I of IV with each being able to be an independent project. Phases II – IV include full build-out of the shooting lanes, and indoor range, a stadium structure for viewing the sporting events, additional parking and potentially athlete housing.

Biathlon is a winter Olympic sport that combines cross country skiing and shooting. It is the most popular winter spectator sport in Europe and attracts 700 million TV viewers annually. The sport is gaining popularity in the United States. There are 60 biathlon clubs in the U.S. 13 of which are located in the four-state region of Colorado, Utah, Montana and Wyoming. Wyoming currently has two clubs. The National Guard Biathlon Program has teams in 30 states including

Wyoming.

The complex will be a year-round facility serving as a competition and training site for summer and winter biathlon, adaptive recreation programs for people with disabilities, cross-country skiing, running and mountain biking events. When completed, it will establish Casper as a national training and competition site enhancing the local economy, increasing public land ownership on Casper Mountain and increasing local recreation opportunities.

Casper Mountain has an ideal altitude (7800 feet) for high altitude training. Because of the elevation, the mountain receives snow as early as October and as late as May. The close proximity of Casper Mountain to Casper's amenities, the airport and Interstate 25 make it an easy place for travelers to visit. Casper College currently has a Nordic Ski Team and is



considering the addition of a Biathlon Team. The Wyoming National Guard has been seeking a home training site for over ten years.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (CBMC) is 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It is the only Paralympic Sport Club in Wyoming and a member of the U.S. Biathlon. Phase I will secure the location (the property deed will be conveyed to Natrona County), clear timber and complete dirt/site work, complete lower parking lot, bring electrical service to the site, install lighting, on-site storage, construct nine 50 meter lanes, construct 3 range poles and flags, construct heated hut for storage and a ready room for athletes and officials, construct a retaining wall to separate the range from the penalty loop and install fencing around the range backstop area.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

Completion of Phase I will result in increased recreation opportunities. Natrona County will own the property and will be responsible for the operations and maintenance through their regular budget. This includes the costs of onsite wastewater, power, trash removal, and trails grooming. The CMBC has committed to the remainder of operational costs for the facility and programs. The CBMC will lease the facility from Natrona County. They will sell ski passes for the County Parks Department and will retain a 5% commission from those sales.

The sport of biathlon fits with the local culture of outdoor recreationists and shooting enthusiasts. Visiting athletes will contribute to the local economy by use of hotels and restaurants. Athletes wishing to use the complex as their home training site may choose to relocate to Casper.

The complex will be an amenity the community can advertise strengthening and expanding the local recreation and tourism industry.

The CMBC tracks participation at all events and will continue to do so through event registration forms. In 2013, CMBC served 422 individuals. With the completion of Phase I it is anticipated that number will increase to 850. The club also anticipates hosting 3 - 5 regional events that will bring 20-40 visiting athletes to Casper for at least one night. Within three years, the CBMC anticipates the Casper Mountain complex will be the primary training site for the Wyoming National Guard Biathlon team. This facility and its use is a direct goal for Natrona County from its Community and Economic Development strategies.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

Natrona County will recapture the lease payments which will be used for on-going maintenance and operations of the complex.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated that securing the necessary permits for the project will be done during the summer of 2014 as well as clearing timber from the site. The project will be bid during the winter months allowing for construction to begin in the spring of 2015. The construction will be completed by August 2015.
#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,608,421 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The match of \$1,114,921 is provided as follows:

### <u>Cash</u>

Natrona County Joint Powers Recreation Board, \$244,710 Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, \$14,800 Tyler Family Challenge Grant, \$100,000 (contingent upon receipt of the grant) Individual donors for Tyler gift match, \$51,017 Daniels Fund, \$100,000 U.S. Olympic Committee, \$25,000 Economic Development Casper Area Association. \$25,000 Verdad, \$15,000 Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, \$25,000 True Foundation, \$25,000 Wyoming Community Fund, \$15,000 Casper Nordic Club, \$1,000

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	616,527
In Kind Match	\$	491,894
Total eligible project cost	\$1	1,608,421
BRC % of total eligible project costs		31%
Local % of total eligible project costs		69%
Uses		
Land Acquisition Costs		
Land	\$	417,010
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	46,000
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	6,000
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	860,875
Electrical Systems	\$	103,500
Misc (range fencing, target lanes)	\$	125,036
Contingencies (4%)	\$	50,000
Total Uses	\$1	1,608,421

#### In-Kind

Mick McMurry, 40 acre site, \$318,080

Brubaker Construction, Project management/Site structures/fencing/Retaining Wall/, \$103,064 Compression Leasing, Inc., Steel fabrication – targetry building, drafting, engineering and equipment, \$40,000 CEPI, site survey, \$6,000

Natrona County, Parking lot, \$11,250

#### **Regional Comments by Kim Rightmer**

This is a good project that would benefit Casper and Natrona County in many ways – the most important being the new money it would attract to the community through events and training.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation with the following contingencies:

- Receipt of all matching grant funds
- All agreements fully executed including:
  - Property deed transfer from land owner to Natrona County
  - Lease agreement between CBMC and Natrona County

- Contingency and Development Agreement between CBMC and Natrona County
- Grant Compliance Agreement between CBMC and Natrona County
- All required permits secured including:
  - County erosion permit
  - Electric permit
  - Construction Permit



# **Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Natrona County				
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes		
	Future Creation	No			
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No			
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	This will be a unique facility for the region. Enhances tourism/recreation development.		
Community Workforce Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	As the complex grows there may be potential job creation on site. Additionally, there will be an impact on the Casper economy as those using the facility stay, shop and eat in Casper.		
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional capabilities of the facility will be a marketable amenity.		
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial	No			
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No			
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes			
Additional Evaluation	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No			
Criteria	BRC Loan	No			
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Pro				
	Project Readiness	Yes			



#### **Project Description**

Park County requests a \$485,391 Community Enhancement grant for building a facility and other improvements to the Park County Fairgrounds. In 2011, Park County was forced to demolish an existing building on the fairgrounds as it was determined it was no longer safe to occupy. This resulted in a loss of 5,000 square feet of useable space. In turn this has resulted in a loss of revenue, educational opportunities and a community. The sense of "Building Communities through Fairgrounds Structure" project will replace the space that Park County could once offer.

In addition to the one building already demolished, there are two more that will also be demolished. All three were built in the spring of 1942 for the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. Though regularly maintained, the buildings were hastily constructed in 1942 and are now 72 years

old.

The proposed new facility will replace that lost space and will be a modern, multi-use facility that will meet the needs of Park County's residents. It is anticipated that in addition to the annual county fair, the building will be used for 4-H and FFA meetings, exhibitions and competitions. It will also be available to the general public for conventions, weddings, family reunions and more. The parking lot will be re-paved and infrastructure to the site will be upgraded to adequately service the site.

Park County will own and maintain the facility. A full-time custodian position will be hired to help maintain the new facility. The Park County Information Technology Department will oversee the telecommunications system and hardware.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

Goals of the project are to demolish two buildings, construct a new facility, improve the parking lot and upgrade infrastructure to the site. The county also wishes to insure that the new facility has adequate technology and equipment to meet the needs of today's events and residents. Park County will work closely with Powell Economic



Partnership and Forward Cody to increase the amount of events and economic development partnerships that will help insure the facility will being revenue in to the community. The addition of a commercial kitchen will make the building a more diverse venue and will allow for on-site catering. There is potential for the kitchen to serve as an incubator for small and upcoming businesses.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

The facility will generate revenue in the sense that it will be available to the general public for rental. Income generated by the facility will be re-invested in the building.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated the ground breaking will occur in August, 2014 with an anticipated completion date of May 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$2,805,000 of which \$485,391 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The cash match of \$2,099,609 is provided by the Park County Consensus Funds (\$1,099,609), a Mineral Royalty (\$500,000), Grant and Park County Commissioners (\$500,000). The county also paid for architectural and engineering fees in the amount of \$220,000 through the use of their Consensus Funds and the sale of the former library building. Excluding non-construction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$192 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Leah Bruscino**

This is an important quality of life amenity for Park County. This multi-purpose building will be one of the largest venues for events in park County and will allow for events that cannot be held any place else. While the facility is critical for the Park County Fair, it will also be used year-round for reunions, weddings, training opportunities, dinners, fundraisers and other important functions that bring the community together.

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	485,391
Cash Match	\$2	2,099,609
In Kind Match	\$	220,000
Total eligible project cost	\$2	2,805,000
Total ineligible project costs (IT, audio, etc)	\$	295,000
Total Sources	\$3	3,100,000
BRC % of total eligible project costs		17%
Local % of total eligible project costs		83%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	220,000
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	49,000
Project inspection fees	\$	35,925
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	35,000
Demolition and removal	\$	100,000
Building Components:		
Electrical Systems	\$	285,000
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	415,000
Landscaping	\$	50,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	675,000
Interior Finishes	\$	233,000
Fire Protection	\$	39,000
Other (security system, parking lot, access doors)	\$	364,000
Miscellaneous/Other	\$	295,000
Contingencies (11%)	\$	304,075
Total Uses	\$3	3,100,000

In addition to functioning as a community center, this facility enhances year-round offerings and activities of 4-H and FFA, youth programs that are critical to the continuation of the thriving agriculture sector in Park County and Wyoming. The Powell Economic Partnership has identified value-added agriculture as one of their targeted business sectors that they want to grow

and support. The fairgrounds, 4-H and FFA are critical for keeping youth involved in agriculture and developing the next generation of agribusiness men and women. A case in point is Gluten-Free Oats, a growing, thriving business in Powell that was started as an FFA project.

Two other examples of value-added agriculture products in Park County are Wyoming Authentic Products in Cody and the recent value added study that will likely lead to a facility that will make cheese, yogurt, ice cream and/or locally produced bottled milk.

This project is a great example of tying quality of life to future business development, directly as mentioned above, but also by making the communities in Park County more attractive to business because of the quality of life activities that will be held year-round in the facility.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation.



# **Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Park County					
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes			
	Future Creation	No				
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No				
	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	This will be an updated facility available to the Big Horn Basin. Enhances tourism, recreation and community development.			
Community Workforce Development	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	Use of the facility may bring additional revenue into the community of Powell in turn creating new jobs in the community.			
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	The additional capabilities of the facility will be a marketable amenity.			
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	The facility will have classroom style space available and could host training venues.			
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	Yes				
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes				
	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No				
Additional	BRC Loan	No				
Evaluation Criteria	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project	N/A				
	Project Readiness	Yes				



#### **Project Description**

The city of Rock Springs requests a \$500,000 Community Enhancement grant for renovations and expansion of the existing Rock Springs Community and Visitor Complex (RSCVC). The current building was constructed in 1981 as a Chamber of Commerce. It has since evolved into a visitor center serving 20,000 visitors per year. The RSCVC handles ticket sales for major city and county events. The building also houses a business development and promotion center servicing existing, new, female and minority owned businesses. The physical location adjacent to Interstate 80 is ideal. However the current building, parking lot and park are small and cramped. There are no public restrooms and nothing is handicap accessible. This project will renovate the existing building so that it is ADA compliant. The building size will be increased. Electrical, plumbing and mechanical replacement

and upgrades will be done for code compliance and efficiency. Public restrooms will be installed in the adjacent park and the park and parking lot will be revised to accommodate larger vehicles.

A structural assessment was completed and the current building was found to be sound. There is a drainage issue which will be corrected with the renovation.

The Chamber of Commerce will serve as the anchor tenant paying all interior operations, maintenance, and staffing fees from private funds. The city of Rock Springs will own the facility and the Rock Springs Parks Department will maintain the exterior of the Complex.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The RSCVC has 600 member businesses from sole proprietors to multi-national corporations. They are meeting with or answering inquiries from 2-3 new business start-ups per week. A RSCVC survey identified the lack of a "one-stop-shop" for new business information. Approximately 90% of all initial business research is done online. A completely updated and fully functioning website is essential for the growth of the economy. RSCVC is currently compiling data and developing a



website to insure continued growth in Rock Springs.

Also essential for continued growth and development is a qualified workforce. The RSCVC partners with industry and Western Wyoming College to develop training and professional development programs.

The Business Development Center for Rock Springs, housed in the RSCVC, is to identify and address issues that impact existing and expanding businesses. This partnership is a positive environment that creates and provides a diverse and dynamic economic structure.

A building with adequate parking, that is accessible and convenient will enable the RSCVC to continue to attract and increase visitation to the area, provide proper facilities for the visiting public, increase hotel stays by providing information to the public that will entice them to stay longer which in turn will increase lodging tax collections. The economic development potential from the RSCVC partnerships is vital.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

The facility will not generate revenue directly.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated project will commence in August 2014 and will be complete by April 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$1,132,655 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Community Enhancement grant funds. The cash match of \$632,655 is provided by the city of Rock Springs (\$299,862), the Chamber of Commerce (\$33,000) and a Community Development Block Grant (\$299,793). Excluding nonconstruction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$430 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Pat Robbins**

The city of Rock Springs would like to renovate and expand the existing chamber of commerce/visitors center to accommodate the changing dynamics of the region. The facility, which was designed as an office building, has evolved to serve as the community's ticket outlet for events and local information; provide tourist information; and house the business development services for the area. This grant would allow for the structure to be enlarged and

Sources		
BRC amount	\$	500,000
Cash Match	\$	332,655
CDBG Grant (Pending)	\$	300,000
Total eligible project cost	\$1	1,132,655
BRC % of total eligible project costs		44%
Local % of total eligible project costs		29%
Uses		
Non-Construction Costs		
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	56,700
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	4,500
Project inspection fees	\$	19,250
Construction Costs		
Site work	\$	167,000
Demolition and removal	\$	72,400
Building Components:		
Electrical Systems	\$	67,570
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	137,325
Landscaping	\$	19,000
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	88,130
Interior Finishes	\$	280,047
Remediation	\$	37,648
Other (pavillion, kiosk, dog run)	\$	68,540
Contingencies (11%)	\$	114,545
Total Uses	\$1	1,132,655

repurposed meeting those growing needs along with facilities and amenities to accommodate the thousands of tourists that stop at the facility. This grant is a public/private partnership matched with funds from the Community Development Block Grant Program to make necessary renovations for ADA compliance, along with funds from the city of Rock Springs and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

This project is strongly supported by the community and economic development plans undertaken by the city of Rock Springs. More importantly, the project has strong community support as the facility will serve as the hub for business development, community development and tourism. It will also build on the partnerships created in the area among the city of Rock Springs, the Sweetwater Travel and Tourism Board, the Small Business Development Center, Western Wyoming Community College, and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation contingent upon the award of the Community Development Block Grant.



# **Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Rock Springs					
	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Met	Notes			
	Future Creation	No				
	Develops Community Momentum in Unique Assets and Market Niches	No				
Community Workforce Development	Helps Diversification Efforts	Yes	Providing information to visitors that entices them to stay longer, to business es that may have a relocation interest, etcaids in building and diversifying the Rock Springs and Sweetwater County economies.			
	Community/Economic Dev. Goals Related to Specific Plan	Yes	Enhances tourism/recreation/community development.			
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses	Yes	Staff managing area business development will be co-located with the Chamber in the new center.			
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training	Yes	The Chamber and Business Development Office work with Western Wy. Community College to meet the needs of new or existing businesses.			
	Economic Development Recapture Plan	No				
	Satisfactory Performance on Past Projects	Yes				
	Leverage Additional Private Investment	No				
Additional Evaluation Criteria	BRC Loan	No				
	Main Street or Certified Tourism Community Project					
	Project Readiness	Yes				



#### **Project Description**

Albany County requests a \$1,000,000 Senior Care grant for the construction of a Hospice House for Hospice of Laramie located at 1754 Centennial Street in Laramie. The project will provide inpatient hospice services to the terminally ill residents of the city of Laramie and Albany County. Albany County will own the land and the building and will lease it to HOL. HOL will be responsible for all operations and maintenance.

Currently, as there is no inpatient facility, those who are under hospice care must be treated at home and there must be a primary caregiver if that person is on Medicaid. The caregiver must be available 24 hours a day. When a primary care giver is not available, hospice patients must be admitted to Ivinson Memorial Hospital in Laramie. This is only an option when beds are available during the needed time. This regulation is a great burden for some

families. Further, the hospice house environment is a home-like environment and not one of a medical institution. For this reason, those seeking an alternative to institutional medical care often seek hospice care out of Albany County.

#### The Business:

Since 1983, Hospice of Laramie providing (HOL) has been emotional, spiritual, social and material resources to support the dying as well as their families and friends. Comprehensive, compassionate care is provided by a team of trained staff that includes registered nurses, hospice chaplain, social aides. а а worker/bereavement coordinator, a registered dietician, office manager, medical director, an executive director and trained volunteers in cooperation with a patient's primary care physician and other medical specialists.



A hospice house in Laramie/Albany County will not have any direct competition. The hospital in Laramie and local nursing homes provide end of life care but with the medical focus of curing patients which is remarkably different than that of the hospice philosophy. Currently, because of the lack of a residential hospice setting, HOL is being underutilized. That is, they served an average of 25% of those who were terminally ill. The state average is 29% and the national average is 43%. Albany County's population is aging and HOL feels this is the right time to expand its services to meet the community's needs. This will be the third hospice house in Wyoming.

Hospice charges a per diem rate for care. The current per diem fee is \$185.52 for routine home care, \$1,082.72 for continuous home care, \$45.11 for continuous hourly home care, \$192.27 for inpatient respite care, and \$825.78 for general inpatient care. HOL will charge a room and board rate of no more than \$275 a day for patients residing in the hospice house in addition to the per diem rates listed.

Because there is no other service such as a hospice house in Albany County, the market share will be 100%. However, HOL conducts a vigorous public awareness campaign for current services and will continue to do so in order to promote the services available through a hospice house. Marketing is done through community forums, educational forums, newspapers and radio, one-on-one meetings, presentations to various clubs, outreach activities, in-service training for health care partners and outreach to the medical community as well as local charitable, religious and community service organizations.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

Studies show Hospice provides better care for the terminally ill at less cost and allows the family / caregivers to focus on spending quality time with their loved one. It also allows families and caregivers to avoid the need to search for either a private care provider or a place to relocate to an inpatient hospice provider outside Albany County and/or the State of Wyoming. Finally, a hospice house is able to provide respite care for individuals on home care but who temporarily need a place to reside.

The staff of Hospice of Albany County will increase by 200% creating a significant number of jobs in Albany County. Hospice will retain the current employees and will hire an additional 15 employees over a four year period including 11 full time, five part time and one on call (as needed) employee. The net payroll (not including benefits) will be \$612,203.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

Albany County will own the land and building. They will lease it to Hospice of Laramie. The lease will produce a revenue stream of \$6,000 annually for four years. Recaptured funds will be used for loans or other viable economic and community development projects for Albany County and the city of Laramie. These projects will be evaluated and approved by the Albany County Commissioners.

### Timeline

It is anticipated the project can be completed by June 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$4,286,539 of which \$1,000,000 is being requested from BRC Senior Care grant funds. The match of \$3,286,539 is provided by a \$500,000 private loan (a signed MOU between Hospice of Laramie and private lenders), the sale of the current hospice office building which is valued at \$675,000, and donations received totaling \$966,923. Still pending are pledged donations in the amount of \$375,000 and the approval of a CDBG grant in the amount of \$408,744. In-kind match includes the value of the land, \$360.872. Excluding non-construction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$284 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Tom Johnson**

The project represents the culmination of several years of work between the county and Hospice of Laramie. It comports with the goals of the Business Ready Community Grant Senior Care project – namely to provide funds to build infrastructure in Albany County and the city of Laramie

Sources			
BRC amount	\$1	1,000,000	
Cash Match	\$2	2,516,923	
CDBG Grant (pending)	\$	408,744	
In Kind Match	\$	360,872	
Total eligible project cost	\$4,286,539		
BRC % of total eligible project costs		23%	
Local % of total eligible project costs		67%	
Uses			
Land Acquisition Costs			
Land	\$	360,872	
Non-Construction Costs			
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$	190,120	
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$	15,000	
Construction Costs			
Site work	\$	158,582	
Building Components:			
Electrical Systems	\$	347,092	
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$	713,653	
Landscaping	\$	435,000	
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$	560,008	
Interior Finishes	\$	695,800	
Fire Protection	\$	84,400	
Remediation	\$	320,211	
Other (roofing/stucco, insulation)	\$	243,880	
Miscellaneous/Other (contractor fee)	\$	161,921	
Total Uses	\$4	4,286,539	

community in which a specific business has committed to expand. This project assists in funding a new inpatient facility where terminally ill residents receive Hospice Services when they are unable to remain safely at home. Hospice was founded in 1983 and to date has been only been able to provide outpatient services. Six hundred fifty (650) terminally ill individuals and their families have been provided services to date. It is anticipated that annually, 36 terminally ill patients will be provided in-patient hospice care in the new Hospice House.

Four years after construction of the facility, this project will retain the current number of employees including four full-time, three part-time and five on-call as needed employees. They will hire an additional 15 employees over a four year period including 11 full-time, five part-time, and one on-call as needed employee resulting in an additional payroll (not including benefits) of \$612,203. Because many of the patients that need this care will come from outside the city of Laramie, one could argue these jobs are primary in nature.

This project fits the Business Ready Community Grant – Senior Care program. I am excited to support it.

#### **AG Opinion**

Pending

#### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation. Funds are contingent upon the following:

- Executed lease agreement
- Execution of the private loan \$500,000
- Sale of the existing building
- CDBG Grant of \$408,744



## Detailed Analysis of Project

	Albany Co - Hospice						
			Criteria				
	Ev	aluation Criteria	Met	Notes			
	Direct Creation (2mm)			New	15.5		
	Direct Creation	u ( Syrs)		Retained			
Primary	Future Creatio	n					
Job Creation		Albany County (all		Y1	Y2	Y3	
(Jobs bringing		industry), 2012	Low	\$11.03	\$10.88	\$11.13	
new wealth to the	Wages		High	\$32.69	\$32.45	\$32.45	
community)			Mean/Avg.	\$23.87	\$20.85	\$20.68	
		<b>Median</b> \$14.07	Median	\$11.39	\$21.58	\$21.58	
	-	munity Momentum in	No				
	Unique Marke	t Niches		Describer		<b>.</b>	
	Holps Moot D	mond for Social Somilars	Yes				
	incips wieet D	emand for Social Services	105			e which	
	Helps Diversif	ication Efforts	Yes			county.	
					,		
Community		nity and Economic	Yes				
Workforce Development	Development (	<b>Joals</b>					
Development							
	-	ity to Retain, Attract,	Yes	Adds a dimension to medical/care			
	Expand Busine	SSES		services avai	ilable in the c	ounty.	
	Improved Wor	kforce or Entrepreneurial	Yes				
	Training						
		elopment Recapture Plan	Yes	-			
	Satisfactory Pe	rformance on Past Projects	Yes	Business Type			
	Business Start	սթ		Business	ype		
				Business T	<b>vne</b>		
	Business Relo	cation/Recruitment					
				Business Type Research			
				This project will allow Hospice of			
				Laramie to o	offer both in-h	ome care	
	Business Expansion		Yes		•	-	
	Dusiness Expa		103				
Business				-			
Development				· · ·	-	through	
Investment				hospitalizatio	n.		
	Primary Busine		No		es inpatient hospice care for minally ill - a service which ot currently exist. ervice for Albany county. a dimension to medical/care es available in the county. mess Type mess Type mess Type Research roject will allow Hospice of ie to offer both in-home care I as in-patient care. Respite es will be available to vers which was not usly possible except through		
	Private Invest		Yes				
		siness Revenue horoughness of a Business	Yes Yes				
	viability and 1	noroughiness of a Dusiness	105				
	Increase in Ma	urket Share	Yes				
	increase in Ma		105				
				remain in All	bany County.		
	Leverage Add	tional Private Investment	Yes				
Additional	BRC Loan	authan i mare investment	No				
Evaluation		Certified Tourism Commun		1			
Criteria	Project Readin		Yes	1			
	- roje et Readin		100	1			



#### **Project Description**

The city of Sheridan requests a \$500,000 Senior Care grant for the construction of the Sheridan Senior Center Day Break Facility. This project will advance the conclusions of the study done for the Sheridan Senior Center and allows the Center to continue providing quality services to community residents. The Day Break program enables care takers to leave their loved ones in a secure facility for the day. The new facility will be 3,100 square feet at 241 Smith Street, next door to the existing Sheridan Senior Center. It will offer a more residential or home-like setting complete with a bathing room. The new facility will allow increased usage and will expand the Sheridan Senior Center's abilities to provide different activities and programs. A secure outdoor area will also be available. The amount of area available will allow the center to accept

more people into the program.

In partnership with Sheridan College the Day Break Facility will allow for regular attendance by Sheridan College students from a variety of disciplines (nursing, physical therapy, etc) in a hands-on learning environment.

The Whitney Foundation owns the land which is adjacent to the existing Senior Center. Upon receipt of the grant, the Foundation will deed the property to the Senior Center. In turn, the deed will be conveyed to the city. The city will also own the building once constructed. The Sheridan Senior Center will be responsible for all operations and maintenance costs including utilities, liability and hazard insurance, taxes, general upkeep, grounds and sidewalk maintenance as outlined in the Development and Contingency agreement. An existing lease for the current building has been amended to include the new property.

It is estimated that having additional space at the new facility will increase use and enable the Sheridan Senior Center to add two positions in addition to the four persons already employed for this program.

#### **Project Goals and Public Benefit**

The primary goal of the project is to further the development goals as identified by the *Sheridan Needs Assessment* and the *Site Specific Feasibility Study for the Sheridan Senior Center*.

The availability of such a facility allows those who work to continue to do so. It is a safe and less expensive option for those who would otherwise have to stay home to care for a loved one or place them in an institution.

Without such an option, nearly 100% of those served would need institutionalization in a nursing home. Of the 58 persons served at Day Break, 56 would qualify for Title 19 Medicaid and the cost would become the burden of the state of Wyoming. At an average cost of \$67,200 per person per year for nursing care in Wyoming, those 56 persons would represent a total cost of \$3,763,200 per year. Nationally, businesses lose an estimated \$33 billion annually due to absenteeism, reduced work hours and hiring replacement costs associated with employees with caregiving responsibilities. Making the Day Break services available to area caregivers so they can remain in the workforce helps local businesses.

The public benefits by the additional jobs to be created and those who will be able to continue working while being able to be comfortable leaving their elderly loved ones in a safe environment.

Finally, with 58 clients currently enrolled it is clear that this is a needed service. Growth and aging projections indicate there may be as 228 persons in need of this service by 2015. With the construction of the new facility, the Sheridan Senior Center will be able to provide this assistance.

#### **Revenue Recapture**

The city of Sheridan believes in the concept of revenue recapture where that revenue can directly enhance economic development opportunities. Per the recapture plans associated with the Hi-Tech Business Park and Sheridan Commercial park, funds are primarily reserved for further development of the parks and economic development of the North Main Street area.

In the case of the Day Break facility, it seems certain that revenue recapture would serve only to diminish the direct public benefit to the community while tying up funds that would be applied to the further development of the senior center. The city of Sheridan is hopeful the Business Council recognizes the city's choice to propose foregoing a token revenue recapture plan in favor of maximizing project success and public benefit.

#### Timeline

It is anticipated project design will commence in August 2014. The project could be bid, awarded and ready to proceed to construction in December 2014 (weather permitting). Construction will be completed in approximately nine months and the facility could potentially be occupied by October 2015.

#### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$900,142 of which \$500,000 is being requested from Senior Care grant funds. The cash match of \$293,742 is provided by the Sheridan Senior Center. Sheridan College will provide the land as an inkind donation valued at \$106,400. Excluding non-construction costs, the construction is projected to cost \$238 per square foot.

#### **Regional Comments by Dave Spencer**

I have worked closely with the staff of the Sheridan Senior Citizen Center, Sheridan County and the city of Sheridan on the development of this project. The center received two previous planning grants that have led to this project including one used for a needs assessment and a second used for creation of a development plan to meet those items outlined in the needs assessment. Beneficiaries of the project are over 90% low to moderate income individuals with special needs due to physical or mental impairments. The leverage of funding is

Sources	
BRC amount	\$ 500,000
Cash Match	\$ 293,742
In Kind Match	\$ 106,400
Total eligible project cost	\$ 900,142
BRC % of total eligible project costs	56%
Local % of total eligible project costs	44%
Uses	
Land Acquisition Costs	
Land	\$ 106,400
Non-Construction Costs	
Architectural and Engineering fees	\$ 54,000
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$ 1,500
Construction Costs	
Site work	\$ 65,326
Demolition and removal	\$ 11,384
Building Components:	
Electrical Systems	\$ 53,170
Mechanical, plumbing, HVAC systems	\$ 212,682
Foundation and/or Structural Framing system	\$ 88,618
Interior Finishes	\$ 106,340
Fire Protection	\$ 17,723
Other (exterior envelope)	\$ 112,250
Miscellaneous/Other	\$ 5,000
Contingencies (9%)	\$ 65,749
Total Uses	\$ 900,142

high with significant cash and land contributions committed to the project as well as foundation support for operations. There has also been cost estimation assistance from a local architectural firm.

#### **AG Opinion**

Pending

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends funding as requested from the 2015/2016 allocation.



<b>Detailed Analys</b>	is of Project						
-	Sheridan - Daybreak Facility						
	Evaluation Criteria					Notes	
				New 2			
	Direct Creation	n ( 3yrs)			Retained		
Primary	Future Creatio	n					
Job Creation		Sharida	er Cometer (all		Y1	Y2	Y3
(Jobs bringing			n County (all try), 2012	Low	\$11.60	\$11.60	\$11.60
new wealth to the	Wages	muus	-	High	\$16.99	\$16.99	\$16.99
community)		Mean		Mean/Avg.	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$12.50
		Median	\$14.46	Median	\$11.60	\$11.60	\$11.60
	Develops Com Unique Marke		nentum in	No			
Community	Helps Meet D	emand for S	ocial Services	Yes	also enablin remain in th savings are	rvices for ser g their caregi e workforce. notable if ser ain with fami tionalized.	ivers to Cost niors are
Workforce	Helps Diversif	ication Effor	rts	Yes			
Development	Fulfill Community and Economic Development Goals			Yes			
	Improved Ability to Retain, Attract, Expand Businesses			Yes	Adds a dimension to senior care services available in the county.		
	Improved Workforce or Entrepreneurial Training			Yes	College will	ip with Sheri allow hands- for students.	
	Economic Dev	elopment R	ecapture Plan	No			
			on Past Projects	Yes			
	Business Start	սթ			Business	Туре	
	Business Relo	cation/Recr	uitment		Business		
					Business	Type Rese	arch
Business Development Investment	Business Expa	nsion		Yes	offered in o Center, this	services are ne room of th will provide additional ava	ne Senior a separate
	Primary Busine	ess		No			
	Private Invest			Yes			
	Increase in Bu			Yes			
		-	s of a Business	Yes			
	Increase in Ma			Yes			
Additional	Leverage Add	itional Priva	te Investment	Yes			
Evaluation	BRC Loan	~		No	+		
Criteria			ourism Commun				
	Project Readin	Yes					

# Addendum

## Correspondence

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Robert C. Kinn P.O. Box 3599 Alpine, WY 83128 307-654-3620 rkalpine@silverstar.com

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert C. Kinn and I am currently serving on the Alpine Town Council. I am writing to voice my support for the Wyoming Business Council Grant submitted on behalf of the town of Alpine. This grant is a Business Committed Grant and is a joint effort between the town of Alpine and Melvin Brewing Company to establish a multi-million dollar business in our community. The partnership between our town and this already established local business epitomizes the spirit of the Wyoming Business Council Grant and Loan program. I would like to take a little time to share with you why our community and this particular business are an ideal fit for this grant.

First of all, the community of Alpine is poised to be an economic center in Western Wyoming. Alpine is located at a critical transportation corridor for Western Wyoming, the junction of US Highway 26 and US Highway 89. Officials from across the state recognize the importance of our region to the economic welfare of state. For example, WYDOT has initiated multiple on-going multi-million dollar projects in Lincoln and Teton counties through its State Transportation Improvement Plan. Wyoming leaders recognize the importance of a viable transportation corridor for goods, commuters, and tourists. I've included links to some of the highway projects that will positively affect our community in the upcoming years:

#### https://www.dot.state.wy.us/files/live/sites/wydot/files/LincWeb.pdf https://www.dot.state.wy.us/files/live/sites/wydot/files/JackWeb.pdf

Like our state officials, our town officials have also prioritized capital improvements in our roads. Just last year we completed a re-paving project that cost approximately \$420,000, and we did so because we recognize the importance of our community being business ready. In addition to improvements to our roadways, Alpine has dedicated significant resources to create exceptional water and sewer facilities. Our multi-million dollar sewer plant is one of the premier plants in the state of Wyoming, and is currently only being utilized at 15% capacity. Likewise, our water system has had multiple upgrades and expansions over the past few years. Currently we are in the middle of an expansion project to bring water and sewer transmission lines across the Snake River to businesses and residents just north of the town limits. I mention these sewer and water projects because in them you see the commitment of the current mayor, Mr. Kennis Lutz, the town council, and the community as a whole to promote business in and around our community.

A few years ago Alpine had the distinction of being the fastest growing town in the state. According to the US Census Bureau in 2004 Alpine had added more than 1/3 of it's population since 2000. Besides our proximity to waterways and public lands, our town offers affordable housing, making it for many an ideal location to live and work. Since the recession began in 2007, our community has been through its share of lost businesses and foreclosures. Lately though, we have seen resurgence in our local housing market and an influx of new businesses. We have an eager labor-force already liere and a sufficient supply of affordable housing.

Alpine is already a destination, another arm of the already thriving tourist industry situated in and around Jackson Hole and the Yellowstone Ecosystem. We offer unique access to mountains and forests, three rivers-the Snake River, the Grey's River, and the Salt Riverand the Palisades reservoir. Our year-round tourist industry, which focuses on activities like snowmobiling, skiing, whitewater rafting, hunting, fishing, boating, camping, etc., is well suited to add another tourist draw, beer tourism. Melvin Brewing is poised to become a top 50-producer in the micro-brew industry, and the headquarters of this well known craft. brewer in Alpine will increase public visibility of our town and our state. It's important not to discount the financial significance of a brand or trademark. One just has to think of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort's Aerial Tram to understand how important an icon in an industry can be to a state's tourism. For those familiar with the micro-brew industry, the precedents of this impact are evinced by the partnerships between New Belgium Brewing and Fort Collins, CO., Rogue Brewing and Newport, OR., Sierra Nevada Brewing and Chico, CA, and Samuel Adams and Boston, MA, to name a few. When consumers think of these companies, they typically think of these towns and states, and many even plan vacations based on the locations of such breweries.

To me, one of the most exciting aspect of this project is the prospect of taking an already existent and thriving local business, and creating an opportunity to help it grow, while at the same time positively impacting not only our local and state's economy but the welfare of our local citizens. We have the opportunity here to do something homegrown. Moreover, what a unique opportunity this is to promote industry—the production and distribution of an actual Wyoming product—tourism in Western Wyoming, and finally to create local jobs. I've taiked to countless town citizens and every one of them has expressed hope and excitement about this project. We who live here know what an incomparable community we are a part of and know it's only a matter of time before others make the same discovery. I know that a partnership between the town of Alpine, Melvin Brewing, and the State Land Investment Board to create this opportunity will result in long-term benefits to all stakeholders.

Sincerely.

Robert C. Kinn



# **Board of Lincoln County Commissioners**

T. Deb Wolfley Chairman Fairview, Wyoming Kent Connelly Kemmerer, Wyoming Paul C. Jenkins Thayne, Wyoming

925 Sage Avenue, Suite 302, Kemmerer, WY 83101 Phone: 307-877-2004 Email: commission@lcwy.org

February 26, 2014

Mayor Kennis Lutz Town of Alpine Box 3070 Alpine, WY 83128

Subject: Melvin Brewing Company Proposal Wyoming Business Council - Basiness Committed Grani Request

Honorable Mayor Lutz.

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners supports your efforts to work in partnership with the Melvin Brewing Company to develop a new brewing and bottling facility near Alpine. We are particularly excited by the potential to create 30 full time jobs in the next five years and as many as 50 jobs in the future as this currently successful and award winning business grows. Alpine has taken the initiative over the past several years to provide the necessary water and sewer infrastructure that can support this type of facility over the long term. The six plus acre site proposed for the brewery is also well suited for this use and has great potential for additional business development in the future. Alpine also offers affordable housing and a desirable environment to attract and maintain the workforce necessary for this operation.

The County believes that this project can promote opportunities that address sensible and economically effective solutions that promote continued, responsible development. We support the Town in their efforts to promote economic development within the community and Lincoln County.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

T. Deb Wolfley, Chairman Paul C. Jenkins Keni Counelly

# Office of Planning and Engineering \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_Lincoln County, Wyoming

February 27, 2014

Mayor Kennis Lutz Town of Alpine Box 3070 Alpine, WY 83128

Subject: Melvin Brewing Company Proposal Wyoming Business Council – Business Committed Grant Request

Honorable Mayor Lutz,

I support Alpine's efforts to promote the development of a new brewing and bottling facility adjacent to the Town's new wastewater treatment facility. This proposed project is located on a unique site that is well suited for this use and takes advantage of the existing capacity in the Town's award winning and state of the art wastewater treatment plant. Most importantly, this proposal will enable the entrepreneurs associated with the Melvin Brewing Company to grow their successful local craft brewery into a regional facility that has the potential to create as many as 50 full time jobs in Lincoln County in the coming years. This exciting proposal has the potential to bring both diversity and stability to the local economy which has struggled to recover from the recent deep recession.

The proximity of the proposed site to the existing Town wastewater plant allows for the efficient and cost effective extension of critical water and sewer service required for this type of facility. The six plus acre site is also surrounded by US Bureau of Reclamation land and a WyDOT gravel operation that provide a good buffer from nearby residences. These factors in combination with the affordable housing available in the Alpine area provide the right ingredients for a significant and successful business.

This development is also fits well with the Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan and its goal of promoting economic development in existing towns and communities serviced by existing infrastructure:

Section III. Economic Development

Goal A. Promote and assist in the development of commercial, recreational and industrial activities.

Tel. 307 885 3106 Fax 307 885 3774 Physical Address: 61 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Afton, Wyoming Mailing Address: 421 Jefferson Suite 701 Afton, WY 83110 Objective 1 Promote and support the development of infrastructure in and around the towns and community centers for the creation and expansion of new and existing businesses

Section IV. Land Use

Goal B. Promote the development of residential, commercial and industrial hand uses in and around established central services in the county

Much of the workforce in northern Lincoln County commutes to Jackson via the Snake River Canyon. In fact over 1,000 vehicles per day make the commute because affordable housing in Teton County is quite rare. The creation of local jobs in the Alpine area is often a better deal for employers as well as their employees. Commuting is expensive, environmentally unfriendly and time consuming.

Our office is looking forward to working with the Town of Alpine on this exciting project

Sincerely:

John Woodward Director



Senator Dati Dockstader Wyoming Senate

27 February 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Sirs:

As the town of Alpine comes before the Wyoming Business Council this year to seek assistance with upcoming projects let me emphasize the importance that new business brings to this scenic western Wyoming community:

While new jobs are absolutely crucial for the community and the region, let me point out that approval of any project in Alpine immediately compliments an extensive municipal water and sewer system. New business, and the associated residential construction, will help cover the expenses of this infrastructure and at the same time ensure that it functions properly with adequate connections and regular use.

This is time to help Alpine continue with a successful and well managed growth plan that includes new business and residential construction backed by a strong water, sewer and road system in a community surrounded by national forests, a large recreational reservoir and beautiful high country rivers and streams.

Located at the intersection of three major highways that lead to a worldwide destination resort and national park system. Alpine holds the promise for success, perhaps like no other community. I encourage the Business Council's assistance with a part of Wyoming that holds a bright future.

Thank you for your consideration of this great Wyoming community.

Senator Dan Dockstader SD 16

Committeen.

Theori, Recentarion, Wibblight and Colored Resources

Timpertation, Highways and Millinery Affairs

Page 6 of 186 Senate District 16 • P.O. Box 129 • Afron, WY 83110 • 307.886 1500 • 307.886 1500 FAX • Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 young come



Wyoming Business Council

February 28, 2014

Re: Melvin Brewing

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today on behalf of Jeremy Tofte, who is applying for WBC funding to build a new, state of the art beer brewing facility in Alpine, Wyoming. I've had the pleasure of a business relationship with Jeremy since he first came to Jackson, WY, and opened the Thai Me Up restaurant in downtown Jackson. The restaurant business is a challenge in any community. However, in Jackson Hole's highly competitive, roller coaster seasonality, with one good 3 ½ month peak and a very long 8 month shoulder season, the restaurant business is a virtual high-wire act. Jeremy has proved himself able and his business has soared into a superbly popular downtown Thai restaurant with a micro brewery that is second to none. For a highly unusual second year running, Melvin Brewing has brought home the Gold in the Micro Brewers National Competition.

Jeremy has brought Melvin Brewing about as far as he can in his current facility. His application to build a 20,000 sq ft facility will bring a solid, year-round economic vitality to Alpine, Wyoming at which he projects to employ 38 – 50 year round, fall time staff. This new facility will enable Melvin Brewing to compete beyond our local region and enter the national market.

The Wyoming Business Council receives ample applications for economic grants and low interest loans. Jeremy Tofte's application is worthy of your serious consideration. His is a proven track record and the national awards he earns for his micro brews are telling of the quality and demand his beers will generate nationally. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely.

Mark J. Barron President



Received

APR 2 1 2014 Wyoming Business Council

March 27, 2014

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, WY 83110

RE: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim:

Sunrise Engineering, Inc. is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Economic Development Projects that were submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for funding. We have reviewed the projects and feel that not only are they necessary, but that they will enhance opportunities for future economic development in the Town.

2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue is the gateway to access the national forest and the world's largest cold water geyser located in Swift Creek Canyon. Enhancing this corridor will invite tourists to stop and visit this unique area which leads to additional revenues for the Town's businesses. Also, the sewer line upgrades are necessary to support growth on the north end of the Town. The proposed turn lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue would provide better access to and from the commercial lots located at the intersection of Washington and 1<sup>st</sup> making the area more attractive to businesses.

+ TEL

- F43

Best Regards, SUNRISE ENGINEERING, INC.

Jason Linford, B.F. Service Curter Manager

Page 8 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

www.sunrise-eng.com



314 SOUTH WASHINGTON P.O. BOX 1620 AFTON, WY 83110 307-885-3500 1-800-667-2100 FAX 307-885-3723

April 7, 2014

Town of Afton Attn: Hyun Kim, Town Administrator 416 Washington St Afton, WY 83110

Re: Economic Development Projects

Received

APR 2 1 2014

Wyoming Business Council

Mr; Kim:

1<sup>eff</sup> Bank in Afton would like to express its support to the Town of Afton and to the Wyoming Business Council for the Economic Development Projects being proposed by the Town of Afton. We trust that the Wyoming Business Council will honor your funding request for these necessary and insightful improvements.

As the Town of Afton experiences steady, sustainable residential and commercial development, improvements such as sever line upgrades become necessary to promote this economic growth. Additional improvements to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave would improve access to potential commercial development, and promote access to our National Forests and intermittent Spring, the world's largest cold water geyser. Both of these would make Afton more attractive to business and tourist activities, improving the economic outlook for our community.

Thank you, 1<sup>#</sup> Bank, Afton

Chris Allred Loan Officer

Marcus Weber Vice President 384 Washington Afton, WY 83110 M.L.O. # 810949



Phone: (307) 885-6221 Fax: (307) 885-0002 www.bosv.com Email: Marcus@bosv.com

April 8, 2014

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, WY 83110 Received

APR 2 1 2014 Wyoming Business Council

RE: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim:

The Bank of Star Valley fully supports the economic development projects referred to as the Afton Transformation Initiative which was submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for Funding.

Economic growth always requires adequate infrastructure. The Bank has met with several clients who have been interested in starting or expanding their businesses in the Afton area However, some development projects and business growth has been stifled due to the lack of adequate infrastructure within the town of Afton. We support the notion that improving Afton's road, water, and sewer infrastructure will lead to economic growth in the town of Afton and will ripple through the whole of Star Valley.

The Bank of Star Valley is positive about the economic future of Afton and the surrounding Star Valley area. Further developing the infrastructure within the town of Afton will only add to future opportunities for Star Valley and its residents.

Regards,

Marcus Weber

Marcus Weber Vice President

Rod Jensen President & CEO

Prestanti Inc. Social Science (Science) Automatical Science (Science) Prestanti Science (Science) Prestanti Science (Science) Prestante (SCI)

CORPORATE C.F.

# OMMERCE P.O. Box 190 \* 150 S. Washington \* Alton, WY 83110

ALC SOL

BA THE WERTING

HAMBER

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Fown of Afton 416 (Clashington Street Afton, VVV 63110

Date Mr Km

this with great pleasure matchel Ray Valley Charmon dt Commerce offers the letter in support of economic bevelopment projects supmitted for funding to the Wyoming Business Column

Curr Edwid trait insideweid this projects proposed and finds them to be meckessary es the effort. Is promise who enhance Cours economic by velopment.

Figure and a the prime economic opportunity for a nooin Opunty. Procoving the county is evolved once by anywhy fravelees in with its storical facts, extural peaking and externs up represented a coportunities must be supported by the improvement and development of the and it any nervices sector as positivitorizing and energy. The proposed signage projects intological the County should pressly entrance but exposure as a potential provide the community working fogether to consiste our individuality and our potentially.

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Phone: 307-885-2759 | Fax: 307-885-2758 h 800-428-8833 |

PADL N. SCHERHEL Professional Land Surveyor Wysming Registration No. 164 Utab Registration No. 1670 Midler Registration No. 1690 Network Registration No. 1690

SCHITT A. BCHERHEL Professional Land Surveyne Wyoming Registration No. 1899 Unde Registration No. 772111 Abber Registration No. 9020

MARLOWEA, SCHERBEI Professional Land Success Bysammy Reputation No. 5366

KAML F. SCHERIEL Professional Land Surveyor Wolming Regulation No. 11816 Idelas Regulation No. 11816 Idelas Regulation No. 11891 Uppelled Falses Sameyer No. 1223

# SURVEYOR SCHERBEL, LTD. PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

ADDRESS.

Hus Cold Office Hox 96, 283 Main Street Big Perry-Machleton, Wyoming, 83113

AFTON OFFICE flow 225, 46 West 3rd Avenue Afton, Wyroning A3110 TILLEPHONE

307/376-3342 307-226-3348 (F)x()

207-885-9339-207-885-9000 (Paul-

18 April 2014

Ent: 1983 CONSELLANTS DY Recentary Alternat frigueion and Water Higher.

> SUSAN HOFFMAN, Dig Plocy Office Memory

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Jackson, W5 Direct to Hig Piner Office 307-733-5000 dt Fas

Lana Har Syntyk, ID Direct to Big Paney Office 206-276-5908 & Fas

Mangialia, 80 Direct to Allon Office 208-847-2000 & Fas

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, Wyoming 83110

Re: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim,

Surveyor Scherbel, Ltd. is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Economic Development Projects that were submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for funding. We have reviewed the projects and feel that not only are they necessary, but that they will enhance opportunities for future economic development in the Town.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue corridor is the gateway to access the national forest and the world's largest cold water geyser located in Swift Creek Canyon. Enhancing this corridor will invite tourists to stop and visit this unique area which leads to additional revenues for the Town's businesses. Also, the sewer line upgrades are necessary to support the growth on the north end of the Town. The proposed turn lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue would provide better access to and from the commercial lots located at the intersection of Washington and 1<sup>st</sup> making the area more attractive to businesses.

Sincerely, SURVEYOR SCHERBEL, LPD Maplowe A. Scherber, PLS





Julie Kozlowski Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Town of Edgerton Business Ready Communities Grant Application

Dear Mrs. Kozlowski:

Lock-Tite Anchor Co. Inc. is in full support of the Town of Edgerton's grant request to extend water and sewer service as well as roadway improvements to an existing industrial area within the Town that does not have water or sewer service.

Lock-Tite Anchor Co. Inc. is currently in the process of constructing a new facility to house our operations. Previously, Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. was located within the same building as the Junction Convenience Store in Midwest, which I also owned. I have sold the building and the convenience store to Big D Oil. As a result, a new facility is needed to house Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc.

Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. is a rig anchor, pipe hauling and general trucking firm serving the energy industry since the 1970's. I purchased the business approximately 15 years ago. Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. employs 24 full time employees.

I have purchased a parcel of land in Edgerton that is located within an existing industrial area that is not served by water and sewer service and have started construction of a new facility, an 80° by 120° steel building. Total private investment in this facility is estimated at \$600,000. The facility is scheduled for completion in mid-May 2014.

Without this project I will be forced to use bottled water and portable toilets to service the facility. A situation that is far from ideal. In addition to providing water and sewer service to my facility this project will allow another existing business to hook into water and sewer service and it will also allow another existing business to install a bulk water sales station.

I respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Cato State

Scott Griffiths, President Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc.



Basic Energy Services 705 Hwy 387 Edgerton, WY 82635 May 7, 2014

Julie Kozlowski Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

Basic Energy Services has purchased Rocky Mountain Cementers (Edgerton, WY) four years ago. When we were informed of the possible water line extension that would be installed right along our property, we got excited.

We load a lot of water for our acid and cementing services, an average would be 660 barrels per day. Currently, we load water over at the Anadarko office in Midwest, WY usually waiting an hour in line with other water trucks.

When this water main is constructed we will build a bulk water load out station. This will save us time on loading water and allow other companies to load water, building revenue for the Town Of Edgerton.

I respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Robert Soik Yard Manager
The Fossil Fish Capital of the World



City of Kemmerer, Wyoming

February 24, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St Cheyenne WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Kemmerer is supportive of the Lincoln County application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to Kemmerer and then the loop through the City of Kemmerer. The City has been electronically isolated and behind most other communities in Wyoming due to the lack of a looped fiber network in our area. We have found the efforts of the County and City to establish a looped fiber system as a key aspect to our continued determination to develop and implement an economic development plan for the future growth and success of the Kemmerer community.

We would hope that you would look favorably on this application.

Thank you, CITY OF KEMMERER

3- D. High

Zem Hopkins Mayor





SOUTH LINCOLN MEDICAL CENTER Caring for our Community

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

South Lincoln Medical Center is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. South Lincoln Medical Center is one of the major employers in Kemmerer. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Eric Boley CEO/Administrator

711 Onyx Street 
Kemmerer, WY 83101-3214



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1 Education Specialists P.O. Box 335 – 11 Adaville Drive Diamondville, WY 83116 Phone: 307-877-9095 Fax: 307-877-9638

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

Lincoln County School District No. 1 is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. Lincoln County School District No. 1 is one of the major employers. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

vera L. Charlt

Teresa Chaulk Superintendent Lincoln County School District No. 1 P.O. Box 335 Diamondville, WY 83116 307-877-9095



The State of Wyoning provides Hathaway Merit and Need Scholarships to Wyoning students attending the University of Wyoning and Wyoning community colleges. Every Wyoning student who neets the media requirements can earn a Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.

CREATING A PROMISING FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION Page 17 of 186



February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lincoln County IT Department is supportive of the grant application to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide crucial redundancy. All of the major employers in this area depend on reliable data access. Lincoln County Government is one of those agencies. It has been a challenge for our department to provide adequate data services to our Sheriff's Office, for example, between the north and south ends of our long county.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Eric Johnson Director of Technology



P. O. Box 950, Kemmerer, WY 83101 Phone: (307)828-2200 • Toll Free: (855) 922-6463 <u>www.westmoteland.com</u>

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. is one of the major employers in the area, employing 300 people. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Donald Rily Systems Analyst Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. 6520 Elkol County Road 304 307-828-2211 P.O. BOX 281 20 U.S. 30 188 0134/04/04/LLE\_WYOMING 83116



Phy. 307 877-6879 877-8251

March 31, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Lincoln County BRC Readiness Application for Fiber Optics Line Extension

Dear Board Members and Staff:

The town of Diamondville recently learned of the county's application for a conduit to house three (3) fiber ducts that will connect the Diamondville Kemmerer community to an existing fiber loop that runs through Sage Junction approximately 25 miles west of the community. It is our understanding that All West Communications, Inc. has committed to the cost of installing fiber in one (1) duct and the necessary hardware and software to complete this connection.

This would be a great benefit to the community as our current service is dependent on a single fiber line that comes from the south along Highway 189 and ends in Kemmerer. If this is cut or has other technical problems it disrupts service in the community. We believe this will benefit businesses and residents regardless of whether they are a customer of All West or of Century Link as the service will be redundant and more reliable for all.

Finally, we are excited because this project not only provides an immediate benefit, it also provides for future expansion as there are the two (2) unused ducts that can be marketed for economic development. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

Sackinger

Eric Backman



ENGINEERING · SURVEYING · PLANNING WWW.WCOMMERCH RAWLINS P.G. BOX 1104 RAWLINS, WY 82301 Pt 307-324-5262

Date 2/10/14

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

On behalf of WLC, we support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway, paved with curb and gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire hydrants and landscaping between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn on the east side of Rawlins for the new Fairfield Inn & Suites.

This street will not only provide access to get to the new Marriott property, but provide access to other parcels of land in that section that are currently landlocked. This could open up some new development opportunities for that area. The street would improve the Cedar Street entranceway to the east side of the City and may ease the increased traffic from the possibility of the Walmart Supercenter coming to that same side of town. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alton Lane and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

We hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins. Please contact me if you have any questions at 307-324-5262.

Douglas A. Boyd P.L.S Senior Project Manager

## BANK OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 50 Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

(307) 324-2265

February 10, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

Please accept this letter on behalf of myself and Bank of Commerce in Rawlins. We are proud to support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway that will be paved and lined with curb, gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire suppression and landscaping. This road is slated to be located on the east end of Rawlins between Airport road and the Comfort Inn, and will serve as an access point for the new Fairfield Inn and Suites soon to come to Rawlins.

This street serves many benefits to our community. Primarily it provides access to parcels of land in that area that are currently landlocked which impedes further development. This street also provides improved access to Cedar street which is a busy roadway. Cedar street is also set to see considerable increase in traffic with the possible construction the new Walmart Supercenter which is slated to be located nearby. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alda Road and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

We hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins. Please contact me if you have any questions for me regarding this project or my recommendation. I can be reached at Bank of Commerce. My phone number is 1-307-324-2265.

Sincerely, Copper W. France President

## CARBON COUNTY HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

DWITTINGSAUDOS, PLD. PSECTICS FUELCO.

February 10, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

Greetings from Rawlins! As you know there is a lot happening in our community: a new Career and Technical Education Center is nearing completion along with a new roadway to serve it, construction will begin on a new high school this spring, our Mainstreet team has completed the first part of a downtown renovation project and will soon begin on the next phase to upgrade all of the business facades. These forward-leaning projects seem to be creating a bit of momentum in other areas of our town as we have seen new businesses relocate here (Tractor Supply), know that other new businesses will locate here (Marriott) and hear rumors of still more (Walmart).

The Carbon County Higher Education Center is delighted to support the City of Rawlins' application for a Business Committed Grant from the Wyoming Business Council to construct a roadway between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn. This roadway will service the new Fairfield Inn and Suites but will also provide access to much of the property south of Cedar Street on the east end of town for further development. The proposed roadway will provide smoother access to these properties for public safety purposes as well as for the convenience of patrons. As a lagniappe, the road will also help beautify the eastern entrance into Rawlins, a project that has long been a part of city planning.

The proposal before you has been well-thought out and is perfectly consistent with much of the strategic planning that has guided development in Rawlins for the past several years. Your assistance with this grant will allow us to keep up the energy that is fueling some extremely positive developments in Rawlins and will help us in our efforts to attract new and more diversified industry to our community.

David Throgmorton, Ph.d.

MAIN CAMPUS 205 (RODO) SCREET, RAWERS, WY PEORE, W7: 25 (2017AS), 402 (24) (238) VOCATIONAL CAMPTS 2121, ADDRAY STREET RANDONS, WY PROBE 307, UN-9271 LAN, 307, 328-9218 1569 CAMPUS 160 WHIPPOCKWILL RAGES WY PHONE 307, 503 (201 FAX, 307, 588 (111)

Page 23 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



Matthew H. Mead Governor

## State of Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Office of the Director 122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Herschler 2-East Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 307.777.8650 \* Fax: 307.777.5857 www.wyomingworkforce.org



Joan K. Evans Director Lisa M. Osvold Deputy Director

February 14, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W, 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler:

I am writing to offer the support of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services [DWS] for the city of Rawlins' application for a "Business Ready Communities Business Committed Grant". This grant would be to improve the East side of Rawlins and would provide for construction of a roadway that will provide access to a new Fairfield Inn & Suites, as well as to other parcels that are currently landlocked but awaiting development.

The Agency is fully supportive of economic development efforts such as this project because they not only enhance the aesthetics of a community, they create construction jobs in the short-term and for the long-term, open the way for new businesses, new jobs, and a stronger community.

The DWS has been a steadfast partner with the Business Council on projects that help create jobs and put people to work, and we stand ready to help recruit and groom job candidates not only for the Marriott property, but other new businesses that could result from this project. Building streets, curbs, sidewalks, and utilities isn't always headline-grabbing, but these types of endeavors are the foundation for helping our cities keep vibrant and appealing, especially in times of tight local budgets.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to weigh in on another exciting project for the city of Rawlins. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely Joan K. Evans Director

JKE:rb

Cc: File Ref: JKE-14-010



We Bridge Human and Economic Development for Wyoming's Future.



Leo Chapman, Chairman John Espy, Vice Chairman Lindy Glode Willing John Johnson Sue Jones



(307)-328-2699 Toll Free 1-800-250-9812 Fax: (307)-328-2669 www.carbonwy.com

### BOARD OF CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. Box 6, 415 West Pine Street Rawlins, WY 82301

February 18, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY \$2002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

The Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway, paved with curb and gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire hydrants and landscaping between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn on the east side of Rawlins for the new Fairfield Inn & Suites, a Marriott property.

This street will not only provide access to get to the new Marriott property, but provide access to other parcels of land in that section that are currently landlocked. This could open up some new development opportunities for that area. The street would improve the Cedar Street entranceway to the east side of the City and may ease the increased traffic from the possibility of the Walmart Supercenter coming to that same side of town. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alton Lane and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

The BOCC hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins and assists us in attracting new and more diversified industry into our county. The proposal before you has been well-thought out and is consistent with much of the strategic planning that has guided development in Rawlins for the past few years. Thank you.

fur 1 Chagon

Leo Chapman, Chairman Board of Carbon County Commissioners



April 14, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

We strongly encourage your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, Torrington, WY. Our business currently utilizes city power and is located just across the street from the proposed substation. This project could increase the value of our property as well as provide future electric service as the need arises. We appreciate your consideration to help improve our infrastructure that will benefit many.

Paul D. Miller, Jr



## LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

800 South Third Street • PO Box 1250 • Laramie, Wyoming • 82073 Phone: 307-742-2212 • Fax: 307-742-8200 • www.laramiewy.org

October 17, 2013

Tim Sullivan, Chairman Albany County Commissioners 525 Grand Avenue Laramie WY \$2070 Steve Hamaker, CEO Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters 518 Ord Laramie WY \$2070

RE: Letter of Support for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hannaker:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs:
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining and retaining over 50 Wyoming jobs:
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) nonprofit organization;
- · Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters will be applying December 1st to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities.

The Laramie Economic Development Corporation fully supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center.

This project is important to this community in that it provides assistance to children in need of support as well as makes effective use of an existing school building.

Sincerely Daniel G. Furphy

President and CEO



City of Laramie City Manager's Office P.O. Box C Laramie, WY 82073 (307) 721-5226 FAX (307) 721-5211 TDD (307) 721-5295

November 19, 2013

Tim Sullivan, Chairman Albany County Commissioners 525 Grand Avenue Laramie, WY 82070

Steve Hamaker, CEO Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters 518 Ord Laramie, WY 82070

RE: Letter of Commitment for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hamaker:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters will be applying December 1, 2013 to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities. As a requirement to the grant, 15% or \$225,000 of the request has to be provided with either in-kind or cash match. To document that the match has been secured, letters of commitment must accompany the application.

The City of Laramie supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center by contributing the following to the project:

\$12,333.00 in Community Partner funds and up to \$24,719.94 in additional funding requested as mid-year Community Partner contribution, for the completion of this project (see attachment A). The City's contribution of \$50,000 for in-kind services will be determined by the City Council as project plans are finalized and specific needs identified.

We look forward to the completion of this much needed project for one of Laramie's most successful and established non-profit organizations.

Respectfully,

sod Paulan

David A. Paulekas Mayor

MALETA M MANGAN 2521 E Park Ave Laramie, WY 82070

### 307/742-3370

January 10, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Sandy Quinlan Investment Ready Communities Division Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Support for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. I have been a volunteer community advisory board member involved in the **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Community Partnership grant program** (TANF-CPI) since 2004 and believe that the Big Brothers Big Sisters program contributes greatly to the Albany County Family Intensive Program that is funded through the Wyoming Department of Family Services. Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has been providing contracted services for the last two years to 275 individuals including youth and their families. The Big Brothers Big Sisters provides services to a wide number of income-eligible at-risk families in order to help them raise their children at home. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities.

I fully support the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center and encourage you to fund this important project for our community.

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Maleta M Mangan Albany County Intensive Family Program Advisory Board Member

WY Partners of the Americas c/o Dorly Piske 2382 Riverside Dr. Laramie WY 82070 <u>dorlypiske@hotmail.com</u> 307.760.8279

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Partners of the America's Wyoming Chapter is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

The Partners of the Americas Wyoming Chapter regularly uses the building for youth related events. One such events is the Youth Leadership Summit, involving Youth Ambassadors from Latin America and/or the Caribbean, local high school and college students. We also organize Biojewelry for Breast Cancer workshops where local youth volunteers create jewelry to support a traveling mammography program for underserved women in Goiás, Brazil. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, The Partners of the Americas Wyoming Chapter is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the quality-of-life of the community, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dorly Piske

President, Partners of the Americas, Wyoming Chapter



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

of Albany County 710 E. Garfield, #240 Laramie, WY 82070 (307) 745-8643

UNITED WAY

www.unitedwayalbanycounty.org

The United Way of Albany County is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School for Big Brothers Big Sisters. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters that are supported by financial contributions from the United Way of Albany County, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our 14 member agencies.

The United Way of Albany County has regularly used the building for meetings of our organization and our member agencies. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, United Way is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Paul Heimer, Executive Director United Way of Albany County



12 307.745 8007 1.800.076.0009 Fax 307.742.5146 www.cathedtathome.org info@cathedtathome.org 8989 North 3rd Sereet Latania, Wyoming 82072

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Nicole Hauser a

 Accredited by the just Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

Member of Cults Wethere Learned of America

Catherinal Horos for Children is an Ecual Opportunity Employer January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Albany County Family Network is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our mutual clients.

The Albany County Family Network (ACFN) is a local group that meets regularly to discuss Issues facing local families, coordinate communication amongst service providers, and find solutions to address community concerns. We regularly use the Nellie Iles building for our meetings. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, ACFN is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie lies for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Sharon Weber,

Community Program Director

Cathedral Home For Children

Breaking the cycle of vallence, despute, and failure for over the years

Cathedral Home For Children

Community Programs

Laramie, WY 82070

960 North 5th

ALBANY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

1948 Grand Avenue . Laranie WY 82070



BOT 721-4400 brecktillaci.let2.wy.us

ACSD Student Artwork

January 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council.

Albany County School District #1 is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lies School proposed by Albany County and Big Brothers Big Sisters. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our students.

Albany County School District #1 is interested in potential future use of the building if Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications. We believe there is potential for specialized classes, individualized student groups and projects, and continued afterschool learning opportunities.

We are supportive of the project for our community and our students and look forward to potential future use and partnerships. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Recht Superintendent of Schools Albany County School District One

HATHAWAY

The Scar of Wyoming provides Hallaway Merit and Need Scholarships for Wyoming andients aneming the University of Wyoming and Wyoming channeling channeling the Provide Providence Scholarship, Contact your school coassider for more information.



January 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

The Laramie Soccer Association is very excited and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Neilie Isles School. It is a fantastic resource for our community!

LSA, which serves over 500 Laramie youth each year; has greatly benefited from the use of the Big Brothers Big Sisters building for 10 years. We hold our monthly meetings, coaches' meetings and equipment pick up, registration and yearly public meetings in the conference room.

Our players have also benefited from BBBS' move to their current location: the Neille Isles School. We have been able to hold coaches' clinics and winter practices for teams participating in indoor tournaments in the gym of BBBS.

Without the use of the BBBS building we would be greatly hampered in the ability to provide many of the opportunities we do to our players, coaches and parents; not only during the extremely cold winter months when access to outdoor fields is impossible but all year through!

Thank you, Hanske 1

Crystal Hamaker,

President,

Laramie Soccer Association



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Albany County Campus of Laranie County Community College is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource.

The ACC would be happy to see the facility renovated to provide additional classroom and meeting space for the community as a whole. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, the ACC anticipates that the building will continue to be an asset to the larger community.

We are supportive of the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters. Renovation of the building promises to continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality of life, social services networks, and economic growth.

Kathleen Urban

Kathleen Urban Interim Associate Vice President Albany County Campus Laramie County Community College 1125 Boulder Drive Laramie, WY 82070 kurban@lccc.wy.edu 307.772.4245

Laramie Local Community Market

598 N Pierce St

Laramie, WY 82070

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

Laramie Local Community Market is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

Laramie Local Community Market regularly uses the building for: vendor parking. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, Laramie Local Community Market is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Erika Rogers

Laramie Local Community Market



## Laramie Youth Crisis Center

960 North 5th Street Laramie, Wyoming 82072 (307) 742 5936 Fax (307) 745 3854

> A Cathedral Home for Children Program

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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Peggy Palm

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Nicole Houser

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: Sharon Weber

EVEC DIRECTOR



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Laramie Youth Crisis Center is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lies School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our mutual clients.

The Laramie Youth Crisis Center has occasionally used the building for parent education classes and youth groups. We anticipate continued occasional use of the building for similar purposes in the future.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

En Book

Eric Brooks, Director

Cathedral Home For Children

Laramie Youth Crisis Center

960 North 5th

Laramie, WY 82070

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness 504 South 4<sup>th</sup> Laramie , WY 82070 307-755-1000

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness regularly uses the building for classes, group projects and group counseling. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness is looking forward to the continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

astar

Teresa Jacobs-Castano

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness

# WY MING NASA Space Grant Consortium

January 14, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium, located at the University of Wyoming, is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

Wyoming NASA Space Grant has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sister on several programs and next year we intend to start a program in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, in which a UW science or engineering graduate student will provide science-related afterschool activities for students. Through this program we will regularly use the building for science and engineering activities. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawna M. McBride

Associate Director Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium Dept. 3905 • Physics and Astronomy Dept. • PS208 1000 E. University Ave. Laramie, WY 82071



ALBANY COUNTY & PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE 525 Grand Ave., Suite 100 • Luranie, WY 82070 307-721-2552 • Fax 307-721-2554

January 14, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Sandy Quinlan Investment Ready Communities Division Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Commitment for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Ms. Quintan:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has been providing the supervision of the Albany County Juvenile Diversion Program for the Albany County Attorney's Office via a contract with the Albany County since January of 2006. The Diversion Program allows juveniles who are accused of crimes and who are first offenders to benefit from services to assist them in avoiding continued criminal behavior while avoiding the stigma of a criminal conviction or delinquent adjudication if they successfully complete the program. Currently there are 34 juvenile participants in the program. Since its inception there have been 283 participants to date. The success of the program is reflected in the fact that since the program's inception 83.9% of the juveniles who participate in the program successfully complete it and 91.9% of juveniles who complete it have not re-offended for up to 12 months after completion of the Juvenile Diversion program.

In addition, BBBS in Laramie provides services to some of the juveniles who are on probation supervised by the Department of Family Services in Juvenile Court though the Progressive Youth program. In that program youth who are identified as being able to benefit from the program receive supervised community service and participation in social and educational activities calculated to assist in their rehabilitation.

It is believed that this project will provide the following:

· Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;

- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities. This project will allow BBBS to effectively continue and improve its valuable contribution to the two programs referred to above.

The Albany County Attorney's Office fully supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center and we encourage you to fund this important project for our community.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Bohling Albany County & Prosecuting Attorney

RB/cj



CITY OF LARAMIE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX C Laramie, WY 82073 Parks Division: (307) 721-5264 Fax: (307) 721-5256 Recreation Division: (307) 721-5269 Fax: (307) 721-5284 Facilities Mgmt Division: (307) 721-5285 TDD: (307) 721-5295

January 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Investment Ready Communities Division 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240 Molly Spangler, Director

Dear Ms. Spangler:

The City of Laramie, Parks & Recreation Department would like to emphasize to the Wyoming Business Council that Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters is a strong partner in our local recreation and community wellness system. Through their after-school, mentoring and intervention programs, Big Brothers Big Sisters regularly contributes to recreation opportunities and quality of life for our local citizens. Without their continued efforts and partnership with the City's Parks and Recreation Department; Laramie families of would be further underserved with our very limited resources.

Please note that on November 19, 2013 the City Council passed a motion to provide a letter of support of the grant application of Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters, along with funding of \$26,000 in community partner funds and up to \$50,000 in-kind services support for the Community Facilities Grant. As a Parks and Recreation professional for over thirty years, I understand the value and benefit to the community for having an adequate facility/building to provide these important services to the Laramie community, thereby improving the community's recreation opportunities and enhancing our quality of life.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the City's support of the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters grant request, please contact my office at your convenience.

Sincerel

Paul Harrison Parks & Recreation Director

Cc: Janine Jordan, City Manager Parks, Tree and Recreation Advisory Board

A Place for All



GREAT PLAINS AREA PO Box 400 Torrington, WY 82240

April 15, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

We strongly encourage your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, Torrington, Wyoming. Our business currently utilizes power from the City of Torrington and we are located just north of the proposed substation site. This project could increase the value of our property as well as provide future electric service should the need arise. We appreciate your consideration to help improve our infrastructure as we believe it will benefit many.

Sincerely, 10 Lisa L. Ochsner

Unit Supervisor



April 15th, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

TDS strongly encourages your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, in Torrington, WY. Our business currently utilizes city power and the project would benefit the business community. We appreciate you consideration to help improve our infrastructure that will benefit the need of many.

Gary Olson President



### April 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council

I am writing in support of the Cold Springs Business Park electrical substation in Tortington.

Our property adjoins the Cold Springs Business Park to the north. I believe the development of this area would benefit all of Goshen County as we continue to increase the economic activity in the area.

In closing, I strongly encourage you to approve this project.

Sincerely,

U. Bin

David W. Briggs President & CEO

P. O. Box H Alliance, NE 69301

(308) 762-3112 westoo.coop Page 47 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 February 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board members,

The Two Fly Foundation is an entity created for the specific purpose to donate charitable collections to Wyoming charities. We raise money from oil and gas companies operating in Wyoming by organizing a two-day fly fishing tournament on the North Platte River. We invite 50 executives to participate in the tournament. In just nine years, we have collected and donated \$1,171,550 to Wyoming charities, including \$162,750 to the *Platte River Revisal*.

We feel strongly that our donations to the *Platte River Revinal* have and will continue to benefit the local quality of life and will specifically benefit the fishing in the entire North Platte system. The Platte River west of town has become a world class fishery enticing fisherman from neighboring states and beyond to enjoy. We think the current effort of the *Platte River Revival* to improve the quality of the river habitat and bank restoration in Casper will allow this portion of the river to become a destination fishery as well.

The public benefits to Wyoming are many in the form of increased opportunity to enjoy a "new" stretch of the river and to attract fisherman and other river recreationists to Casper rather than just Grey Reef. The local economy directly benefits and broadens the opportunity for out-of-state people and locals to be exposed to another first class fishery.

We have gathered data validating the premise the economic benefit to Wyoming is greater than one might initially think. Each of the three main fly shops in Casper do over 1,000 float trips per year for a total of 3,000 float trips. We speculate that collectively the other guiding services do another 1,000 trips. These 4,000 trips per year equate to 8,000 fishermen. Records demonstrate that out-of-state fishermen account for 70 percent of the trips; that equates to 5,600 out-of-state fisherman days in or around Casper. All local shops collect over \$1.6 million annually for guided trips and 70 percent or

Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

THE TWO Fur POUNDATION

Page 48 of 186

Wyoming Business Council February 12, 2014 Page 2

over \$1 million is paid by out-of-state fisherman. Clients use our hotels, restaurants, airport, and spend money in local shops. And best of all, these individuals are introduced to Wyoming. They ultimately return with their families.

Another component of this project is its demonstrated ability to break down barriers. It's not often that the oil and gas industry and environmentalists agree on something so fervently, but the *Plattle River Revinal* is one of those projects that bring these two groups, who are habitually at odds, together for the sake of restoration and rehabilitation. This is evident every May when oil and gas executives gather in Casper for our fishing tournament and money is raised for this project.

Obviously when the restoration of the river section through Casper is complete, it, too, will attract more recreationists to our community and state. We will continue to invest in the *Platte River Project*, and we encourage the Wyoming Business Council to do the same.

Sincerely,

The Two Fly Foundation Board of Directors

Tom Swanson

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nand Inde Wold

Brice Carpenter

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Kim Dela

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Cary Brus



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Cusper Field Office 2987 Prospector Drive Casper, Wyoming 82604-2968 www.blm.gov/wy



In Reply Refer To: 8320 (WYP060)

Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Hathaway Building, 1st Floor 2300 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: North Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Board Members:

As a sponsor of the Plate River Revival, National Public Lands Day event 1 am writing this letter in support of The North Platte River Restoration Project. This is an exemplary project with far reaching benefits for both the North Platte River and the communities that have grownup along its river banks. This project has brought new focus to the importance of proper watershed management and to the intrinsic values of our local waterways. The project has revitalized community interest, created long term partnerships and has brought national attention to the epicenter of life in central Wyoming.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Casper Field Office has been striving to preserve and enhance important habitats within the North Platte River Corridor for the past ten years. To this end, the BLM has invested 7 million dollars in acquisitions and 1.5 million in recreational infrastructure. In 2012 the North Platte River as it flows through central Wyoming was designated as one of the American Great Outdoors Projects. The success of this nomination was due in part to the efforts of the City of Casper and the Platte River Revival Project. This strong local commitment to the North Platte River helps to bring allocated funds to Wyoming in support of these efforts.

Though facilitated by the City of Casper, the North Platte River Restoration Project is the culmination of over 7 years of hard work and dedication from numerous private businesses, public organizations and land management agencies. It is my sincere hope that you will agree with us that this project worth funding.

by gmes

Joseph F. Meyer Casper Office Field Manager


### WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006 Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699 wgld.wyo.gov GOVERNOR MATTHEW H MEAD BIRECTOR SCOTT TALBOTT

COMMISSIONERS MIKE HEALY - Present RICHARD RLOUDA - Vice President MARK ANSELM AARON CLARK KEITH CULVER T CARRIE LITTLE

CHARLES PRICE

February 24, 2014

Jolene Martinez 200 North David Street Casper, WY 82601

Dear Ms. Martinez:

The earliest correspondence I found discussing a potential habitat improvement project at Morad Park in files of the Casper Game and Fish Office was dated 1984. Morad Park was being evaluated because the area provided excellent angler access but the North Platte River through the Park was primarily a shallow run lacking cover with a limited amount trout holding area. Early proposals included using boulders to enhance trout habitat features to attract and hold trout in the area with excellent angler access. In short, the project goal was to enhance trout numbers where anglers have access. The project was not implemented due to funding constraints and the Department lacked the expertise to conduct a habitat improvement project on a large river in an urban area.

Thirty years later the river habitat in the area is unchanged, a shallow run lacking cover. Changes in land ownership have actually increased the amount of public access for anglers in the area and certainly the interest in fishing and river recreation has increased. Fortunately today new funding sources for habitat improvement are available. New partnerships have also developed with a desire to improve the river corridor, and with the expertise of Stantec, the possibility to enhance trout habitat, as well as, the entire river corridor in the Morad Park area has become a reality.

I certainly support the goals of the City of Casper's river restoration effort and the project at Morad Park. Improving trout habitat in an area where anglers can access provides obvious benefits for anglers. In addition to benefiting anglers, the project will enhance aesthetics, remove invasive species and stabilize the river, all of which makes Casper a more attractive location to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Al Conder Casper Regional Fisheries Supervisor

AC/:ac



\*KinkASKA Sceneral - Maril - Marine - Indonese WYOMING Terrapers - Theorem - Caspo Email: info@pybank.com Webaite: www.pybank.com

February 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Council Members:

RE: Platte River Revival Master Plan

It is without reservation that I write in support of the Platte River Revival Master Plan. Our banking organization has been in the Casper market for several years and we see the strong economic effect of the upper river's fantastic fishing and the related business it brings to Casper. Casper has developed into one of the most vibrant business economies in Wyoming and restoration of the river in the Casper area is very important to the continued improvement of the positive economic and social aspects of the Casper area.

When Economic Development and new business growth happens it is often difficult to pinpoint all of the aspects that went into a final decision to locate a new business, but one of the common elements is the community. The PRRMP is one of those community improvements that help make those decisions easier. The Platte River is a shining star of Casper and the Revival Plan is very easy to support. We fully encourage the Business Councils support of the Revival Plan for the Platte River and believe it is very important to the continued growth of the Casper area.

Joe P. Guth Corporate President



NEBRASKA: Sciencing + Mount + Manuale + Belagenet WYOMING: Recognit + Weissing + Corpor

> Email: info@pybank.com Website: www.pybunk.com

February 28, 2014

Board of Directors Wyoming Business Council Cheyenne, WY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please allow me this opportunity to convey my support for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant which will be used to partially fund the Platte River Revival. As you probably know, the North Platte River Environmental Restoration Master Plan has outlined several lofty, yet achievable, restoration projects to greatly enhance a 13.5 mile stretch of the river.

The North Platte River is a great natural resource of Wyoming, and Casper is blessed to have the river flow through the city limits. During the initial developmental growth and expansion of Casper, the North Platte River was abused and neglected, which resulted in a deterioration of the natural components of riparian habitats. Fortunately, through the coordinated efforts of private and public partnerships, the river is slowly being restored to reflect renowned attributes of a "great river"

The Casper community is very proud of the Platte River Parkway & Trails system which has been developed over the years near the banks of the North Platte River. The Restoration Master Plan will be a great complement to the Parkway, and help to further enhance a fabulous resource within Casper. In addition to use by thousands of Casper residents, the North Platte River is a great attraction for tourists and anglers who visit Casper and are able to enjoy its wonderful attributes.

The grant request from the Wyoming Business Council would be a key component of fulfilling the goals of the Master Plan, and I ask for your support of the project.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Ron Wright President - Casper



First Interstate Bank 104 South Wolcott PO, Box 48 Camper, WY 82602-0040 397-235-4201 www.linstitterstatebank.com

March 11, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

First Interstate Bank of Casper is a strong supporter of the *Platte River Revival's* river restoration effort. Over the last several years First Interstate employees have donated hundreds of volunteer hours working on habitat improvement and general cleanup projects along the Platte River. The Platte River restoration project has tremendous support from the businesses in Casper, in addition both the Gas and Oil industry and Environmentalists are together on the Platte River Restoration!

The restoration project will restore a world class fishing experience with great access for the people of Wyoming and out-of-state fisherman and other river recreationalists. Wyoming stands to benefit when tourists use our restaurants, hotels, shops, and help pay our taxes.

The Platte River Revival is working hard to "Raise the Bar" by making Casper a better place to live. First Interstate Bank supports their efforts and pledges its support by providing financial support along with our employee volunteers to the Platte River Revival.

We hope you will join us and favorably consider their grant request.

Willer a Ay

William A. Huppert Regional President, Wyoming First Interstate Bank





March 20, 2014

Board of Directors Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

### Reference: City of Casper - North Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Members of the Board,

In 2011 and 2012, at the request of the City of Casper, Stantec Consulting Services and SWCA Environmental prepared the North Platte River Master Plan. The Master Plan provided an assessment of the existing condition of- and proposed restoration strategies for- the North Platte River in a 13.5-mile reach that flows through the City of Casper, the Town of Mills, and Natrona County. The Master Plan identified seven high priority restoration sites for the North Platte River. The City of Casper has raised funds to implement restoration at one of these high priority sites (First Street Bridge site) and has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for additional funds to implement restoration at the Morad Park site.

Restoration of the North Platte River at these sites will enhance the ecological function of the river and riparian areas. These projects will improve the aesthetics and natural beauty of the greenway; provide improved and diverse habitat for fish, wildlife, and songbird species; increase recreational opportunities within the river corridor within City limits; reduce sedimentation and mitigate property losses due to bank erosion; improve water quality; and eradicate invasive plant species and establish a healthy, native plant community on the river's banks and floodplain. The re-establishment and enhancement of wetlands adjacent to the river will provide additional water quality enhancements by filtering runoff and will provide greater habitat heterogeneity and high-value sites for both aquatic and terrestrial species. Morad Park is a highly visible park within the City of Casper. Restoration of this park will not only increase public use of the park, but it will also increase the viewshed and community pride for thousands of people who commute past Morad Park on a daily basis.

Stantec and SWCA are involved in many restoration projects located throughout the United States and Canada. The scale of the City's restoration efforts, along with the size and importance of the North Platte River, make Casper's projects among the most impressive currently being undertaken in North America. When complete, the City of Casper's river restoration projects will serve as a prominent national example of community-based river stewardship, and provide a model for future restoration efforts in Wyoming, and beyond.

Stantec and SWCA fully support the City of Casper's continued restoration efforts on the North Platte River, We are proud to work with a group of engaged and dedicated citizens whom have generated great support for this work within the community. It is this swell of community support that will ensure long-term project success and health of the North Platte River. Implementation of the restoration efforts outlined in the Master Plan will have lasting benefits for the communities along the North Platte, and for the natural





### Reference: City of Casper - North Platte River Restoration Project

resources of Wyoming. These projects will provide immediate improvements to the river corridor, and its positive social benefits and ecological uplift will be an enduring legacy for future generations.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of the City of Casper's grant application.

Sincerely,

Nathan Jean Water Resources Engineer Stantec Consulting Services

Buckhard

Laura Burckhardt Fisheries Biologist SWCA Environmental Consultants

Science Eli D. Bebout Vice President of the Science Appropriations Committee Chairman Wigning Science Senate District 26 P.O. Box 112 • Riverton, WY 82501



manues (307) 856-0575 cmit Ell.Bebouttreyoleg.gov



March 24, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fitteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002 Re: Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the Platte River Restoration Project. I feel that this project will have far reaching benefits for both the North Platte River and the communities along the river.

The North Platte River is a world class fishery and mings in anglers from throughout the state and the region. It has brought national attention to the epicenter of life in Cen Hai Wyoming. Improving the trout habitat in this area will benefit fisherman by providing increased access, enhance aesthetics, remove invasive species of fish and stabilize the river.

This in turn will make Casper a more attractive location to live, work, and play. Besides the economic benefits this project will have for both Casper and the State of Wyoming, it has brought about focus to the importance of proper watershed menagement and have to the internal relates of our local waterways.

For over 7 years, numerous private businesses, public organizations, and land management agencies along with the City of Casper have been working diligently to get the Platte River Restoration Project up and running. I sincerely hope that you agree with me that this project is worth funding

Sincerely,

Senato: El D. Bebout

Page 57 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

WWWWYOLEG.GOV





110 West Second Street Suite 210 Casper, Wyoming 82601

To who it may concern,

Howdy folks, Matt Cassel with Cliff Outdoors here. Please allow me to make a few observations about the Platte River Revival Project. First, having been born and raised in Torrington, WY (aprox 100 miles downstream of Casper) and having lived in Casper since 1981, It is fair to say that I am pretty familiar with the North Platte drainage I have fished and or floated nearly every mile of the North Platte river from where it enters Wyoming at the Colorado border to where it exits into Nebraska. While there is great diversity and uniqueness in the different sections of the river, it is the 13.5 section that runs through the greater Casper area that my comments are directed.

The economic loss that was caused by the shutdown and dismantling of the Amoco Refinery was significant. Many residents suffered serious economic hardship and I have friends that had to move to keep their jobs. It was a traumatic time, however, today it would be difficult to find an individual who would say that we would be better off with a refinery in the midst of our downtown. Change can be good, and the remediation of the Amoco site will benefit those that live downstream forever. I believe that this stage of the Platte River Revival project, though on a smaller and less costly scale, will also benefit our community and those downstream forever. The many Social and Economic benefits of having a healthier river will be discussed and debated. In my opinion, having a healthy river flowing through the middle of town makes Casper unique. Also I believe the healthier the river is, the healthier our community is. That being said, I am confident that the orgainzers of the revival project will be good stewards of the resources they receive. The plan is solid and needs to move ahead. I am looking forward to watching the river get healthier, and participating in the economic vitality that follows.

Best regards, 199

Matt Cassel Cliff Outdoors

Phone (307) 577-1146 Fax (307) 234-6058 Email heycliff@cliffoutdoors.com Page 58 of 186 www.cliffoutdoors.com/Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 March 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. Fifteenth St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

My wife and I moved to Casper 5 years ago to escape from the pollution, traffic and high density living that we faced in California. It was our goal to find a city in the mountain west that was smaller than the sprawl of southern California, had a good economy and that offered ample opportunity for outside recreation. Well, we found it. When we visited Casper, it became our top choice of cities in which to live because of the strong economy, the access to Casper Mountain and the river that runs through the city. We feel very fortunate to live here.

It wasn't until we moved to Casper that we discovered what a gem the Platte River is to this area. It hosts world class fishing where people from all over the USA and beyond come to fish, thereby boosting this local micro economy. It also brings people to the area for adventure racing (recently organized by Rev3) which includes trekking, mountain biking and paddling down the river into Casper.

The beauty of the river in Casper is in large part due to the Platte River Revival. Without this organization, it is unknown in what state the river would currently be. Some of the goals of this organization are to improve water quality, thereby improving human health, connect people to the natural world and green space, enhance aesthetics and continue to provide great opportunities for people to enjoy many types of recreation on the river.

We feel that the Platte River Revival is fundamental in keeping the river clean and usable for both Casper residents and visitors. We urge the Board Members of the Wyoming Business Council to consider investing in this project.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Emery, DDS

Aspen Ridge Dental 1122 S. Conwell St. Casper, WY 82601

March 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. Fifteenth St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

My wife and I moved to Casper 5 years ago to escape from the pollution, traffic and high density living that we faced in California. It was our goal to find a city in the mountain west that was smaller than the sprawl of southern California, had a good economy and that offered ample opportunity for outside recreation. Well, we found it. When we visited Casper, it became our top choice of cities in which to live because of the strong economy, the access to Casper Mountain and the river that runs through the city. We feel very fortunate to live here.

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We feel that the Platte River Revival is fundamental in keeping the river clean and usable for both Casper residents and visitors. We urge the Board Members of the Wyoming Business Council to consider investing in this project.

Sincerely

Benjamin Emery, DDS

Aspen Ridge Dental 1122 S. Conwell St. Casper, WY 82601



March 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Members of the Board:

Jonah Bank of Wyoming opened for business in 2006, with the best location in Casper; right on the bank of the North Platte River. Since our opening, we have had the opportunity to participate in and enjoy the rewards of the Platte River Revival's restoration efforts. Our employees have been actively involved in the "clean up" events as well as serving on the Platte River Revival Committee. Every day we are eye witnesses to the ongoing enhancement efforts, resulting in a large activity increase in and along the river.

We are extremely excited about the proposed second phase of the North Platte River restoration project; focused on the 13.5 miles of river traversing Casper. This will continue the momentum of building local and national awareness of the great fishing and recreational opportunities that Casper has to offer. This is all possible now that we have a healthy river. The completion of this project will provide a model for other cities who may not be utilizing their river as a community asset.

From a business perspective, the benefits are many. The additional traffic will have a positive economic impact on both Casper and the entire state, as tourism will increase. Retail businesses will continue to grow, creating more jobs and an increase in sales tax revenue. It will also be an attraction for individuals and families considering relocating to Casper, as the improvements to the river make a positive impact on the quality of life.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and strongly support this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

M.a. Zolach

Mark A. Zaback President and CEO

3730 EASY SECOND STREET CAREER, WY 82609 307 and 5562 Physics 927 and 5565 PAX Page 61 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 March 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

**RE: Platte River Revival** 

Dear Board Members,

I am writing you, today, to express my support for the Platte River Revival Restoration Project. The rehabilitation of the river in the downtown area will be a benefit to the citizens of Casper and visitors, alike.

As manager of the Ugly Bug Fly Shop and Crazy Rainbow Fly Fishing, I know firsthand how important the Platte River is to the economy of Casper. When fishermen call or come in the shop, we recommend not only the hot flies and the latest gear, but also restaurants, hotels and other area attractions. I can not count the number of times I hear from visitors, that the great fishing on the blue ribbon section of the North Platte is what brought them to Casper, or from people who move here, how the world- class fishing at Grey Reef, was a real factor in their decision. Now, the Platte River Revival has the opportunity to enhance and expand this great river and make it more accessible to local residents and tourists, as well. If we can give visitors, who are passing through, a taste of our great fishing in the middle of town, I know that when they plan their next vacation or fishing trip, they will choose Casper and the North Platte. Thank you for your time. I am

Sincerely,

575601

**Bob Fischer** 



Wyoming Business Council

MAR 3 1 2014 3/27/2014

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Re: Business Enhancement Grant for the North Platte River Project

Dear Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of funding the Business Enhancement Grant for the North Platte River restoration project. From a personal and professional prospective, the North Platte River is a major resource for the City of Casper and State of Wyoming. I have lived in Casper for 3.5 years, one of the primary reasons my family and I relocated to Wyoming was the natural beauty and recreational activities. The North Platte River showcases the natural beauty of Wyoming. I personally utilize the parkway trail system routinely training for running and biking events. My friends and family kayak the North Platte appreciating its natural beauty throughout the summer. Fishing is world class and well known throughout the country.

Continued maintenance and support of the river system not only benefits recreational users but also the business community of Casper. I have numerous patients who travel into Casper from around the country. One of the attractions for patients while visiting is the river system. Several patients will extend their stay in Wyoming to fish, hike or kayak along the river. A vibrant diversified community is necessary to attract new businesses from out of state and keep current business within the state. The North Platte system represents a Jewel centrally located within the City of Casper and State of Wyoming. Having natural attractions improves a business's ability to attract new families and highly skilled employees to the state. If such a resource is not maintained this may reflect poorly on both the city and state.

I really can't say enough about the river system and the need to Improve and maintain this beautiful resource. As a racer in the Cowboy Tough Expedition race last year, I heard first-hand the tremendous feedback on our state's natural beauty. I feel strongly that we must continually maintain this great resource as a cornerstone of our community, city and state.

2 onto

Joseph C. McGinley, MD, PhD McGinley Orthopaedic Innovations 2435 King Blvd, Ste 230 Casper, WY 82604

Representative Tim Stubson Amanuty Pring Waaming House of Reproductation House District 56 1645 South Chostnut • Casper, WY 82601



Annuel (807) 265-2279 Annull Tim Stubsombwyoleg.gov

April 1, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members:

I wanted to take this opportunity to lend my support to the application of the Platte River Revival that you will be reviewing in the next few days. As someone who has spent most of his life in Casper, it is gratifying to see the Platte River become the treasure it was intended to be. It is worth remembering that Casper grew where it was because of the railroad and the River. Throughout its history the River has served as the life-blood of Casper's industry, but, too often was treated as an open waste disposal unit rather than the true resource it is. The most recent efforts to enhance the fish habitat in the River and to remove invasive species from River banks are an excellent capstone to decades of work toward cleaning the River.

When I have clients in town or out of town guests, one of the first places I take them is to the River and the pathway. The fishing, recreation, and open spaces, the River offers are a significant part of what makes Casper the community it is. I would hope and ask that you support the application for the Platte River Revival to continue the good work, and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the application.

Sincerely yours,

Representative Tim Stubson

TMS/mel

# VIOL I O VAV GRAEDAW

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been a guide for 14 years and have co-owned a fishing business for eight of those years on the North Platte River. During this time I have seen our river and fishery change tremendously. It has gone from merely a blip on the fly fishing radar to a world-class destination fishery. I would not be in the least bit hesitant to say that it has become a multi-million dollar industry for Casper and Natrona County, as well as a major attraction for the state.

The North Platte is an extremely important part of Casper's identity. The river is a focal point of the city and provides multiple recreational opportunities for the people. That being said, it is important that we focus on both the health and aesthetics' of our river. Initiatives like the Platte River Revival are absolutely crucial in protecting, maintaining and educating-for the future of our wonderful resource.

Sincerely,

W. Trent Tatum

Co-owner of The Reef Fly Shop, Cottages and RV and North Platte Lodge

PO Box 105

Alcova, WY 82620

307.232.9128

APR 1 1 2014



Arn 11

April 3, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Community Development Department 200 North David, Room 205 Casper, WY 82601

Dear Council Members:

KLJ is a mid-sized engineering and planning firm serving clients in the upper mid-west and intermountain region. We opened our Casper office in January 2014. There were many reasons why we chose to locate our business in Casper and hire local people, but among the most important were the progressive community and beautiful natural resources in the area.

The Casper area is blessed with two great natural resources of Casper Mountain and the North Platte River. They are assets to the community and provide lots of recreational opportunities to Casper residents. I have personally spent close to 100 days in Casper in the last year and I have recreated on the Platte River trails on numerous occasions. I love walking, jogging, and biking along this pristine waterway.

Casper truly is a beautiful place and one in which people like to live and recreate. This is important to KLJ because we want to locate in an area where we can find and hire great people, and that is certainly possible in Casper.

Another key reason we opened our office in Casper is because of the people in the community and their activism toward protecting these natural resources. We support the business enhancement grant for the restoration of the river because we see the value Casper's natural resources provide to the community and businesses. The folks in Casper and Natrona County love where they live and are striving to make their community better by protecting its natural beauty and enhancing the recreational amenities available in Casper. I have been impressed with the initiatives by Casper City and nonprofits like the Platt River Trails Trust to help ensure we can all enjoy river while making it more accessible.

Our firm prides itself on promoting livable, sustainable communities and we are dedicated to improving the places where we live and work. Locating in Casper was an easy and exciting decision for KLJ. We are committed to helping the continued work to protect and enhance its natural resources.

Sincerely,

KLJ

Thomas Mr. Munty

Thomas McMurtry Casper Project Manager

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE REGIONAL EXPERTISE TRUSTED ADVISOR April 4, 2014

#### All,

I was born and raised in Wyoming. The great outdoors of Wyoming have always been extremely dear to me and I appreciate all that it has to offer. My career has taken me to many destinations across North America and there are beautiful aspects to every place I've been. Fly-fishing has been a passion of mine since learning on the Big Horn River of Southern Montana. For years I thought there could never be a finer place to fish until I discovered the North Platte River outside of Casper. In my opinion, the North Platte is the centerplece and jewel of Casper.

I have had the privilege of fishing the North Platte numerous times now and it has, without a doubt, become my favorite fishing destination. There is no other place where the rainbow fishing can compare. My family and I have come to enjoy it so much that we purchased a drift boat which better enables us to enjoy the river at any time. Although I do not currently live in the area, we have adult children in Casper who keep the boat so that they can float the river for fishing or just for family enjoyment with our grandchildren.

Over the years, it has been a thrill to see the restoration and improvements happening to the miles of river that flow through Casper. It certainly enhances the beauty of Casper and its surrounding areas. The history of the North Platte River is an integral piece in the settling of the West. Continuing to restore and revitalize the river is not only environmentally responsible but it is also a huge draw that attracts visitors to Casper. Casper has the potential of becoming a world-renowned destination to be shared with fly-fishing and outdoor enthusiasts alike. It is my hope that this river restoration project will continue full-speed ahead. There are experiences to have and memories to be made on the North Platte River that will last for generations.

Best Regards, Brian Johnson 125 Liberty Lane Pleasanton TX 78064

- Johnson

# Big Horn County School District No. One

P.O. Box 688 Cowley Wyoming 82420 307-548-2254 FAX 307-548-7610

SHON HOCKER Superintendent

GENEVIEVE MANN District Securitary RICHARD PARKER Builtient Munitger

LORI PETERSON Bookkeeper

Monday, February 03, 2014

To Whom It May Concern;

Big Horn School District #1 is in full support of the Town of Cowley's goal to enhance the baseball field with improvements such as lights, as well as develop a water park and recreational area, both of which are adjacent to the school property. These enhancements will prove to be beneficial in numerous ways to the school children and families of our community. The students and family members of our school district will greatly enjoy the opportunity to utilize the improvements being planned. The planned improvements will enhance safety concerns and provide much needed activity support to all. We greatly look forward to the project's completion.

Sincerely,

Had

Shon Hocker Superintendent of Schools Big Horn SD #1



The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Merit and Need Scholarships to Wyoming students attendin Page 68 of al 86 of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges. Every Wyoming student wWyoming BUSINESS Council May 29, 2014 Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information. February 3, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

We the undersigned mothers, fathers, and citizens of Cowley want to make know our support for the building of a new town park at the south end of town. We are concerned about the limited green space available at this end of town. We would like to have a place where children of all ages can play while families attend baseball and football games on nearby fields. We feel the area needs a community gathering place for children and families to enjoy.

We have formed a committee to encourage the construction of an attractive, safe, and modern park. We are willing to volunteer our time in the design and building of the park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, MSON

February 4, 2013

To Whom It Concerns;

The Cowley Beautification Committee would like to publicly announce our support of the proposed Southend Park in Cowley.

Our community has experienced a significant amount of growth in recent years necessitating another city park. The current park is located a good distance and across a busy highway for many small children.

We as a group would gladly welcome another city park to our community to serve our lovely community.

Moria Melle Saug Warn

Grant Committee Members:

On behalf of Big Horn County Little League we are in full support of the need for an additional baseball field in the town of Cowley. Four years ago the Little League Baseball program was adopted in Big Horn County. Since then the program has grown in numbers and popularity in our local communities. Last year we had 19 teams in our league ranging from T-Ball through 12yr old Majors. Many of these teams are trying to share one ball field here in the town of Cowley for practices and games from April through July. Another baseball field would really help alleviate the strain on our single field here in town.

We have found that summer baseball offers kids a wonderful summer activity to keep themselves busy and learn how to work together on a team. Baseball not only offers physical activity but helps players learn to deal with others as well as success and failures. This is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Little League Baseball throughout the world and over 2 million kids a year participate in this great program. Baseball also offers parents and community members the opportunity to volunteer and give back to their kids and build their communities.

We hope that you will consider this application and our letter of support favorably and know that we will make good use of this new baseball facility if approved.

Regards,

Douglas B. Arnold

Big Horn Little League President &

Resident of Cowley

Date: February 10, 2014

To: Joel Peterson Mayor, Town of Cowley

Subject: South Side Park

As chairman of the Town of Cowley Planning and Zoning Commission (and as a citizen of Cowley) I express my unqualified support for the proposed South Side Park to be located next to the Legion Baseball field. The park will fit perfectly with the Community Development Plan as it will utilize land otherwise unsuitable for business or residential purposes. It will also compliment the ball field and its facilities and the community will gain from better utilization of both. It will be an excellent investment of fiscal and physical resources and will greatly benefit Cowley and the surrounding area for years to come.

nst Mac Crosby

Date February 10, 2014

To: Joel Peterson Mayor, Town of Cowley

Subject: Legion Baseball Field Concession Stand

Based on a review of the cost of the work completed by contract and the cost of the materials that were installed by donated labor - along with the size of the building and the type of construction - I would set the value of the concession building at the Legion Baseball Field at \$62,000. A duplicate building done completely by contract today would cost a minimum of \$80,000 with the increase primarily due to increased materials costs.

Peter M. Crosby P.E. (Ret)

Maria Jetkoski Regional Commissioner AYSO Region 835 47 City View Dr. Evanston, WY 82931 mjetkoski@gmail.com February 9, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council:

I am a long-time resident of Evanston and a Wyoming native. I am writing to you to show my support for the proposed Bear Meadows project in Evanston.

As Regional Commissioner of Evanston's Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), I see firsthand the need for an area that could help to alleviate Evanston's lack of field space. AYSO is a nationwide organization. In this small town, we had 500 kids sign up for last summer's soccer session. These kids range in ages from 4 to 19. This number has been increasing steadily every year. Needless to say, we are hard pressed to schedule practices and games with the limited space that we have.

We currently hold practice 3 nights a week and the majority of our games are on Saturday. We utilize every last bit of field area that we are allowed. All of our practices and games are currently held at Aspen Elementary School. In this area, we have one regulation field for the older kids and 6 additional fields for the younger divisions. Now, please bear in mind that the area that we are utilizing is an elementary school playground area. It is not even and therefore presents many difficulties when trying to maintain well groomed, safe fields for 500 kids to play on.

So, am I- as a concerned citizen and representative of AYSO and 500 kids- interested in seeing more field space become available? Yes, I most certainly am! I appreciate your consideration in this matter, for the citizens and most importantly the kids of Evanston.

Sincerely,

Martin

Maria Jetkoski

**Regional Commissioner AYSO Region 835** 

Board Members Jeremy Fessler, President Janice Davis, President-Elect Liz Gilpin, Secretary/Treasurer Becki Frame Wayne Brown



Paul Freeland María Jetkowski Steve Liechty, *Player Agent* Dani Tate, *Player Agent* 

### EVANSTON YOUTH ATHLETICS 275 Saddle Ridge Road Evanston, WY 82930 (307) 789-1770

February 12, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase | Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the Evanston Youth Athletic Board, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project,

Evanston Youth Athletics is a volunteer community board that plans, organizes and develops structured youth sports programs in Evanston and surrounding areas including baseball, softball, football, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, soccer support and more. The board and staff have worked hand-in-hand with the Evanston Parks & Recreation District Board and the City of Evanston to plan, organize and develop such programs in Evanston. The Bear Meadows project would provide additional and much needed practice areas for our outdoor sports leagues and programs that currently overcrowd and overuse fields and grass areas within the community.

The addition of Bear Meadows will therefore complement existing play and practice amenities within the community and allow for additional multi-use activity including more play & practice time contributing to positive development and increased activity for many youth within our community. The value of such an area is unmeasurable regarding benefits for the youth of our community.

The Evanston Youth Athletic Board strongly supports this grant request. Please consider seriously and earnestly this great benefit to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Sincerely.

Jeremy Fessler, President Evanston Youth Athletic Board

#### **Board Officers**

Will Atkinson, Chairperson Mark Mari, Vice Chairperson Tim Lynch, Secretary Rick Schuler, Treasurer Dennis Poppinga, Director



Board Members Kay Fackrell Alicia Richins Michael Jacketta Jenny Welling Lindsey Kennedy

February 13, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase I Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the Evanston Parks and Recreation District Board of Directors, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project,

Evanston Parks and Recreation District is responsible for the management, operation and maintenance of all city parks including the Bear River Greenway and proposed Bear Meadows site. The board and staff have worked hand-in-hand with the City of Evanston and The BEAR Project Inc., Board to master plan, develop and maintain the Bear River Greenway since inception. The Bear Meadows project is a high priority that will be an outstanding addition to the Evanston parks system.

The addition of Bear Meadows will compliment existing amenities on the greenway including a River Walk Trail System, Bear Community Center, Bear Memorial Tree Grove, River Rehabilitation and Bank Stabilization (past enhancement grant), Evanston Rotary Club Bear Tales Fire Circle, Historical, Educational and Interpretative Signage, Bear River Greenway Entryway and Access Road and Bear Meadows Rotary "Health Trail" Fitness Course. Specifically, Bear Meadows will serve as Evanston's "Central Park" and provide much needed open green space for multi-use activities including youth baseball, softball and soccer fields, community festivals, concerts, special events,

The Evanston Parks and Recreation District Board strongly supports this grant request. We ask that you sincerely consider the benefits to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Will Ath

Will Atkinson, Board Chairman Evanston Parks and Recreation District



February 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CF Program Manager 214 West 15<sup>m</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mrs. Kozlowski

As President of the Evanston Express Soccer Club. I am writing to you in support of the City of Evanston's Bear Meadows Enhancement Project. The "Bear Meadows" development is of particular interest to the Evanston Express Soccer Club. as it will provide additional field space that can be used for youth soccer.

The Evanston Express Soccer Club, a non-profit formed in 2012, offers soccer to the Evanston community at the competitive, club level. Express offers multiple teams for both girls and boys, ages 8-17. Our current membership is approximately 110 players.

Express Soccer Club plays in multiple soccer tournaments throughout the year. The majority of our tournaments are typically played in the Salt Lake City. Utah area to take advantage of the vigorous competitive youth soccer programs in that area.

This past year an Evanston Express team played league-play in a Utah Youth Soccer League. The league season included 8 games played in September and October. The Evanston team played out-of-town, as the "Away" team the entire season, as we did not have a "home field" in Evanston that was suitable to host any visiting teams. By having the ability to bring teams into Evanston to play soccer, the Express Soccer Club will provide substantial economic impact to the city.

With the addition of the multi-purpose Bear Meadows field, this space could be used to host home games for any leagueplay that Evanston Express teams participate in or potentially host soccer tournaments. Hosting games/tournaments in Evanston would bring numerous families from surrounding areas to Evanston. These families would eat in local restaurants, buy local gas and visit our Historic Downtown area, all of which would contribute to Evanston's economic development.

In conclusion, the Evanston Express Soccer Club fully supports the development of Bear Meadows, as the project will expand multi-purpose field space for the entire community.

Chuck Grenfel

President, Evanston Express Soccer Club



Bear River State Park 601 Bear River Drive Evanston, WY 82930 307-789-6547

February 18, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

I am writing to express my support of a City of Evanston Bear River project that is in the planning phase. The City would like to develop an area to complement existing amenities already developed along the Bear River.

The area the City is looking to develop further ties directly into Bear River State Park, through a connecting hard surface trail. Thousands of people use this trail system ever year to recreate along the Bear River. By developing the Bear Meadows area, the City of Evanston would be able to complement the already existing facilities. The entire Bear River Greenway is already a huge benefit to the community, and this development would only add to that benefit.

Bear River State Park would ask that you please support the grant request to develop the Bear Meadows project.

Thank you,

Wade Henderson Superintendent





## The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc.

"Evanston's River Playground"

P.O. Box 308 Evanston, Wyoming 82931 Visit our website: www.bearivergreenway.org

February 19, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Chevenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase 1 Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board of Directors, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project.

The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board's Mission Statement is to develop the Bear River as a natural focal point for the community incorporating a well-designed pathway network; preserving the scenic, physical, cultural and historic values of the area; offering outdoor recreational opportunities and enhanced wildlife habitat; ensuring a Parkway that is safe and clean; and encouraging citizen involvement and appropriate development adjacent to the Parkway. The board has worked hand-in-hand with Evanston Parks & Recreation District and the City of Evanston to master plan, develop and maintain the Bear River Greenway since inception. The Bear Meadows project is a high priority that will be an outstanding addition to the Evanston parks system.

The addition of Bear Meadows will compliment existing amenities on the greenway including a River Walk Trail System, Bear Community Center, Bear Memorial Tree Grove, River Rehabilitation and Bank Stabilization (past enhancement grant), Evanston Rotary Club Bear Tales Fire Circle, Historical, Educational and Interpretative Signage, Bear River Greenway Entryway and Access Road and Bear Meadows Rotary "Health Trail" Fitness Course. Specifically, Bear Meadows will serve as Evanston's "Central Park" and provide much needed open green space for multi-use activities including youth baseball, softball and soccer fields, community festivals, concerts, special events.

The future of the Bear River Greenway is promising. The improvements that have been completed over the past twenty-five years are impressive. They are the result of community partnerships and citizens working together for the common good of the community.

The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board is committed in their endeavor to see the completion of the Bear Meadows area of the Bear River Greenway and they strongly support this grant request. We ask that you sincerely consider the benefits to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Marilee Jackson, President B.E.A.R. Project, Inc.



February 24, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002.

Ms. Kozlowski,

My name is Brian Richins. I am the vice president of the Evanston Express Soccer Club. We are a club of players from ages 7 to 17. We have just completed our second year as an organized club. We compete in tournaments in Utah through the summer and the Turf Wars tournament held each January in Laramie. We have approximately 120 members in our club, both boys and girls. This past season our youngest girls' team was involved in a Utah league.

During league play our girls' team had to compete in Utah for all matches, as we lack a field in our town to host games. Our town has several fields where we practice throughout our season, however, these field lack the size, quality, or versatility to be considered suitable game fields.

For our club to advance and continue to grow and develop to the level we envision, a sport complex field is a necessity. A field with the capacity to hold a full-sized soccer field and also able to adjust to several smaller fields would be ideal and would create a place for both quality practices and competitive matches.

In addition to hosting league games and adding quality to our practices, a sport complex field would allow our club to organize and host tournaments. These types of events not only would progress our club, but would also be a stimulus to our local businesses and economy.

The "Bear Meadows" proposal is such a field. It has the added advantage of convenient parking near the field and ties into our Bear River Greenway that lies in the heart of our town.

As a youth athletics administrator and coach, I am in full support of the "Bear Meadows" project our community is planning with the monies from this grant. I appreciate your consideration of the "Bear Meadows" project as a beneficiary.

> Brian Richins Evanston Express Vice President

### Wyoming Outlaws Football



February 24, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

I am writing in support of the grant money to help with the Bear Meadows Project. I am the assistant general manager of the Wyoming Outlaws Semi-Pro Football team. The Wyoming Outlaws are a team of 35 men ages 18-45 that want to maintain their physical and mental health along with continuing their joy of playing organized full contact football. We play teams that are members of the Rocky Mountain Football League, which has teams in 3 states; Montana, Utah, and Idaho. The Wyoming Outlaws have been around for 2 years. During this time the organization has had a very big challenge trying to find a place to play home games. This is due to a constant conflict of scheduling between activities from the Evanston Recreation Center and the Uinta County School District. This requires the team to travel several hundred miles into Utah and Idaho to play any games. More field space would allow for us to host up to 5 home games and bring 30 families from the other teams to Evanston. This will result in these individuals spending money in the community and benefitting the local businesses that sponsor us. Having adequate field space would not only help us, but many other teams fighting for field space that is not available at the moment.

Thank you,

Cory Becker Assistant General Manager Wyoming Outlaws Evanston, Wyoming



Jane Law, Urban Renewal Coordinator Main Street Manager 1200 Main Street Evanston, WY 82930 (307) 789-6320 jlaw@evanstonwy.org

Julie Kozłowski BRC/CFP Program Manager Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Julie,

As the Urban Renewal Coordinator and Main Street Manager for the City of Evanston, I support the development of the Bear Meadows area and feel strongly its development would be a tremendous asset and benefit to not only our community, but to our downtown district.

Bear Meadows is in close proximity (approximately two blocks) to our downtown and with its development, I believe the downtown businesses would greatly benefit from the activity that will happen there. It has the potential for not only additional sports activities but also would serve as another wonderful venue for festivals, concerts, etc, which bring people to our town.

I am pleased to write this letter of support for this grant application and ask for your consideration of this request to develop "Bear Meadows."

Sincerely, Tell

Jane E. Law City of Evanston Urban Renewal Coordinator Main Street Manager



February 14th, 2014

Molly Spangler Investment Ready Communities Director 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> St. Chevenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler;

The vision and desire by our community to bring economic activity back to our downtown, like many communities throughout the country, sparked the idea of creating what is now Gillette Main Street Organization. In 2011, a group of interested individuals, including business owners from our downtown, began meeting to pursue involvement in the Wyoming Main Street Program. In January of 2012, upon meeting the necessary criteria, Gillette was accepted into the Wyoming Main Street Program. It was during this process that I was elected chair of the Gillette Main Street Organization.

The Gillette Main Street Organization believes having a gathering space without closing off Gillette Avenue for events like a farmers market, musical groups, brew fest, food events and many other functions will continue to enhance our downtown area, creating the grass root foot traffic in and around the our small business merchants.

"Beautification is a Beautiful Investment!" Destination Development International, which has inventoried over 400 vibrant and successful downtowns has found:

- The #1 activity of tourists in the world is shopping, dining, and entertainment in a
  pedestrian friendly, and intimate setting.
- This is where over 80% of all non-lodging tourism takes place.
- Retail beautification can lead to an increase in sales of over 400%.
- Business sales increase up to 18% with the addition of trees.

- Curb appeal accounts for 70% of new visitor sales at restaurants, retail, and lodging.
- The #1 reason visitors stop is to go to the bathroom.

We are embracing this opportunity to stimulate and revitalize our downtown in an effort to better meet the needs of our community and those who are passing through. Working together with the City of Gillette Public Plaza on Third Street project is one part of our vision to improve our town.

Gillette Main Street board fully supports this project and the long term benefit it will bring to the entire community of Gillette.

Gillotte Main Street

amp

John D. Cosner President



February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski Business Ready Communities and Community Facilities Program Manager Investment Ready Communities Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

I am writing you on behalf of the Campbell County Lodging Tax Joint Powers Board, in support of the City of Gillette's efforts to secure additional funding for the Convertible Street- Public Plaza Project for downtown Gillette. This project will occur after the rebuild of the upcoming major construction project taking place on Gillette Avenue this year, and will be a fabulous addition to the "new" downtown area. The specific features of the Plaza will provide the ability to use the area day or night for a variety of special events, which we have not been able to do as easily and safely in the past.

As the Director of the Convention & Visitors Bureau, I recognize that the Plaza will create the ability to offer new opportunities for activities to be enjoyed by residents and by visitors to Campbell County. With the availability of this new venue, we will be able to create, advertise and market these new events to outside attendees, potentially drawing additional overnight visitors. Growing the number of overnight stays in Gillette will create a positive economic impact with additional hotel and campground sales and lodging tax receipts; additional food and beverage and retail sales and tax receipts; and positive impact to many other businesses created by increased traffic to the area.

The Gillette Public Plaza Project will be an exciting new asset for the City and for Campbell County, and the Convention & Visitors Bureau is looking forward to promoting the new beautiful historic downtown area and events.

Thank you for your consideration of additional funding for this exciting project,

Naug Silvernell

Mary Silvernell Executive Director



307.685.0040 • 800.544.6136 • 307.685.1258 tw Page 85 1810 S. Douglas Highway, Sulte A • Gillet Wyoming Business Council - May 29 www.visitgillette-wrightwyo.org





Campbell County Economic Development Corporation

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT # COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT # WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> SL Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Business Council Members,

The Campbell County Economic Development Corporation encourages the Wyoming Business Council to fund the request from the City of Gillette for assist with the construction of the Downtown Plaza.

Our organization has been working for more than two years with the downtown business community and the City to help create an updated business environment through the formation of the Main Street program, the Gillette Avenue Urban Design Plan, the Gillette Avenue Rebuild, and now with the proposal to construct a public plaza as part of the overall improvement effort for downtown.

The project will enable a public gathering area along Third Avenue, between Gillette Avenue and Carey Avenue. It will be closed to traffic during a public event, and open to traffic otherwise. It will serve as a magnet for the downtown, bringing in a variety of events which will draw the public to the downtown area. It is being constructed in an efficient manner, so that Gillette Avenue can remain open to people and vehicles during an event, thus increasing the capacity of people in the downtown area.

The energy and focus given by the business owners and the City of Gillette shows a high degree of cooperation to help further economic development in our community. Support by the business community for this project is high, and the actions by the City of Gillette are consistent with the wants and needs of the area.

The request by the City of Gillette does deserve serious attention. It is hope that the Wyoming Business Council look favorably upon their request.

Ollowin

D.G. Reardon CCEDC Board President


February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

### Refer to: City of Gillette Grant Request for Downtown Public Plaza

Dear Board Members,

Gillette Brewing Company has been and remains an active and involved participant in the revitalization effort for Gillette's downtown area. We have worked with the City and other business colleagues since before our inception back in November of 2012 to help downtown.

The Third Street Plaza proposal is a project that I believe will attract people to come to and carry out business in downtown Gillette. Its attractive layout, location and focus by the City to build it make it a benefit for everyone involved.

The Third Street Plaza would act like a magnet drawing people and shoppers downtown. There is a host of events that could take place on the plaza including a Saturday market, sales events by Gillette Ave. merchants and holiday celebrations to name a few. Such gatherings help to pull people downtown which benefits both the downtown merchants as well as the public. As a downtown business owner, this is something we strive for and anything that helps bolster that is welcome.

Gillette's City Council has approved a \$536,715 match to this proposal. The City and the downtown business community want to continue to build on their economic health. I believe the benefits of the Third Street Plaza will help strengthen that and endure through the next generation.

I urge the Wyoming Business Council to support the City of Gillette proposal. I also want to thank each of you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gillette Brewing Company

Karl DeCock

www.gillettebrewingcompany.com



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### Refer to: City of Gillette Grant Request for Downtown Public Plaza

Dear Board Members,

CTA has been and remains an active and involved participant in the revitalization effort for Gillette's downtown area. We have worked with the City and other business colleagues for almost 3 years to help downtown become more economically vibrant and sustainable.

The Third Street Plaza proposal is a project that I believe will attract people to come to and carry out husiness in downtown Gillette. Its attractive layout, location and focus by the Ciry to build it make for a win-win across the board.

The Third Street Plaza would act like a magnet drawing people and shoppers downtown. There is a host of events that could take place on the plaza including a Saturday market, sales events by Gillette Ave. merchants and holiday celebrations to name a few. Such gatherings help to pull people downtown which benefits both the downtown merchants as well as the public.

Gillette's City Council has approved a \$536,715 match to this proposal. The City and the downtown business community want to continue to build on their economic health. I believe the benefits of the Third Street Plaza will help strengthen that and endure through the next generation.

I urge the Wyoming Business Council to support the City of Gillette proposal. I also want to thank each of you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CTA ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS

cc CTA File -

C\Documents and Senings\Jaul/(Deskiop\3rd Smot Plans Lenner, CTA does

1635 Reata Drive Gillette, WY 82718

\_m-plex@vcn.com www.cam-plex.com



Phone 307-682-0552 Fax 307-682-8418 Tickets 307-682-8802

February 19, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Members 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Funding Proposal by City of Gillette for Public Plaza

Dear Wyoming Business Council Members,

Cam-Plex Multi-Events Center staff is excited to learn that the City of Gillette is proposing to build a public plaza along Third Street from Gillette Avenue to Carey Avenue. The desire by the City and the downtown business community to construct the Third Street Plaza is another step in the effort to revitalize our downtown.

The City of Gillette has worked with downtown merchants on the Gillette Avenue Urban Design Plan and the engineering to rebuild Gillette Avenue. Construction is to begin this spring. The commitment by the City towards downtown revitalization will not only enable 1,030 current jobs to remain downtown but will also spur new business activity in the core of our community.

The City of Gillette is providing \$536,715 as its match to the \$500,000 it is requesting from the Wyoming Business Council. This demonstrates our community's willingness to make yet another investment toward downtown revitalization.

Cam-Plex staff supports the proposal by the City of Gillette. We see opportunities for Cam-Plex to use the Third Street Plaza as a way to market events such as musicals, concerts, trade shows, rodeos and the County Fair. Our marketing department, as well as myself are excited to have yet another potential vehicle for marketing Cam-Plex activities. When completed, this project will help the capacity of our community to create economic partnerships which will in turn help people and families thrive.

I want to encourage each of you as Wyoming Business Council members to look favorably upon this request by the City of Gillette as the project will truly enhance our community.

Sincerely,

Dan Barks General Manager



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1 Education Specialists P.O. Box 335 – 11 Adaville Drive Diamondville, WY 83116 Phone: 307-877-9095 Fax: 307-877-9638

February 26, 2014

Wyoming Business Council:

Re: City of Kemmerer Grant request

Lincoln County School District #1 is in full support of the city's request for grant funds to make Improvements on Canyon Road and the access roadways to the new Ranger Stadium. Honestly, we haven't named the stadium yet but for the purpose of this letter we will call it the Ranger Stadium. Our community and patrons are excited to have the means to build a new venue for our school sports and community activities.

The city has been very supportive in our endeavor to change the location of our field in an effort to bring more amenities to our community to entice people to choose Kemmerer as their home. We currently have many workers who live elsewhere and this is one strategy out of many to support growth in our community.

The ability for Wyoming Business Council to be a supportive part of that growth by contributing grant dollars is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter of support to the Wyoming Business Council on behalf of the City of Kemmerer.

Sincerely,

Munich Provest

Teresa L. Chaulk Superintendent of Schools

Don Lamborn Board Chairman



The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Ment and Need Scholarships to Wyoming students atlanding the University of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges. Every Wyoming student who meets the ment requirements can earn a Hathaway Ment Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.

#### CREATING A PROMISING FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION

GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL CHEYENNE, WY 12002

# Office of the Governor

September 30, 2013

Dear Friend,

Wyoming has strong ties to the Olympics. In 2012, I was proud to tout the fact that we had the most Olympians per capita in the nation. The two athletes who went to London were part of the Wyoming tradition of producing world caliber athletes for both the summer and winter games.

I am excited about a plan from the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club and Rob Rosser, US Biathlon Paralympic Coach, Army veteran and former Olympian. This group is hoping to create an elite facility in Casper that host biathletes year-round and provide an amazing resource for Wyoming citizens. This facility could someday be home to an official Olympic Training Site – a distinction that would help our future Olympians and make us even prouder to live here in Wyoming.

Sincerely,

All Matthew H. Mead

Governor

MHM:mdm





### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE NRA

#### GRANT COMMITTEE

Re: Range Grant Application by the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

This letter is being submitted to you by the Board of Directors of the Casper Shooters Club which operates the Stuckenhoff Shooters Complex in Casper, Wyoming.

The Board is well aware of the efforts of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club over the past few years to build a biathlon shooting facility and related ski trails on Casper Mountain in order to further the sport of Nordic skiing and marksmanship. The Board is in full support of this endeavor as it will enhance the hooting opportunities in our area for individuals of all ages in our community.

This program will be a growth opportunity for our youth who use our shooting facility to further their marksmanship skills by engaging in the sport of biathlon, and will further allow skiers to become more involved in the shooting sports. The Board believes that the biathlon facility will be a natural fit for our 4-H and Boy Scout shooters to move forward in the shooting sports, especially in light of the close proximity of Casper Mountain and the continued availability of the Stuckenhoff Shooters Complex for the training opportunities that we offer.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, in order to move forward with the construction of the biathlon range, needs to obtain professional design and engineering services for which it has applied for grant assistance from the Friends of the NRA. The Board of Directors of the Casper Shooters Club is in full support of this grant application and recommends that it be approved.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned should you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Sincerely,

Conrad Archibeque 307-267-4650 President February 2014 Wyoming Business Council

#### Dear Business Council,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to you to support The Casper Biathlon Club in its continuing development of a World Class facility. This facility would be a tremendous asset for not only the local scene but would put Wyoming on the international map in the Biathlon/Cross Country ski community. In addition, this would be a very positive example of the active, healthy outdoor lifestyle that "is" Wyoming.

I have had the good fortune to have competed and coached in this arena for over one half of my life. This has taken me all over the northern hemisphere for competitions and all over the world for educational and training opportunities. I will tell you that Wyoming is poised to enter this arena with this facility. Not only would this allow training and competition but also it will serve as a high altitude-training laboratory for world-class athletes, "regular" skiers and lay people who live and work in an altitudeimpacted environment.

The service that this can provide our young people goes beyond the athletic world, as it will allow them an avenue that can teach and measure performance. Beyond the classroom and the lab, this facility can offer all levels of educational pursuit a place for measured learning through actual application. As in many such facilities world wide, a world class training facility is directly linked to a world-class research facility in the field of work physiology. What a feather in our state's hat!

Finally, and most importantly, this facility can be a great resource and provide an outstanding service for our young people. In over forty years in the educational/coaching arena I have seen the direct benefits that a facility like this can bring them. Like "The Center of Excellence" in Park City, Wyoming can have its own center of excellence with such a facility. There is no doubt that the Olympic Games and the USSA's Center of Excellence have provided the young people of Utah not only world class facilities but also an avenue for the pursuit of both athletic and personal improvement. So it will be with this facility for our young people.

Please call on me if I can be of any further assistance. I eagerly look forward to this process going forward and stand ready to help in any way. Thank you for your consideration of my support for this project.

#### Wishing you well,

Bob Matson/teacher retired and XC ski coach Natrona County School District

#### Bill McDowell Chairman, Natrona County Commissioners

#### Mr. McDowell,

Greetings! I wanted to get you a quick note of thanks for allowing Rob and Cathy Rosser time at your meeting Tuesday to present the plans for a future Biathlon Range on Casper Mountain. I am a coach for our Casper Special Olympics downhill team, our State competition is in Jackson this week, I will miss the meeting!

Mr. McDowell, this letter is in support of the proposed Biathlon range on Casper Mountain. My Daughter Rylie is a member of the Casper Mountain Biathlon club "Elite" team. Rylie has competed in many different venues across the country most recently in Presque Isle Maine, and West Yellowstone Montana. Rylie competed in the Team USA junior Biathlon trials in Presque Isle. These ranges are both outside small communities with limited hotel and restaurant's . Both are always bustling with athletes, races, clinics classes, etc.., these facilities are a magnet for outdoor enthusiast, and a unique magnet at that.

It is amazing how many people want to get involved and say "I did a biathlon this weekend". We are constantly answering questions to other families how to get involved. Biathlon mixes both shooting and guns safely, with exercise and sports (both strong in Casper). Mr. Rob Rosser and our Casper Mountain Biathlon club has built from scratch the most competitive young biathlon team in America, without even having a local range to shoot at (we ski on the Nordic Trails, and shoot at the county range) Mr. McDowell, the proposed range on our Mountain would not only bring outdoor enthusiast into our community on a regular basis, but also give our current population and entirely unique way to enjoy our great county. It also has to be noted the outstanding opportunity we have, as so much of the pre planning, and preparation for a safe venue is done.

I wanted to keep this short, I have lived in Casper all my life, my parents live here, my in laws live here, and our roots run very deep in Casper. We ski, hunt, shoot, compete, play, and raise our kids here. I have a special needs daughter who competes in all Special Olympic events, and another daughter ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the sate varsity for Nordic, and a top female Biathlete in the country. Rylie, my 14 year old Biathlete would be more than happy to come to you to explain Biathlon, how it works, what is like to compete and ski into a range at heart rate as well as the benefits of a world calls range. Please let me know if this would be something that would help, she is the expert!

My cell is 307-259-2873.

Thank you! Respectfully Submitted, Jeff Garner

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kathy Blair <kblair@windcitypt.com> Monday, February 03, 2014 9:27 PM Bill McDowell biathlon

#### Bill,

Hey there stranger. I just wanted to offer my support for the biathlon grant that will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting. I will be unable to attend in person, but think that it would be another asset to the amazing opportunities our mountain and county offers. I remember early discussions of this about 10 years ago when I skied much more than I currently do. I have now returned more to skiing and have been enjoying biathlon training and my kids are interested in doing it in a few years. Both are avid skiers and I am excited about a new opportunity they may have. Recreation opportunities was the main reason I stayed in Casper 20 years ago and it is a very strong reason that keeps me and my family grounded here. Every year we have seen more groups doing more things to engage the community in outdoor activities. A weekend does not go by that you can not do a race or event. The more our community can do to support events and groups, the more opportunities our children will have to expand their horizons. I thank you for your time and support of this great venture.

Regards, Dr. Kathy Blair, PT, DPT, OCS Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist, Certified Vestibular Therapist

'rom:Colby Drechsel <colbydrechsel@yahoo.com>sent:Monday, February 03, 2014 3:02 PMTo:Bill McDowellSubject:Casper Mtn Biathlon range

Dear Mr. Chairman McDowell,

I would like to share my support of the Casper Mountain Biathlon range and support for Rob Rosser and his agenda. I have been a member of the Casper community now for nearly 19 years. Having sponsored economic growth through various employment opportunities or contributing to the community through voluntary activities, I would like to suggest that the County Commissioners make effort to see Mr. Rosser's agenda to full completion.

Casper is blessed to have a former Olympian in its presence and one that not only calls it home but is willing to make a vested interest in this community through the love of his sport. I submit these remarks in lieu of my attendance tomorrow as I am out of town on business. I have taken up the sport as biathlon at the age of 42 (last year) and I love it.

Please accept my comments with sincerity,

Colby Drechsel 1871 Begonia Street Casper, WY 82604

From: Sent: To: Subject: Charlotte Gruner <cmgruner@vcn.com> Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:56 AM Bill McDowell Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue

Dear Mr. McDowell:

I wish to express my support for the proposed Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue. I believe that the venue would not only be an outstanding addition to the outdoor recreation opportunities for Casper residents yearround, but it would also attract athletes and their families to Casper to train and participate in races, boosting local economy. The sport of biathlon is growing and Casper is ideally suited to become a hub for the sport for all ages and abilities.

My daughter has been a member of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club for almost 3-years now. We are very lucky to have a local coach as qualified as Rob Rosser to work with our athletes. Even without a biathlon range available on Casper Mountain, Rob has a steady stream of athletes that come to Casper to train with him. My daughter has gotten the opportunity to train along side elite Olympic hopefuls as well as elite Paralympians, one of whom was recently chosen for the Paralympic team for biathlon for the Sochi Olympics. It is inspiring to her to see how hard these athletes work to achieve their goals.

As my family has been exposed to the sport of biathlon, we are convinced it is a sport that Casper will embrace. Casper has a large, active population of nordic skiers of all ages as well as a large population that participates in shooting sports. Biathlon is a natural extension of these two sports.

I urge you to support the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue. I believe it would be a great asset to the community and contribute to Casper's reputation as the "Outdoor Capital of Wyoming."

Sincerely,

**Charlotte Gruner** 

3611 Ridgecrest

Casper, WY 82604

'rom: Sent: To: Subject: DB Rea <dbrea@tribcsp.com> Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:38 AM Bill McDowell please support the biathlon range

Dear Mr. McDowell-

I am in support of the new biathlon range to be built on Casper Mountain. I hope that the County Commission will also support the project in its hearing this afternoon (Tuesday, February 4, 2014).

Thank you-

Daniel B. Rea

Bill McDowell Chairman, Natrona County Commission

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

My wife and I own Ragged Edge Sports in Casper. We opened the store seven years ago in part to give back to the community some of the outdoor experiences we shared as a family raising children in the Casper area. Natrona County is rich in amazing outdoor activities for those willing to brave the elements and embrace the variety of things to do year-round. We have water sports, incredible hunting and fishing, camping, hiking, and we have Casper Mountain.

Casper Mountain has been the base for mountain bike races, national-level road cycling events, and every kind of outdoor race or activity you could name. The only thing we lack to make Natrona County a <u>destination</u> for higher level races and activities are sound facilities to deal with basic needs of the attendees, coaches, family members, spectators, etc. The proposal to submit a BRC community Enhancement Grant could not be more timely or significant due to the profound impact this project will surely have in the community.

I have known Rob Rosser for many years and fully support his and Cathy's efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper. Rob is an amazing coach and mentor easily demonstrated by the success he has had with the many youth and adult athletes under his tutelage. He is driven and passionate and able to ignite that passion in those he deals with. Biathlon is an amazing sport that can benefit so many people, from the adolescent to the elite athlete; and having this venue would give many people the opportunity to experience something they would otherwise never even be aware exists.

Obviously, my store would directly benefit from this venture, but the benefits to the community far outweigh any increase in revenue this would generate for the individual retailers. This venue will undoubtedly draw hundreds of athletes, support staff, and family members to the area. They will spend money here, which will then turn over several times and benefit every local citizen. The ultimate benefit would be when some of those people decide to bring their families here and settle in Natrona County permanently. As you are well aware, a diversified economy is more stable than one primarily dependent on minerals. We must take advantage of opportunities to bring other revenue sources into play. The initial expenditure is significant, but there is no doubt that Natrona county is perfectly situated to host national-level, if not world-class, events on Casper Mountain. This venue will be one more reason for people to come to Natrona County, and realize that this is not only a good place to visit, but also to live and raise a family.

In conclusion, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our business as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

Sincerely,

Roy Buck, Owner Ragged Edge Sports 307-237-5560



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RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain

To whom it may concern,

As Director of Athlete Development for the US Biathlon, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for 30 point biathlon range at Casper Mountain. Robert Rosser, the engine behind the project, is a former U.S. team Olympian and World Cup competitor, and a very experienced biathlon marksmanship coach. He has worked closely with high school aged biathletes in the Casper area of the past 5 years, and he is currently the Assistant National Team Coach for the US Paralympic Biathlon Team. His talents and experience are the rare mix that is required to develop young biathletes. The trails and biathlon range area of Casper Mountain are an ideal location for training, competition, and for promoting sport for youth.

Casper Mountain is an ideal setting because there is room for a 30 point range, the ski trails are world class, there is snow on the ground 5+ months of the year. The venue is very close to the population center of Casper, and would be easily accessible for racing and training camps for competitors in biathlon clubs in Lander, Pinedale, Jackson, Cody and Laramie.

Over the last four years the interest in blathlon in the Casper area has greatly increased. With easy access to the blathlon venue at Casper Mountain, and excellent coaching available with Rob Rosser and additional volunteer coaches, we envision a continued growth of the youth blathlon program. The appeal of blathlon to in a health conscious age is easy to see- parents want their kids being outside and being active, and kids love to shoot.

In addition to bringing youth to train and compete at Casper Mountain, the area is already been host to a number of Paralympic training camps under the coaching of Rob Rosser. Rob has been working with a number of incredible "sit ski" athletes who are all wounded

Spontored By::



veterans who have become sit ski biathletes after recovering from their injuries. Casper Mountain has a range of terrain that is appropriate for sit ski athletes.

Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is seeking funds to pay for the design and engineering costs for developing a venue capable of hosting national and international competitions and training camps. A 30- point range, which would meet international standards, is a large project and requires proper planning before the bulldozers start their work.

As Director of Athlete Development at the US Biathlon Association, I give Robert Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club my strongest recommendation and I hope you will be able to support their funding request for their Range Development Grant.

Please feel free to call (952-237-0765) or email (<u>mnbiathlon@aol.com</u>) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Job Badrank

Piotr Bednarski Directory of Athlete Development US Biathlon Association 4845 Emerson Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55419

952/237-0765, mnbiathlon@aol.com

#### VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD NATIONAL GUARD BIATHLON OFFICE 113 ETHAN ALLEN ROAD JERICHO, VERMONT 05465-9706

VT-PTS-BI

12 February 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Use of Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (CMBC) facility for the National Guard

 I am the National Guard Biathlon Director writing this memorandum in support for Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (CMBC) project.

The National Guard Biathlon Office has been looking for a quality biathlon venue in the western United States with reliable early snow and high altitude for many years. The site on Casper Mountain is a perfect match for our needs.

3. Upon completion of phase 1 of their Biathlon Venue project National Guard Biathlon Office will use the venue as it's Western Regional site to host annual events and training camps such as our Western Regional event. This event which typically has about 100 soldier/athletes is used to determine who will qualify for National Guard Biathlon Championships, our largest Biathlon event in the country.

4. I reiterate my support CMBC in their venue project.

5. POC is the undersigned at #802-899-7120 or at christopher.t.ruggerio.mil@mail.mil

CHRISTOPHER T. RUGGERIO MAJ, IN NG Biathlon Coordinator

CONTROL MODELS Standards - Constant (Standard



February 19, 2014

RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain Biathlon Club

To whom it concerns,

As the High Performance Director for U.S. Paralympic Nordic Skiing, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for building a biathlon range at Casper Mountain, which will include a full adaptive biathlon range for our Paralympic Biathlon athletes.

This project is led by Olympian and World Cup Biathlon competitor, Robert Rosser who is a resident of Casper, who coaches athletes in the area, supports the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, and serves as the Development & World Cup Coach for our U.S. Paralympic program.

Casper has been host to two of our High Performance Camps for our U.S. Paralympic Nordic program so far, but while the community is very supportive, and the trail system and training is exceptional, we really need a World Class range to be able to prepare our civilian, active military, and veteran athletes for winning World Cup, World Championship and Paralympic competitions.

My program works very closely with the U.S. Biathlon Association, including scheduling our camps at the same location so that our programs can work together on the range, learn from and inspire each another. I am confident the USBA would be thrilled to have a 30 point shooting range for training camps and events, for which U.S. Paralympics would absolutely look to join.

I fully support the efforts of Robert Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club in their quest to build a world class biathlon shooting range on the Casper Mountain Ski Trails.

Feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or need more information.

John Farra High Performance Director, Nordic Skiing for U.S. Paralympics Sincerely,

john.farra@usoc.org 719-351-1594



## Economic Development

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Oint Powers Board 300 South Wolcont Sults 300 - Carper Wyoening 82601 + (307) 377-7011 + (800) 634-5012 + Fax (307) 577-7014

February 20, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors:

It is the board's pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The board fully supports the efforts by Casper Mountain Biathlon Club and Natrona County Parks to establish a world-class biathlon venue and program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area. Skiing and shooting are two of Wyoming's most popular sports. Biathlon is a natural fit for the Wyoming culture.
- We are excited to see the growth of biathlon in Casper. The construction
  of a venue is a natural outgrowth of the existing thriving Nordic ski and
  biathlon programs.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.

Not only would a Biathlon Venue be a wonderful asset for the community, it will also have direct benefits for Wyoming's economy.

- This caliber of Biathlon Venue will establish Casper as a destination for Biathlon and Nordic ski competitions and training. This venue will attract athletes from all over the country and internationally to visit Casper for events, training camps and races.
- The biathion venue and programs will diversify the local economy by directly strengthening the Recreation and Tourism sector.
- This multi-use, year round facility will expand recreation opportunities and related economic benefit by serving as a venue for running, mountain biking, adventure races and more in addition to the Nordic Ski and Biathlon opportunities.
- The Casper Mountain Biathlon Team and the Wyoming National Guard Biathlon Team would have a home training site and would no longer have to travel outside the state for quality training, thus keeping their dollars in our local economy as opposed to spending outside the state in Colorado or Montana.
- Increased business in Nordic skiing and outdoor gear for youth and adults.

 Casper's convenient location on I-25, quality airport, lodging, food and entertainment in addition to the short distance to the proposed venue make it an ideal location for building such a venue. Casper Mountain's thriving Nordic and Biathlon programs, ideal elevation and consistent snow make it an ideal location for a successful biathlon venue.

In conclusion, this venue will strengthen Wyoming's appeal to visitors, future residents, businesses, professionals, students and athletes by showcasing what the state has to offer. Wyoming is becoming a state that is attracting and retaining new generations of workers with job growth and cities that support a healthy lifestyle; the biathlon venue is directly in line with this trend. Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to the area economy as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

Sincerely,

march Reggers

Mark Pepper EDJPB Chair

## CIS COMPRESSION LEASING SERVICES, INC.

To: Wyoming Business Council and the State Loan and Investment Board From: Daron Gruner, Chief Engineer and 50% Owner Date: 2/21/2014 Subject: Proposed Biathlon Facility on Casper Mountain

#### Greetings,

Compression Leasing Services would like to speak in support of, and provide significant effort towards the construction of a Biathlon facility on Casper Mountain. Our company provides significant assistance to many charitable activities through cash and in-kind services. In the past we have assisted such organizations as the Casper Rotary Club (we designed and built the device that drops the ducks for their Duck Derby), Casper Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps (we built and supplied various components for their traveling food truck), the Fat Fish racing team, its events, and associated CAMBYR team, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (various donations), injured veterans organizations, (we have provided boating opportunities at Alcova Lake to groups of them), as well as support for a host of other local activities and organizations. We believe very strongly that with the effort and perseverance that Wyoming people are capable of, a world class biathlon facility can be built, and become the training home to internationally competitive biathlon and Paralympic athletes. Historically, the facilities on Casper Mountain have steadily expanded and improved though the constant effort of dedicated individuals and organizations. I believe this project will succeed in a similar fashion. Unfortunately, there is a lot of dirt that needs to be moved to get this project off of the ground so that progress can be made on the other needed items. I fully support and would encourage your support of this effort.

Our company has been built on a similar dedication and perseverance. This company is owned equally by me and my brother Ben Gruner, both raised in Wyoming and educated at UW. We decided to build a compressor company to supply compressors, parts, and service within the Rocky Mountains, and to customers worldwide. We have supplied compressors to Russia, Iceland, Costa Rica, Canada, Belgium, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, and many other countries for both onshore and offshore use. So it is with some experience and confidence that I can say it is quite possible for people within Wyoming to have a much larger impact on the world than might be expected in any endeavor that we as Wyoming people set our mind to.

For the Biathlon facility, Compression Leasing Services plans to extend cash and in kind services exceeding \$20,000 in value including steel fabrication of portions of the target enclosures. We are extremely experienced in building durable steel structures for oilfield use, with care towards both strength and ascetic appearance. We buy, and build with steel on a daily basis and have welders certified for various US and International requirements. In addition we have draftsmen and engineers experienced with surveying, designing in 2D and 3D, and in topographic drawings for whatever portions of this project may be required. We also own a backhoe, small dump truck for small on site work, various generators and portable fuel tanks, and of course compressors as needed for construction. We do not expect to nor anticipate receiving any money from any source for our efforts on this project, so this is not intended to be of commercial interest for our company.

Thank you and if you have any questions please let me know at 307-265-3242 or on my cell phone at 307-262-1480.

Thanks, the

Daron Gruner Compression Leasing Services, Inc.

Brubaker Construction, Inc. 1911 South Cedar, Casper ,WY 82601

February 23, 2014

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir,

During the past 20 years Brubaker Construction has been a community participant in the development of Nordic skiing and the sport of Biathlon. Brubaker Construction has served as a central organizer for volunteers to conduct in kind work in developing the Nordic Ski Area on Casper Mountain. The areas in which this organizational work was completed are: building and expanding the Nordic trail system to approximately 40 Kilometers. Building a million dollar Nordic lodge. Designing and building a \$28,000.00 timing building, housing computers capable of timing Nordic races to 100th of a second. Designing and building a \$10,000.00 two story storage facility, housing biathlon equipment, race day trail marking accoutrements to include banners. Hags, V-boards, fencing, and skis for the elementary school Learn To Ski programs.

In the construction of the above facilities Brubaker Construction served as the primary contact to obtain volunteers to work on these projects. These facilities were primarily funded through various county grants. The grants required community in kind work to match the grant money designated for materials. For successful completion of each project an organized effort to focus volunteer workers was necessary. Brubaker Construction acted as facilitator to obtain the volunteers and to supervise the efforts to complete the work.

Brubaker Construction served as the general contractor on these volunteer projects. The projects required building permits, the rental of equipment, and the over sight of the projects through coordination with county building inspectors and sub contractors in the electrical and plumbing trades. Completion of facilities was expedited through donated Brubaker Construction equipment such as concrete forms, power tools, ski steer loader, heaters, insulating blankets, etc. These were offered pro bono.

Brubaker Construction stands ready to act in a similar way to complete the in kind work and project management being proposed for the new Biathlon facility.

Sincerely. Anabaka

Harry 17. Brubaker President Brubaker Construction, Inc. 1-307-262-6567

February 23, 2014

RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain

To whom it may concern,

As a US Olympian in Biathlon, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for 30 point biathlon range at Casper Mountain. Casper Mountain is an ideal setting because there is room for a 30 point range, the ski trails are world class, and there is snow on the ground 5+ months of the year. The venue is very close to the population center of Casper, and would be easily accessible for racing and training camps for competitors across the state.

In recent years, interest in biathlon in the Casper area has greatly increased through the efforts of Rob Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club. Both Youth and Paralympic programs already exist, and would have the potential to grow exponentially with a range close by. Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is seeking funds to pay for the initial construction costs to develop a venue capable of hosting national and international competitions and training camps.

As an Olympian, coach, and Chair of the USOC's Athlete's Advisory Committee, I want to make my complete support for the project absolutely clear. A biathlon range on Casper Mountain would open up so many opportunities to people across the state. Although I have retired from international competition, I still enjoy biathlon racing, and currently have to travel to Colorado to race. Given the culture of outdoor recreation and hunting in our state, I have long been amazed that we do not have more top level biathletes emerging from our youth. This range would give youth in our state the opportunity to excel at Europe's most popular winter sport, and consequently open doors for them in Wyoming, the nation, and the world.

Sincerely,

Sarah Konrad 2006 Olympian Chair, US Athlete's Advisory Council Board Director, US Biathlon Association 64 Corthell Rd Laramie, WY 82070 February 24, 2014

To: Wyoming Business Council

Re: Biathlon proposal

This letter is written in complete support of any further development of the local biathlon range and trail system on Casper Mountain.

The biathlon range will enhance the Nordic Ski Trail System that has already been developed and will be an important part of the future plan for Casper Mountain. Interest in the biathlon will come not only from the local community but also from the entire state and nation. It will expand year around recreational opportunities for all ages.

Please give this project careful attention.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Miller, Teacher /Coach



543 SOUTH CENTER / CASPER / WYOMING / 82601 / 307-266-1136 / FAX 307-268-8463

February 24, 2014:

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Members of the Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in support of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club's grant request for developing a world class biathlon facility. I have been in the outdoor recreation business for over 40 years in Casper and would love to see this facility developed. Of course, this would benefit my business in a limited way but, to a much greater extent, it would greatly benefit all of Central Wyoming for the following reasons.

- The promise of early snow, ideal training altitude and excellent trails will attract athletes from throughout North America. These athletes will use the airport, restaurants and lodging facilities in Casper. Already, with just a make shift facility, athletes are coming to Casper Mountain to train. Word is out and a complete facility is already highly anticipated.
- 2. The facility and trails will be multi-use and will enhance year round recreational opportunities for trail running and mtn biking along with summer and winter biathlon. This facility will also be a very desirable venue to host a whole variety of outdoor competitions in any of these disciplines. Each of these activities will only add to the economic impact mentioned above.
- Every user of this facility will leave with a positive impression of Wyoming and a desire to return to visit or live.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is uniquely qualified to develop this project. President and head coach Rob Rosser has international biathlon experience as a world class athlete and coach. His work with Paralympic athletes and his years of international biathlon competition and coaching have allowed him to create a vast amount of knowledge, contacts and resources. Rob is not a homogrown fellow learning his way. He chose to come to Casper because he recognized the potential for a world class biathlon program in Wyoming. He picked Casper Mountain for its ideal location with regards to weather, elevation, access and topography. He knows what he is doing and will use the same determination, skill and attitude that won him several National Biathlon Championships to make this facility and program successful.

I would ask you to support this program to whatever extend possible.

Sincerely,

Bruce Lamberson Pres. Mountain Sports



Kristin Underwood 701 Carriage Lane Casper, WY 82601

2-25-2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

I have known Rob and Cathy Rosser for the past 2 years and fully support their efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper. They have taken the time to teach my students a skill that is growing in popularity. It also became an interest of my student's to watch biathlon on the Olympics this year. My PE club has been able to take advantage of this program and learn how to cross-country ski but also how to use electronic guns and shoot at targets. My club the first year had about 8 students, this year we had about 24 as well as parents and siblings join. This community is winter for many more months and it is a goal of mine to introduce all types of activities that children can participate in as well as maybe even grow into a serious sport as they get older. This type of activity can be done by just about any age as well as developmental and physical ability.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area.
- I am excited to see the sport of biathlon growing in Casper.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.
- Biathlon is appealing to many in Wyoming because of the combination of shooting and skiing that are already individually popular in our area

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Verius will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our youth and families of our school, but I see this program growing into the schools as a possible school program in the future.

Sincerely,

Kristin Underwood Physical Educator/Coordinator Natrona County School District Adam Leiferman 8214 Speas Rd Casper, WY 82604

February 26, 2014

Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1046 Lemmers Rd. Casper, WY 82601

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

As a representative of the Fat Fish Mountain Bike Racing Team I am excited about the expansion of the trails for mountain biking on Casper Mountain. I also believe the Biathlon Venue will provide an excellent location for hosting summer mountain bike races. The Fat Fish membership has grown greatly in the 5 years of our existence. We currently host a summer ride and race series that attracts close to 100 racers for each event.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area!

Sincerely,

Adam Leiferman President of Fat Fish Racing

# KEITH P. TYLER ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

421 South Center Street, Suite 201 P. O. Box 2671 Casper, Wyoming 82602 (307) 266-0129 fax (307) 235-9154 email: keithpt@earthlink.net

February 27, 2014

Mr. Robert Rosser, President Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1255 Crimson Dawn Road Casper, Wyoming 82601

#### Re: Challenge Grant

Dear Sirs:

Please let this letter serve as my pledge to donate up to \$100,000.00 in the form of a challenge grant. The purpose of the donation is to assist in funding the Phase I development work for the Biathlon Range. The challenge would be to raise an additional \$200,000.00 in cash contributions. This pledge is also subject to an award of the Community Grant that has been applied for in the amount of \$500,000.00, and an additional grant from the Natrona County Recreational Mill Levy Joint Power's Board for the project in the amount of at least \$150,000.00. This pledge is good until December 31, 2014. I wish you the best of luck in raising the balance of the funds and look forward to making my contribution.

Sincerely. **TYLER** KEITH P

KPT/vlk



### **Casper Area Convention & Visitors Bureau**

NATRONA COUNTY TRAVEL & TOURISM COUNCIL

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street Chayenne, WY 82002

RE: Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Natrona County Travel & Tourism Council and the Casper Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, I would like to offer this tetter of support for the BRC Community enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The Casper Area Convention and Visitors Bureau is the marketing arm of the Natrona County Travel and Tourism Council, a joint powers board, whose mission is to enhance the economic base of Natrona County through tourism. Its primary objective is to encourage more and longer visitor stays through marketing programs aimed at the convention/meeting, individual, motor coach and special events markets.

We fully support the efforts by Casper Mountain Blathlon Club and Natrona County Parks to establish a world-class blathlon venue and program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area. Skiing and shooting are two of Wyoming's most popular sports. Biathlon is a natural fit for the Wyoming culture.
- We are excited to see the growth of biathlon in Casper. The construction of a venue is a
  natural outgrowth of the existing thriving Nordic ski and biathlon programs.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.

Not only would a Biathlon Venue be a wonderful asset for the community, it will also have direct benefits for Wyoming's economy.

- This caliber of Blathlon Venue will establish Casper as a destination for Blathlon and Nordic ski competitions and training. This venue will attract athletes from all over the country and internationally to visit Casper for events, training camps and races.
- The biathlon venue and programs will diversify the local economy by directly strengthening the Recreation and Tourism sector.
- This multi-use, year round facility will expand recreation opportunities and related economic benefit by serving as a venue for running, mountain biking, adventure races and more in addition to the Nordic Ski and Biathlon opportunities.
- The Casper Mountain Biathlon Team and the Wyoming National Guard Biathlon Team would have a home training site and would no longer have to travel outside the state for quality training, thus keeping their dollars in our local economy as opposed to spending outside the state in Colorado or Montana.

139 West 2nd St. Suite 1B Casper, WY 82601 Phone: 307-234-5362 Fax: 307-261-9928

Wyoming Business Council February 27, 2014 Page 2

- Increased business in Nordic skiing and outdoor gear for youth and adults
- Casper's convenient location on I-25, quality airport, lodging, food and entertainment in addition to the short distance to the proposed venue make it an ideal location for building such a venue. Casper Mountain's thriving Nordic and Biathlon programs, ideal elevation and consistent snow make it an ideal location for a successful biathlon venue.

In conclusion, this venue will strengthen Wyoming's appeal to visitors, future residents, businesses, professionals, students and athletes by showcasing what the state has to offer. Wyoming is becoming a state that is attracting and retaining new generations of workers with job growth and cities that support a healthy lifestyle; the biathlon venue is directly in line with this trend. Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our economy as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

The CACVB has and will continue to promote travel into Natrona County as a destination and travel hub and we look forward to continuing our relationship with the C/NCIA in this area. Please contact me if our office can assist your evaluation process in any way.

Sincerely,

Que M.MC

Aaron M. McCreight, CDME CEO

AMM:kjh

34 Meadow Ln. Evansville, WY 82636

Friday, February 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my personal and professional support for the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

I started Nordic skiing while attending school in the Natrona County School District. Harry Brubaker was the beginning skier instructor for the high school ski team; I have known him, now, since 1998. Shortly after beginning the sport of Nordic skiing, I learned about the sport of biathlon and was immediately excited about the sport. In college, at the University of Wyoming, I continued competitive Nordic skiing. One of the UW coaches is a former biathlete and there are several US national/Olympic caliber skiers and biathletes who supported the UW team. I continued learning about biathlon and continued to be excited about the sport. After graduation I joined the Wyoming Army National Guard. After joining the National Guard I learned there is a National Guard circuit for biathlon and joined the Wyoming Guard team. This is my third season participating in and coaching Guard biathlon.

I am excited about having a world-class biathlon venue in Wyoming and believe Casper Mountain is a perfect spot for such a venue.

Personally, it would allow me to practice and hone my skills. As a shooter, it would allow me to have access to a range designed for the kind of shooting unique to biathlon. As an athlete, it would benefit me to have access to year-round training facilities.

Professionally, it would allow the Wyoming National Guard to have a training site which is centralized in the state. Currently, there are biathlon venues in Montana, Utah, and Colorado. While these venues are relatively close to their Wyoming border, it is logistically prohibitive to practice as a team when travel across the state is required for some team members. A training site on Casper Mountain would allow the entire team to participate in training events with minimal travel required for all members of the team.

The economic benefit for the Wyoming community would be significant. The Casper area has all the requirements for a national-scale event including plentiful lodging and an International airport. Casper Mountain provides an ideal location for national-scale ski events due to an elevation ideal for endurance competition, terrain varied enough to accommodate competitions ranging from novice to advanced, and proximity to lodging and transportation infrastructure. Climate and

a strong local skiing and biathlon community also contribute to the appeal of bringing competition to Wyoming.

The National Guard Biathlon office is always considering new venues for its four annual competitions. The "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club would be taken into consideration for two of these four events; the Western Regional and National competition. These two competitions can bring up to fifty and two hundred biathletes, respectively. The coaching and support staff required for these competitions can double those numbers. I have had conversations, and know Mr. Rosser has had conversations, with personnel in the National Guard Biathlon office about the possibility of a world-class biathlon venue in Casper as well as the logistics of bringing such a large contingent to Casper. The likelihood of at least the Western Regional competition coming to Wyoming is high, based on the Casper Mountain venue coming to a reality.

Again, I extend my personal and professional support for the "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue." If you wish to contact me, I can be contacted via email at kenneth.e.miech.mil@mail.mil. Thank you for your time and I look forward to the completion of this project.

Sincerely,

Benneth Miede

Kenneth Miech 2LT, MS WYARNG Biathlon

Friday, February 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Casper Nordic Club fully supports the BBC Community Enhancement projects "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The Casper Nordic Club shares the love and excitement of skiing with the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

We applaud Harry Brubaker and Rob Rosser for their past and present dedication and nowledge in the efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area.
- Biathlon is a natural outgrowth of the thriving Nordic Community in Natrona County.
- We are excited to see the sport of biathlon growing in Casper, Wyoming.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.
- Biathlon is appealing to many in Wyoming because of the combination of shooting and skiing that are already individually popular in our area.

Our Club would directly benefit from the proposed biathlon venue. The increased trail system would give our members more areas to ski and a rare opportunity to try the biathlon sport. In support we, the Casper Nordic Club, voted at our February meeting, to give the biathlon club a \$1000 this year. In conclusion, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and will positively contribute to our club as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming."

Sincerely,

"he Casper Nordic Club



Natrona County Parks Department

538 SW Wyo Blvd PO Drawer 848 Hills, WY 82644 (307) 235-9325; 265-2743 (f)

February 28, 2014

Robert Rosser, President Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1046 Lemmers Rd. Casper, WY 82601

Subject: Letter of Intent to Provide In-Kind Services for the Biathion Venue

Dear Rob:

Please accept this letter from the undersigned department heads as our intent to provide In-Kind Services and other good and valuable consideration during Phase 1 construction of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue.

Specifically, we intend to construct the crushed gravel Lower Parking Lot, facilitate the power service thereto and Lot lighting. According to AMEC's cost estimate, these services are valued at \$11,250 and \$13,500, respectively. Furthermore, we'll assist the eventual contractor in widening our existing Nordic Trails entering and exiting the Venue.

The Natrona County Parks Board will ratify this intent at their April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. If necessary, the Board of County Commissioners will effectuate these In-Kind Services via a Resolution of Support at their May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Please call or type with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dick O'Hearn, PE (Civil) Parks Director

Michael D. Haigler Supt Road-n-Bridge Dept

office of tourism

5611 High Plains Rd \* Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307-777-7777 \* Fax: 307-777-2877 wyomingtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor Diane Shober Executive Director

April 28, 2014

Julie Kozłowski Wyoming Business Council Business Ready Communities 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Julie,

It has been brought to my attention that the Casper Mountain Blathlon Club (CMBC) is applying for a Community Enhancement Grant to create an elite facility in Casper. On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism, I would like to extend full support for this effort.

A Community Enhancement Grant will enable CMBC to improve existing facilities and increase recreational opportunities to help promote healthy activities for youth, adults and people with disabilities. Visitors enjoy taking part in the outdoors and adventure activities. Product development such as this contributes to visitor activities and as a result increases the possibility of extending the length of stay, which in turn increases the value of the visitor trip. In addition, state and local entities will have a quality training site, which will add to the community economy by keeping Wyoming dollars in-state. An enhanced venue will also serve as a competition site for cross country skiing, cross country running and mountain biking, thus attracting competitors from all over to visit this great state!

I encourage positive support of this effort!

Warm Regards,

Diane Srober

Diane Shober Executive Director Wyoming Office of Tourism

DS/vm

Wyoming will always be Forever West
February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

# RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Buffalo Bill FFA Support Group supports Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely.

Taylor Bednarz Buffalo Bill FFA Support Group President

February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

# RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Buffalo Bill FFA Chapter supports Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Troy Wiant Buffalo Bill FFA Advisor



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Council Members:

Powell Economic Partnership, Inc. fully supports the grant application by Park County to the Wyoming Business Council for funding support of the new building project, including electrical improvements and parking lot enhancements, at the Park County Fairgrounds. This project represents a significant piece of our economic and community development goals.

We are currently in the final stages of our strategic planning process for economic development, and the planned uses of the new building project at the Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, fail in line with a few of our different strategies, including Value-Added Agriculture, Culture & Tourism and Recreational Facilities.

In addition, the project at the fairgrounds has the added benefit for the entire Park County. Powell Economic Partnership, Inc. appreciates the local impact, but truly embraces the broader impact on the greater community.

Sincerely,

Christine Bekes Executive Director

February 20, 2014



Meeteetse FFA Chapter P.O. Box 218 Meeteetse, WY 82433

> Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

# RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

I am writing this letter in support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a great structure that will be available for public use and also be very beneficial to our FFA Chapter. The Meeteetse FFA Chapter supports Park County in this endeavor.

Best Regards,

Louis Abarr Meeteetse FFA Advisor

The FFA Mission Page 126 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



February 21, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Communities Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Julie,

Over the past several years, Forward Cody has been party to discussions regarding the quality of the facilities at the Park County Fairgrounds in Powell. Although these facilities are not in our community, we recognize their importance and their impact to our area.

The multiple use facility, as proposed in this project is part of the core infrastructure of a community. In our economic development vernacular, it is a key building block for the community providing a gathering place, a place for events and a place to do business. We believe the multi-use center will provide those functions for Powell and the surrounding communities.

Please accept this letter as our organization's support for the effort. We encourage your positive recommendation for this project.

Sincerely, Willing

James Klessens CEO/President



276 North Clark Street - Powell, Wyoming 82435 (307) 754-5106 - FAX (307) 754-5385

February 24, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozłowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, WY. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. I Don E. Hillman, Mayor for the City of Powell support Park County in this endeavor.

icerely,

Don E. Hillman Mayor City of Powell



February 25", 2014

Julie Kozłowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

#### Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

As a Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Center & newly formed Main Street Affiliate, the Board of Directors and I would like to express our support for the Community Enhancement Grant Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. This project, including electrical improvements and parking lot enhancements, at the Park County Fairgrounds represents an integral part of attracting more visitors, more conferences and conference participants to our community and county.

Park County is committed to its citizens and their economic well-being. The Powell Valley Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Center and Powell Main Street support Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Jame Schmeisin

Jaime Schmeiser Executive Director

Powell Valley Chamber of Commerce - 111 South Day - Powell, WY 82435 (307-)754-3494 - 800-325-4278 - FAX (307) 754-3483 - info@powellchamber.org www.powellchamber.org May 1, 2014



Dear State Loan and Investment Board and Wyoming Business Council;

# <u>Regarding: the current Park County \$500,000 grant for community improvement, a new fairground</u> <u>building.</u>

It is our understanding that the state loan and investment board has provided \$500,000 of Taxpayer money to assist Park County in building a new County Fair exhibit hall.

Per the Park County Commissioners this money, from your Agency, is contingent on Park County raising an additional \$500,000 from **Private Donations** by the end of May 2014. Park County now pretends their concern that "fund raising has not even begun". I believe, that Park County never expected to receive this money from actual private donors.

In April 2014 while perusing the Park County Commissioners minutes on 3/4/14 and 2/4/14; I noted two unusual payments to "Pavement Maintenance Inc" of \$37,650 and \$62,250 (exactly \$100,000). I requested to review these payments and learned that the checks were issued. No work invoice or contract was included with the checks, and only notation of "crack seal" of a few county roads was provided on the check stubs. Crack sealing roads in January and February in Park County?

Had I not been curious about these expenditures, it seems there would have been \$400,000 more of these unusual payments. Just enough for the \$500,000 **"Priva**te **Donation"** goal.

The proposed Park County Fair building will only have one week of direct public service per year; however, it will make a lucrative addition to the high end commercial rentals Park County now owns. As you might imagine the rental of publically owned buildings to Federal, State and private business is highly profitable; since they pay no property tax, no Federal income tax, and have no mortgage payments. How could any private Property Investment Company compete with that?

Park County has (or will) request an additional \$500,000 from Wyoming Business Council for the "nonbuilding" part of the construction project (demolition, roads, pavement, etc.). Since Park County Commissioners plan to use the County Road and Bridge department for this work, the money is really not necessary; however, it will make a nice addition to the "County war chest" of millions of dollars of seized State and Federal restricted/dedicated funds.

These alternate sources of Park County funding may not be illegal; but, some of the uses of these funds seem highly questionable.

For Example: In 2012 a tax to expand Cody West Park Hospital was voted down. The County Commissioners provided \$750,000 of "their money" for the hospital enhancements. Although unverified, rumor has it that at least one of the County Commissioner's elderly parent is receiving free nursing home care at the West Park facility. At a cost of \$300 per day this is a significant benefit.

We respectfully request that the State Loan and Investment Board enforce their agreement for private funding and redeem the \$500,000 grant from Park County. If Community Improvement is the actual goal of the State Loan and Investment Board and the Business Council; then, use the money to fund a professional certified (CPA) audit of what appears to be a local government steeped in a dishonest culture.

Respectfully,

Donna Guelde

307 868-2146

#### TOWN OF MEETEETSE

J. A. Abbott, Mayor Sharon Fech, Councilman Sheridan Trask, Councilman Bill Yetter, Councilman James D. Yockey, Councilman C. Edward Webster II, Town Attorney Winfred C. Orrell, Jr., Municipal Judge



Angela Johnson, Clerk Treasurer Ronee Hogg, Deputy Clerk Shawn Christopherson, Public Works Edwin Hesselbacher, Public Works Joe Wagers, Deputy Sheriff Hayes Randol, Deputy Sheriff

P. O. Box 38 Meeteetse Wyoming 82433 Phone 307-868-2278 Fax 307-868-2608 Email: meeteetse@tctwest.net

February 25, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

### RE: Letter of Support- Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Town of Meeteetse support Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

John A. Abbott Mayor 2500 College Drive, P.O. Box 428 / Rock Springs, WY 82902-0428



October 21, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter as my enthusiastic support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the core of this community through its services and activities for local residents and visitors alike.

The current location is exceptional as it is located at the convergence of many traffic patterns; however, the outdated facility is limited by size and accessibility, which directly limits many of the services that are needed by this community. The building has served this community since 1981. The population and business environments have expanded geometrically since that time. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has kept up with these changes, but the facilities are no longer adequate for the volume and variety necessary to serve this dynamic community.

With its location next to a city park, the new Chamber Visitor's Center will enhance the services available to people exploring southwest Wyoming. Public restrooms will meet a need that has gone long unaddressed. The newly ADA-compliant facility will provide visitor information, meeting spaces, and an expanded pet area. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to provide many services beyond a typical Chamber operation. In fact, the Chamber is the only true economic development entity in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project for our community. The businesses in Rock Springs are dedicated and generous in supporting this city and the Chamber's updated facilities will help to recruit and retain the future employees that are so vital to our expanding workforce.

Sincerely,

Karla Leach, President



An Equal Opportunity Employer



White Mountain Mull 2441 Foomili Bird Rock Springs, WY 82901 T 307-382-9866 F 307-362-4183 POUSEPROPERTIES.COM (

October 21, 2013

to.	Pat Robbins
	Wyoming Business Counsel

RE: Letter of Support for Community Development Block and Community Enhancement Grants

I'm writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs applications for a Community Development Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant. The Chamber of Commerce building sits in one of the most visible locations for visitors entering our city and the current lack of facilities such as handicap accessibility for the building, public restrooms, park playground/picnic pavilion, and a dated building are not the first impression that we should be presenting to our visitors.

These two grants would allow the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs to provide amenities and services that travelers have come to expect. Along with the park upgrades the building remodel/expansion will enable the Chamber of Commerce to better serve visitors by providing information in a visually appealing and interesting way, and also enable the staff to provide better service.

I fully support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their efforts to obtain these grants and create the environment for our visitors that will represent Rock Springs in the best possible light.

Regards,

Arr

General Manager

WWWWIDUITTEOHENTILECK. PRYSE: 85E



Simplot Phosphates LLC 315 S. Hwy. 430 Rock Springs, WY 82901 (307) 382-1469 / 382-01509 (fax)

#### October 22, 2013

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Dave Hanks

Subject: Renovation of Rock Springs Chamber Building

#### Dave,

Please accept this letter as a letter of support for the renovation of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. I have been a Chamber board member for the past three years and have seen the value that the Chamber brings to the community. The growth of the community and business in the area has loaded the existing facility to its limit of efficient operation. As the main outlet of information for potential businesses and tourists to the area, it is vital that the Chamber can take care of these information requests quickly and completely. New staff has been hired to help but there just is not enough space in the current building. The current staff is extremely professional however their building is out of date and needs updating inside and out to extend that professionalism of the Chamber. Simplot Phosphates and myself support this renovation project.

Sincerely,

Eric Schillie Plant Manager Simplot Phosphates 307-382-1542

October 23, 2013

ROCKY HOUNTAIN BANK

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

RE: Application for Community Development Block Grant Application for Community Enhancement Grant

Dear Pat;

In order to allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to provide a higher level of service to our public please support the approval for the above grants to help improve and enhance the current chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce functions as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County providing information to an average of 75-100 business per year. In addition the Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually with a single day high of 700 visitors in July 2013.

By supporting the above grants you will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to improve our display area in a more organized/visually appealing manner which will better serve our members ability to advertise their goods and services. The grants will allow the Chamber to provide ADA public restrooms as a service to travelers, and also allow the new and improved facility to be ADA compliant, while providing improved facilities for community and member meetings.

As the current building has remained largely unchanged since 1981 it is time for our facility to look like what our membership is – a forward thinking, proactive organization, that is proud to be a part of Rock Springs and the state of Wyoming.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely;

1. Walk

Gary L. Watkins Rock Springs Market Manager Rocky Mountain Bank

Page 136 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

It is my pleasure to write to you in support of the grants available for the renovation and expansion of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the gateway to our community and is in need of a modernized facility to provide a vibrant first impression to our 25,000 tourists and visitors yearly.

The Chamber of Commerce is often the key component of the first impression for visitors and new residents to our area. Although the current building has served the City of Rock Springs for 32 years, it was not built to handle the amount of public use or house the staff that is needed today to continue to grow. With the continuing increase in population in our thriving community, it is more difficult to keep serving the public with our limited resources. The Rock Springs Chamber acts as the main hub for directing visitors and for ticket sales for local events, which in July 2013 they had over 700 visitors in one day. The building is also outdated and no longer meets ADA code.

With the projected updates, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce will portray a more modern and business-like appearance. The larger facility will allow for meeting rooms for member and community use, as well as will be able to highlight Sweetwater County with organized displays. The addition of public restrooms, a playground park, picnic pavilions, and a pet area, will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to better serve our visitors and our community.

Thank you for your consideration for this essential renovation that will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce a higher level of service to our community.

Sincerely,

aus un

Stacy Pivic Assistant Vice President Business Banking Officer Commerce Bank of Wyoming



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I write to you in support for the inclined grant the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce seeks to be awarded for the remodel of their existing building and the green belt area closely surrounding. The Chamber of Commerce continues to be the front door to the city of Rock Springs, providing services and events for all visitors, entrepreneurs, and local citizens.

The Chamber of Commerce is persistently expanding and offering more services as technology advances, and events progress on an annual occurrence. It is incumbent that the Chamber keeps up with the times and adapts accordingly, enabling them to offer such assistance for the great people of this community, as well as the increased activity taking place year round.

With the expansion of the building, the newly ADA-compliant facility will provide an updated, national code abiding opportunity for visitors and local citizens to explore the needed information that the Chamber works to improve and promote on a daily basis. This expansion will also allow the adequate space needed for the recently extended staff to continue offering an honest, and sole, economic development entity to the city of Rock Springs, WY.

I appreciate your consideration for this grant application. This is a prodigious opportunity for not only the Chamber of Commerce, but all the businesses and members who support our local community and strive to make the great place we call home a remarkable place to live, recreate, and prosper.

Sincerely,

Veatar D liket

Keaton D. West Sales Director

PLUMBING 

HEATING 
AIR CONDITIONING 

REFRIGERATION 
VENTILATION 

SHEET METAL

1130 SIGNAL DRIVE ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82901 (307) 362-7550 Fax (307) 362-8721

Serving Southwest Wyoming Since 1963



October 24, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Ms. Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please accept this letter as our support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Visitor Center.

If the Visitor Center had a more modern and business like appearance it would help portray our community in a more professional and positive light. The Chamber provides information to our job candidates that visit our area from other states. It is sometimes difficult to recruit engineering talent for our remote location in Sweetwater County. We rely on the Chamber to provide information to job candidates and help to convey information on the many tourist sights in our area and to promote the positive aspects of working and living in Wyoming.

The Chamber is the gateway to our community and in many instances is the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. The Rock Springs Visitor Center is outdated and the office can become very crowded. During one of our visits the lobby had other customers so we waited outside until some of the customers left so we could enter the building. During our visit the staff had to go downstairs to obtain information and left the counter unattended. If the Visitor Center was set up in a more organized appealing manner it would help to provide a more positive first impression.

We appreciate your consideration for this project that will benefit our businesses, the community and help to attract future talent to our area.

Sincerely, im Maxi

fim Maxfield, SPHR Human Resources Manager Solvay Chemicals, Inc





October 25, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council c/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

On behalf of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and our Chief Executive Officer, Gerard Klein, I am submitting this letter in support of the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to remodel and expand their facility at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, Wyoming. We agree the enhanced facilities will assist with the following:

- More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales
- More inviting and business-like façade/ modernize outside appearance of the building The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County
- Ability to highlight Rock Springs/Sweetwater County better with room for displays
- · Portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light
- · Better meeting rooms for member and community use
- · Expand the pet area
- · More efficient use of staff time not having to run downstairs and being away from the public areas
- Add a park playground/picnic pavilions and ADA compliant access Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards
- The building is outdated The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981
- · Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area
- · Safety for staff and visitors
- More room for Business Development Program
- · Acts as the Hub for directing visitors to our tourist sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually. We have a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Please feel free to contact me at 307-352-8413 or irichardson@sweetwatermemorial.com. Mr. Klein may be reached at 307-352-8411 or gklein@sweetwatermemorial.com.

Sincerely,

until

Irene Richardson Chief Financial Officer



3320 Yellowstone Road, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307.352.6789 Fax: 866.899.6787

October 29, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council e/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant applications. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce plays a very important role in our community and specifically for the Sweetwater Events Complex. Not only do they serve as the only economic development group in the area, but as our visitor's center too; they literally are the 'front door' to Rock Springs for many businesses, organizations and visitors.

By the very nature of our business, we work closely with the Chamber of Commerce to attract new events, promote our area and enhance existing events. To that end, the Chamber of Commerce routinely serves as a ticket outlet for our events. (It should be noted they are THE ticket outlet for nearly all events taking place in Rock Springs). As our events continue to grow, the Chamber has seen similar growth in visitors looking for tickets. So much so that one day in July they had in excess of 700 individuals in their office to purchase tickets! A remodel of the building would allow residents and visitors to more easily purchase tickets while maintaining a safe working environment for the Chamber staff. Additionally, with that many people purchasing tickets, visitors seeking information about our area may inadvertently be turned away; not a good first impression of us or Wyoming in general.

As mentioned, the Chamber serves as a 'front door' for us, but isn't always the most welcoming host. While they do the best they can in their present building, the facility doesn't feature public restrooms nor is it ADA compliant – keys to being traily gracious to our visitors.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce obviously has a long-standing presence in our community. The building they presently occupy has been paid for and they've developed a substantial reserve to help match grant funds. The board has proven their ability to serve the area well and will continue to do so. The grants will help them do so in an easier and more welcoming fashion.

I appreciate your consideration of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's grant applications. This is a great opportunity for our entire community to improve our business climate as well as continuing to serve our residents.

Warmly,

Executive Director

and the second of the local data in the local



Carl R. Demshar, Jr., Mayor 212 D Street, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Office [307] 352-1510 • FAX [307] 352-1516 carl\_demshar@rswy.net

October 30, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Letter of Support for Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building Renovations

Dear Ms Robbins: PAT

I am writing this letter to show my support for the proposed renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building. The Chamber has been using the existing building since 1981, and since that time, the Chamber has continued to serve more and more entities needing business information, or visitors needing general information about Rock Springs and the surrounding area. Currently, the Chamber serves as the "Gateway to the Rock Springs Community" with approximately 25,000 tourists and locals served on an annual basis. In addition, the Chamber supplies local pertinent information to approximately 75-100 business inquiries per year. To sum up the importance of the Chamber to Rock Springs and the surrounding area, the Chamber acts as a "hub" for directing visitors to tourists sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming.

At these current service levels, the Chamber has simply outgrown the existing building. The existing building was not designed or built to house the staffing levels needed today, nor was it built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The proposed renovations will enhance the Chamber's ability to grow the services required of locals and tourists alike. In addition, the renovations will update existing electrical and mechanical functions, which will allow the Chamber to reduce daily operating costs since the new systems will be more effective and efficient.

The Chamber of Commerce plays an integral role in the daily lives of the citizens of Rock Springs, in supplying information to prospective businesses, and in making visitors to the area feel welcome. An up-to-date, modern building will only enhance the Chamber's ability to provide these services. I wholeheartedly support this project and the proposed renovations to the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

Yours very truly,

Carl R. Demshar, Jr. Mayor, City of Rock Springs

**ROCKET-MINER** 

215 D St. / P.O. Box 38 Rock Springs, WY 22902-0098 307-362-3736 E-mail: ricke@rocketminer.com General Manager Rick Lee www.rocketminer.com

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

October 30, 2013

Dear Pat,

I gladly offer a letter of support to be included in the grant application for the two grants that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is applying for; the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

The need for development and renovation is great in both of these projects. The Chamber is an important resource for economic development and visitor relations and should be housed in a modern and inviting professional facility. While the current structure is functional, it is not optimal. I have not seen the Chamber of Commerce Building change since I was in Jr. High, over 31 years ago, with anything more than paint jobs.

The increased volume of business and visitors to our Chamber and the need for the Chamber to remain inviting and professional to visitors and potential community businesses warrants the need to update our local facility as it is, in its own standing, a representation of Rock Springs.

Information from the Chamber of Commerce indicates that there is an average of 25,000 individuals served by the Chamber annually. These tourists and locals deserve a pleasant experience in whatever way they use the Chamber of Commerce. An inviting and professional facility and park area will enhance a positive experience and encourage visitors to begin or continue to do business in Rock Springs, strengthening the economy of our community. In essence, investment in the Chamber is a good investment in which we can expect immediate dividends. It is a challenge for communities to keep up with the ever advancing and always changing business climate. Innovations and business practices are constantly pushing business people to adapt to modernization just to remain relevant.

It is my hope that we can help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, as an important community business; remain relevant by supporting this grant application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

20

Rick Lee General Manager Rocket-Miner 307-362-3736 (Phone) 307-382-2763 (Fax) riclee@rocketminer.com



October 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins;

The Rock Springs economy is growing stronger every day. There are more than 600 businesses in Rock Springs with information given an average of 75-100 business inquires per year by our local Chamber of Commerce. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

Businesses range from large national retail and restaurant chains, to locally owned and operated boutiques and businesses, as well as a full spectrum of home office, flex and industrial.

Businesses are being drawn to our community because of our tremendous rate of growth and the affluence of our market. The community's home town charm, the beauty of the surrounding open space and our close proximity to two major markets – Denver & Salt Lake City are also big attractions.

In Rock Springs we have an extremely supportive local government. A Chamber of Commerce that cares about the business community of Rock Springs, the Chamber Advocates the interests of local business to government organizations and provides cooperative programs such as marketing, technology and public relations to benefit local businesses, which they could not afford individually. Creating a healthy economic-business climate that contributes to the quality of life in Rock Springs.

The Chamber is currently in need of a new building the building is outdated.

There are many reasons that make The Rock Springs Chamber worthy of a new building. The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1939 with a simple but very important objective, to support and promote local businesses. Over seventy four years later, that simple mission still drives everything they do for the community. The current building was built in 1981 and mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 there is a need for more efficient lower operational costs. Roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life The Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area.

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards Safety for staff and visitors, the building needs to be up to ADA code. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff needed today. The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The community needs an area to address the growing needs of their startup business.

I would like to encourage the Wyoming Business Council to support the endeavors that the Rock Springs Chamber is in need of. They need your support. Rock Springs has a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

I encourage the Wyoming Business Council to make a difference for the Rock Springs Chamber.

Thank you for your time, if you need to speak with me further or have questions please contact me at the address below.

Sincerely; Terri Nations Alcours Hork Springs Main Street & 6 & Att South Units United Springs, Why Septer Hork Springs, Why Septer 2027-2020 (Inte terri nations@rsws.net

Follow us on BEacebook



October 30, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 2088 Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Community Enhancement Grant

To Whom It May Concern,

It is without reservation that the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board (SWCTTB) fully supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's application for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant to renovate and expand the existing building in order to provide a higher level of service to the public.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce (RSCC) serves as the gateway to the community and is therefore the first impression of Rock Springs to our visitors. This gives the Chamber a unique opportunity to promote Sweetwater County and provide information to tourists and travelers coming through the area. The renovated building will provide a more efficient and visually attractive center for community and visitor functions. Additionally, the project will be a joint effort between the RSCC and the City of Rock Springs, as the renovation will include additional upgrades and greater utilization of the public space next to the Chamber of Commerce.

The RSCC serves 25,000 tourists annually and had a single day high of 700 visitors in July of 2013. They provide information to an average of 75-100 businesses per year in addition to facilitating ticket sales for community events and directing visitors to sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming. The current building was not intended to house required staff or accommodate visitor traffic and needs to be expanded in order to meet the needs of our growing community.

Should you have any questions on the position of the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board concerning this project or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (307) 382.2538.

Sincerely.

in Bachett

Jenissa J. Bartlett Executive Director Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board

Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Jourism Board

Page 147 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 Representative Allen M. Jaggi Wyoming House of Representatives House District 19 P.O. Box 326 Lyman, WY 82937



immy (307) 766-2817 email: Allen Jaggittwyoleg.gov

October 30, 2013

Wyoming Business Council,

As a legislator representing part of Sweetwater County, I have had many occasions to visit many places in Rock Springs. As I have attended meetings, visited businesses and constituents, I have often driven past the present Chamber of Commerce. As I drive past I am glad to have the visible sight, easy access, and feel it draws many visitors to come in and get information about Sweetwater County and Southwest Wyoming. But I am very glad to write a letter in support of the grants to make the chamber of commerce a way more inviting place for our visitors and residents to stop and get information and be ADA compliant. The present building is small, outgrown and outdated, not as appealing as a new building would be(old one built in early 1980's), and would have way better parking and a place to let small children unwind as the adults gather information for, hopefully, a continued stay in Sweetwater County. As I have attended meeting in the present building it is apparent that a bigger and more spacious display area is needed and better meeting rooms. The whole building while having served and kept nice for many years is not what we would like to have our visitor's experience. These two grants would allow the chamber to really be more inviting for visitors, for business meetings, and be able to give information about Sweetwater County and South west Wyoming.

I hope this gives a few reasons why I feel these grants would really be a wise use of our state money to enhance tourism and economic growth in southwest Wyoming.

Thanks, for your consideration,

Allen Jaggi

# WWWWYOLEG.GOV



2400 Reagan Avenue Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307-352-6737

#### 10-31-13

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I would like to state that the Young At Heart Senior Center is in support of the grant proposal that will assist in the remodeling and expansion of the present Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce facility located at 1897 Dewar Drive. The Chamber has partnered with the City of Rock Springs to accomplish this goal of providing a higher level of service to the public.

Areas we see for intervention/benefit would be:

The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County

More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales

Better meeting rooms for member and community use

Add a park playground/picinic pavilions and ADA compliant access

Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

More room for Business Development Program and Employee

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

We are the ONLY economic development organization in Sweetwater County

The community needs an area to address the growing needs of our startup business. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually

Thank you for your consideration of the grant proposal.

Sincerely,

dearne Cox

Jeanine Cox, Executive Director



Senator Stan Cooper Wyoming Senate

Senate District 14

**District Address** 

417 Agence Street Kemmerer, WY 83101 307-877-6450

scooperwyldgmail.com

Committees Minnali, Busines and Framm Development

Transportation, Highways and Military Affeirs October 31, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attention: Pat Robins Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902

RE: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Pat:

This letter is written in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce grant applications for a Community Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant.

The Community Block Grant funds will be used for a very much needed and required handicap accessible Chamber office building and parking area. The Community Enhancement Grant funds will be used to renovate and expand the existing Chamber office building to provide for an enhanced level of services to local businesses, the public, and visitors to the community.

This is a joint and cooperative project with the City of Rock Springs. The current Chamber facility has been serving the Rock Springs community for the past 32 years. The community has grown considerably in all these years and continues to grow and there is real need for this expansion project. The facility is located on a main thoroughfare within the community and provides an excellent location for serving the public and visitors and with sufficient area for this proposed expansion.

The expansion project will allow for a more business friendly facility. The current facility is often referred to by locals as the "yellow shed" and a more business like appearance that portrays a positive light for the community and visitors will certainly be beneficial. The project will also allow for more effective use of staff and their time along with upgrades for more efficient, lower operating cost mechanical and electrical equipment. The project also proposes to bring the office facility and adjoining playground and picnic area up to ADA Code compliant standards.

The Chamber is the only economic development organization serving the Rock Springs area and the current building was not built with this added responsibility for staffing and additional office space in mind at the time.

The Chamber has the ability to access funds for a cash match for the grant requirements.

I would appreciate your positive consideration of these worthy grant applications by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely, 21 Sen. Stan Cooper

SD 14

Wyoming Legislature Online http://legisweb.state.wy.us



PO, Sox 10 5670 E: Lucerne Road Manila, Utah 84046

Phone: 435 784-3483

Email Ucernemarina@kve.com www.ßaminggorge.com

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Ms. Robbins,

On behalf of Flaming Gorge Corporation and as a Past President and current member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, I fully support the two grants needed to remodel the current Chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber and its employees are a very valuable resource for my business. They provide potential visitors leads to our facility and the Flaming Gorge from their small building located on Dewar Drive. This facility needs to be upgraded and be more inviting for visitors seeking information. It is important that the RS Chamber office be modernized and upgraded not only for visitors but for the current staffing needs. It is crucial that public restroom facilities that are ADA compliant are available to the public.

We truly believe that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce represents not only the City of Rock Springs but SW Wyoming and the Flaming Gorge. The proposed upgrade and expansions are crucial to its continued success. We hope you will accept their grant application for the much needed upgrades to the existing Chamber building.

Sincerely



Taco Time 225 Aspen Way Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a local business person in the community for the past 40 years and a Rock Springs native I am writing this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber office in Rock Springs is terribly outdated. The current facilities for community use as well as the lack of display room for the many gems of our city and county are just not adequate. Rock Springs is a community that is growing at a 3% rate annually with the average age of 31.5 years; we need a facility that can grow with these demographics. The current building is referred to as the "Yellow Shed"; with its prime location as the Gateway to the Community the building needs to be modernized and more inviting to our visitors. As a past board member we were faced with mechanical and electrical improvements for the building that are all original since 1981, just to make the building more comfortable and inviting to the business community and visitors. I ask that the Wyoming Business Council strongly consider granting the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce project. The money from these grants would provide for an ADA compliant building and a facility that is run with the upmost professionalism, with 25,000 tourists and locals benefitting from this project.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Staley and Leland V. Staley

Rock SPRINGS DORLITY ISN November 4, 2013

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce PO Box 398 Rock Springs WY 82902





I am writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce remodel project. This remodel will allow the current building to be updated to a more professional lock. The remodel will also allow the current facility to be brought up to ADA code. I feel that this remodel is necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to continue providing the level of service that they provide and will allow them room to grow with the community.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce takes on many additional duties within the community. They are the Rock Springs area visitor center and ticket distributor as well as normal Chamber operations. The proposed remodel will allow more area for the staff to conduct visitor center operations. This will also highlight the community in a much better light to our visitors as the remodeled building will have a more modern professional appearance. The added room will also allow more materials about Sweetwater County to be displayed in an organized and visually appealing way. The Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 people annually. They need a larger more professional area to continue this level of service, especially with the 3% growth rate that Rock Springs is experiencing.

The Chamber of Commerce has been in the "yellow shed" since 1981 with very little modification since that time. The roof is at the end of its life and should be replaced before it causes damage to the interior. The building itself is outdated. The electrical and mechanical are original and need to be updated to more energy efficient lower operational cost mechanicals.

Since 1981, the ADA laws have changed. The Department of Justice published the new laws that have very specific rules regarding public places. Companies are no longer "grandfathered" from these laws as they were prior to March 2012. Not only do the public areas have to be ADA compliant, but the staff work areas as well. The current layout of the building has the staff going up and down stairs often to retrieve items that have to be stored downstairs as there is not room upstairs. This would make employing a person with ADA needs almost impossible. Also located in the basement is the meeting room. Again, there is not any ADA access to this area of the current design of the building. The current proposal allows for ADA compliant access to the new restrooms and the building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has been in its existing business since 1981 without any updates or modifications. The current building is small and does not meet the ADA laws effective March 2012. The roof, electrical and mechanical all need to be updated. The "yellow shed" needs a more professional modern look to represent our town in a positive tight to travelers and potential new business. As a business that relies on business and leisure travel, I strongly support a remodel of the Rock Springs Chamber/Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

Eich

Tricia Green, CHA General Manager. Quality Inn

1671) Swelt 1 Ditwi Nock Stream, Wittaniu 82501 Picnel 307,382,3450 Fix 307,382,7333 Fiz reservation workfwide: 800 4CHOICE: choiceholem.com Pat Robbins

Wyoming Business Council

As a member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and as a past board member, I would like to support the remodel and expansion of the current building located at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, WY.

The location of the building is ideal for visitors and residents, however the general floor plan is no longer functional. In 1981 the Chamber of Commerce moved to this building. In the last 32 years, the use of the building and its surrounding area have changed greatly.

The business of promoting our city, county, and state is done from this building. This is sometimes the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs. We need to portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light. The building is outdated; the inside **and** outside needs to be more inviting and business-like. The building will first need to be brought up to ADA code. There needs to be public restrooms that meet ADA standards. Visitor information needs to be displayed in a more organized and appealing way. The pet area outside needs to be expanded. A park/picnic/playground pavilion needs to be added to allow visitors a rest area.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 visitors and locals annually. And our community continues to grow at a rate of 3% annually. Therefore, the building is no longer large enough to house the director and staff, let alone any room for future expansion of staff, such as a Business Development coordinator. The electrical and mechanical operations of the building are all original from 1981. It would be prudent to incorporate energy efficient mechanics at the time of remodel. The roof is original from 1981, therefore needing replaced.

A meeting room is currently located in the basement of the building, which is away from the public area and not an efficient use of staff time. The remodel could provide better meeting rooms for member and community use with public access. A ticket window would provide safety for staff. In conclusion, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is in need of a larger, more modern building. The current building is paid for. The Chamber has in excess of \$115,000.00 in cash as a match. They are financially sound. I would recommend approval of a grant to help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce provide Visitor Center operations and promote our region.

Dynamite Auction Company

Margaret Gibbens

: Libbens rgaret

Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson 440 Uinta Drive Green River, WY 82935

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As longtime members of the Sweetwater County business community, please accept this letter expressing our support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce expansion and enhancement grants.

The Chamber not only serves the local population and over twenty-five thousand tourists annually, a large geographical area is also served either directly or indirectly. Sales to tourists significantly enhance our profitability. Anything that enhances tourist experiences is a positive factor for our business.

For travelers seeking tourism and business information, a first class experience may only be provided from a facility that portrays our area in a positive light. The public expects top notch service from the staff, a business-like appearance, public restrooms and a nice place for Rover to mark his approval!

The Chamber serves an invaluable service in business recruitment. Any savvy decision maker will check out the Chamber first hand for information. The building should reflect the success of our area. It is difficult to attract new businesses when operating from a building that implies desperation!

After spending that last year building our own dealership, dealing with the strict current guidelines regarding electrical and mechanical equipment, we are very sensitive to the reasons for updated building codes. A public building that is not ADA compliant is a law suit waiting to happen.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our recommendation for grant approval.

Sincerely

Dennis Laughlin, General Manager Dave and Lynda Laughlin, Owners Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson



Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Mrs. Robbins,

The Green River Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors supports the City of Rock Springs and Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce application for a Wyoming Business Council Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant to provide handicap accessibility for the Chamber building and renovate and expand the existing building. The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981. The roof is also original to the same year and is at the end of its life. The renovation will provide a more inviting façade and modernize the outside appearance of the building. It will also look more business-like and provide better meeting space for member and community use.

The Chamber serves as a visitor center and ticket outlet for the community as well, Renovating the space will provide more area for the staff to operate their ticket sales and allow for the visitor information to be displayed in a more organized and visually appealing way. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff levels needed today nor was the building built to handle the amount of traffic that it currently receives. Renovating and expanding the building will fix this problem and allow the staff to become more efficient.

As a Chamber of Commerce, we can fully understand the need for the Rock Springs Chambers' building renovation as explained above. The Board would appreciate your consideration of this grant application for the City of Rock Springs and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely on behalf of the Green River Chamber Board,

ebecca Briesmaster **Executive Director** 

Your Business & Community Advocate

BOO.EL.GORGE • 307 875.3711 p • 107.872.61921
 I155 W. Flaming Gorge Way • Green River • Wyoming #2935
 www.grehamber.com • Rebeccu#grehamber.com

Page 157 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



P: 307-872-3223 F: 307-872-3225 E: <u>ghsc@sweet.wy.us</u>

Golden Hour Senior Center 550 Uinta Dr., Suite A Green River, WY 82935

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their request for funding through the Wyoming Business Council for complex renovations at the current Rock Springs Chamber site.

Accessible accommodations are imperative to city residents and travelers from out of town who are senior citizens or those who have disabilities. Both live and travel in the community and this would encourage utilization of resources and allow participation in daily operations, activities, events, and promotions. It will also help to ensure that travelers and patrons are met with a friendly atmosphere when visiting the area or stopping by to purchase tickets for the many events that take place in the community. In many cases, a visit to the Chamber of Commerce is the first stop made by a potential business owner or future resident and sets the tone as to whether they should pursue their endeavors in the area.

Renovations to expand the existing Chamber of Commerce are much needed to accommodate the growing community. With a single day high of 700 visitors in July, 2013, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to reside as the doorway, information center, and ticket outlet for the community. Many businesses would like to use the chamber as a local meeting point to plan and discuss upcoming events and activities; however there is not space currently available for this use.

The Rock Springs Chamber serves as an active marketing tool to its large local and out of area membership and business associations. The location is prominent and is a natural stopping point for visitors coming into the area. Bringing the building into compliance and providing visible signage, operable restrooms, and an updated information center will serve the community for years to come.

I would be happy to address any questions you may have regarding my position in this effort.

Thank you,

Beth Whitman, Executive Director Golden Hour Senior Center
November 4, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins.

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901 Hotalia tao Express & Suites Incel Sarings Green River 1660 Sumer Dr Poch Sproigs, WY 82807 USA ± 307,552 9200 1,307,072 7468 1,300 HOCIDAY



HOCK SPRINGS GREEN RIVEH

I am writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce remodel project. I feel that the this remodel is necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to continue providing the level of service that they provide and will allow them room to grow with the community.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce takes on many additional duties within the community. They are the Rock Springs area visitor center and ticket distributor as well as normal Chamber operations. The proposed remodel will allow more area for the staff to conduct visitor center operations. This will highlight the community in a much better light to our visitors as the remodeled building will have a more modern professional appearance. The added room will also allow more materials about Sweetwater County to be displayed in an organized and visually appealing way The Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 people annually. They need a larger more professional area to continue this level of service, especially with the 3% growth rate that Rock Springs is experiencing.

The Chamber of Commerce has been in the "yellow shed" since 1981 with very little modification since that time. The roof is at the end of its life and should be replaced before it causes damage to the interior. The building itself is outdated. The electrical and mechanical are original and need to be updated to more energy efficient lower operational cost mechanicals.

Since 1981, the ADA laws have changed. The Department of Justice published the new laws that have very specific rules regarding public places. Companies are no longer "grandfathered" from these laws as they were prior to March 2012. Not only do the public areas have to be ADA compliant, but the staff work areas as well. The current fayout of the building has the staff going up and down stairs often to retrieve items that have to be stored downstairs as there is not noom upstairs. This would make employing a person with ADA needs almost impossible. Also located in the basement is the meeting room. Again, there is not any ADA access to this area of the current design of the building. The current proposal allows for ADA compliant access to the new restrooms and the building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has been in its existing business since 1981 without any updates or modifications. The current building is small and does not meet the ADA laws effective March 2012. The roof, electrical and mechanical all need to be updated. The "yellow shed" needs a more professional modern look to represent our town in a positive light to travelers and potential new business. As a business that relies on business and leisure travel. I strongly support a remodel of the Rock Springs Chamber/Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

un Aren

Tricla Green, CHA General Manager, Holiday Inn Express

Black Butte Coal Company P.O. Box 98 Paint Of Rocks, Wyoanag \$2942 (307)382-6200 Fax: (307)352-6234



November 4, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1440Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY \$2901

RE: Black Butte Coal Company's support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Par,

As a representative of Black Butte Coal Company I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's recent Community Grant applications. The forms applied for by the Chamber will be put to much needed use. The current Visitor Center has served the Chamber well but is in need of updating, both for functionality and for ADA compliance. For many visitors to our community the Chamber Visitor Center of the first stop they make. If needs to reflect the community. The current Visitor Center has an outdated and weathered appearance. This is not reflective of the community as it exists today. As a resident of Rock Springs for more than the years, I have personally witnessed the city put a great deal of effort into improving the image of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, with great results. That same level of improvement is needed at the Visitor Center.

Please feel free to contact me al 352-6206 if you have further questions or comments regarding Black Bure's support of the RSCC's grant applications.

Sincerely,

Steve Gill General Manager, Black Butte Coal Company

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



80 WEST FLAMING GORGE WAY, SUITE 109 GREEN RIVER, WY 82935 PH: (307) 872-3890 FAX - (307) 872-3992

WALLY J. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN IOHN K. ROLB, COMMUSSIONER

JOHN K. KOLB, COMMUSSIONER
GARY BAILIFF, COMMISSIONER

đ

REID WEST, COMMISSIONER

DON VAN MATRE, COMMISSIONER

November 5, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins South Central Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite #208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### **Re: Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center Grant Applications**

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please consider this letter our support of the grant applications for improvements to the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center in partnership with the City of Rock Springs.

The proposed project will remove handicap accessibility barriers as well as renovate and expand the existing building so that the delivery of services is improved. The Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center serves as an important hub for distributing regional economic and tourist information.

The Sweetwater County Commission supports efforts that will promote our communities and increase economic health. We encourage your approval of the grant funding requests by the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center.

Sincerely, Wally J. Jo Chairman

Sweetwater County Commission

665

Carl Demilhar, Mayor, City of Rock Springs (via armail) Dave Hanks, CEO, Hock Springs Chamber of Commerce (via email) November 5, 2013

To: Wyoming Business Council

Re: \*Community Block Grant

\*Community Enhancement Grant

# **Chamber of Commerce Building Expansion**

In the past thirty years the City of Rock Springs has seen extreme growth in population and size. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building has become obsolete for the size and requirements of the Community that we live in as it was built in 1981. It has now become ill-equipment to take care of the needs that the Chamber attends to.

When people drive into Rock Springs from Interstate 80, one of the first structure they see and get a first impressions of, is our Chamber office building.

Bringing the building up to ADA code is essential, along with staff's need for more space to conduct business, meetings, office and storage, restroom area, pet walking area, and having more room for visitors to sit, be served and perhaps, relax while they are in the Chamber building as should be a welcoming 'visitor center', also.

As a City Councilor for the past three years, I have dealt with the Chamber often and personally note that they are in dire need of expansion. The City of Rock Springs works hand in hand with the Chamber to provide required and requested services of the general public.

My fellow Council Members and the Mayor are all in agreement, and I feel that I can speak for them as well as myself, that it would be highly beneficial to our Community for the visibility of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to stand out to represent who we are.....a place of diverse cultures, businesses, life-styles and a great place to work, live and raise children. Page #2

### Facts:

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists, visitors and locals per year.

It provides information to 75 to 100 new business inquiries per year.

It serves to answer questions of local people and businesses for those planning to come here and some to relocate. The highest reported day in 2013 was 700 individuals on one particular day in July.

The building originally was not built to house the staff that is presently at work there.

The mechanical and electrical components in the building have not been up-dated to current code to make the operations of the building cost efficient and effective.

The Chamber is the only 'economic development organization' in Sweetwater County.

Our Community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

For budgeting purposes, as a fact, the Chamber has a cash match of \$117,000.00 that can be accessed for this project.

In closing, it is hopeful that with this information pertaining to the goal of an expansion project, it is obvious to see the urgency for this development to occur. I am certain that there are many more details for support of the project that I have not mentioned in this letter.

Page #3

We greatly appreciated your consideration in bestowing upon our City and County, the ability to obtain these two essential grants. Should you wish to speak with me further on this matter, reach me at 307-382-4139 or my mobile phone, 307-389-6407.

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Billy W. Shalat

Councilor Billy Wayne Shalata – Ward I 624 "A" Street Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carl R. Demshar, Jr.; David Hank. – R.S. Chamber of Commerce;

BW/las

# LEMICH LAW CENTER

GEORGE LEMICH, P.C. Also Admitted in Colorado

JON AIMONE 205 C Street Rock Springs, WY 82901 KARI MONEYHUN Telephone (307) 382-6600 Toll Free (800) 551-6604 ALSO ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON Facsimile (307) 382-4989

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

## Re: Letter of Support: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Robbins:

I am writing to express my support for the renovation project proposed by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the City of Rock Springs. I strongly support the Chamber's applications for the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

The Chamber of Commerce has served this community for the past thirty-two years, but with the growth and expansion of our community, the Chamber has outgrown its current facilities. The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually. The current building was not built to handle the staff levels needed today or the amount of public use that it currently receives. With our community growing at an annual rate of 3%, new facilities would allow the Chamber to better meet the needs of the community and better portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light.

Regards,

George Lemich

km

office of tourism

5611 High Plains Rd + Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307-777-7777 + Fax: 307-777-2877 wyorningtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor

Diane Shober Executive Director

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

It has been brought to my attention that the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking grants to assist in remodeling and expanding the existing facility, currently known as "The Yellow Shed." On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism I would like to offer my full support of this worthy project.

An updated facility will provide many positives to the communing, allowing staff to assist the visitors in a professional manner, while showcasing the area's beauty and attractions with the assistance of appealing displays. The proposed facility will be ADA compliant and will offer community meeting space. An updated facility will leave the visitor with a positive impression of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, while offering the staff pride in their workplace.

I'm sure you are aware of the important role that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce shares with Wyoming Office of Tourism in contributing to Wyoming's economic fiber. A vibrant tourism industry is a growth industry that benefits us all.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 307.777.2808 or diane shober a wyo.gov.

Warm regards,

Diane Shober Executive Director

DS/vm

Wyoming will always be Forever West

Page 166 of 186

Soundtor Bernadine Craft Administy Why Wooming Scient Senate District 12 P.O. Box 63 • Rock Springs, WY 82902



imainese (307) 382-1607 enatil Bernadine Crathewysileg.gov

November 7, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce

Dear Ms. Robbins and Members of the Wyoming Business Council:

Please allow me to share with you my strong support for the "Community Development Block Grant" and the "Community Enhancement Grant" applications being submitted by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. Through a partnership with the City of Rock Springs, the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking to provide handicap accessibility for both the current building and its adjacent park, as well as renovate and expand the existing building. As a Rock Springs native, and as someone who has been actively involved with the Rock Springs Chamber for many years, I am intimately acquainted with the inadequacies of the current building. The "Yellow Shed" has served the Chamber and the community well for the past thirty two years, but the expanding demands placed upon the Chamber make the current space increasingly outdated, inconvenient and unsuitable.

I believe it important to note that the Rock Springs Chamber building is visited annually by 25,000 individuals; a single high day of 700 visitors was noted this past July, 2013. The Chamber currently serves as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County, and fields an average of 75-100 business inquiries annually. Given that the Chamber is obviously the hub for information regarding Sweetwater County, and is frequently the initial impression individuals receive of Sweetwater County, it would appear to be expedient to provide resources to enhance both the operations and the aesthetic appeal of the Chamber building.

The current building is not ADA compliant, and is operating with the original roof and mechanical/electrical systems; it is not capable of addressing the ever expanding staff, public, membership and business needs of our growing community.

Given that the current Chamber building is located in a city park, I applaud the Chamber for taking a broader and longer term approach to its expansion project through the inclusion of upgrades designed to enhance usage of the public space adjacent to the Chamber. I endorse this project enthusiastically and without reservation.

Sincerely, line L. Craft, Ph.D, NCC, LPC

#### WWW.WYOFEG.GOV

# HALLIBURTON

1801 Blairtown Road • Rock Springs, WY 82901 PHONE 307.352.8610 • FAX 307.362.0283

November 8, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a Meinber of the Rock Springs Chamber Council, I am providing this letter in support of the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center. This facility provides services to visitors and local residents and is vital in our community as a resource.

As a Business in this community, Halliburton supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex renovation. The Complex, also known as the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center, has operated in the current building since 1981. First impressions are important for a community. The Chamber Complex is one of the first impressions any visitor has of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. With over 25,000 visitors stopping by annually, the opportunity for our Chamber to provide these visitors with information on our community from an Inviting, Modern, and ADA Compliant building is needed. Many of our new imployees looking to relocate to our community use this Complex as a resource for relocation.

Thank you for your consideration of this project for our community. This renovation will be a win-win for the City of Rock Springs and for Sweetwater County.

Sincerely,

fand D. Thorn

Paul B. Moorman HR Supervisor Rock Springs District Rock Springs, WY





Sciniter John M. Hastert Minavity Gaucus Chairman Wyoning Scinite Senate District 13 P.O. Box 472 • Green River, WY 82935



hmur (207) 871-1001 emtil John Hasterittwyoleg.gov

November 08, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council South Central Region 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### Dear Pat,

I am writing in strong support of the renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex. The Rock Springs Chamber has always played a vital role in promoting and assisting with the needs of local businesses and tourism in Sweetwater County.

Potential business investors and tourists, many times, get their "first impression" of Rock Springs from their visit to our Chamber office. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the centerpiece of our community and we need to present ourselves in an esthetically pleasing manner, with modern design and conveniences that reflect our local cultural and environmental landscape.

Sweetwater County is dependent on business growth and tourism to sustain our economy and vitality into the next generation and with the Rock Springs Chamber being the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County it makes it essential that we support the necessary enhancements to this facility.

The Rock Springs Chamber is financially sound and has the resources for the matching requirements of the grant. The current building (which has been occupied since 1981 by the Chamber) is paid off but its roof is at the end of its life. The current facility or the "yellow shed" does not have room to allow for the staff capacity that is needed to handle the amount of business inquiries or to meet the demands of the tourist traffic it faces on a day to day basis. Since the current facility is in a high traffic area there is a tremendous need for restrooms, a secure playground area, and expanded pet area. These and many other reasons make the grant for the enhancement of our Chamber not only essential, but also a sound investment for Rock Springs. This will ensure our long-lasting and sustained viability to our community and the state of Wyoming.

Please help us provide a safe functional environment for the employees, and a welcoming, pleasing stop for all tourists that travel our way. We want them to have a long lasting, positive memory of Rock Springs and the great state of Wyoming. Thank you for your consideration and please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,

Martin +

John M. Hastert Wyoming Senate-13

#### WWW.WYOLEG.GOV

Sweetwater County School District Number One 307-352-3410 307-352-3411 FAX F.O. Box 1089 Rock Springs, WY 82902-1089

> Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools

Justin Spicer Chairmon of the Board

> Brody Baldwin Vice - Chairman

Leonard W. Hay Clerk

Robert J. Ramsey Transorr

Trustees Emma Waldser Joyce Corcoran Max Mickelson

November 8, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Pat Robbins:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. I would strongly encourage the Wyoming Business Council to consider their grant applications for the Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant for renovations and expansions to the existing Chamber building and adjacent park.

The Chamber building is centrally located and still remains the ideal site. It continues to serve as a hub for visitors and tourists and is often times their first impression of our community. The current building, which has housed the Chamber of Commerce since 1981, and the adjacent park would greatly benefit from the Community Development Block Grant by providing handicap accessibility as well as bringing it up to ADA code.

The Community Enhancement Grant will be used for the renovation and expansion of the existing building, which is needed, due to the rapid growth of our community and the high volume of visitors and tourists that are served annually. These renovations will afford the Chamber the ability to highlight Rock Springs and Sweetwater County as well as modernize the building in order to better serve the employees, community and tourists.

I fully support the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their grant applications. The renovations and expansions that will come from these grants will benefit the entire community.

Sincerely

Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools



WYOMING HOUSE DISTRICT 48

November 10, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council.

Greeting Pat.

I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their attempts to better serve the businesses and public of Sweetwater County and Rock Springs. The Chamber is seeking two grants to improve their current facilities. The role of the Chamber in our community is vital to growth and service to locals and tourists. There current location is a convenient location that is paid for and has been utilized by the Chamber since 1981. The proposed improvements are beneficial to commerce, recreation, safty and quality of life in our area. I would like to urge you to consider some of the impacts of the proposed upgrades to the facility. The upgrade in the facilities would accomplish multiple goals:

 The upgrades would bring the current building into ADA compliance and replace obsolete infrastructure.

a) All the mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 and will need replaced eventually

b) The roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life.

c) The proposal would add a park playground/picnic pavilions with ADA compliant access

d) Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

2. The upgrades would allow for better customer service and a better experience for visitors.

a) More area for staff to conduct operations and ticket sales/ more efficient use of staff time

b) The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives

c) An expanded pet area with a more modern and business-like appearance

The upgrades would allow businesses and the community to better benefit from the services already offered by the Chamber.

a) Better meeting rooms/ more room for the Business Development Program

b) The Chamber is a gateway to the community and is often the first impression that visitors have

c) The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

Please consider the impact that the Chamber currently has on our community and the positive results of the Chamber being able to better preform the services that they already offer. If you have any questions about my feelings on the Chamber or their desire to improve, please contact me.

Best Regards,

Wh Blue

Representative Mark Baker

HOUSE DISTRICT 48 • P. O. Box 3266 • Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902 TELEPHONE (307) 371-5113 • E-MAH. Mark.Baker@wyoleg.gov • WEB SITE www.wyoleg.gov



Representative John L. Freeman

Wyoming House of Representatives House District 60

**District Address** 

2340 North Carolina Way Green River, WY \$2935 307-825-7378 Freemanigwysening.com

> Committees Education

Wyoming Business Council Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rocks Springs, WY 82901

November 11, 2013

Dear Pat,

I would like to voice my support for the proposed update and expansion of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

When the current building was completed in 1981, the RS Chamber of Commerce served a much smaller community. Over the years, the mission of the Chamber has expanded from community promotion to include economic development and business development. With additional commitments came increased staff and activity within the building. The current building is busting at the scams. More space and the proposed additions of public restrooms, a children's playground, ticket booths, and display areas will make the building and grounds area more functional and appealing to area residents and the visitors to our county.

Building a suitable building for a highly functioning organization just makes sense. In both my professional and political roles, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has frequently been able to provide me with the information or services I needed or connect me with the people and organizations that I wanted to work with. The Rock Springs Chamber is known for building positive relationships and helping advance the goals of its partners. The Chamber has always represented the City and County well. I believe that the building expansion is appropriate and will greatly benefit the City of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

Respectfully,

John L. Freeman

Wyoming Legislature Online http://jepisweb.statt.wy.as



750, Bee 201 Literative Weening 70000 (197) 740-5007 Wyor 1-000-482 5010

> PLX Box, 100 Examplifie, Wyoming 50606 (307) 334-0613

P.O. Sol Hill: Foll Grillon, Colonado EMES-DOTE 425-2563

> P.D. This STAT They environ, Wy coming as 2007. (2017) CSC (2017)

September 24, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband, John, and Lare presently serving as the Hospice House of Laramie campaign on-chairs. Our firm commitment to the project stems from our involvement with Hospice on many different levels. Having served Hospice of Laramie as both a board member and a board president, I have personally witnessed the need for the agency in Laramie as well as in many of the surrounding areas. John's relationship with Hospice began when his father passed in a Hospice facility in Arizona 9 years ago. He still gets emotional when speaking of the sense of peace and acceptance the house afforded him during a most difficult time in his life.

While the present Hospice model has served the community well for several years, changing family dynamics and an evolving healthcare system have necessitated a change for Hospice of Laramie as well. This change comes in the form of a Hospice house. To this end, we would like to strongly encourage both the business council and the county to partner with Hospice of Laramie and award the Community Block Service Grant to this most worthy Albany County agency. Upon closer inspection, I am certain that your committee will find that Hospice has a long history of efficiently and effectively utilizing all domation and grant monies. Your contribution will enable Hospice to build a house that will be a cornerstone of our community for years to come.

Most Sincerely,

John Dooley



CITY OF LARAMIE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE P.O. Box C Laramie, Wyoming 82073

(307) 721-5226 FAX (307) 721-5211 TDD (307) 721-5295

November 26, 2013.

Robert Jensen, CEO Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Bob.

I am writing to express my support for Hospice of Lanamie's application for Community Development Block Grant funding to support its development of an inpatient facility in Laramie.

The City of Laramie's mission is to provide community excellence through our core values of respect, tearnwork, integrity and stewardship. Improving the quality of life for our community is central to this mission. I believe that Hospice of Laramie not only embodies the City of Laramie's core values-especially respect and integrity- but also achieves our goal of improving quality of life all the way through the process of dying. Hospice of Laramie has provided excellent end-of-life care in Laramie homes for over 28 years, and the development of an inpatient facility is needed how more than ever.

Hospice of Laramie has found that demand inpatient services is growing because of the aging population is increasing while at the same time, the number of local family members able to provide in-home primary care is decreasing. An inpatient facility will help Hospice of Laramie to serve families that cannot provide in-home care and will be sufficiently sized to accommodate residents from other communities that do not have such facilities. I have no doubt that the quality care that Hospice of Laramie has provided in the homes of hundreds of residents since its inception will extend to its inpatient facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards.

Janine Tordan, M.P.A. City Manager City of Lammie







November 29, 2013

Hospice of Laramie Attn: Terri Longhurst, Executive Director 1262 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Unit A Laramie WY 82070

Dear Terri,

I am writing this letter to express support of a Community Development Block Grant for Hospice of Laramie. Residence of Laramie and Albany County deserve the opportunity to experience end of life comfort care. This is not always the case, because few individuals are able to receive this type of care in their home. With this being said, a facility located in our community would help us serve this need.

This past year my father was able to die with dignity through the services of this wonderful organization. We were very blessed to be able to keep him at home during this process, yet it always was in the back of my mind..., where would he die if home was not an option. Not many choices in our community now. Through the vision of your Board and wonderful staff, a solution is around the corner.

This Grant would be the next step and bring a so close to building a Hospice House in Laramie. An inpatient care facility is critical to serve the needs of this community and the surrounding area. An expanded model of care delivery is needed. Without a primary care provider, individuals cannot stay at home and without a residential Hospice care option, individuals are limited to moving closer to family or friends who are able to provide such care or other in patient long term care facilities.

We will all die, and it is comforting to know that there is support through this program to help us fulfill this process with dignity. All people deserve to choose this option, which cannot be accomplished without this in-patient facility.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication making a Hospice House here in Laramie a reality.

Sincerely,

((

Nancy Stutzmal Community Bank President



LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PO Box 1250 + 500 South 31<sup>4</sup> Street + Lanamie, Wyoming + 52073 Phone: 307-742-2212 + Fax: 307-742-8200 + www.Lonamie/WV.org + www.CliniateGoolog.com

December 1, 2013

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Mr. Bob Jensen:

Laramie Economic Development Corporation hereby issues its support of the Community Development Block Grant for the construction of the Hospice House in Laramie. This facility is very much needed in our community and will solve a big concern for our citizens that have a need during their last days.

Not only is the need great in our community but it will be a beautiful facility and will create additional jobs. Hospice workers are extremely well trained and compassionate individuals and the type of individuals that are a great addition to Laramie.

As you know, when recruiting companies, the types of facilities and services available in a community are important to a company. Having a Hospice House that we can be proud of does improve our city. Accordingly, we strongly encourage your support of the CDBG proposal from Hospice.

If there are questions regarding why LEDC supports this project, please contact me,

Sincerely;

Daniel G. Furphy CEO Laramie Economic Development Corporation

02.17.14

To Whom it May Concern:

My Mom Martha McKenzie goes to Day Break at the Sheridan Senior Center Monday through Friday for 9 hours a day. She has been going there since June of 2013. She is 87 years old and cannot be left alone because she has Alzheimer's. She absolutely loves going there. She loves that she can be with others her age and not be alone. She enjoys the activities and she has made friends there and raves about it all of the time.

If my Mom didn't go to Day Break she wouldn't be able to live with us and would probably be put in a nursing home. My husband and I work full time Monday through Friday and would not be able to take care of her if it wasn't for the trained and friendly staff at Day Break.

Thank You,

Scarled Seawork

Scarlet Peacock

February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed and continue to enhance the adult day care programs through the Sheridan Senior Center.

Our organization is proud to refer veterans to the facility and program because many veterans have greatly benefited from the socialization, structure and supervision of this program. The Day Break Program gives veterans who for a variety of reasons are essentially homebound and unable to have normal social interactions with people other than family a chance to enjoy interactions with others who can relate to their circumstances and provide positive socialization opportunities. The time that veterans can spend at Day Break often allows for a significant extension of life spent at home where they can sustain life skills needed to remain in the home and family can have routine breaks from caregiving postponing the need to arrange nursing home or assisted living placement. These forms of community based support saves the national, state and local budgets large amounts of money in lessening the amount of time Sheridan County residents' lives are spent in expensive nursing home placements.

The goal of this application is to construct Day Break right next to the current facility and expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing assistance of daily living. We wholeheartedly support that goal and this application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors to ensure impactful community services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs. This is true of our partnership with the Sheridan Senior Center, as we are able to partner with care for

veterans that are extremely cost effective for both the Department of Veteran Affairs as well as the family.

The Center has a good relationship with many agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services to older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Engel

Jason Carter, LCSW Primary Care Social Worker Sheridan VAMC



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed and continue to enhance the adult day care programs through the Sheridan Senior Center.

The Day Break program supports the Family Caregiver Program in offering respite to caregivers. This is a place where a caregiver can take their loved one and be assured that caring, trained and professional staff will meet their needs. As Director of Family Caregiver Services, I refer many caregivers to the Day Break program and I know their loved ones will be in a safe, loving environment, I personally used Day Break for my mother, who suffered form dementia, and it was a Godsend for my father and me to know that she was being taken care of.

The goal of this application is to construct Day Break right next to the current facility and expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing assistance of daily living. We wholeheartedly support that goal and this application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors to ensure impactful community services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs. The Center has a good relationship with many agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services to older adults.

Sincerely,

Stella Montano Director of Family Caregiver Services February 26, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and the City of Sheridan as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors allowing them to remain in their homes.

I've had the experience personally of utilizing Day Break when my wife became disabled and the care, kindness and love provided were invaluable.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Seymour Thickman Physician

March 12, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors allowing them to remain in their homes.

Our organization has had the pleasure of partnering/experiencing and referring clients and families to Day Break. Many times caregivers need help caring for their family or friends. We believe the services are needed. It gives families and caregivers a nice reliable option when needed for assistance with caring for their loved ones.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and we appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Ann Aksamit, RN, CHPN Nurse Manager Sheridan Memorial Hospital Homecare/Hospice of the Big Horns



# REHABILITATION ENTERPRISES OF NORTH EASTERN WYOMING

March 12, 2014

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BES CY is in Equal Opposition Employed and Provides Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed.

RENEW has had the pleasure of partnering and experiencing the Sheridan Senior Center's current Day Break facility through the involvement of several of our participants that attend activities every week. The Day Break program increases the independence of our individuals with disabilities as well providing them with essential community and social integration.

The Sheridan Senior Center not only provides services to individuals, but to the community. The Center has a thirty-seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services.

The success of the Day Break Project has lead to a greater demand for services and the approval of this grant request will allow the Sheridan Senior Center to meet this increasing demand.

Please consider supporting the Sheridan Senior Center's request for funding to construct a new Day Break facility.

Sincerely,

Alen Ar leff Foster

Sheridan Service Manager/ Program Development Officer RENEW March 12, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This Grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day Care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors.

Our organization, Sheridan County Public Health, has had the pleasure of partnering/ experiencing Day Break as many of our clients attended Day Break from its inception. We believe the services are invaluable in that they allow people to remain in their homes longer, thus saving families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term care costs. In addition, Day Break provides respite for the caregiver and socialization for the client.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 or older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older by 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital Services.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and we appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Susan Mireck RN Public Health



Board of Directors

Sama Joänscon President

Steve Harker Vice President

Deris-Moeller Edwards Secretory

Cheryl Hitath Treasurer

Cullie Ucell

Leonard Hurst

Dr. Lerry Lidahi

Rae Ann Morsa

(Pr. Victor Yopuncich

Directors Emeritus

Barting Elmit

Roman Skatulti

Dr. Septement The known April 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The cost estimate for Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FFE) for the Day Break Eldercare Facility project is \$34,000. The funding to cover this expense will be provided by the Sheridan Senior Center through private donations to this part of the project. The Center has a few major private donors who in particular like to fund such projects, rather than operational support or large capital projects.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this application. We strongly believe that this project will be highly successful and are proud to seek BRC support to transform it into reality. If you have any questions, please do not besitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Carmen Rideout Executive Director Sheridan Senior Center/Senior Citizens Council



To seen To facei

April 15, 2014

Rindy West

Oria 5 Sout S PO Box 1038 Strendum, WV 87801-1128

Unite (307) 672-6498 (sk.(307) 672-7497

yew Manato.com

Development Director Sheridan Senior Center 211 Smith Street Sheridan, WY 82801

Ro: Sheridan Senior Center - New Day Break Facility

Dear Rindy.

Analysian Expression Construction To the best of our knowledge the approximate cost for flidures, lumiture, and equipment is \$34,000

Very truly yours

ELTENW.AC

TSP Del Acker AIA, LEED AP Principal



Instatution II Maximal MN Monaecola MN Rodeatas MN Disaha NE Tispis City SD Stock Falls SD Shock Falls SD Des Money M

# Addendum

## Correspondence

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Robert C. Kinn P.O. Box 3599 Alpine, WY 83128 307-654-3620 rkalpine@silverstar.com

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert C. Kinn and I am currently serving on the Alpine Town Council. I am writing to voice my support for the Wyoming Business Council Grant submitted on behalf of the town of Alpine. This grant is a Business Committed Grant and is a joint effort between the town of Alpine and Melvin Brewing Company to establish a multi-million dollar business in our community. The partnership between our town and this already established local business epitomizes the spirit of the Wyoming Business Council Grant and Loan program. I would like to take a little time to share with you why our community and this particular business are an ideal fit for this grant.

First of all, the community of Alpine is poised to be an economic center in Western Wyoming. Alpine is located at a critical transportation corridor for Western Wyoming, the junction of US Highway 26 and US Highway 89. Officials from across the state recognize the importance of our region to the economic welfare of state. For example, WYDOT has initiated multiple on-going multi-million dollar projects in Lincoln and Teton counties through its State Transportation Improvement Plan. Wyoming leaders recognize the importance of a viable transportation corridor for goods, commuters, and tourists. I've included links to some of the highway projects that will positively affect our community in the upcoming years:

#### https://www.dot.state.wy.us/files/live/sites/wydot/files/LincWeb.pdf https://www.dot.state.wy.us/files/live/sites/wydot/files/JackWeb.pdf

Like our state officials, our town officials have also prioritized capital improvements in our roads. Just last year we completed a re-paving project that cost approximately \$420,000, and we did so because we recognize the importance of our community being business ready. In addition to improvements to our roadways, Alpine has dedicated significant resources to create exceptional water and sewer facilities. Our multi-million dollar sewer plant is one of the premier plants in the state of Wyoming, and is currently only being utilized at 15% capacity. Likewise, our water system has had multiple upgrades and expansions over the past few years. Currently we are in the middle of an expansion project to bring water and sewer transmission lines across the Snake River to businesses and residents just north of the town limits. I mention these sewer and water projects because in them you see the commitment of the current mayor, Mr. Kennis Lutz, the town council, and the community as a whole to promote business in and around our community.

A few years ago Alpine had the distinction of being the fastest growing town in the state. According to the US Census Bureau in 2004 Alpine had added more than 1/3 of it's population since 2000. Besides our proximity to waterways and public lands, our town offers affordable housing, making it for many an ideal location to live and work. Since the recession began in 2007, our community has been through its share of lost businesses and foreclosures. Lately though, we have seen resurgence in our local housing market and an influx of new businesses. We have an eager labor-force already liere and a sufficient supply of affordable housing.

Alpine is already a destination, another arm of the already thriving tourist industry situated in and around Jackson Hole and the Yellowstone Ecosystem. We offer unique access to mountains and forests, three rivers-the Snake River, the Grey's River, and the Salt Riverand the Palisades reservoir. Our year-round tourist industry, which focuses on activities like snowmobiling, skiing, whitewater rafting, hunting, fishing, boating, camping, etc., is well suited to add another tourist draw, beer tourism. Melvin Brewing is poised to become a top 50-producer in the micro-brew industry, and the headquarters of this well known craft. brewer in Alpine will increase public visibility of our town and our state. It's important not to discount the financial significance of a brand or trademark. One just has to think of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort's Aerial Tram to understand how important an icon in an industry can be to a state's tourism. For those familiar with the micro-brew industry, the precedents of this impact are evinced by the partnerships between New Belgium Brewing and Fort Collins, CO., Rogue Brewing and Newport, OR., Sierra Nevada Brewing and Chico, CA, and Samuel Adams and Boston, MA, to name a few. When consumers think of these companies, they typically think of these towns and states, and many even plan vacations based on the locations of such breweries.

To me, one of the most exciting aspect of this project is the prospect of taking an already existent and thriving local business, and creating an opportunity to help it grow, while at the same time positively impacting not only our local and state's economy but the welfare of our local citizens. We have the opportunity here to do something homegrown. Moreover, what a unique opportunity this is to promote industry—the production and distribution of an actual Wyoming product—tourism in Western Wyoming, and finally to create local jobs. I've taiked to countless town citizens and every one of them has expressed hope and excitement about this project. We who live here know what an incomparable community we are a part of and know it's only a matter of time before others make the same discovery. I know that a partnership between the town of Alpine, Melvin Brewing, and the State Land Investment Board to create this opportunity will result in long-term benefits to all stakeholders.

Sincerely.

Robert C. Kinn



# **Board of Lincoln County Commissioners**

T. Deb Wolfley Chairman Fairview, Wyoming Kent Connelly Kemmerer, Wyoming Paul C. Jenkins Thayne, Wyoming

925 Sage Avenue, Suite 302, Kemmerer, WY 83101 Phone: 307-877-2004 Email: commission@lcwy.org

February 26, 2014

Mayor Kennis Lutz Town of Alpine Box 3070 Alpine, WY 83128

Subject: Melvin Brewing Company Proposal Wyoming Business Council - Basiness Committed Grani Request

Honorable Mayor Lutz.

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners supports your efforts to work in partnership with the Melvin Brewing Company to develop a new brewing and bottling facility near Alpine. We are particularly excited by the potential to create 30 full time jobs in the next five years and as many as 50 jobs in the future as this currently successful and award winning business grows. Alpine has taken the initiative over the past several years to provide the necessary water and sewer infrastructure that can support this type of facility over the long term. The six plus acre site proposed for the brewery is also well suited for this use and has great potential for additional business development in the future. Alpine also offers affordable housing and a desirable environment to attract and maintain the workforce necessary for this operation.

The County believes that this project can promote opportunities that address sensible and economically effective solutions that promote continued, responsible development. We support the Town in their efforts to promote economic development within the community and Lincoln County.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

T. Deb Wolfley, Chairman Paul C. Jenkins Keni Counelly

# Office of Planning and Engineering \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_Lincoln County, Wyoming

February 27, 2014

Mayor Kennis Lutz Town of Alpine Box 3070 Alpine, WY 83128

Subject: Melvin Brewing Company Proposal Wyoming Business Council – Business Committed Grant Request

Honorable Mayor Lutz,

I support Alpine's efforts to promote the development of a new brewing and bottling facility adjacent to the Town's new wastewater treatment facility. This proposed project is located on a unique site that is well suited for this use and takes advantage of the existing capacity in the Town's award winning and state of the art wastewater treatment plant. Most importantly, this proposal will enable the entrepreneurs associated with the Melvin Brewing Company to grow their successful local craft brewery into a regional facility that has the potential to create as many as 50 full time jobs in Lincoln County in the coming years. This exciting proposal has the potential to bring both diversity and stability to the local economy which has struggled to recover from the recent deep recession.

The proximity of the proposed site to the existing Town wastewater plant allows for the efficient and cost effective extension of critical water and sewer service required for this type of facility. The six plus acre site is also surrounded by US Bureau of Reclamation land and a WyDOT gravel operation that provide a good buffer from nearby residences. These factors in combination with the affordable housing available in the Alpine area provide the right ingredients for a significant and successful business.

This development is also fits well with the Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan and its goal of promoting economic development in existing towns and communities serviced by existing infrastructure:

Section III. Economic Development

Goal A. Promote and assist in the development of commercial, recreational and industrial activities.

Tel. 307 885 3106 Fax 307 885 3774 Physical Address: 61 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Afton, Wyoming Mailing Address: 421 Jefferson Suite 701 Afton, WY 83110 Objective 1 Promote and support the development of infrastructure in and around the towns and community centers for the creation and expansion of new and existing businesses

Section IV. Land Use

Goal B. Promote the development of residential, commercial and industrial hand uses in and around established central services in the county

Much of the workforce in northern Lincoln County commutes to Jackson via the Snake River Canyon. In fact over 1,000 vehicles per day make the commute because affordable housing in Teton County is quite rare. The creation of local jobs in the Alpine area is often a better deal for employers as well as their employees. Commuting is expensive, environmentally unfriendly and time consuming.

Our office is looking forward to working with the Town of Alpine on this exciting project

Sincerely:

John Woodward Director



Senator Dati Dockstader Wyoming Senate

27 February 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Sirs:

As the town of Alpine comes before the Wyoming Business Council this year to seek assistance with upcoming projects let me emphasize the importance that new business brings to this scenic western Wyoming community:

While new jobs are absolutely crucial for the community and the region, let me point out that approval of any project in Alpine immediately compliments an extensive municipal water and sewer system. New business, and the associated residential construction, will help cover the expenses of this infrastructure and at the same time ensure that it functions properly with adequate connections and regular use.

This is time to help Alpine continue with a successful and well managed growth plan that includes new business and residential construction backed by a strong water, sewer and road system in a community surrounded by national forests, a large recreational reservoir and beautiful high country rivers and streams.

Located at the intersection of three major highways that lead to a worldwide destination resort and national park system. Alpine holds the promise for success, perhaps like no other community. I encourage the Business Council's assistance with a part of Wyoming that holds a bright future.

Thank you for your consideration of this great Wyoming community.

Senator Dan Dockstader SD 16

Committeen.

Theori, Recentarion, Wibblight and Colored Resources

Timpertation, Highways and Millinery Affairs

Page 6 of 186 Senate District 16 • P.O. Box 129 • Afron, WY 83110 • 307.886 1500 • 307.886 1500 FAX • Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 young come



Wyoming Business Council

February 28, 2014

Re: Melvin Brewing

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today on behalf of Jeremy Tofte, who is applying for WBC funding to build a new, state of the art beer brewing facility in Alpine, Wyoming. I've had the pleasure of a business relationship with Jeremy since he first came to Jackson, WY, and opened the Thai Me Up restaurant in downtown Jackson. The restaurant business is a challenge in any community. However, in Jackson Hole's highly competitive, roller coaster seasonality, with one good 3 ½ month peak and a very long 8 month shoulder season, the restaurant business is a virtual high-wire act. Jeremy has proved himself able and his business has soared into a superbly popular downtown Thai restaurant with a micro brewery that is second to none. For a highly unusual second year running, Melvin Brewing has brought home the Gold in the Micro Brewers National Competition.

Jeremy has brought Melvin Brewing about as far as he can in his current facility. His application to build a 20,000 sq ft facility will bring a solid, year-round economic vitality to Alpine, Wyoming at which he projects to employ 38 – 50 year round, fall time staff. This new facility will enable Melvin Brewing to compete beyond our local region and enter the national market.

The Wyoming Business Council receives ample applications for economic grants and low interest loans. Jeremy Tofte's application is worthy of your serious consideration. His is a proven track record and the national awards he earns for his micro brews are telling of the quality and demand his beers will generate nationally. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely.

Mark J. Barron President


Received

APR 2 1 2014 Wyoming Business Council

March 27, 2014

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, WY 83110

RE: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim:

Sunrise Engineering, Inc. is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Economic Development Projects that were submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for funding. We have reviewed the projects and feel that not only are they necessary, but that they will enhance opportunities for future economic development in the Town.

2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue is the gateway to access the national forest and the world's largest cold water geyser located in Swift Creek Canyon. Enhancing this corridor will invite tourists to stop and visit this unique area which leads to additional revenues for the Town's businesses. Also, the sewer line upgrades are necessary to support growth on the north end of the Town. The proposed turn lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue would provide better access to and from the commercial lots located at the intersection of Washington and 1<sup>st</sup> making the area more attractive to businesses.

+ TEL

- F43

Best Regards, SUNRISE ENGINEERING, INC.

Jason Linford, B.F. Service Curter Manager

Page 8 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

www.sunrise-eng.com



314 SOUTH WASHINGTON P.O. BOX 1620 AFTON, WY 83110 307-885-3500 1-800-667-2100 FAX 307-885-3723

April 7, 2014

Town of Afton Attn: Hyun Kim, Town Administrator 416 Washington St Afton, WY 83110

Re: Economic Development Projects

Received

APR 2 1 2014

Wyoming Business Council

Mr; Kim:

1<sup>eff</sup> Bank in Afton would like to express its support to the Town of Afton and to the Wyoming Business Council for the Economic Development Projects being proposed by the Town of Afton. We trust that the Wyoming Business Council will honor your funding request for these necessary and insightful improvements.

As the Town of Afton experiences steady, sustainable residential and commercial development, improvements such as sever line upgrades become necessary to promote this economic growth. Additional improvements to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave would improve access to potential commercial development, and promote access to our National Forests and intermittent Spring, the world's largest cold water geyser. Both of these would make Afton more attractive to business and tourist activities, improving the economic outlook for our community.

Thank you, 1<sup>#</sup> Bank, Afton

Chris Allred Loan Officer

Marcus Weber Vice President 384 Washington Afton, WY 83110 M.L.O. # 810949



Phone: (307) 885-6221 Fax: (307) 885-0002 www.bosv.com Email: Marcus@bosv.com

April 8, 2014

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, WY 83110 Received

APR 2 1 2014 Wyoming Business Council

RE: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim:

The Bank of Star Valley fully supports the economic development projects referred to as the Afton Transformation Initiative which was submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for Funding.

Economic growth always requires adequate infrastructure. The Bank has met with several clients who have been interested in starting or expanding their businesses in the Afton area However, some development projects and business growth has been stifled due to the lack of adequate infrastructure within the town of Afton. We support the notion that improving Afton's road, water, and sewer infrastructure will lead to economic growth in the town of Afton and will ripple through the whole of Star Valley.

The Bank of Star Valley is positive about the economic future of Afton and the surrounding Star Valley area. Further developing the infrastructure within the town of Afton will only add to future opportunities for Star Valley and its residents.

Regards,

Marcus Weber

Marcus Weber Vice President

Rod Jensen President & CEO

Prestanti Inc. Social Sector Sector Automatical Sector Sector Prestanti Sector Network Provide Sector Network S

CORPORATE C.F.

### OMMERCE P.O. Box 190 + 150 S. Washington \* Alton, WY 83110

ALC SOL

BA THE WERTING

HAMBER

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Fown of Afton 416 (Clashington Street Afton, VVV 63110

Date Mr Km

this with great pleasure matchel Ray Valley Charmon dt Commerce offers the letter in subport of economic beve opment projects submitted for funding to the Wyoming Business Column

Curr Edwid trait insideweid this projects proposed and finds them to be meckessary es the effort. Is promise who enhance Cours economic by velopment.

Figure and a the prime economic opportunity for a nooin Opunty. Procoving the county is evolved once by anywhy fravelees in with its storical facts, extural peaking and externs up represented a coportunities must be supported by the improvement and development of the and it any nervices sector as positivitorizing and energy. The proposed signage projects intological the County should pressly entrance but exposure as a potential provide the community working fogether to consiste our individuality and our potentially.

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Phone: 307-885-2759 | Fax: 307-885-2758 h 800-428-8833 |

PADL N. SCHERHEL Professional Land Surveyor Wysming Registration No. 164 Utab Registration No. 1670 Midler Registration No. 1690 Network Registration No. 1690

SCHITT A. BCHERHEL Professional Land Surveyne Wyoming Registration No. 1899 Unde Registration No. 772111 Abber Registration No. 9020

MARLOWEA, SCHERBEI Professional Land Success Bysammy Reputation No. 5366

KAML F. SCHERIEL Professional Land Surveyor Wolming Regulation No. 11816 Idelas Regulation No. 11816 Idelas Regulation No. 11891 Uppelled Falses Sameyer No. 1223

## SURVEYOR SCHERBEL, LTD. PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

ADDRESS.

Hus Cold Office Hox 96, 283 Main Street Big Perry-Machleton, Wyoming, 83113

AFTON OFFICE flow 225, 46 West 3rd Avenue Afton, Wyroning A3110 TILLEPHONE

307/376-3342 307-226-3348 (F)x()

207-885-9339-207-885-9000 (Paul-

18 April 2014

Ent: 1983 CONSELLANTS DY Recentary Alternat frigueion and Water Higher.

> SUSAN HOFFMAN, Dig Plocy Office Memory

AMME DECORA AROM Office Managet

Jackson, W5 Direct to Hig Piner Office 307-733-5000 dt Fas

Lana Har Syntyk, ID Direct to Big Paney Office 206-276-5908 & Fas

Mangialia, 80 Direct to Allon Office 208-847-2000 & Fas

Mr. Hyun Kim, Town Administrator Town of Afton 416 Washington Street Afton, Wyoming 83110

Re: Letter of Support for Economic Development Projects

Dear Mr. Kim,

Surveyor Scherbel, Ltd. is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Economic Development Projects that were submitted to the Wyoming Business Council for funding. We have reviewed the projects and feel that not only are they necessary, but that they will enhance opportunities for future economic development in the Town.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue corridor is the gateway to access the national forest and the world's largest cold water geyser located in Swift Creek Canyon. Enhancing this corridor will invite tourists to stop and visit this unique area which leads to additional revenues for the Town's businesses. Also, the sewer line upgrades are necessary to support the growth on the north end of the Town. The proposed turn lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue would provide better access to and from the commercial lots located at the intersection of Washington and 1<sup>st</sup> making the area more attractive to businesses.

Sincerely, SURVEYOR SCHERBEL, LPD Maplowe A. Scherber, PLS





Julie Kozlowski Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Town of Edgerton Business Ready Communities Grant Application

Dear Mrs. Kozlowski:

Lock-Tite Anchor Co. Inc. is in full support of the Town of Edgerton's grant request to extend water and sewer service as well as roadway improvements to an existing industrial area within the Town that does not have water or sewer service.

Lock-Tite Anchor Co. Inc. is currently in the process of constructing a new facility to house our operations. Previously, Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. was located within the same building as the Junction Convenience Store in Midwest, which I also owned. I have sold the building and the convenience store to Big D Oil. As a result, a new facility is needed to house Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc.

Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. is a rig anchor, pipe hauling and general trucking firm serving the energy industry since the 1970's. I purchased the business approximately 15 years ago. Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc. employs 24 full time employees.

I have purchased a parcel of land in Edgerton that is located within an existing industrial area that is not served by water and sewer service and have started construction of a new facility, an 80° by 120° steel building. Total private investment in this facility is estimated at \$600,000. The facility is scheduled for completion in mid-May 2014.

Without this project I will be forced to use bottled water and portable toilets to service the facility. A situation that is far from ideal. In addition to providing water and sewer service to my facility this project will allow another existing business to hook into water and sewer service and it will also allow another existing business to install a bulk water sales station.

I respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Cato Spick

Scott Griffiths, President Lock-Tite Anchor Co., Inc.



Basic Energy Services 705 Hwy 387 Edgerton, WY 82635 May 7, 2014

Julie Kozlowski Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

Basic Energy Services has purchased Rocky Mountain Cementers (Edgerton, WY) four years ago. When we were informed of the possible water line extension that would be installed right along our property, we got excited.

We load a lot of water for our acid and cementing services, an average would be 660 barrels per day. Currently, we load water over at the Anadarko office in Midwest, WY usually waiting an hour in line with other water trucks.

When this water main is constructed we will build a bulk water load out station. This will save us time on loading water and allow other companies to load water, building revenue for the Town Of Edgerton.

I respectfully request your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Robert Soik Yard Manager

The Fossil Fish Capital of the World



City of Kemmerer, Wyoming

February 24, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St Cheyenne WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Kemmerer is supportive of the Lincoln County application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to Kemmerer and then the loop through the City of Kemmerer. The City has been electronically isolated and behind most other communities in Wyoming due to the lack of a looped fiber network in our area. We have found the efforts of the County and City to establish a looped fiber system as a key aspect to our continued determination to develop and implement an economic development plan for the future growth and success of the Kemmerer community.

We would hope that you would look favorably on this application.

Thank you, CITY OF KEMMERER

3- D. Maple

Zem Hopkins Mayor





SOUTH LINCOLN MEDICAL CENTER Caring for our Community

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

South Lincoln Medical Center is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. South Lincoln Medical Center is one of the major employers in Kemmerer. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Eric Boley CEO/Administrator

711 Onyx Street 
Kemmerer, WY 83101-3214



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1 Education Specialists P.O. Box 335 – 11 Adaville Drive Diamondville, WY 83116 Phone: 307-877-9095 Fax: 307-877-9638

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

Lincoln County School District No. 1 is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. Lincoln County School District No. 1 is one of the major employers. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

vera L. Charlt

Teresa Chaulk Superintendent Lincoln County School District No. 1 P.O. Box 335 Diamondville, WY 83116 307-877-9095



The State of Wyoning provides Hathaway Merit and Need Scholarships to Wyoning students attending the University of Wyoning and Wyoning community colleges. Every Wyoning student who neets the media requirements can earn a Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.

CREATING A PROMISING FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION Page 17 of 186



February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lincoln County IT Department is supportive of the grant application to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide crucial redundancy. All of the major employers in this area depend on reliable data access. Lincoln County Government is one of those agencies. It has been a challenge for our department to provide adequate data services to our Sheriff's Office, for example, between the north and south ends of our long county.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Eric Johnson Director of Technology



P. O. Box 950, Kemmerer, WY 83101 Phone: (307)828-2200 • Toll Free: (855) 922-6463 <u>www.westmoteland.com</u>

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Re: Lincoln County Application for the Installation of Fiber

To Whom It May Concern:

Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. is supportive of the grant application for the installation of conduit and fiber from Sage Junction to the Kemmerer area to close a major gap in fiber optic coverage in Southwest Wyoming. Closing the loop from Sage Junction on US Highway 30 will provide important redundancy. All of the major employers, including the government agencies, in this area depend on reliable data access. Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. is one of the major employers in the area, employing 300 people. The City of Kemmerer is dependent on a single fiber optic route from the Evanston area.

Please carefully consider approving this grant application.

Sincerely,

Donald Rily Systems Analyst Westmoreland Kemmerer, Inc. 6520 Elkol County Road 304 307-828-2211 P.O. BOX 281 20 U.S. 30 188 0134/04/04/LLE\_WYOMING 83116



Phy. 307 877-6879 877-8251

March 31, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Lincoln County BRC Readiness Application for Fiber Optics Line Extension

Dear Board Members and Staff:

The town of Diamondville recently learned of the county's application for a conduit to house three (3) fiber ducts that will connect the Diamondville Kemmerer community to an existing fiber loop that runs through Sage Junction approximately 25 miles west of the community. It is our understanding that All West Communications, Inc. has committed to the cost of installing fiber in one (1) duct and the necessary hardware and software to complete this connection.

This would be a great benefit to the community as our current service is dependent on a single fiber line that comes from the south along Highway 189 and ends in Kemmerer. If this is cut or has other technical problems it disrupts service in the community. We believe this will benefit businesses and residents regardless of whether they are a customer of All West or of Century Link as the service will be redundant and more reliable for all.

Finally, we are excited because this project not only provides an immediate benefit, it also provides for future expansion as there are the two (2) unused ducts that can be marketed for economic development. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Sackinger

Eric Backman



ENGINEERING · EURVEYING · PLANNING WWW.WCOMMERCH RAWLINS P.G. BOX 1104 RAWLINS, WY 82301 Pt 307-324-5262

Date 2/10/14

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

On behalf of WLC, we support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway, paved with curb and gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire hydrants and landscaping between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn on the east side of Rawlins for the new Fairfield Inn & Suites.

This street will not only provide access to get to the new Marriott property, but provide access to other parcels of land in that section that are currently landlocked. This could open up some new development opportunities for that area. The street would improve the Cedar Street entranceway to the east side of the City and may ease the increased traffic from the possibility of the Walmart Supercenter coming to that same side of town. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alton Lane and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

We hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins. Please contact me if you have any questions at 307-324-5262.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Boyd P.L.S Senior Project Manager

## BANK OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 50 Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

(307) 324-2265

February 10, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

Please accept this letter on behalf of myself and Bank of Commerce in Rawlins. We are proud to support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway that will be paved and lined with curb, gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire suppression and landscaping. This road is slated to be located on the east end of Rawlins between Airport road and the Comfort Inn, and will serve as an access point for the new Fairfield Inn and Suites soon to come to Rawlins.

This street serves many benefits to our community. Primarily it provides access to parcels of land in that area that are currently landlocked which impedes further development. This street also provides improved access to Cedar street which is a busy roadway. Cedar street is also set to see considerable increase in traffic with the possible construction the new Walmart Supercenter which is slated to be located nearby. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alda Road and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

We hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins. Please contact me if you have any questions for me regarding this project or my recommendation. I can be reached at Bank of Commerce. My phone number is 1-307-324-2265.

Sincerely, Copper W. France President

## CARBON COUNTY HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

DWITTINGSAUDOS, PLD. PSECTICS FUELCO.

February 10, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

Greetings from Rawlins! As you know there is a lot happening in our community: a new Career and Technical Education Center is nearing completion along with a new roadway to serve it, construction will begin on a new high school this spring, our Mainstreet team has completed the first part of a downtown renovation project and will soon begin on the next phase to upgrade all of the business facades. These forward-leaning projects seem to be creating a bit of momentum in other areas of our town as we have seen new businesses relocate here (Tractor Supply), know that other new businesses will locate here (Marriott) and hear rumors of still more (Walmart).

The Carbon County Higher Education Center is delighted to support the City of Rawlins' application for a Business Committed Grant from the Wyoming Business Council to construct a roadway between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn. This roadway will service the new Fairfield Inn and Suites but will also provide access to much of the property south of Cedar Street on the east end of town for further development. The proposed roadway will provide smoother access to these properties for public safety purposes as well as for the convenience of patrons. As a lagniappe, the road will also help beautify the eastern entrance into Rawlins, a project that has long been a part of city planning.

The proposal before you has been well-thought out and is perfectly consistent with much of the strategic planning that has guided development in Rawlins for the past several years. Your assistance with this grant will allow us to keep up the energy that is fueling some extremely positive developments in Rawlins and will help us in our efforts to attract new and more diversified industry to our community.

David Throgmorton, Ph.d.

MAIN CAMPUS 205-BODO SCRITT, RAWING WY PROVE N7: 25-22017AS, 472-021-028 VOCATIONAL CAMPTS 2121, ADDRAY STREET RANDONS, WY PROBE 307, UN-9271 LAN, 307, 328-9218 1569 CAMPUS 160 WHIPPOCKYULL RAGES WY PHONE 307, 503 (201 FAX, 307, 588 (114)

Page 23 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



Matthew H. Mead Governor

## State of Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Office of the Director 122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Herschler 2-East Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 307.777.8650 \* Fax: 307.777.5857 www.wyomingworkforce.org



Joan K. Evans Director Lisa M. Osvold Deputy Director

February 14, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W, 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler:

I am writing to offer the support of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services [DWS] for the city of Rawlins' application for a "Business Ready Communities Business Committed Grant". This grant would be to improve the East side of Rawlins and would provide for construction of a roadway that will provide access to a new Fairfield Inn & Suites, as well as to other parcels that are currently landlocked but awaiting development.

The Agency is fully supportive of economic development efforts such as this project because they not only enhance the aesthetics of a community, they create construction jobs in the short-term and for the long-term, open the way for new businesses, new jobs, and a stronger community.

The DWS has been a steadfast partner with the Business Council on projects that help create jobs and put people to work, and we stand ready to help recruit and groom job candidates not only for the Marriott property, but other new businesses that could result from this project. Building streets, curbs, sidewalks, and utilities isn't always headline-grabbing, but these types of endeavors are the foundation for helping our cities keep vibrant and appealing, especially in times of tight local budgets.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to weigh in on another exciting project for the city of Rawlins. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely Joan K. Evans Director

JKE:rb

Cc: File Ref: JKE-14-010



We Bridge Human and Economic Development for Wyoming's Future.



Leo Chapman, Chairman John Espy, Vice Chairman Lindy Glode Willing John Johnson Sue Jones



(307)-328-2699 Toll Free 1-800-250-9812 Fax: (307)-328-2669 www.carbonwy.com

#### BOARD OF CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. Box 6, 415 West Pine Street Rawlins, WY 82301

February 18, 2014

Molly Spangler Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY \$2002

Dear Ms. Spangler,

The Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) support the City of Rawlins' BRC Business Committed Grant application to construct a new roadway, paved with curb and gutter, sidewalks, lighting, waterlines, fire hydrants and landscaping between Airport Road and the Comfort Inn on the east side of Rawlins for the new Fairfield Inn & Suites, a Marriott property.

This street will not only provide access to get to the new Marriott property, but provide access to other parcels of land in that section that are currently landlocked. This could open up some new development opportunities for that area. The street would improve the Cedar Street entranceway to the east side of the City and may ease the increased traffic from the possibility of the Walmart Supercenter coming to that same side of town. The City of Rawlins transportation plan mentions street access between Alton Lane and Cedar Street and this project fits in that plan.

The BOCC hope you will look favorably on the Rawlins Street grant application for the Marriott property. It is a great project for not only the new Marriott Hotel, but for the City of Rawlins and assists us in attracting new and more diversified industry into our county. The proposal before you has been well-thought out and is consistent with much of the strategic planning that has guided development in Rawlins for the past few years. Thank you.

Sincerely,

fur 1 Chagon

Leo Chapman, Chairman Board of Carbon County Commissioners



April 14, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

We strongly encourage your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, Torrington, WY. Our business currently utilizes city power and is located just across the street from the proposed substation. This project could increase the value of our property as well as provide future electric service as the need arises. We appreciate your consideration to help improve our infrastructure that will benefit many.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Miller, Jr



#### LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

800 South Third Street • PO Box 1250 • Laramie, Wyoming • 82073 Phone: 307-742-2212 • Fax: 307-742-8200 • www.laramiewy.org

October 17, 2013

Tim Sullivan, Chairman Albany County Commissioners 525 Grand Avenue Laramie WY \$2070 Steve Hamaker, CEO Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters 518 Ord Laramie WY 82070

RE: Letter of Support for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hannaker:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs:
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining and retaining over 50 Wyoming jobs:
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) nonprofit organization;
- · Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters will be applying December 1st to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities.

The Laramie Economic Development Corporation fully supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center.

This project is important to this community in that it provides assistance to children in need of support as well as makes effective use of an existing school building.

Sincerely Daniel G. Furphy

President and CEO



City of Laramie City Manager's Office P.O. Box C Laramie, WY 82073 (307) 721-5226 FAX (307) 721-5211 TDD (307) 721-5295

November 19, 2013

Tim Sullivan, Chairman Albany County Commissioners 525 Grand Avenue Laramie, WY 82070

Steve Hamaker, CEO Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters 518 Ord Laramie, WY 82070

RE: Letter of Commitment for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hamaker:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters will be applying December 1, 2013 to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities. As a requirement to the grant, 15% or \$225,000 of the request has to be provided with either in-kind or cash match. To document that the match has been secured, letters of commitment must accompany the application.

The City of Laramie supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center by contributing the following to the project:

\$12,333.00 in Community Partner funds and up to \$24,719.94 in additional funding requested as mid-year Community Partner contribution, for the completion of this project (see attachment A). The City's contribution of \$50,000 for in-kind services will be determined by the City Council as project plans are finalized and specific needs identified.

We look forward to the completion of this much needed project for one of Laramie's most successful and established non-profit organizations.

Respectfully,

sed Paulan

David A. Paulekas Mayor

MALETA M MANGAN 2521 E Park Ave Laramie, WY 82070

#### 307/742-3370

January 10, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Sandy Quinlan Investment Ready Communities Division Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Support for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. I have been a volunteer community advisory board member involved in the **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Community Partnership grant program** (TANF-CPI) since 2004 and believe that the Big Brothers Big Sisters program contributes greatly to the Albany County Family Intensive Program that is funded through the Wyoming Department of Family Services. Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has been providing contracted services for the last two years to 275 individuals including youth and their families. The Big Brothers Big Sisters provides services to a wide number of income-eligible at-risk families in order to help them raise their children at home. It is believed that this project will provide the following:

- Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;
- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities.

I fully support the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center and encourage you to fund this important project for our community.

Sincerely,

maleto m Mar

Maleta M Mangan Albany County Intensive Family Program Advisory Board Member

WY Partners of the Americas c/o Dorly Piske 2382 Riverside Dr. Laramie WY 82070 <u>dorlypiske@hotmail.com</u> 307.760.8279

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Partners of the America's Wyoming Chapter is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

The Partners of the Americas Wyoming Chapter regularly uses the building for youth related events. One such events is the Youth Leadership Summit, involving Youth Ambassadors from Latin America and/or the Caribbean, local high school and college students. We also organize Biojewelry for Breast Cancer workshops where local youth volunteers create jewelry to support a traveling mammography program for underserved women in Goiás, Brazil. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, The Partners of the Americas Wyoming Chapter is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the quality-of-life of the community, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dorly Piske

President, Partners of the Americas, Wyoming Chapter



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

of Albany County 710 E. Garfield, #240 Laramie, WY 82070 (307) 745-8643

UNITED WAY

www.unitedwayalbanycounty.org

The United Way of Albany County is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School for Big Brothers Big Sisters. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters that are supported by financial contributions from the United Way of Albany County, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our 14 member agencies.

The United Way of Albany County has regularly used the building for meetings of our organization and our member agencies. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, United Way is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Paul Heimer, Executive Director United Way of Albany County



12 307.745 8007 1.800.076.0009 Fax 307.742.5146 www.cathedtathome.org info@cathedtathome.org 8989 North 3rd Sereet Latania, Wyoming 82072

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Peggy Palm =

Nicole Hauser a

 Accredited by the just Communication of Accreditation of Healthcase Organizations

Member of Cults Wethere Learned of America

Catherinal Horos for Children is an Ecual Opportunity Employer January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Albany County Family Network is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our mutual clients.

The Albany County Family Network (ACFN) is a local group that meets regularly to discuss Issues facing local families, coordinate communication amongst service providers, and find solutions to address community concerns. We regularly use the Nellie Iles building for our meetings. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, ACFN is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie lies for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Sharon Weber,

Community Program Director

Cathedral Home For Children

Breaking the cycle of vallence, despute, and failure for over the years

Cathedral Home For Children

Community Programs

Laramie, WY 82070

960 North 5th

ALBANY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

1948 Grand Avenue . Laranie WY 82070



BOT 721-4400 brecktillaci.let2.wy.us

ACSD Student Artwork

January 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council.

Albany County School District #1 is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lies School proposed by Albany County and Big Brothers Big Sisters. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our students.

Albany County School District #1 is interested in potential future use of the building if Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications. We believe there is potential for specialized classes, individualized student groups and projects, and continued afterschool learning opportunities.

We are supportive of the project for our community and our students and look forward to potential future use and partnerships. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Recht Superintendent of Schools Albany County School District One

HATHAWAY

The Scar of Wyoming provides Hallaway Merit and Need Scholarships for Wyoming andients aneming the University of Wyoming and Wyoming channeling channeling the Provide Providence Scholarship, Contact your school coassider for more information.



January 13, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

The Laramie Soccer Association is very excited and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Neilie Isles School. It is a fantastic resource for our community!

LSA, which serves over 500 Laramie youth each year; has greatly benefited from the use of the Big Brothers Big Sisters building for 10 years. We hold our monthly meetings, coaches' meetings and equipment pick up, registration and yearly public meetings in the conference room.

Our players have also benefited from BBBS' move to their current location: the Neille Isles School. We have been able to hold coaches' clinics and winter practices for teams participating in indoor tournaments in the gym of BBBS.

Without the use of the BBBS building we would be greatly hampered in the ability to provide many of the opportunities we do to our players, coaches and parents; not only during the extremely cold winter months when access to outdoor fields is impossible but all year through!

Thank you, Hanske 1

Crystal Hamaker,

President,

Laramie Soccer Association



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Albany County Campus of Laranie County Community College is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource.

The ACC would be happy to see the facility renovated to provide additional classroom and meeting space for the community as a whole. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, the ACC anticipates that the building will continue to be an asset to the larger community.

We are supportive of the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters. Renovation of the building promises to continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality of life, social services networks, and economic growth.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Urban

Kathleen Urban Interim Associate Vice President Albany County Campus Laramie County Community College 1125 Boulder Drive Laramie, WY 82070 kurban@lccc.wy.edu 307.772.4245

Laramie Local Community Market

598 N Pierce St

Laramie, WY 82070

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

Laramie Local Community Market is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

Laramie Local Community Market regularly uses the building for: vendor parking. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, Laramie Local Community Market is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Erika Rogers

Laramie Local Community Market



#### Laramie Youth Crisis Center

960 North 5th Street Laramie, Wyoming 82072 (307) 742 5936 Fax (307) 745 3854

> A Cathedral Home for Children Program

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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M. Gregory Weisz

Peggy Palm

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Nicole Houser

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: Sharon Weber

EVEC DIRECTOR



January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Laramie Youth Crisis Center is supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie lies School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization and our mutual clients.

The Laramie Youth Crisis Center has occasionally used the building for parent education classes and youth groups. We anticipate continued occasional use of the building for similar purposes in the future.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

En Book

Eric Brooks, Director

Cathedral Home For Children

Laramie Youth Crisis Center

960 North 5th

Laramie, WY 82070

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness 504 South 4<sup>th</sup> Laramie , WY 82070 307-755-1000

January 13, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness regularly uses the building for classes, group projects and group counseling. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness is looking forward to the continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

astar

Teresa Jacobs-Castano

The Clinic for Mental Health and Wellness

# WY MING NASA Space Grant Consortium

January 14, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium, located at the University of Wyoming, is excited about and supportive of the proposed renovation of the Nellie Iles School. In addition to the many services provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters, the building is a community asset that will continue to be a valuable resource for our organization.

Wyoming NASA Space Grant has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sister on several programs and next year we intend to start a program in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, in which a UW science or engineering graduate student will provide science-related afterschool activities for students. Through this program we will regularly use the building for science and engineering activities. If Albany County and Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters are successful in their grant applications, Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium is committed and looking forward to continued use of the building.

We are supportive and have a vested interest in the renovation of Nellie Iles for Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Albany County community. Renovation of the building will continue significant long-term contributions to the community's quality-of-life, social services network, and economic success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawna M. McBride

Associate Director Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium Dept. 3905 • Physics and Astronomy Dept. • PS208 1000 E. University Ave. Laramie, WY 82071



ALBANY COUNTY & PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE 525 Grand Ave., Suite 100 • Luranie, WY 82070 307-721-2552 • Fax 307-721-2554

January 14, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Sandy Quinlan Investment Ready Communities Division Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Commitment for the Rehabilitation of the Nellie fles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center

Dear Ms. Quintan:

This letter is to provide support of the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center located at 518 S. Ord Street. The Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center will provide youth recreational opportunities, community meeting space, nonprofit office space, afterschool programming, and the county's juvenile justice programs. Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has been providing the supervision of the Albany County Juvenile Diversion Program for the Albany County Attorney's Office via a contract with the Albany County since January of 2006. The Diversion Program allows juveniles who are accused of crimes and who are first offenders to benefit from services to assist them in avoiding continued criminal behavior while avoiding the stigma of a criminal conviction or delinquent adjudication if they successfully complete the program. Currently there are 34 juvenile participants in the program. Since its inception there have been 283 participants to date. The success of the program is reflected in the fact that since the program's inception 83.9% of the juveniles who participate in the program successfully complete it and 91.9% of juveniles who complete it have not re-offended for up to 12 months after completion of the Juvenile Diversion program.

In addition, BBBS in Laramie provides services to some of the juveniles who are on probation supervised by the Department of Family Services in Juvenile Court though the Progressive Youth program. In that program youth who are identified as being able to benefit from the program receive supervised community service and participation in social and educational activities calculated to assist in their rehabilitation.

It is believed that this project will provide the following:

· Relieve taxpayers from the burden of maintaining the school property;

- Reduce energy costs;
- Provide economic benefits by sustaining over 50 Wyoming jobs;
- Provide long-term sustainability for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters (GWBBS) non-profit organization;
- Ensure countless measurable quality-of-life benefits for hundreds of local youth and families; and
- Preserve a historical local school building.

It is my understanding that Albany County and the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters program has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and a Community Development Block Grant for \$500,000 to help fund the rehabilitation activities. This project will allow BBBS to effectively continue and improve its valuable contribution to the two programs referred to above.

The Albany County Attorney's Office fully supports the rehabilitation project of the Nellie Iles School for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Mentoring Center and we encourage you to fund this important project for our community.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Bohling Albany County & Prosecuting Attorney

RB/cj


CITY OF LARAMIE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX C Laramie, WY 82073 Parks Division: (307) 721-5264 Fax: (307) 721-5256 Recreation Division: (307) 721-5269 Fax: (307) 721-5284 Facilities Mgmt Division: (307) 721-5285 TDD: (307) 721-5295

January 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Investment Ready Communities Division 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240 Molly Spangler, Director

Dear Ms. Spangler:

The City of Laramie, Parks & Recreation Department would like to emphasize to the Wyoming Business Council that Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters is a strong partner in our local recreation and community wellness system. Through their after-school, mentoring and intervention programs, Big Brothers Big Sisters regularly contributes to recreation opportunities and quality of life for our local citizens. Without their continued efforts and partnership with the City's Parks and Recreation Department; Laramie families of would be further underserved with our very limited resources.

Please note that on November 19, 2013 the City Council passed a motion to provide a letter of support of the grant application of Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters, along with funding of \$26,000 in community partner funds and up to \$50,000 in-kind services support for the Community Facilities Grant. As a Parks and Recreation professional for over thirty years, I understand the value and benefit to the community for having an adequate facility/building to provide these important services to the Laramie community, thereby improving the community's recreation opportunities and enhancing our quality of life.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the City's support of the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters grant request, please contact my office at your convenience.

Sincerel

Paul Harrison Parks & Recreation Director

Cc: Janine Jordan, City Manager Parks, Tree and Recreation Advisory Board

A Place for All



GREAT PLAINS AREA PO Box 400 Torrington, WY 82240

April 15, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

We strongly encourage your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, Torrington, Wyoming. Our business currently utilizes power from the City of Torrington and we are located just north of the proposed substation site. This project could increase the value of our property as well as provide future electric service should the need arise. We appreciate your consideration to help improve our infrastructure as we believe it will benefit many.

Sincerely, 10 Lisa L. Ochsner

Unit Supervisor



April 15th, 2014

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

TDS strongly encourages your approval of grant funding for an electric substation at the Cold Springs Business Park, in Torrington, WY. Our business currently utilizes city power and the project would benefit the business community. We appreciate you consideration to help improve our infrastructure that will benefit the need of many.

Gary Olson President



### April 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council

I am writing in support of the Cold Springs Business Park electrical substation in Tortington.

Our property adjoins the Cold Springs Business Park to the north. I believe the development of this area would benefit all of Goshen County as we continue to increase the economic activity in the area.

In closing, I strongly encourage you to approve this project.

Sincerely,

U. Bin

David W. Briggs President & CEO

P. O. Box H Alliance, NE 69301

(308) 762-3112 westoo.coop Page 47 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 February 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

### RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board members,

The Two Fly Foundation is an entity created for the specific purpose to donate charitable collections to Wyoming charities. We raise money from oil and gas companies operating in Wyoming by organizing a two-day fly fishing tournament on the North Platte River. We invite 50 executives to participate in the tournament. In just nine years, we have collected and donated \$1,171,550 to Wyoming charities, including \$162,750 to the *Platte River Revisal*.

We feel strongly that our donations to the *Platte River Revinal* have and will continue to benefit the local quality of life and will specifically benefit the fishing in the entire North Platte system. The Platte River west of town has become a world class fishery enticing fisherman from neighboring states and beyond to enjoy. We think the current effort of the *Platte River Revival* to improve the quality of the river habitat and bank restoration in Casper will allow this portion of the river to become a destination fishery as well.

The public benefits to Wyoming are many in the form of increased opportunity to enjoy a "new" stretch of the river and to attract fisherman and other river recreationists to Casper rather than just Grey Reef. The local economy directly benefits and broadens the opportunity for out-of-state people and locals to be exposed to another first class fishery.

We have gathered data validating the premise the economic benefit to Wyoming is greater than one might initially think. Each of the three main fly shops in Casper do over 1,000 float trips per year for a total of 3,000 float trips. We speculate that collectively the other guiding services do another 1,000 trips. These 4,000 trips per year equate to 8,000 fishermen. Records demonstrate that out-of-state fishermen account for 70 percent of the trips; that equates to 5,600 out-of-state fisherman days in or around Casper. All local shops collect over \$1.6 million annually for guided trips and 70 percent or

Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

THE TWO Fur POUNDATION

Page 48 of 186

Wyoming Business Council February 12, 2014 Page 2

over \$1 million is paid by out-of-state fisherman. Clients use our hotels, restaurants, airport, and spend money in local shops. And best of all, these individuals are introduced to Wyoming. They ultimately return with their families.

Another component of this project is its demonstrated ability to break down barriers. It's not often that the oil and gas industry and environmentalists agree on something so fervently, but the *Plattle River Revinal* is one of those projects that bring these two groups, who are habitually at odds, together for the sake of restoration and rehabilitation. This is evident every May when oil and gas executives gather in Casper for our fishing tournament and money is raised for this project.

Obviously when the restoration of the river section through Casper is complete, it, too, will attract more recreationists to our community and state. We will continue to invest in the *Platte River Project*, and we encourage the Wyoming Business Council to do the same.

Sincerely,

The Two Fly Foundation Board of Directors

Tom Swanson

Buil & Corpet

Chan I Sharrow

nand Inde Wold

Brice Carpenter

Gerald Brummett

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allen

Kim Dela

Cang E. Brus

Cary Brus



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Cusper Field Office 2987 Prospector Drive Casper, Wyoming 82604-2968 www.blm.gov/wy



In Reply Refer To: 8320 (WYP060)

Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Hathaway Building, 1st Floor 2300 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: North Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Board Members:

As a sponsor of the Plate River Revival, National Public Lands Day event 1 am writing this letter in support of The North Platte River Restoration Project. This is an exemplary project with far reaching benefits for both the North Platte River and the communities that have grownup along its river banks. This project has brought new focus to the importance of proper watershed management and to the intrinsic values of our local waterways. The project has revitalized community interest, created long term partnerships and has brought national attention to the epicenter of life in central Wyoming.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Casper Field Office has been striving to preserve and enhance important habitats within the North Platte River Corridor for the past ten years. To this end, the BLM has invested 7 million dollars in acquisitions and 1.5 million in recreational infrastructure. In 2012 the North Platte River as it flows through central Wyoming was designated as one of the American Great Outdoors Projects. The success of this nomination was due in part to the efforts of the City of Casper and the Platte River Revival Project. This strong local commitment to the North Platte River helps to bring allocated funds to Wyoming in support of these efforts.

Though facilitated by the City of Casper, the North Platte River Restoration Project is the culmination of over 7 years of hard work and dedication from numerous private businesses, public organizations and land management agencies. It is my sincere hope that you will agree with us that this project worth funding.

by gmes

Joseph F. Meyer Casper Office Field Manager



### WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006 Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699 wgld.wyo.gov GOVERNOR MATTHEW H MEAD BIRECTOR SCOTT TALBOTT

COMMISSIONERS MIKE HEALY - Present RICHARD RLOUDA - Vice President MARK ANSELM AARON CLARK KEITH CULVER T CARRIE LITTLE

CHARLES PRICE

February 24, 2014

Jolene Martinez 200 North David Street Casper, WY 82601

Dear Ms. Martinez:

The earliest correspondence I found discussing a potential habitat improvement project at Morad Park in files of the Casper Game and Fish Office was dated 1984. Morad Park was being evaluated because the area provided excellent angler access but the North Platte River through the Park was primarily a shallow run lacking cover with a limited amount trout holding area. Early proposals included using boulders to enhance trout habitat features to attract and hold trout in the area with excellent angler access. In short, the project goal was to enhance trout numbers where anglers have access. The project was not implemented due to funding constraints and the Department lacked the expertise to conduct a habitat improvement project on a large river in an urban area.

Thirty years later the river habitat in the area is unchanged, a shallow run lacking cover. Changes in land ownership have actually increased the amount of public access for anglers in the area and certainly the interest in fishing and river recreation has increased. Fortunately today new funding sources for habitat improvement are available. New partnerships have also developed with a desire to improve the river corridor, and with the expertise of Stantec, the possibility to enhance trout habitat, as well as, the entire river corridor in the Morad Park area has become a reality.

I certainly support the goals of the City of Casper's river restoration effort and the project at Morad Park. Improving trout habitat in an area where anglers can access provides obvious benefits for anglers. In addition to benefiting anglers, the project will enhance aesthetics, remove invasive species and stabilize the river, all of which makes Casper a more attractive location to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Al Conder Casper Regional Fisheries Supervisor

AC/:ac



\*KinkASKA Sceneral - Maril - Marine - Indonese WYOMING Terrapers - Theorem - Caspo Email: info@pybank.com Webaite: www.pybank.com

February 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Council Members:

RE: Platte River Revival Master Plan

It is without reservation that I write in support of the Platte River Revival Master Plan. Our banking organization has been in the Casper market for several years and we see the strong economic effect of the upper river's fantastic fishing and the related business it brings to Casper. Casper has developed into one of the most vibrant business economies in Wyoming and restoration of the river in the Casper area is very important to the continued improvement of the positive economic and social aspects of the Casper area.

When Economic Development and new business growth happens it is often difficult to pinpoint all of the aspects that went into a final decision to locate a new business, but one of the common elements is the community. The PRRMP is one of those community improvements that help make those decisions easier. The Platte River is a shining star of Casper and the Revival Plan is very easy to support. We fully encourage the Business Councils support of the Revival Plan for the Platte River and believe it is very important to the continued growth of the Casper area.

Joe P. Guth Corporate President



NEBRASKA: Sciencing + Mount + Manuale + Belagenet WYOMING: Recognit + Weissing + Corpor

> Email: info@pybank.com Website: www.pybunk.com

February 28, 2014

Board of Directors Wyoming Business Council Cheyenne, WY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please allow me this opportunity to convey my support for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant which will be used to partially fund the Platte River Revival. As you probably know, the North Platte River Environmental Restoration Master Plan has outlined several lofty, yet achievable, restoration projects to greatly enhance a 13.5 mile stretch of the river.

The North Platte River is a great natural resource of Wyoming, and Casper is blessed to have the river flow through the city limits. During the initial developmental growth and expansion of Casper, the North Platte River was abused and neglected, which resulted in a deterioration of the natural components of riparian habitats. Fortunately, through the coordinated efforts of private and public partnerships, the river is slowly being restored to reflect renowned attributes of a "great river"

The Casper community is very proud of the Platte River Parkway & Trails system which has been developed over the years near the banks of the North Platte River. The Restoration Master Plan will be a great complement to the Parkway, and help to further enhance a fabulous resource within Casper. In addition to use by thousands of Casper residents, the North Platte River is a great attraction for tourists and anglers who visit Casper and are able to enjoy its wonderful attributes.

The grant request from the Wyoming Business Council would be a key component of fulfilling the goals of the Master Plan, and I ask for your support of the project.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Ron Wright President - Casper



First Interstate Bank 104 South Wolcott PO, Box 48 Camper, WY 82602-0040 397-235-4201 www.linstitterstatebank.com

March 11, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

First Interstate Bank of Casper is a strong supporter of the *Platte River Revival's* river restoration effort. Over the last several years First Interstate employees have donated hundreds of volunteer hours working on habitat improvement and general cleanup projects along the Platte River. The Platte River restoration project has tremendous support from the businesses in Casper, in addition both the Gas and Oil industry and Environmentalists are together on the Platte River Restoration!

The restoration project will restore a world class fishing experience with great access for the people of Wyoming and out-of-state fisherman and other river recreationalists. Wyoming stands to benefit when tourists use our restaurants, hotels, shops, and help pay our taxes.

The Platte River Revival is working hard to "Raise the Bar" by making Casper a better place to live. First Interstate Bank supports their efforts and pledges its support by providing financial support along with our employee volunteers to the Platte River Revival.

We hope you will join us and favorably consider their grant request.

Willer a Ay

William A. Huppert Regional President, Wyoming First Interstate Bank





March 20, 2014

Board of Directors Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

### Reference: City of Casper - North Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Members of the Board,

In 2011 and 2012, at the request of the City of Casper, Stantec Consulting Services and SWCA Environmental prepared the North Platte River Master Plan. The Master Plan provided an assessment of the existing condition of- and proposed restoration strategies for- the North Platte River in a 13.5-mile reach that flows through the City of Casper, the Town of Mills, and Natrona County. The Master Plan identified seven high priority restoration sites for the North Platte River. The City of Casper has raised funds to implement restoration at one of these high priority sites (First Street Bridge site) and has applied to the Wyoming Business Council for additional funds to implement restoration at the Morad Park site.

Restoration of the North Platte River at these sites will enhance the ecological function of the river and riparian areas. These projects will improve the aesthetics and natural beauty of the greenway; provide improved and diverse habitat for fish, wildlife, and songbird species; increase recreational opportunities within the river corridor within City limits; reduce sedimentation and mitigate property losses due to bank erosion; improve water quality; and eradicate invasive plant species and establish a healthy, native plant community on the river's banks and floodplain. The re-establishment and enhancement of wetlands adjacent to the river will provide additional water quality enhancements by filtering runoff and will provide greater habitat heterogeneity and high-value sites for both aquatic and terrestrial species. Morad Park is a highly visible park within the City of Casper. Restoration of this park will not only increase public use of the park, but it will also increase the viewshed and community pride for thousands of people who commute past Morad Park on a daily basis.

Stantec and SWCA are involved in many restoration projects located throughout the United States and Canada. The scale of the City's restoration efforts, along with the size and importance of the North Platte River, make Casper's projects among the most impressive currently being undertaken in North America. When complete, the City of Casper's river restoration projects will serve as a prominent national example of community-based river stewardship, and provide a model for future restoration efforts in Wyoming, and beyond.

Stantec and SWCA fully support the City of Casper's continued restoration efforts on the North Platte River, We are proud to work with a group of engaged and dedicated citizens whom have generated great support for this work within the community. It is this swell of community support that will ensure long-term project success and health of the North Platte River. Implementation of the restoration efforts outlined in the Master Plan will have lasting benefits for the communities along the North Platte, and for the natural





### Reference: City of Casper - North Platte River Restoration Project

resources of Wyoming. These projects will provide immediate improvements to the river corridor, and its positive social benefits and ecological uplift will be an enduring legacy for future generations.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of the City of Casper's grant application.

Sincerely,

Nathan Jean Water Resources Engineer Stantec Consulting Services

Buckhard

Laura Burckhardt Fisheries Biologist SWCA Environmental Consultants

Science Eli D. Bebout Vice President of the Science Appropriations Committee Chairman Wigning Science Senate District 26 P.O. Box 112 • Riverton, WY 82501



manues (307) 856-0375 cmit Ell.Bebouttivyoleg.gov



March 24, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fitteenth Street Cheyenne, WY 82002 Re: Platte River Restoration Project

Dear Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the Platte River Restoration Project. I feel that this project will have far reaching benefits for both the North Platte River and the communities along the river.

The North Platte River is a world class fishery and mings in anglers from throughout the state and the region. It has brought national attention to the epicenter of life in Cen Hai Wyoming. Improving the trout habitat in this area will benefit fisherman by providing increased access, enhance aesthetics, remove invasive species of fish and stabilize the river.

This in turn will make Casper a more attractive location to live, work, and play. Besides the economic benefits this project will have for both Casper and the State of Wyoming, it has brought about focus to the importance of proper watershed menagement and have to the internal relates of our local waterways.

For over 7 years, numerous private businesses, public organizations, and land management agencies along with the City of Casper have been working diligently to get the Platte River Restoration Project up and running. I sincerely hope that you agree with me that this project is worth funding

Sincerely,

Senato: El D. Bebout

Page 57 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014

WWWWYOLEG.GOV





110 West Second Street Suite 210 Casper, Wyoming 82601

To who it may concern,

Howdy folks, Matt Cassel with Cliff Outdoors here. Please allow me to make a few observations about the Platte River Revival Project. First, having been born and raised in Torrington, WY (aprox 100 miles downstream of Casper) and having lived in Casper since 1981, It is fair to say that I am pretty familiar with the North Platte drainage I have fished and or floated nearly every mile of the North Platte river from where it enters Wyoming at the Colorado border to where it exits into Nebraska. While there is great diversity and uniqueness in the different sections of the river, it is the 13.5 section that runs through the greater Casper area that my comments are directed.

The economic loss that was caused by the shutdown and dismantling of the Amoco Refinery was significant. Many residents suffered serious economic hardship and I have friends that had to move to keep their jobs. It was a traumatic time, however, today it would be difficult to find an individual who would say that we would be better off with a refinery in the midst of our downtown. Change can be good, and the remediation of the Amoco site will benefit those that live downstream forever. I believe that this stage of the Platte River Revival project, though on a smaller and less costly scale, will also benefit our community and those downstream forever. The many Social and Economic benefits of having a healthier river will be discussed and debated. In my opinion, having a healthy river flowing through the middle of fown makes Casper unique. Also I believe the healthier the river is, the healthier our community is. That being said, I am confident that the orgainzers of the revival project will be good stewards of the resources they receive. The plan is solid and needs to move ahead. I am looking forward to watching the river get healthier, and participating in the economic vitality that follows.

Best regards, 199

Matt Cassel Cliff Outdoors

Phone (307) 577-1146 Fax (307) 234-6058 Email heycliff@cliffoutdoors.com Page 58 of 186 www.cliffoutdoors.com/Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 March 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. Fifteenth St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

My wife and I moved to Casper 5 years ago to escape from the pollution, traffic and high density living that we faced in California. It was our goal to find a city in the mountain west that was smaller than the sprawl of southern California, had a good economy and that offered ample opportunity for outside recreation. Well, we found it. When we visited Casper, it became our top choice of cities in which to live because of the strong economy, the access to Casper Mountain and the river that runs through the city. We feel very fortunate to live here.

It wasn't until we moved to Casper that we discovered what a gem the Platte River is to this area. It hosts world class fishing where people from all over the USA and beyond come to fish, thereby boosting this local micro economy. It also brings people to the area for adventure racing (recently organized by Rev3) which includes trekking, mountain biking and paddling down the river into Casper.

The beauty of the river in Casper is in large part due to the Platte River Revival. Without this organization, it is unknown in what state the river would currently be. Some of the goals of this organization are to improve water quality, thereby improving human health, connect people to the natural world and green space, enhance aesthetics and continue to provide great opportunities for people to enjoy many types of recreation on the river.

We feel that the Platte River Revival is fundamental in keeping the river clean and usable for both Casper residents and visitors. We urge the Board Members of the Wyoming Business Council to consider investing in this project.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Emery, DDS

Aspen Ridge Dental 1122 S. Conwell St. Casper, WY 82601

March 25, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. Fifteenth St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members,

My wife and I moved to Casper 5 years ago to escape from the pollution, traffic and high density living that we faced in California. It was our goal to find a city in the mountain west that was smaller than the sprawl of southern California, had a good economy and that offered ample opportunity for outside recreation. Well, we found it. When we visited Casper, it became our top choice of cities in which to live because of the strong economy, the access to Casper Mountain and the river that runs through the city. We feel very fortunate to live here.

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The beauty of the river in Casper is in large part due to the Platte River Revival. Without this organization, it is unknown in what state the river would currently be. Some of the goals of this organization are to improve water quality, thereby improving human health, connect people to the natural world and green space, enhance aesthetics and continue to provide great opportunities for people to enjoy many types of recreation on the river.

We feel that the Platte River Revival is fundamental in keeping the river clean and usable for both Casper residents and visitors. We urge the Board Members of the Wyoming Business Council to consider investing in this project.

Sincerely

Benjamin Emery, DDS

Aspen Ridge Dental 1122 S. Conwell St. Casper, WY 82601



March 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Members of the Board:

Jonah Bank of Wyoming opened for business in 2006, with the best location in Casper; right on the bank of the North Platte River. Since our opening, we have had the opportunity to participate in and enjoy the rewards of the Platte River Revival's restoration efforts. Our employees have been actively involved in the "clean up" events as well as serving on the Platte River Revival Committee. Every day we are eye witnesses to the ongoing enhancement efforts, resulting in a large activity increase in and along the river.

We are extremely excited about the proposed second phase of the North Platte River restoration project; focused on the 13.5 miles of river traversing Casper. This will continue the momentum of building local and national awareness of the great fishing and recreational opportunities that Casper has to offer. This is all possible now that we have a healthy river. The completion of this project will provide a model for other cities who may not be utilizing their river as a community asset.

From a business perspective, the benefits are many. The additional traffic will have a positive economic impact on both Casper and the entire state, as tourism will increase. Retail businesses will continue to grow, creating more jobs and an increase in sales tax revenue. It will also be an attraction for individuals and families considering relocating to Casper, as the improvements to the river make a positive impact on the quality of life.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and strongly support this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

M.a. Zolach

Mark A. Zaback President and CEO

3730 EASY SECOND STREET CAREER, WY 82609 307 and 5562 Physics 927 and 5565 PAX Page 61 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 March 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West Fifteenth Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

**RE: Platte River Revival** 

Dear Board Members,

I am writing you, today, to express my support for the Platte River Revival Restoration Project. The rehabilitation of the river in the downtown area will be a benefit to the citizens of Casper and visitors, alike.

As manager of the Ugly Bug Fly Shop and Crazy Rainbow Fly Fishing, I know firsthand how important the Platte River is to the economy of Casper. When fishermen call or come in the shop, we recommend not only the hot flies and the latest gear, but also restaurants, hotels and other area attractions. I can not count the number of times I hear from visitors, that the great fishing on the blue ribbon section of the North Platte is what brought them to Casper, or from people who move here, how the world- class fishing at Grey Reef, was a real factor in their decision. Now, the Platte River Revival has the opportunity to enhance and expand this great river and make it more accessible to local residents and tourists, as well. If we can give visitors, who are passing through, a taste of our great fishing in the middle of town, I know that when they plan their next vacation or fishing trip, they will choose Casper and the North Platte. Thank you for your time. I am

Sincerely,

5756121

**Bob Fischer** 



Wyoming Business Council

MAR 3 1 2014 3/27/2014

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Re: Business Enhancement Grant for the North Platte River Project

Dear Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of funding the Business Enhancement Grant for the North Platte River restoration project. From a personal and professional prospective, the North Platte River is a major resource for the City of Casper and State of Wyoming. I have lived in Casper for 3.5 years, one of the primary reasons my family and I relocated to Wyoming was the natural beauty and recreational activities. The North Platte River showcases the natural beauty of Wyoming. I personally utilize the parkway trail system routinely training for running and biking events. My friends and family kayak the North Platte appreciating its natural beauty throughout the summer. Fishing is world class and well known throughout the country.

Continued maintenance and support of the river system not only benefits recreational users but also the business community of Casper. I have numerous patients who travel into Casper from around the country. One of the attractions for patients while visiting is the river system. Several patients will extend their stay in Wyoming to fish, hike or kayak along the river. A vibrant diversified community is necessary to attract new businesses from out of state and keep current business within the state. The North Platte system represents a Jewel centrally located within the City of Casper and State of Wyoming. Having natural attractions improves a business's ability to attract new families and highly skilled employees to the state. If such a resource is not maintained this may reflect poorly on both the city and state.

I really can't say enough about the river system and the need to Improve and maintain this beautiful resource. As a racer in the Cowboy Tough Expedition race last year, I heard first-hand the tremendous feedback on our state's natural beauty. I feel strongly that we must continually maintain this great resource as a cornerstone of our community, city and state.

2 onto

Joseph C. McGinley, MD, PhD McGinley Orthopaedic Innovations 2435 King Blvd, Ste 230 Casper, WY 82604

Representative Tim Stubson Amanuty Pring Waaming House of Reproductation House District 56 1645 South Chostnut • Casper, WY 82601



Annuel (807) 265-2279 Annull Tim Stubsombwyoleg.gov

April 1, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Platte River Revival

Dear Board Members:

I wanted to take this opportunity to lend my support to the application of the Platte River Revival that you will be reviewing in the next few days. As someone who has spent most of his life in Casper, it is gratifying to see the Platte River become the treasure it was intended to be. It is worth remembering that Casper grew where it was because of the railroad and the River. Throughout its history the River has served as the life-blood of Casper's industry, but, too often was treated as an open waste disposal unit rather than the true resource it is. The most recent efforts to enhance the fish habitat in the River and to remove invasive species from River banks are an excellent capstone to decades of work toward cleaning the River.

When I have clients in town or out of town guests, one of the first places I take them is to the River and the pathway. The fishing, recreation, and open spaces, the River offers are a significant part of what makes Casper the community it is. I would hope and ask that you support the application for the Platte River Revival to continue the good work, and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the application.

Sincerely yours,

Representative Tim Stubson

TMS/mel

# VIOL I O VAV GRAEDAW

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been a guide for 14 years and have co-owned a fishing business for eight of those years on the North Platte River. During this time I have seen our river and fishery change tremendously. It has gone from merely a blip on the fly fishing radar to a world-class destination fishery. I would not be in the least bit hesitant to say that it has become a multi-million dollar industry for Casper and Natrona County, as well as a major attraction for the state.

The North Platte is an extremely important part of Casper's identity. The river is a focal point of the city and provides multiple recreational opportunities for the people. That being said, it is important that we focus on both the health and aesthetics' of our river. Initiatives like the Platte River Revival are absolutely crucial in protecting, maintaining and educating-for the future of our wonderful resource.

Sincerely,

W. Trent Tatum

Co-owner of The Reef Fly Shop, Cottages and RV and North Platte Lodge

PO Box 105

Alcova, WY 82620

307.232.9128

APR 1 1 2014



Arn 11

April 3, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Community Development Department 200 North David, Room 205 Casper, WY 82601

Dear Council Members:

KLJ is a mid-sized engineering and planning firm serving clients in the upper mid-west and intermountain region. We opened our Casper office in January 2014. There were many reasons why we chose to locate our business in Casper and hire local people, but among the most important were the progressive community and beautiful natural resources in the area.

The Casper area is blessed with two great natural resources of Casper Mountain and the North Platte River. They are assets to the community and provide lots of recreational opportunities to Casper residents. I have personally spent close to 100 days in Casper in the last year and I have recreated on the Platte River trails on numerous occasions. I love walking, jogging, and biking along this pristine waterway.

Casper truly is a beautiful place and one in which people like to live and recreate. This is important to KLJ because we want to locate in an area where we can find and hire great people, and that is certainly possible in Casper.

Another key reason we opened our office in Casper is because of the people in the community and their activism toward protecting these natural resources. We support the business enhancement grant for the restoration of the river because we see the value Casper's natural resources provide to the community and businesses. The folks in Casper and Natrona County love where they live and are striving to make their community better by protecting its natural beauty and enhancing the recreational amenities available in Casper. I have been impressed with the initiatives by Casper City and nonprofits like the Platt River Trails Trust to help ensure we can all enjoy river while making it more accessible.

Our firm prides itself on promoting livable, sustainable communities and we are dedicated to improving the places where we live and work. Locating in Casper was an easy and exciting decision for KLJ. We are committed to helping the continued work to protect and enhance its natural resources.

Sincerely,

KLJ

Thomas Mr. Munty

Thomas McMurtry Casper Project Manager

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE REGIONAL EXPERTISE TRUSTED ADVISOR April 4, 2014

### All,

I was born and raised in Wyoming. The great outdoors of Wyoming have always been extremely dear to me and I appreciate all that it has to offer. My career has taken me to many destinations across North America and there are beautiful aspects to every place I've been. Fly-fishing has been a passion of mine since learning on the Big Horn River of Southern Montana. For years I thought there could never be a finer place to fish until I discovered the North Platte River outside of Casper. In my opinion, the North Platte is the centerplece and jewel of Casper.

I have had the privilege of fishing the North Platte numerous times now and it has, without a doubt, become my favorite fishing destination. There is no other place where the rainbow fishing can compare. My family and I have come to enjoy it so much that we purchased a drift boat which better enables us to enjoy the river at any time. Although I do not currently live in the area, we have adult children in Casper who keep the boat so that they can float the river for fishing or just for family enjoyment with our grandchildren.

Over the years, it has been a thrill to see the restoration and improvements happening to the miles of river that flow through Casper. It certainly enhances the beauty of Casper and its surrounding areas. The history of the North Platte River is an integral piece in the settling of the West. Continuing to restore and revitalize the river is not only environmentally responsible but it is also a huge draw that attracts visitors to Casper. Casper has the potential of becoming a world-renowned destination to be shared with fly-fishing and outdoor enthusiasts alike. It is my hope that this river restoration project will continue full-speed ahead. There are experiences to have and memories to be made on the North Platte River that will last for generations.

Best Regards, Brian Johnson 125 Liberty Lane Pleasanton TX 78064

- Johnson

# Big Horn County School District No. One

P.O. Box 688 Cowley Wyoming 82420 307-548-2254 FAX 307-548-7610

SHON HOCKER Superintendent

GENEVIEVE MANN District Securitary RICHARD PARKER Builtient Munitger

LORI PETERSON Bookkeeper

Monday, February 03, 2014

To Whom It May Concern;

Big Horn School District #1 is in full support of the Town of Cowley's goal to enhance the baseball field with improvements such as lights, as well as develop a water park and recreational area, both of which are adjacent to the school property. These enhancements will prove to be beneficial in numerous ways to the school children and families of our community. The students and family members of our school district will greatly enjoy the opportunity to utilize the improvements being planned. The planned improvements will enhance safety concerns and provide much needed activity support to all. We greatly look forward to the project's completion.

Sincerely,

Had

Shon Hocker Superintendent of Schools Big Horn SD #1



The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Merit and Need Scholarships to Wyoming students attendin Page 68 of al 86 of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges. Every Wyoming student wWyoming BUSINESS Council May 29, 2014 Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information. February 3, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

We the undersigned mothers, fathers, and citizens of Cowley want to make know our support for the building of a new town park at the south end of town. We are concerned about the limited green space available at this end of town. We would like to have a place where children of all ages can play while families attend baseball and football games on nearby fields. We feel the area needs a community gathering place for children and families to enjoy.

We have formed a committee to encourage the construction of an attractive, safe, and modern park. We are willing to volunteer our time in the design and building of the park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, MSON

February 4, 2013

To Whom It Concerns;

The Cowley Beautification Committee would like to publicly announce our support of the proposed Southend Park in Cowley.

Our community has experienced a significant amount of growth in recent years necessitating another city park. The current park is located a good distance and across a busy highway for many small children.

We as a group would gladly welcome another city park to our community to serve our lovely community.

Moria Melle Saug Warn

Grant Committee Members:

On behalf of Big Horn County Little League we are in full support of the need for an additional baseball field in the town of Cowley. Four years ago the Little League Baseball program was adopted in Big Horn County. Since then the program has grown in numbers and popularity in our local communities. Last year we had 19 teams in our league ranging from T-Ball through 12yr old Majors. Many of these teams are trying to share one ball field here in the town of Cowley for practices and games from April through July. Another baseball field would really help alleviate the strain on our single field here in town.

We have found that summer baseball offers kids a wonderful summer activity to keep themselves busy and learn how to work together on a team. Baseball not only offers physical activity but helps players learn to deal with others as well as success and failures. This is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Little League Baseball throughout the world and over 2 million kids a year participate in this great program. Baseball also offers parents and community members the opportunity to volunteer and give back to their kids and build their communities.

We hope that you will consider this application and our letter of support favorably and know that we will make good use of this new baseball facility if approved.

Regards,

Douglas B. Arnold

Big Horn Little League President &

Resident of Cowley

Date: February 10, 2014

To: Joel Peterson Mayor, Town of Cowley

Subject: South Side Park

As chairman of the Town of Cowley Planning and Zoning Commission (and as a citizen of Cowley) I express my unqualified support for the proposed South Side Park to be located next to the Legion Baseball field. The park will fit perfectly with the Community Development Plan as it will utilize land otherwise unsuitable for business or residential purposes. It will also compliment the ball field and its facilities and the community will gain from better utilization of both. It will be an excellent investment of fiscal and physical resources and will greatly benefit Cowley and the surrounding area for years to come.

nst Mac Crosby

Date February 10, 2014

To: Joel Peterson Mayor, Town of Cowley

Subject: Legion Baseball Field Concession Stand

Based on a review of the cost of the work completed by contract and the cost of the materials that were installed by donated labor - along with the size of the building and the type of construction - I would set the value of the concession building at the Legion Baseball Field at \$62,000. A duplicate building done completely by contract today would cost a minimum of \$80,000 with the increase primarily due to increased materials costs.

Peter M. Crosby P.E. (Ret)

Maria Jetkoski Regional Commissioner AYSO Region 835 47 City View Dr. Evanston, WY 82931 mjetkoski@gmail.com February 9, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council:

I am a long-time resident of Evanston and a Wyoming native. I am writing to you to show my support for the proposed Bear Meadows project in Evanston.

As Regional Commissioner of Evanston's Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), I see firsthand the need for an area that could help to alleviate Evanston's lack of field space. AYSO is a nationwide organization. In this small town, we had 500 kids sign up for last summer's soccer session. These kids range in ages from 4 to 19. This number has been increasing steadily every year. Needless to say, we are hard pressed to schedule practices and games with the limited space that we have.

We currently hold practice 3 nights a week and the majority of our games are on Saturday. We utilize every last bit of field area that we are allowed. All of our practices and games are currently held at Aspen Elementary School. In this area, we have one regulation field for the older kids and 6 additional fields for the younger divisions. Now, please bear in mind that the area that we are utilizing is an elementary school playground area. It is not even and therefore presents many difficulties when trying to maintain well groomed, safe fields for 500 kids to play on.

So, am I- as a concerned citizen and representative of AYSO and 500 kids- interested in seeing more field space become available? Yes, I most certainly am! I appreciate your consideration in this matter, for the citizens and most importantly the kids of Evanston.

Sincerely,

Martin

Maria Jetkoski

**Regional Commissioner AYSO Region 835** 

Board Members Jeremy Fessler, President Janice Davis, President-Elect Liz Gilpin, Secretary/Treasurer Becki Frame Wayne Brown



Paul Freeland María Jetkowski Steve Liechty, *Player Agent* Dani Tate, *Player Agent* 

### EVANSTON YOUTH ATHLETICS 275 Saddle Ridge Road Evanston, WY 82930 (307) 789-1770

February 12, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase | Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the Evanston Youth Athletic Board, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project,

Evanston Youth Athletics is a volunteer community board that plans, organizes and develops structured youth sports programs in Evanston and surrounding areas including baseball, softball, football, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, soccer support and more. The board and staff have worked hand-in-hand with the Evanston Parks & Recreation District Board and the City of Evanston to plan, organize and develop such programs in Evanston. The Bear Meadows project would provide additional and much needed practice areas for our outdoor sports leagues and programs that currently overcrowd and overuse fields and grass areas within the community.

The addition of Bear Meadows will therefore complement existing play and practice amenities within the community and allow for additional multi-use activity including more play & practice time contributing to positive development and increased activity for many youth within our community. The value of such an area is unmeasurable regarding benefits for the youth of our community.

The Evanston Youth Athletic Board strongly supports this grant request. Please consider seriously and earnestly this great benefit to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Sincerely.

Jeremy Fessler, President Evanston Youth Athletic Board

#### **Board Officers**

Will Atkinson, Chairperson Mark Mari, Vice Chairperson Tim Lynch, Secretary Rick Schuler, Treasurer Dennis Poppinga, Director



Board Members Kay Fackrell Alicia Richins Michael Jacketta Jenny Welling Lindsey Kennedy

February 13, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase I Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the Evanston Parks and Recreation District Board of Directors, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project,

Evanston Parks and Recreation District is responsible for the management, operation and maintenance of all city parks including the Bear River Greenway and proposed Bear Meadows site. The board and staff have worked hand-in-hand with the City of Evanston and The BEAR Project Inc., Board to master plan, develop and maintain the Bear River Greenway since inception. The Bear Meadows project is a high priority that will be an outstanding addition to the Evanston parks system.

The addition of Bear Meadows will compliment existing amenities on the greenway including a River Walk Trail System, Bear Community Center, Bear Memorial Tree Grove, River Rehabilitation and Bank Stabilization (past enhancement grant), Evanston Rotary Club Bear Tales Fire Circle, Historical, Educational and Interpretative Signage, Bear River Greenway Entryway and Access Road and Bear Meadows Rotary "Health Trail" Fitness Course. Specifically, Bear Meadows will serve as Evanston's "Central Park" and provide much needed open green space for multi-use activities including youth baseball, softball and soccer fields, community festivals, concerts, special events,

The Evanston Parks and Recreation District Board strongly supports this grant request. We ask that you sincerely consider the benefits to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Will Ath

Will Atkinson, Board Chairman Evanston Parks and Recreation District



February 13, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CF Program Manager 214 West 15<sup>m</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mrs. Kozlowski

As President of the Evanston Express Soccer Club. I am writing to you in support of the City of Evanston's Bear Meadows Enhancement Project. The "Bear Meadows" development is of particular interest to the Evanston Express Soccer Club. as it will provide additional field space that can be used for youth soccer.

The Evanston Express Soccer Club, a non-profit formed in 2012, offers soccer to the Evanston community at the competitive, club level. Express offers multiple teams for both girls and boys, ages 8-17. Our current membership is approximately 110 players.

Express Soccer Club plays in multiple soccer tournaments throughout the year. The majority of our tournaments are typically played in the Salt Lake City. Utah area to take advantage of the vigorous competitive youth soccer programs in that area.

This past year an Evanston Express team played league-play in a Utah Youth Soccer League. The league season included 8 games played in September and October. The Evanston team played out-of-town, as the "Away" team the entire season, as we did not have a "home field" in Evanston that was suitable to host any visiting teams. By having the ability to bring teams into Evanston to play soccer, the Express Soccer Club will provide substantial economic impact to the city.

With the addition of the multi-purpose Bear Meadows field, this space could be used to host home games for any leagueplay that Evanston Express teams participate in or potentially host soccer tournaments. Hosting games/tournaments in Evanston would bring numerous families from surrounding areas to Evanston. These families would eat in local restaurants, buy local gas and visit our Historic Downtown area, all of which would contribute to Evanston's economic development.

In conclusion, the Evanston Express Soccer Club fully supports the development of Bear Meadows, as the project will expand multi-purpose field space for the entire community.

Chuck Grenfel

President, Evanston Express Soccer Club



Bear River State Park 601 Bear River Drive Evanston, WY 82930 307-789-6547

February 18, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

I am writing to express my support of a City of Evanston Bear River project that is in the planning phase. The City would like to develop an area to complement existing amenities already developed along the Bear River.

The area the City is looking to develop further ties directly into Bear River State Park, through a connecting hard surface trail. Thousands of people use this trail system ever year to recreate along the Bear River. By developing the Bear Meadows area, the City of Evanston would be able to complement the already existing facilities. The entire Bear River Greenway is already a huge benefit to the community, and this development would only add to that benefit.

Bear River State Park would ask that you please support the grant request to develop the Bear Meadows project.

Thank you,

Wade Henderson Superintendent





## The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc.

"Evanston's River Playground"

P.O. Box 308 Evanston, Wyoming 82931 Visit our website: www.bearivergreenway.org

February 19, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Chevenne, WY 82002

Re: Bear Meadows Phase 1 Grant Request

Dear Ms. Kozlowski,

In behalf of the B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board of Directors, I would like to submit this letter in support of the City of Evanston's Grant Request to fund the development of Bear Meadows Project.

The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board's Mission Statement is to develop the Bear River as a natural focal point for the community incorporating a well-designed pathway network; preserving the scenic, physical, cultural and historic values of the area; offering outdoor recreational opportunities and enhanced wildlife habitat; ensuring a Parkway that is safe and clean; and encouraging citizen involvement and appropriate development adjacent to the Parkway. The board has worked hand-in-hand with Evanston Parks & Recreation District and the City of Evanston to master plan, develop and maintain the Bear River Greenway since inception. The Bear Meadows project is a high priority that will be an outstanding addition to the Evanston parks system.

The addition of Bear Meadows will compliment existing amenities on the greenway including a River Walk Trail System, Bear Community Center, Bear Memorial Tree Grove, River Rehabilitation and Bank Stabilization (past enhancement grant), Evanston Rotary Club Bear Tales Fire Circle, Historical, Educational and Interpretative Signage, Bear River Greenway Entryway and Access Road and Bear Meadows Rotary "Health Trail" Fitness Course. Specifically, Bear Meadows will serve as Evanston's "Central Park" and provide much needed open green space for multi-use activities including youth baseball, softball and soccer fields, community festivals, concerts, special events.

The future of the Bear River Greenway is promising. The improvements that have been completed over the past twenty-five years are impressive. They are the result of community partnerships and citizens working together for the common good of the community.

The B.E.A.R. Project, Inc. Board is committed in their endeavor to see the completion of the Bear Meadows area of the Bear River Greenway and they strongly support this grant request. We ask that you sincerely consider the benefits to the Evanston community and approve funding for the project.

Marilee Jackson, President B.E.A.R. Project, Inc.


February 24, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski, BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002.

Ms. Kozlowski,

My name is Brian Richins. I am the vice president of the Evanston Express Soccer Club. We are a club of players from ages 7 to 17. We have just completed our second year as an organized club. We compete in tournaments in Utah through the summer and the Turf Wars tournament held each January in Laramie. We have approximately 120 members in our club, both boys and girls. This past season our youngest girls' team was involved in a Utah league.

During league play our girls' team had to compete in Utah for all matches, as we lack a field in our town to host games. Our town has several fields where we practice throughout our season, however, these field lack the size, quality, or versatility to be considered suitable game fields.

For our club to advance and continue to grow and develop to the level we envision, a sport complex field is a necessity. A field with the capacity to hold a full-sized soccer field and also able to adjust to several smaller fields would be ideal and would create a place for both quality practices and competitive matches.

In addition to hosting league games and adding quality to our practices, a sport complex field would allow our club to organize and host tournaments. These types of events not only would progress our club, but would also be a stimulus to our local businesses and economy.

The "Bear Meadows" proposal is such a field. It has the added advantage of convenient parking near the field and ties into our Bear River Greenway that lies in the heart of our town.

As a youth athletics administrator and coach, I am in full support of the "Bear Meadows" project our community is planning with the monies from this grant. I appreciate your consideration of the "Bear Meadows" project as a beneficiary.

> Brian Richins Evanston Express Vice President

## Wyoming Outlaws Football



February 24, 2014

The Wyoming Business Council Julie Kozlowski BRC/CFP Program Manager 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

I am writing in support of the grant money to help with the Bear Meadows Project. I am the assistant general manager of the Wyoming Outlaws Semi-Pro Football team. The Wyoming Outlaws are a team of 35 men ages 18-45 that want to maintain their physical and mental health along with continuing their joy of playing organized full contact football. We play teams that are members of the Rocky Mountain Football League, which has teams in 3 states; Montana, Utah, and Idaho. The Wyoming Outlaws have been around for 2 years. During this time the organization has had a very big challenge trying to find a place to play home games. This is due to a constant conflict of scheduling between activities from the Evanston Recreation Center and the Uinta County School District. This requires the team to travel several hundred miles into Utah and Idaho to play any games. More field space would allow for us to host up to 5 home games and bring 30 families from the other teams to Evanston. This will result in these individuals spending money in the community and benefitting the local businesses that sponsor us. Having adequate field space would not only help us, but many other teams fighting for field space that is not available at the moment.

Thank you,

Cory Becker Assistant General Manager Wyoming Outlaws Evanston, Wyoming



Jane Law, Urban Renewal Coordinator Main Street Manager 1200 Main Street Evanston, WY 82930 (307) 789-6320 jlaw@evanstonwy.org

Julie Kozłowski BRC/CFP Program Manager Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Julie,

As the Urban Renewal Coordinator and Main Street Manager for the City of Evanston, I support the development of the Bear Meadows area and feel strongly its development would be a tremendous asset and benefit to not only our community, but to our downtown district.

Bear Meadows is in close proximity (approximately two blocks) to our downtown and with its development, I believe the downtown businesses would greatly benefit from the activity that will happen there. It has the potential for not only additional sports activities but also would serve as another wonderful venue for festivals, concerts, etc, which bring people to our town.

I am pleased to write this letter of support for this grant application and ask for your consideration of this request to develop "Bear Meadows."

Sincerely, Tell

Jane E. Law City of Evanston Urban Renewal Coordinator Main Street Manager



February 14th, 2014

Molly Spangler Investment Ready Communities Director 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> St. Chevenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Spangler;

The vision and desire by our community to bring economic activity back to our downtown, like many communities throughout the country, sparked the idea of creating what is now Gillette Main Street Organization. In 2011, a group of interested individuals, including business owners from our downtown, began meeting to pursue involvement in the Wyoming Main Street Program. In January of 2012, upon meeting the necessary criteria, Gillette was accepted into the Wyoming Main Street Program. It was during this process that I was elected chair of the Gillette Main Street Organization.

The Gillette Main Street Organization believes having a gathering space without closing off Gillette Avenue for events like a farmers market, musical groups, brew fest, food events and many other functions will continue to enhance our downtown area, creating the grass root foot traffic in and around the our small business merchants.

"Beautification is a Beautiful Investment!" Destination Development International, which has inventoried over 400 vibrant and successful downtowns has found:

- The #1 activity of tourists in the world is shopping, dining, and entertainment in a
  pedestrian friendly, and intimate setting.
- This is where over 80% of all non-lodging tourism takes place.
- Retail beautification can lead to an increase in sales of over 400%.
- Business sales increase up to 18% with the addition of trees.

- Curb appeal accounts for 70% of new visitor sales at restaurants, retail, and lodging.
- The #1 reason visitors stop is to go to the bathroom.

We are embracing this opportunity to stimulate and revitalize our downtown in an effort to better meet the needs of our community and those who are passing through. Working together with the City of Gillette Public Plaza on Third Street project is one part of our vision to improve our town.

Gillette Main Street board fully supports this project and the long term benefit it will bring to the entire community of Gillette.

Gillotte Main Street

amp

John D. Cosner President



February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski Business Ready Communities and Community Facilities Program Manager Investment Ready Communities Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Ms. Kozlowski,

I am writing you on behalf of the Campbell County Lodging Tax Joint Powers Board, in support of the City of Gillette's efforts to secure additional funding for the Convertible Street- Public Plaza Project for downtown Gillette. This project will occur after the rebuild of the upcoming major construction project taking place on Gillette Avenue this year, and will be a fabulous addition to the "new" downtown area. The specific features of the Plaza will provide the ability to use the area day or night for a variety of special events, which we have not been able to do as easily and safely in the past.

As the Director of the Convention & Visitors Bureau, I recognize that the Plaza will create the ability to offer new opportunities for activities to be enjoyed by residents and by visitors to Campbell County. With the availability of this new venue, we will be able to create, advertise and market these new events to outside attendees, potentially drawing additional overnight visitors. Growing the number of overnight stays in Gillette will create a positive economic impact with additional hotel and campground sales and lodging tax receipts; additional food and beverage and retail sales and tax receipts; and positive impact to many other businesses created by increased traffic to the area.

The Gillette Public Plaza Project will be an exciting new asset for the City and for Campbell County, and the Convention & Visitors Bureau is looking forward to promoting the new beautiful historic downtown area and events.

Thank you for your consideration of additional funding for this exciting project,

Naug Silvernell

Mary Silvernell Executive Director



307.685.0040 • 800.544.6136 • 307.685.1258 tw Page 85 1810 S. Douglas Highway, Sulte A • Gillet Wyoming Business Council - May 29 www.visitgillette-wrightwyo.org





Campbell County Economic Development Corporation

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT # COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT # WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> SL Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Business Council Members,

The Campbell County Economic Development Corporation encourages the Wyoming Business Council to fund the request from the City of Gillette for assist with the construction of the Downtown Plaza.

Our organization has been working for more than two years with the downtown business community and the City to help create an updated business environment through the formation of the Main Street program, the Gillette Avenue Urban Design Plan, the Gillette Avenue Rebuild, and now with the proposal to construct a public plaza as part of the overall improvement effort for downtown.

The project will enable a public gathering area along Third Avenue, between Gillette Avenue and Carey Avenue. It will be closed to traffic during a public event, and open to traffic otherwise. It will serve as a magnet for the downtown, bringing in a variety of events which will draw the public to the downtown area. It is being constructed in an efficient manner, so that Gillette Avenue can remain open to people and vehicles during an event, thus increasing the capacity of people in the downtown area.

The energy and focus given by the business owners and the City of Gillette shows a high degree of cooperation to help further economic development in our community. Support by the business community for this project is high, and the actions by the City of Gillette are consistent with the wants and needs of the area.

The request by the City of Gillette does deserve serious attention. It is hope that the Wyoming Business Council look favorably upon their request.

Sincerely,

Ollowin

D.G. Reardon CCEDC Board President



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

# Refer to: City of Gillette Grant Request for Downtown Public Plaza

Dear Board Members,

Gillette Brewing Company has been and remains an active and involved participant in the revitalization effort for Gillette's downtown area. We have worked with the City and other business colleagues since before our inception back in November of 2012 to help downtown.

The Third Street Plaza proposal is a project that I believe will attract people to come to and carry out business in downtown Gillette. Its attractive layout, location and focus by the City to build it make it a benefit for everyone involved.

The Third Street Plaza would act like a magnet drawing people and shoppers downtown. There is a host of events that could take place on the plaza including a Saturday market, sales events by Gillette Ave. merchants and holiday celebrations to name a few. Such gatherings help to pull people downtown which benefits both the downtown merchants as well as the public. As a downtown business owner, this is something we strive for and anything that helps bolster that is welcome.

Gillette's City Council has approved a \$536,715 match to this proposal. The City and the downtown business community want to continue to build on their economic health. I believe the benefits of the Third Street Plaza will help strengthen that and endure through the next generation.

I urge the Wyoming Business Council to support the City of Gillette proposal. I also want to thank each of you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gillette Brewing Company

Karl DeCock

www.gillettebrewingcompany.com



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## Refer to: City of Gillette Grant Request for Downtown Public Plaza

Dear Board Members,

CTA has been and remains an active and involved participant in the revitalization effort for Gillette's downtown area. We have worked with the City and other business colleagues for almost 3 years to help downtown become more economically vibrant and sustainable.

The Third Street Plaza proposal is a project that I believe will attract people to come to and carry out husiness in downtown Gillette. Its attractive layout, location and focus by the Ciry to build it make for a win-win across the board.

The Third Street Plaza would act like a magnet drawing people and shoppers downtown. There is a host of events that could take place on the plaza including a Saturday market, sales events by Gillette Ave. merchants and holiday celebrations to name a few. Such gatherings help to pull people downtown which benefits both the downtown merchants as well as the public.

Gillette's City Council has approved a \$536,715 match to this proposal. The City and the downtown business community want to continue to build on their economic health. I believe the benefits of the Third Street Plaza will help strengthen that and endure through the next generation.

I urge the Wyoming Business Council to support the City of Gillette proposal. I also want to thank each of you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CTA ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS

cc CTA File -

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1635 Reata Drive Gillette, WY 82718

\_m-plex@vcn.com www.cam-plex.com



Phone 307-682-0552 Fax 307-682-8418 Tickets 307-682-8802

February 19, 2014

Wyoming Business Council Members 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Funding Proposal by City of Gillette for Public Plaza

Dear Wyoming Business Council Members,

Cam-Plex Multi-Events Center staff is excited to learn that the City of Gillette is proposing to build a public plaza along Third Street from Gillette Avenue to Carey Avenue. The desire by the City and the downtown business community to construct the Third Street Plaza is another step in the effort to revitalize our downtown.

The City of Gillette has worked with downtown merchants on the Gillette Avenue Urban Design Plan and the engineering to rebuild Gillette Avenue. Construction is to begin this spring. The commitment by the City towards downtown revitalization will not only enable 1,030 current jobs to remain downtown but will also spur new business activity in the core of our community.

The City of Gillette is providing \$536,715 as its match to the \$500,000 it is requesting from the Wyoming Business Council. This demonstrates our community's willingness to make yet another investment toward downtown revitalization.

Cam-Plex staff supports the proposal by the City of Gillette. We see opportunities for Cam-Plex to use the Third Street Plaza as a way to market events such as musicals, concerts, trade shows, rodeos and the County Fair. Our marketing department, as well as myself are excited to have yet another potential vehicle for marketing Cam-Plex activities. When completed, this project will help the capacity of our community to create economic partnerships which will in turn help people and families thrive.

I want to encourage each of you as Wyoming Business Council members to look favorably upon this request by the City of Gillette as the project will truly enhance our community.

Sincerely,

Dan Barks General Manager



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1 Education Specialists P.O. Box 335 – 11 Adaville Drive Diamondville, WY 83116 Phone: 307-877-9095 Fax: 307-877-9638

February 26, 2014

Wyoming Business Council:

Re: City of Kemmerer Grant request

Lincoln County School District #1 is in full support of the city's request for grant funds to make Improvements on Canyon Road and the access roadways to the new Ranger Stadium. Honestly, we haven't named the stadium yet but for the purpose of this letter we will call it the Ranger Stadium. Our community and patrons are excited to have the means to build a new venue for our school sports and community activities.

The city has been very supportive in our endeavor to change the location of our field in an effort to bring more amenities to our community to entice people to choose Kemmerer as their home. We currently have many workers who live elsewhere and this is one strategy out of many to support growth in our community.

The ability for Wyoming Business Council to be a supportive part of that growth by contributing grant dollars is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter of support to the Wyoming Business Council on behalf of the City of Kemmerer.

Sincerely,

Munich Provest

Teresa L. Chaulk Superintendent of Schools

Don Lamborn Board Chairman



The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Ment and Need Scholarships to Wyoming students atlanding the University of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges. Every Wyoming student who meets the ment requirements can earn a Hathaway Ment Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.

### CREATING A PROMISING FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION

GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL CHEYENNE, WY 12002

# Office of the Governor

September 30, 2013

Dear Friend,

Wyoming has strong ties to the Olympics. In 2012, I was proud to tout the fact that we had the most Olympians per capita in the nation. The two athletes who went to London were part of the Wyoming tradition of producing world caliber athletes for both the summer and winter games.

I am excited about a plan from the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club and Rob Rosser, US Biathlon Paralympic Coach, Army veteran and former Olympian. This group is hoping to create an elite facility in Casper that host biathletes year-round and provide an amazing resource for Wyoming citizens. This facility could someday be home to an official Olympic Training Site – a distinction that would help our future Olympians and make us even prouder to live here in Wyoming.

Sincerely,

All Matthew H. Mead

Governor

MHM:mdm





# TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE NRA

## GRANT COMMITTEE

Re: Range Grant Application by the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

This letter is being submitted to you by the Board of Directors of the Casper Shooters Club which operates the Stuckenhoff Shooters Complex in Casper, Wyoming.

The Board is well aware of the efforts of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club over the past few years to build a biathlon shooting facility and related ski trails on Casper Mountain in order to further the sport of Nordic skiing and marksmanship. The Board is in full support of this endeavor as it will enhance the hooting opportunities in our area for individuals of all ages in our community.

This program will be a growth opportunity for our youth who use our shooting facility to further their marksmanship skills by engaging in the sport of biathlon, and will further allow skiers to become more involved in the shooting sports. The Board believes that the biathlon facility will be a natural fit for our 4-H and Boy Scout shooters to move forward in the shooting sports, especially in light of the close proximity of Casper Mountain and the continued availability of the Stuckenhoff Shooters Complex for the training opportunities that we offer.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, in order to move forward with the construction of the biathlon range, needs to obtain professional design and engineering services for which it has applied for grant assistance from the Friends of the NRA. The Board of Directors of the Casper Shooters Club is in full support of this grant application and recommends that it be approved.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned should you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Sincerely,

Conrad Archibeque 307-267-4650 President February 2014 Wyoming Business Council

#### Dear Business Council,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to you to support The Casper Biathlon Club in its continuing development of a World Class facility. This facility would be a tremendous asset for not only the local scene but would put Wyoming on the international map in the Biathlon/Cross Country ski community. In addition, this would be a very positive example of the active, healthy outdoor lifestyle that "is" Wyoming.

I have had the good fortune to have competed and coached in this arena for over one half of my life. This has taken me all over the northern hemisphere for competitions and all over the world for educational and training opportunities. I will tell you that Wyoming is poised to enter this arena with this facility. Not only would this allow training and competition but also it will serve as a high altitude-training laboratory for world-class athletes, "regular" skiers and lay people who live and work in an altitudeimpacted environment.

The service that this can provide our young people goes beyond the athletic world, as it will allow them an avenue that can teach and measure performance. Beyond the classroom and the lab, this facility can offer all levels of educational pursuit a place for measured learning through actual application. As in many such facilities world wide, a world class training facility is directly linked to a world-class research facility in the field of work physiology. What a feather in our state's hat!

Finally, and most importantly, this facility can be a great resource and provide an outstanding service for our young people. In over forty years in the educational/coaching arena I have seen the direct benefits that a facility like this can bring them. Like "The Center of Excellence" in Park City, Wyoming can have its own center of excellence with such a facility. There is no doubt that the Olympic Games and the USSA's Center of Excellence have provided the young people of Utah not only world class facilities but also an avenue for the pursuit of both athletic and personal improvement. So it will be with this facility for our young people.

Please call on me if I can be of any further assistance. I eagerly look forward to this process going forward and stand ready to help in any way. Thank you for your consideration of my support for this project.

#### Wishing you well,

Bob Matson/teacher retired and XC ski coach Natrona County School District

#### Bill McDowell Chairman, Natrona County Commissioners

#### Mr. McDowell,

Greetings! I wanted to get you a quick note of thanks for allowing Rob and Cathy Rosser time at your meeting Tuesday to present the plans for a future Biathlon Range on Casper Mountain. I am a coach for our Casper Special Olympics downhill team, our State competition is in Jackson this week, I will miss the meeting!

Mr. McDowell, this letter is in support of the proposed Biathlon range on Casper Mountain. My Daughter Rylie is a member of the Casper Mountain Biathlon club "Elite" team. Rylie has competed in many different venues across the country most recently in Presque Isle Maine, and West Yellowstone Montana. Rylie competed in the Team USA junior Biathlon trials in Presque Isle. These ranges are both outside small communities with limited hotel and restaurant's . Both are always bustling with athletes, races, clinics classes, etc.., these facilities are a magnet for outdoor enthusiast, and a unique magnet at that.

It is amazing how many people want to get involved and say "I did a biathlon this weekend". We are constantly answering questions to other families how to get involved. Biathlon mixes both shooting and guns safely, with exercise and sports (both strong in Casper). Mr. Rob Rosser and our Casper Mountain Biathlon club has built from scratch the most competitive young biathlon team in America, without even having a local range to shoot at (we ski on the Nordic Trails, and shoot at the county range) Mr. McDowell, the proposed range on our Mountain would not only bring outdoor enthusiast into our community on a regular basis, but also give our current population and entirely unique way to enjoy our great county. It also has to be noted the outstanding opportunity we have, as so much of the pre planning, and preparation for a safe venue is done.

I wanted to keep this short, I have lived in Casper all my life, my parents live here, my in laws live here, and our roots run very deep in Casper. We ski, hunt, shoot, compete, play, and raise our kids here. I have a special needs daughter who competes in all Special Olympic events, and another daughter ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the sate varsity for Nordic, and a top female Biathlete in the country. Rylie, my 14 year old Biathlete would be more than happy to come to you to explain Biathlon, how it works, what is like to compete and ski into a range at heart rate as well as the benefits of a world calls range. Please let me know if this would be something that would help, she is the expert!

My cell is 307-259-2873.

Thank you! Respectfully Submitted, Jeff Garner

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kathy Blair <kblair@windcitypt.com> Monday, February 03, 2014 9:27 PM Bill McDowell biathlon

### Bill,

Hey there stranger. I just wanted to offer my support for the biathlon grant that will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting. I will be unable to attend in person, but think that it would be another asset to the amazing opportunities our mountain and county offers. I remember early discussions of this about 10 years ago when I skied much more than I currently do. I have now returned more to skiing and have been enjoying biathlon training and my kids are interested in doing it in a few years. Both are avid skiers and I am excited about a new opportunity they may have. Recreation opportunities was the main reason I stayed in Casper 20 years ago and it is a very strong reason that keeps me and my family grounded here. Every year we have seen more groups doing more things to engage the community in outdoor activities. A weekend does not go by that you can not do a race or event. The more our community can do to support events and groups, the more opportunities our children will have to expand their horizons. I thank you for your time and support of this great venture.

Regards, Dr. Kathy Blair, PT, DPT, OCS Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist, Certified Vestibular Therapist

'rom:Colby Drechsel <colbydrechsel@yahoo.com>sent:Monday, February 03, 2014 3:02 PMTo:Bill McDowellSubject:Casper Mtn Biathlon range

Dear Mr. Chairman McDowell,

I would like to share my support of the Casper Mountain Biathlon range and support for Rob Rosser and his agenda. I have been a member of the Casper community now for nearly 19 years. Having sponsored economic growth through various employment opportunities or contributing to the community through voluntary activities, I would like to suggest that the County Commissioners make effort to see Mr. Rosser's agenda to full completion.

Casper is blessed to have a former Olympian in its presence and one that not only calls it home but is willing to make a vested interest in this community through the love of his sport. I submit these remarks in lieu of my attendance tomorrow as I am out of town on business. I have taken up the sport as biathlon at the age of 42 (last year) and I love it.

Please accept my comments with sincerity,

Colby Drechsel 1871 Begonia Street Casper, WY 82604

From: Sent: To: Subject: Charlotte Gruner <cmgruner@vcn.com> Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:56 AM Bill McDowell Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue

Dear Mr. McDowell:

I wish to express my support for the proposed Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue. I believe that the venue would not only be an outstanding addition to the outdoor recreation opportunities for Casper residents yearround, but it would also attract athletes and their families to Casper to train and participate in races, boosting local economy. The sport of biathlon is growing and Casper is ideally suited to become a hub for the sport for all ages and abilities.

My daughter has been a member of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club for almost 3-years now. We are very lucky to have a local coach as qualified as Rob Rosser to work with our athletes. Even without a biathlon range available on Casper Mountain, Rob has a steady stream of athletes that come to Casper to train with him. My daughter has gotten the opportunity to train along side elite Olympic hopefuls as well as elite Paralympians, one of whom was recently chosen for the Paralympic team for biathlon for the Sochi Olympics. It is inspiring to her to see how hard these athletes work to achieve their goals.

As my family has been exposed to the sport of biathlon, we are convinced it is a sport that Casper will embrace. Casper has a large, active population of nordic skiers of all ages as well as a large population that participates in shooting sports. Biathlon is a natural extension of these two sports.

I urge you to support the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue. I believe it would be a great asset to the community and contribute to Casper's reputation as the "Outdoor Capital of Wyoming."

Sincerely,

**Charlotte Gruner** 

3611 Ridgecrest

Casper, WY 82604

'rom: Sent: To: Subject: DB Rea <dbrea@tribcsp.com> Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:38 AM Bill McDowell please support the biathlon range

Dear Mr. McDowell-

I am in support of the new biathlon range to be built on Casper Mountain. I hope that the County Commission will also support the project in its hearing this afternoon (Tuesday, February 4, 2014).

Thank you-

Daniel B. Rea

Bill McDowell Chairman, Natrona County Commission

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

My wife and I own Ragged Edge Sports in Casper. We opened the store seven years ago in part to give back to the community some of the outdoor experiences we shared as a family raising children in the Casper area. Natrona County is rich in amazing outdoor activities for those willing to brave the elements and embrace the variety of things to do year-round. We have water sports, incredible hunting and fishing, camping, hiking, and we have Casper Mountain.

Casper Mountain has been the base for mountain bike races, national-level road cycling events, and every kind of outdoor race or activity you could name. The only thing we lack to make Natrona County a <u>destination</u> for higher level races and activities are sound facilities to deal with basic needs of the attendees, coaches, family members, spectators, etc. The proposal to submit a BRC community Enhancement Grant could not be more timely or significant due to the profound impact this project will surely have in the community.

I have known Rob Rosser for many years and fully support his and Cathy's efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper. Rob is an amazing coach and mentor easily demonstrated by the success he has had with the many youth and adult athletes under his tutelage. He is driven and passionate and able to ignite that passion in those he deals with. Biathlon is an amazing sport that can benefit so many people, from the adolescent to the elite athlete; and having this venue would give many people the opportunity to experience something they would otherwise never even be aware exists.

Obviously, my store would directly benefit from this venture, but the benefits to the community far outweigh any increase in revenue this would generate for the individual retailers. This venue will undoubtedly draw hundreds of athletes, support staff, and family members to the area. They will spend money here, which will then turn over several times and benefit every local citizen. The ultimate benefit would be when some of those people decide to bring their families here and settle in Natrona County permanently. As you are well aware, a diversified economy is more stable than one primarily dependent on minerals. We must take advantage of opportunities to bring other revenue sources into play. The initial expenditure is significant, but there is no doubt that Natrona county is perfectly situated to host national-level, if not world-class, events on Casper Mountain. This venue will be one more reason for people to come to Natrona County, and realize that this is not only a good place to visit, but also to live and raise a family.

In conclusion, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our business as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

Sincerely,

Roy Buck, Owner Ragged Edge Sports 307-237-5560



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RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain

To whom it may concern,

As Director of Athlete Development for the US Biathlon, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for 30 point biathlon range at Casper Mountain. Robert Rosser, the engine behind the project, is a former U.S. team Olympian and World Cup competitor, and a very experienced biathlon marksmanship coach. He has worked closely with high school aged biathletes in the Casper area of the past 5 years, and he is currently the Assistant National Team Coach for the US Paralympic Biathlon Team. His talents and experience are the rare mix that is required to develop young biathletes. The trails and biathlon range area of Casper Mountain are an ideal location for training, competition, and for promoting sport for youth.

Casper Mountain is an ideal setting because there is room for a 30 point range, the ski trails are world class, there is snow on the ground 5+ months of the year. The venue is very close to the population center of Casper, and would be easily accessible for racing and training camps for competitors in biathlon clubs in Lander, Pinedale, Jackson, Cody and Laramie.

Over the last four years the interest in blathlon in the Casper area has greatly increased. With easy access to the blathlon venue at Casper Mountain, and excellent coaching available with Rob Rosser and additional volunteer coaches, we envision a continued growth of the youth blathlon program. The appeal of blathlon to in a health conscious age is easy to see- parents want their kids being outside and being active, and kids love to shoot.

In addition to bringing youth to train and compete at Casper Mountain, the area is already been host to a number of Paralympic training camps under the coaching of Rob Rosser. Rob has been working with a number of incredible "sit ski" athletes who are all wounded

Spontored By::



veterans who have become sit ski biathletes after recovering from their injuries. Casper Mountain has a range of terrain that is appropriate for sit ski athletes.

Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is seeking funds to pay for the design and engineering costs for developing a venue capable of hosting national and international competitions and training camps. A 30- point range, which would meet international standards, is a large project and requires proper planning before the bulldozers start their work.

As Director of Athlete Development at the US Biathlon Association, I give Robert Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club my strongest recommendation and I hope you will be able to support their funding request for their Range Development Grant.

Please feel free to call (952-237-0765) or email (<u>mnbiathlon@aol.com</u>) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Job Badrank

Piotr Bednarski Directory of Athlete Development US Biathlon Association 4845 Emerson Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55419

952/237-0765, mnbiathlon@aol.com

### VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD NATIONAL GUARD BIATHLON OFFICE 113 ETHAN ALLEN ROAD JERICHO, VERMONT 05465-9706

VT-PTS-BI

12 February 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Use of Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (CMBC) facility for the National Guard

 I am the National Guard Biathlon Director writing this memorandum in support for Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (CMBC) project.

The National Guard Biathlon Office has been looking for a quality biathlon venue in the western United States with reliable early snow and high altitude for many years. The site on Casper Mountain is a perfect match for our needs.

3. Upon completion of phase 1 of their Biathlon Venue project National Guard Biathlon Office will use the venue as it's Western Regional site to host annual events and training camps such as our Western Regional event. This event which typically has about 100 soldier/athletes is used to determine who will qualify for National Guard Biathlon Championships, our largest Biathlon event in the country.

4. I reiterate my support CMBC in their venue project.

5. POC is the undersigned at #802-899-7120 or at christopher.t.ruggerio.mil@mail.mil

CHRISTOPHER T. RUGGERIO MAJ, IN NG Biathlon Coordinator

CONTROL MODELS Standards - Constant (Standard



February 19, 2014

RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain Biathlon Club

To whom it concerns,

As the High Performance Director for U.S. Paralympic Nordic Skiing, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for building a biathlon range at Casper Mountain, which will include a full adaptive biathlon range for our Paralympic Biathlon athletes.

This project is led by Olympian and World Cup Biathlon competitor, Robert Rosser who is a resident of Casper, who coaches athletes in the area, supports the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, and serves as the Development & World Cup Coach for our U.S. Paralympic program.

Casper has been host to two of our High Performance Camps for our U.S. Paralympic Nordic program so far, but while the community is very supportive, and the trail system and training is exceptional, we really need a World Class range to be able to prepare our civilian, active military, and veteran athletes for winning World Cup, World Championship and Paralympic competitions.

My program works very closely with the U.S. Biathlon Association, including scheduling our camps at the same location so that our programs can work together on the range, learn from and inspire each another. I am confident the USBA would be thrilled to have a 30 point shooting range for training camps and events, for which U.S. Paralympics would absolutely look to join.

I fully support the efforts of Robert Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club in their quest to build a world class biathlon shooting range on the Casper Mountain Ski Trails.

Feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or need more information.

John Farra High Performance Director, Nordic Skiing for U.S. Paralympics Sincerely,

john.farra@usoc.org 719-351-1594



# Economic Development

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Oint Powers Board 300 South Wolcont Sults 300 - Carper Wyoening 82601 + (307) 377-7011 + (800) 634-5012 + Fax (307) 577-7014

February 20, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors:

It is the board's pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The board fully supports the efforts by Casper Mountain Biathlon Club and Natrona County Parks to establish a world-class biathlon venue and program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area. Skiing and shooting are two of Wyoming's most popular sports. Biathlon is a natural fit for the Wyoming culture.
- We are excited to see the growth of biathlon in Casper. The construction
  of a venue is a natural outgrowth of the existing thriving Nordic ski and
  biathlon programs.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.

Not only would a Biathlon Venue be a wonderful asset for the community, it will also have direct benefits for Wyoming's economy.

- This caliber of Biathlon Venue will establish Casper as a destination for Biathlon and Nordic ski competitions and training. This venue will attract athletes from all over the country and internationally to visit Casper for events, training camps and races.
- The biathion venue and programs will diversify the local economy by directly strengthening the Recreation and Tourism sector.
- This multi-use, year round facility will expand recreation opportunities and related economic benefit by serving as a venue for running, mountain biking, adventure races and more in addition to the Nordic Ski and Biathlon opportunities.
- The Casper Mountain Biathlon Team and the Wyoming National Guard Biathlon Team would have a home training site and would no longer have to travel outside the state for quality training, thus keeping their dollars in our local economy as opposed to spending outside the state in Colorado or Montana.
- Increased business in Nordic skiing and outdoor gear for youth and adults.

 Casper's convenient location on I-25, quality airport, lodging, food and entertainment in addition to the short distance to the proposed venue make it an ideal location for building such a venue. Casper Mountain's thriving Nordic and Biathlon programs, ideal elevation and consistent snow make it an ideal location for a successful biathlon venue.

In conclusion, this venue will strengthen Wyoming's appeal to visitors, future residents, businesses, professionals, students and athletes by showcasing what the state has to offer. Wyoming is becoming a state that is attracting and retaining new generations of workers with job growth and cities that support a healthy lifestyle; the biathlon venue is directly in line with this trend. Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to the area economy as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

Sincerely,

march Reggers

Mark Pepper EDJPB Chair

# CIS COMPRESSION LEASING SERVICES, INC.

To: Wyoming Business Council and the State Loan and Investment Board From: Daron Gruner, Chief Engineer and 50% Owner Date: 2/21/2014 Subject: Proposed Biathlon Facility on Casper Mountain

#### Greetings,

Compression Leasing Services would like to speak in support of, and provide significant effort towards the construction of a Biathlon facility on Casper Mountain. Our company provides significant assistance to many charitable activities through cash and in-kind services. In the past we have assisted such organizations as the Casper Rotary Club (we designed and built the device that drops the ducks for their Duck Derby), Casper Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps (we built and supplied various components for their traveling food truck), the Fat Fish racing team, its events, and associated CAMBYR team, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club (various donations), injured veterans organizations, (we have provided boating opportunities at Alcova Lake to groups of them), as well as support for a host of other local activities and organizations. We believe very strongly that with the effort and perseverance that Wyoming people are capable of, a world class biathlon facility can be built, and become the training home to internationally competitive biathlon and Paralympic athletes. Historically, the facilities on Casper Mountain have steadily expanded and improved though the constant effort of dedicated individuals and organizations. I believe this project will succeed in a similar fashion. Unfortunately, there is a lot of dirt that needs to be moved to get this project off of the ground so that progress can be made on the other needed items. I fully support and would encourage your support of this effort.

Our company has been built on a similar dedication and perseverance. This company is owned equally by me and my brother Ben Gruner, both raised in Wyoming and educated at UW. We decided to build a compressor company to supply compressors, parts, and service within the Rocky Mountains, and to customers worldwide. We have supplied compressors to Russia, Iceland, Costa Rica, Canada, Belgium, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, and many other countries for both onshore and offshore use. So it is with some experience and confidence that I can say it is quite possible for people within Wyoming to have a much larger impact on the world than might be expected in any endeavor that we as Wyoming people set our mind to.

For the Biathlon facility, Compression Leasing Services plans to extend cash and in kind services exceeding \$20,000 in value including steel fabrication of portions of the target enclosures. We are extremely experienced in building durable steel structures for oilfield use, with care towards both strength and ascetic appearance. We buy, and build with steel on a daily basis and have welders certified for various US and International requirements. In addition we have draftsmen and engineers experienced with surveying, designing in 2D and 3D, and in topographic drawings for whatever portions of this project may be required. We also own a backhoe, small dump truck for small on site work, various generators and portable fuel tanks, and of course compressors as needed for construction. We do not expect to nor anticipate receiving any money from any source for our efforts on this project, so this is not intended to be of commercial interest for our company.

Thank you and if you have any questions please let me know at 307-265-3242 or on my cell phone at 307-262-1480.

Thanks, the

Daron Gruner Compression Leasing Services, Inc.

Brubaker Construction, Inc. 1911 South Cedar, Casper ,WY 82601

February 23, 2014

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir,

During the past 20 years Brubaker Construction has been a community participant in the development of Nordic skiing and the sport of Biathlon. Brubaker Construction has served as a central organizer for volunteers to conduct in kind work in developing the Nordic Ski Area on Casper Mountain. The areas in which this organizational work was completed are: building and expanding the Nordic trail system to approximately 40 Kilometers. Building a million dollar Nordic lodge. Designing and building a \$28,000.00 timing building, housing computers capable of timing Nordic races to 100th of a second. Designing and building a \$10,000.00 two story storage facility, housing biathlon equipment, race day trail marking accoutrements to include banners. Hags, V-boards, fencing, and skis for the elementary school Learn To Ski programs.

In the construction of the above facilities Brubaker Construction served as the primary contact to obtain volunteers to work on these projects. These facilities were primarily funded through various county grants. The grants required community in kind work to match the grant money designated for materials. For successful completion of each project an organized effort to focus volunteer workers was necessary. Brubaker Construction acted as facilitator to obtain the volunteers and to supervise the efforts to complete the work.

Brubaker Construction served as the general contractor on these volunteer projects. The projects required building permits, the rental of equipment, and the over sight of the projects through coordination with county building inspectors and sub contractors in the electrical and plumbing trades. Completion of facilities was expedited through donated Brubaker Construction equipment such as concrete forms, power tools, ski steer loader, heaters, insulating blankets, etc. These were offered pro bono.

Brubaker Construction stands ready to act in a similar way to complete the in kind work and project management being proposed for the new Biathlon facility.

Sincerely. Anabaka

Harry 17. Brubaker President Brubaker Construction, Inc. 1-307-262-6567

February 23, 2014

RE: Biathlon Range Funding Request for Casper Mountain

To whom it may concern,

As a US Olympian in Biathlon, I am writing in support of the Range Development funding request for 30 point biathlon range at Casper Mountain. Casper Mountain is an ideal setting because there is room for a 30 point range, the ski trails are world class, and there is snow on the ground 5+ months of the year. The venue is very close to the population center of Casper, and would be easily accessible for racing and training camps for competitors across the state.

In recent years, interest in biathlon in the Casper area has greatly increased through the efforts of Rob Rosser and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club. Both Youth and Paralympic programs already exist, and would have the potential to grow exponentially with a range close by. Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is seeking funds to pay for the initial construction costs to develop a venue capable of hosting national and international competitions and training camps.

As an Olympian, coach, and Chair of the USOC's Athlete's Advisory Committee, I want to make my complete support for the project absolutely clear. A biathlon range on Casper Mountain would open up so many opportunities to people across the state. Although I have retired from international competition, I still enjoy biathlon racing, and currently have to travel to Colorado to race. Given the culture of outdoor recreation and hunting in our state, I have long been amazed that we do not have more top level biathletes emerging from our youth. This range would give youth in our state the opportunity to excel at Europe's most popular winter sport, and consequently open doors for them in Wyoming, the nation, and the world.

Sincerely,

Sarah Konrad 2006 Olympian Chair, US Athlete's Advisory Council Board Director, US Biathlon Association 64 Corthell Rd Laramie, WY 82070 February 24, 2014

To: Wyoming Business Council

Re: Biathlon proposal

This letter is written in complete support of any further development of the local biathlon range and trail system on Casper Mountain.

The biathlon range will enhance the Nordic Ski Trail System that has already been developed and will be an important part of the future plan for Casper Mountain. Interest in the biathlon will come not only from the local community but also from the entire state and nation. It will expand year around recreational opportunities for all ages.

Please give this project careful attention.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Miller, Teacher /Coach



543 SOUTH CENTER / CASPER / WYOMING / 82601 / 307-266-1136 / FAX 307-268-8463

February 24, 2014:

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Members of the Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in support of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club's grant request for developing a world class biathlon facility. I have been in the outdoor recreation business for over 40 years in Casper and would love to see this facility developed. Of course, this would benefit my business in a limited way but, to a much greater extent, it would greatly benefit all of Central Wyoming for the following reasons.

- The promise of early snow, ideal training altitude and excellent trails will attract athletes from throughout North America. These athletes will use the airport, restaurants and lodging facilities in Casper. Already, with just a make shift facility, athletes are coming to Casper Mountain to train. Word is out and a complete facility is already highly anticipated.
- 2. The facility and trails will be multi-use and will enhance year round recreational opportunities for trail running and mtn biking along with summer and winter biathlon. This facility will also be a very desirable venue to host a whole variety of outdoor competitions in any of these disciplines. Each of these activities will only add to the economic impact mentioned above.
- Every user of this facility will leave with a positive impression of Wyoming and a desire to return to visit or live.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Club is uniquely qualified to develop this project. President and head coach Rob Rosser has international biathlon experience as a world class athlete and coach. His work with Paralympic athletes and his years of international biathlon competition and coaching have allowed him to create a vast amount of knowledge, contacts and resources. Rob is not a homogrown fellow learning his way. He chose to come to Casper because he recognized the potential for a world class biathlon program in Wyoming. He picked Casper Mountain for its ideal location with regards to weather, elevation, access and topography. He knows what he is doing and will use the same determination, skill and attitude that won him several National Biathlon Championships to make this facility and program successful.

I would ask you to support this program to whatever extend possible.

Sincerely,

Bruce Lamberson Pres. Mountain Sports



Kristin Underwood 701 Carriage Lane Casper, WY 82601

2-25-2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

I have known Rob and Cathy Rosser for the past 2 years and fully support their efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper. They have taken the time to teach my students a skill that is growing in popularity. It also became an interest of my student's to watch biathlon on the Olympics this year. My PE club has been able to take advantage of this program and learn how to cross-country ski but also how to use electronic guns and shoot at targets. My club the first year had about 8 students, this year we had about 24 as well as parents and siblings join. This community is winter for many more months and it is a goal of mine to introduce all types of activities that children can participate in as well as maybe even grow into a serious sport as they get older. This type of activity can be done by just about any age as well as developmental and physical ability.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area.
- I am excited to see the sport of biathlon growing in Casper.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.
- Biathlon is appealing to many in Wyoming because of the combination of shooting and skiing that are already individually popular in our area

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Verius will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our youth and families of our school, but I see this program growing into the schools as a possible school program in the future.

Sincerely,

Kristin Underwood Physical Educator/Coordinator Natrona County School District Adam Leiferman 8214 Speas Rd Casper, WY 82604

February 26, 2014

Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1046 Lemmers Rd. Casper, WY 82601

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter to support the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

As a representative of the Fat Fish Mountain Bike Racing Team I am excited about the expansion of the trails for mountain biking on Casper Mountain. I also believe the Biathlon Venue will provide an excellent location for hosting summer mountain bike races. The Fat Fish membership has grown greatly in the 5 years of our existence. We currently host a summer ride and race series that attracts close to 100 racers for each event.

The Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area!

Sincerely,

Adam Leiferman President of Fat Fish Racing

# KEITH P. TYLER ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

421 South Center Street, Suite 201 P. O. Box 2671 Casper, Wyoming 82602 (307) 266-0129 fax (307) 235-9154 email: keithpt@earthlink.net

February 27, 2014

Mr. Robert Rosser, President Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1255 Crimson Dawn Road Casper, Wyoming 82601

#### Re: Challenge Grant

Dear Sirs:

Please let this letter serve as my pledge to donate up to \$100,000.00 in the form of a challenge grant. The purpose of the donation is to assist in funding the Phase I development work for the Biathlon Range. The challenge would be to raise an additional \$200,000.00 in cash contributions. This pledge is also subject to an award of the Community Grant that has been applied for in the amount of \$500,000.00, and an additional grant from the Natrona County Recreational Mill Levy Joint Power's Board for the project in the amount of at least \$150,000.00. This pledge is good until December 31, 2014. I wish you the best of luck in raising the balance of the funds and look forward to making my contribution.

Sincerely. **TYLER** KEITH P

KPT/vlk


# **Casper Area Convention & Visitors Bureau**

NATRONA COUNTY TRAVEL & TOURISM COUNCIL

February 27, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street Chayenne, WY 82002

RE: Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Natrona County Travel & Tourism Council and the Casper Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, I would like to offer this tetter of support for the BRC Community enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The Casper Area Convention and Visitors Bureau is the marketing arm of the Natrona County Travel and Tourism Council, a joint powers board, whose mission is to enhance the economic base of Natrona County through tourism. Its primary objective is to encourage more and longer visitor stays through marketing programs aimed at the convention/meeting, individual, motor coach and special events markets.

We fully support the efforts by Casper Mountain Blathlon Club and Natrona County Parks to establish a world-class blathlon venue and program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area. Skiing and shooting are two of Wyoming's most popular sports. Biathlon is a natural fit for the Wyoming culture.
- We are excited to see the growth of biathlon in Casper. The construction of a venue is a
  natural outgrowth of the existing thriving Nordic ski and biathlon programs.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.

Not only would a Biathlon Venue be a wonderful asset for the community, it will also have direct benefits for Wyoming's economy.

- This caliber of Blathlon Venue will establish Casper as a destination for Blathlon and Nordic ski competitions and training. This venue will attract athletes from all over the country and internationally to visit Casper for events, training camps and races.
- The biathlon venue and programs will diversify the local economy by directly strengthening the Recreation and Tourism sector.
- This multi-use, year round facility will expand recreation opportunities and related economic benefit by serving as a venue for running, mountain biking, adventure races and more in addition to the Nordic Ski and Biathlon opportunities.
- The Casper Mountain Biathlon Team and the Wyoming National Guard Biathlon Team would have a home training site and would no longer have to travel outside the state for quality training, thus keeping their dollars in our local economy as opposed to spending outside the state in Colorado or Montana.

139 West 2nd St. Suite 1B Casper, WY 82601 Phone: 307-234-5362 Fax: 307-261-9928

Wyoming Business Council February 27, 2014 Page 2

- Increased business in Nordic skiing and outdoor gear for youth and adults
- Casper's convenient location on I-25, quality airport, lodging, food and entertainment in addition to the short distance to the proposed venue make it an ideal location for building such a venue. Casper Mountain's thriving Nordic and Biathlon programs, ideal elevation and consistent snow make it an ideal location for a successful biathlon venue.

In conclusion, this venue will strengthen Wyoming's appeal to visitors, future residents, businesses, professionals, students and athletes by showcasing what the state has to offer. Wyoming is becoming a state that is attracting and retaining new generations of workers with job growth and cities that support a healthy lifestyle; the biathlon venue is directly in line with this trend. Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and positively contribute to our economy as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming".

The CACVB has and will continue to promote travel into Natrona County as a destination and travel hub and we look forward to continuing our relationship with the C/NCIA in this area. Please contact me if our office can assist your evaluation process in any way.

Sincerely,

Que M.MC

Aaron M. McCreight, CDME CEO

AMM:kjh

34 Meadow Ln. Evansville, WY 82636

Friday, February 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my personal and professional support for the BRC Community Enhancement project "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

I started Nordic skiing while attending school in the Natrona County School District. Harry Brubaker was the beginning skier instructor for the high school ski team; I have known him, now, since 1998. Shortly after beginning the sport of Nordic skiing, I learned about the sport of biathlon and was immediately excited about the sport. In college, at the University of Wyoming, I continued competitive Nordic skiing. One of the UW coaches is a former biathlete and there are several US national/Olympic caliber skiers and biathletes who supported the UW team. I continued learning about biathlon and continued to be excited about the sport. After graduation I joined the Wyoming Army National Guard. After joining the National Guard I learned there is a National Guard circuit for biathlon and joined the Wyoming Guard team. This is my third season participating in and coaching Guard biathlon.

I am excited about having a world-class biathlon venue in Wyoming and believe Casper Mountain is a perfect spot for such a venue.

Personally, it would allow me to practice and hone my skills. As a shooter, it would allow me to have access to a range designed for the kind of shooting unique to biathlon. As an athlete, it would benefit me to have access to year-round training facilities.

Professionally, it would allow the Wyoming National Guard to have a training site which is centralized in the state. Currently, there are biathlon venues in Montana, Utah, and Colorado. While these venues are relatively close to their Wyoming border, it is logistically prohibitive to practice as a team when travel across the state is required for some team members. A training site on Casper Mountain would allow the entire team to participate in training events with minimal travel required for all members of the team.

The economic benefit for the Wyoming community would be significant. The Casper area has all the requirements for a national-scale event including plentiful lodging and an International airport. Casper Mountain provides an ideal location for national-scale ski events due to an elevation ideal for endurance competition, terrain varied enough to accommodate competitions ranging from novice to advanced, and proximity to lodging and transportation infrastructure. Climate and

a strong local skiing and biathlon community also contribute to the appeal of bringing competition to Wyoming.

The National Guard Biathlon office is always considering new venues for its four annual competitions. The "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club would be taken into consideration for two of these four events; the Western Regional and National competition. These two competitions can bring up to fifty and two hundred biathletes, respectively. The coaching and support staff required for these competitions can double those numbers. I have had conversations, and know Mr. Rosser has had conversations, with personnel in the National Guard Biathlon office about the possibility of a world-class biathlon venue in Casper as well as the logistics of bringing such a large contingent to Casper. The likelihood of at least the Western Regional competition coming to Wyoming is high, based on the Casper Mountain venue coming to a reality.

Again, I extend my personal and professional support for the "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue." If you wish to contact me, I can be contacted via email at kenneth.e.miech.mil@mail.mil. Thank you for your time and I look forward to the completion of this project.

Sincerely,

Benneth Miede

Kenneth Miech 2LT, MS WYARNG Biathlon

Friday, February 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Casper Nordic Club fully supports the BBC Community Enhancement projects "Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue" that is being proposed by Natrona County and the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

The Casper Nordic Club shares the love and excitement of skiing with the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club.

We applaud Harry Brubaker and Rob Rosser for their past and present dedication and nowledge in the efforts to establish a world-class biathlon program in Casper.

- Biathlon is a great sport for our area.
- Biathlon is a natural outgrowth of the thriving Nordic Community in Natrona County.
- We are excited to see the sport of biathlon growing in Casper, Wyoming.
- The venue would provide another opportunity for Casper youth and adults to enjoy outdoor exercise.
- Biathlon is appealing to many in Wyoming because of the combination of shooting and skiing that are already individually popular in our area.

Our Club would directly benefit from the proposed biathlon venue. The increased trail system would give our members more areas to ski and a rare opportunity to try the biathlon sport. In support we, the Casper Nordic Club, voted at our February meeting, to give the biathlon club a \$1000 this year. In conclusion, the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue will be a great addition to the Casper area and will positively contribute to our club as well as the city's goal to be the "Adventure Capital of Wyoming."

Sincerely,

"he Casper Nordic Club



Natrona County Parks Department

538 SW Wyo Blvd PO Drawer 848 Hills, WY 82644 (307) 235-9325; 265-2743 (f)

February 28, 2014

Robert Rosser, President Casper Mountain Biathlon Club 1046 Lemmers Rd. Casper, WY 82601

Subject: Letter of Intent to Provide In-Kind Services for the Biathion Venue

Dear Rob:

Please accept this letter from the undersigned department heads as our intent to provide In-Kind Services and other good and valuable consideration during Phase 1 construction of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Venue.

Specifically, we intend to construct the crushed gravel Lower Parking Lot, facilitate the power service thereto and Lot lighting. According to AMEC's cost estimate, these services are valued at \$11,250 and \$13,500, respectively. Furthermore, we'll assist the eventual contractor in widening our existing Nordic Trails entering and exiting the Venue.

The Natrona County Parks Board will ratify this intent at their April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. If necessary, the Board of County Commissioners will effectuate these In-Kind Services via a Resolution of Support at their May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Please call or type with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dick O'Hearn, PE (Civil) Parks Director

Michael D. Haigler Supt Road-n-Bridge Dept

office of tourism

5611 High Plains Rd \* Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307-777-7777 \* Fax: 307-777-2877 wyomingtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor Diane Shober Executive Director

April 28, 2014

Julie Kozłowski Wyoming Business Council Business Ready Communities 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Julie,

It has been brought to my attention that the Casper Mountain Blathlon Club (CMBC) is applying for a Community Enhancement Grant to create an elite facility in Casper. On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism, I would like to extend full support for this effort.

A Community Enhancement Grant will enable CMBC to improve existing facilities and increase recreational opportunities to help promote healthy activities for youth, adults and people with disabilities. Visitors enjoy taking part in the outdoors and adventure activities. Product development such as this contributes to visitor activities and as a result increases the possibility of extending the length of stay, which in turn increases the value of the visitor trip. In addition, state and local entities will have a quality training site, which will add to the community economy by keeping Wyoming dollars in-state. An enhanced venue will also serve as a competition site for cross country skiing, cross country running and mountain biking, thus attracting competitors from all over to visit this great state!

I encourage positive support of this effort!

Warm Regards,

Diane Srober

Diane Shober Executive Director Wyoming Office of Tourism

DS/vm

Wyoming will always be Forever West

February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Buffalo Bill FFA Support Group supports Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely.

Taylor Bednarz Buffalo Bill FFA Support Group President

February 18, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Buffalo Bill FFA Chapter supports Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Troy Wiant Buffalo Bill FFA Advisor



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240

Dear Council Members:

Powell Economic Partnership, Inc. fully supports the grant application by Park County to the Wyoming Business Council for funding support of the new building project, including electrical improvements and parking lot enhancements, at the Park County Fairgrounds. This project represents a significant piece of our economic and community development goals.

We are currently in the final stages of our strategic planning process for economic development, and the planned uses of the new building project at the Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, fail in line with a few of our different strategies, including Value-Added Agriculture, Culture & Tourism and Recreational Facilities.

In addition, the project at the fairgrounds has the added benefit for the entire Park County. Powell Economic Partnership, Inc. appreciates the local impact, but truly embraces the broader impact on the greater community.

Sincerely,

Christine Bekes Executive Director

February 20, 2014



Meeteetse FFA Chapter P.O. Box 218 Meeteetse, WY 82433

> Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

I am writing this letter in support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a great structure that will be available for public use and also be very beneficial to our FFA Chapter. The Meeteetse FFA Chapter supports Park County in this endeavor.

Best Regards,

Louis Abarr Meeteetse FFA Advisor

The FFA Mission Page 126 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



February 21, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Communities Program Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Julie,

Over the past several years, Forward Cody has been party to discussions regarding the quality of the facilities at the Park County Fairgrounds in Powell. Although these facilities are not in our community, we recognize their importance and their impact to our area.

The multiple use facility, as proposed in this project is part of the core infrastructure of a community. In our economic development vernacular, it is a key building block for the community providing a gathering place, a place for events and a place to do business. We believe the multi-use center will provide those functions for Powell and the surrounding communities.

Please accept this letter as our organization's support for the effort. We encourage your positive recommendation for this project.

Sincerely, Willing

James Klessens CEO/President



276 North Clark Street - Powell, Wyoming 82435 (307) 754-5106 - FAX (307) 754-5385

February 24, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozłowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, WY. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. I Don E. Hillman, Mayor for the City of Powell support Park County in this endeavor.

icerely,

Don E. Hillman Mayor City of Powell



February 25", 2014

Julie Kozłowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Letter of Support - Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

## Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

As a Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Center & newly formed Main Street Affiliate, the Board of Directors and I would like to express our support for the Community Enhancement Grant Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. This project, including electrical improvements and parking lot enhancements, at the Park County Fairgrounds represents an integral part of attracting more visitors, more conferences and conference participants to our community and county.

Park County is committed to its citizens and their economic well-being. The Powell Valley Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Center and Powell Main Street support Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Jame Schmeisin

Jaime Schmeiser Executive Director

Powell Valley Chamber of Commerce - 111 South Day - Powell, WY 82435 (307-)754-3494 - 800-325-4278 - FAX (307) 754-3483 - info@powellchamber.org www.powellchamber.org May 1, 2014



Dear State Loan and Investment Board and Wyoming Business Council;

## <u>Regarding: the current Park County \$500,000 grant for community improvement, a new fairground</u> <u>building.</u>

It is our understanding that the state loan and investment board has provided \$500,000 of Taxpayer money to assist Park County in building a new County Fair exhibit hall.

Per the Park County Commissioners this money, from your Agency, is contingent on Park County raising an additional \$500,000 from **Private Donations** by the end of May 2014. Park County now pretends their concern that "fund raising has not even begun". I believe, that Park County never expected to receive this money from actual private donors.

In April 2014 while perusing the Park County Commissioners minutes on 3/4/14 and 2/4/14; I noted two unusual payments to "Pavement Maintenance Inc" of \$37,650 and \$62,250 (exactly \$100,000). I requested to review these payments and learned that the checks were issued. No work invoice or contract was included with the checks, and only notation of "crack seal" of a few county roads was provided on the check stubs. Crack sealing roads in January and February in Park County?

Had I not been curious about these expenditures, it seems there would have been \$400,000 more of these unusual payments. Just enough for the \$500,000 **"Priva**te **Donation"** goal.

The proposed Park County Fair building will only have one week of direct public service per year; however, it will make a lucrative addition to the high end commercial rentals Park County now owns. As you might imagine the rental of publically owned buildings to Federal, State and private business is highly profitable; since they pay no property tax, no Federal income tax, and have no mortgage payments. How could any private Property Investment Company compete with that?

Park County has (or will) request an additional \$500,000 from Wyoming Business Council for the "nonbuilding" part of the construction project (demolition, roads, pavement, etc.). Since Park County Commissioners plan to use the County Road and Bridge department for this work, the money is really not necessary; however, it will make a nice addition to the "County war chest" of millions of dollars of seized State and Federal restricted/dedicated funds.

These alternate sources of Park County funding may not be illegal; but, some of the uses of these funds seem highly questionable.

For Example: In 2012 a tax to expand Cody West Park Hospital was voted down. The County Commissioners provided \$750,000 of "their money" for the hospital enhancements. Although unverified, rumor has it that at least one of the County Commissioner's elderly parent is receiving free nursing home care at the West Park facility. At a cost of \$300 per day this is a significant benefit.

We respectfully request that the State Loan and Investment Board enforce their agreement for private funding and redeem the \$500,000 grant from Park County. If Community Improvement is the actual goal of the State Loan and Investment Board and the Business Council; then, use the money to fund a professional certified (CPA) audit of what appears to be a local government steeped in a dishonest culture.

Respectfully,

Donna Guelde

307 868-2146

#### TOWN OF MEETEETSE

J. A. Abbott, Mayor Sharon Fech, Councilman Sheridan Trask, Councilman Bill Yetter, Councilman James D. Yockey, Councilman C. Edward Webster II, Town Attorney Winfred C. Orrell, Jr., Municipal Judge



Angela Johnson, Clerk Treasurer Ronee Hogg, Deputy Clerk Shawn Christopherson, Public Works Edwin Hesselbacher, Public Works Joe Wagers, Deputy Sheriff Hayes Randol, Deputy Sheriff

P. O. Box 38 Meeteetse Wyoming 82433 Phone 307-868-2278 Fax 307-868-2608 Email: meeteetse@tctwest.net

February 25, 2014

Julie Kozlowski, Program Manager Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

## RE: Letter of Support- Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application

Dear Ms. Kozlowski:

This is a letter of support for the Community Enhancement Grant and Loan Application for Park County Fairgrounds, located in Powell, Wyoming. Park County is committed to providing a sound structure that will be available to public use. The Town of Meeteetse support Park County in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

John A. Abbott Mayor 2500 College Drive, P.O. Box 428 / Rock Springs, WY 82902-0428



October 21, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter as my enthusiastic support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the core of this community through its services and activities for local residents and visitors alike.

The current location is exceptional as it is located at the convergence of many traffic patterns; however, the outdated facility is limited by size and accessibility, which directly limits many of the services that are needed by this community. The building has served this community since 1981. The population and business environments have expanded geometrically since that time. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has kept up with these changes, but the facilities are no longer adequate for the volume and variety necessary to serve this dynamic community.

With its location next to a city park, the new Chamber Visitor's Center will enhance the services available to people exploring southwest Wyoming. Public restrooms will meet a need that has gone long unaddressed. The newly ADA-compliant facility will provide visitor information, meeting spaces, and an expanded pet area. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to provide many services beyond a typical Chamber operation. In fact, the Chamber is the only true economic development entity in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project for our community. The businesses in Rock Springs are dedicated and generous in supporting this city and the Chamber's updated facilities will help to recruit and retain the future employees that are so vital to our expanding workforce.

Sincerely,

Karla Leach, President



An Equal Opportunity Employer



White Mountain Muli 2441 Foomili Bird Rock Springs, WY 82901 T 307-382-9866 F 307-362-4183 POUSEPROPERTIES.COM (

October 21, 2013

to.	Pat Robbins
	Wyoming Business Counsel

RE: Letter of Support for Community Development Block and Community Enhancement Grants

I'm writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs applications for a Community Development Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant. The Chamber of Commerce building sits in one of the most visible locations for visitors entering our city and the current lack of facilities such as handicap accessibility for the building, public restrooms, park playground/picnic pavilion, and a dated building are not the first impression that we should be presenting to our visitors.

These two grants would allow the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs to provide amenities and services that travelers have come to expect. Along with the park upgrades the building remodel/expansion will enable the Chamber of Commerce to better serve visitors by providing information in a visually appealing and interesting way, and also enable the staff to provide better service.

I fully support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their efforts to obtain these grants and create the environment for our visitors that will represent Rock Springs in the best possible light.

Regards,

Arr

General Manager

WWWWIDUITTEOHENTILECK. PRYSE: 85E



Simplot Phosphates LLC 315 S. Hwy. 430 Rock Springs, WY 82901 (307) 382-1469 / 382-01509 (fax)

## October 22, 2013

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Dave Hanks

Subject: Renovation of Rock Springs Chamber Building

### Dave,

Please accept this letter as a letter of support for the renovation of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. I have been a Chamber board member for the past three years and have seen the value that the Chamber brings to the community. The growth of the community and business in the area has loaded the existing facility to its limit of efficient operation. As the main outlet of information for potential businesses and tourists to the area, it is vital that the Chamber can take care of these information requests quickly and completely. New staff has been hired to help but there just is not enough space in the current building. The current staff is extremely professional however their building is out of date and needs updating inside and out to extend that professionalism of the Chamber. Simplot Phosphates and myself support this renovation project.

Sincerely,

Eric Schillie Plant Manager Simplot Phosphates 307-382-1542

October 23, 2013

ROCKY HOUNTAIN BANK

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

RE: Application for Community Development Block Grant Application for Community Enhancement Grant

Dear Pat;

In order to allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to provide a higher level of service to our public please support the approval for the above grants to help improve and enhance the current chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce functions as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County providing information to an average of 75-100 business per year. In addition the Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually with a single day high of 700 visitors in July 2013.

By supporting the above grants you will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to improve our display area in a more organized/visually appealing manner which will better serve our members ability to advertise their goods and services. The grants will allow the Chamber to provide ADA public restrooms as a service to travelers, and also allow the new and improved facility to be ADA compliant, while providing improved facilities for community and member meetings.

As the current building has remained largely unchanged since 1981 it is time for our facility to look like what our membership is – a forward thinking, proactive organization, that is proud to be a part of Rock Springs and the state of Wyoming.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely;

1. Walk

Gary L. Watkins Rock Springs Market Manager Rocky Mountain Bank

Page 136 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

It is my pleasure to write to you in support of the grants available for the renovation and expansion of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the gateway to our community and is in need of a modernized facility to provide a vibrant first impression to our 25,000 tourists and visitors yearly.

The Chamber of Commerce is often the key component of the first impression for visitors and new residents to our area. Although the current building has served the City of Rock Springs for 32 years, it was not built to handle the amount of public use or house the staff that is needed today to continue to grow. With the continuing increase in population in our thriving community, it is more difficult to keep serving the public with our limited resources. The Rock Springs Chamber acts as the main hub for directing visitors and for ticket sales for local events, which in July 2013 they had over 700 visitors in one day. The building is also outdated and no longer meets ADA code.

With the projected updates, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce will portray a more modern and business-like appearance. The larger facility will allow for meeting rooms for member and community use, as well as will be able to highlight Sweetwater County with organized displays. The addition of public restrooms, a playground park, picnic pavilions, and a pet area, will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to better serve our visitors and our community.

Thank you for your consideration for this essential renovation that will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce a higher level of service to our community.

Sincerely,

aus un

Stacy Pivic Assistant Vice President Business Banking Officer Commerce Bank of Wyoming



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I write to you in support for the inclined grant the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce seeks to be awarded for the remodel of their existing building and the green belt area closely surrounding. The Chamber of Commerce continues to be the front door to the city of Rock Springs, providing services and events for all visitors, entrepreneurs, and local citizens.

The Chamber of Commerce is persistently expanding and offering more services as technology advances, and events progress on an annual occurrence. It is incumbent that the Chamber keeps up with the times and adapts accordingly, enabling them to offer such assistance for the great people of this community, as well as the increased activity taking place year round.

With the expansion of the building, the newly ADA-compliant facility will provide an updated, national code abiding opportunity for visitors and local citizens to explore the needed information that the Chamber works to improve and promote on a daily basis. This expansion will also allow the adequate space needed for the recently extended staff to continue offering an honest, and sole, economic development entity to the city of Rock Springs, WY.

I appreciate your consideration for this grant application. This is a prodigious opportunity for not only the Chamber of Commerce, but all the businesses and members who support our local community and strive to make the great place we call home a remarkable place to live, recreate, and prosper.

Sincerely,

Veatar D liket

Keaton D. West Sales Director

PLUMBING 

HEATING 
AIR CONDITIONING 

REFRIGERATION 
VENTILATION 
SHEET METAL

1130 SIGNAL DRIVE ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82901 (307) 362-7550 Fax (307) 362-8721

Serving Southwest Wyoming Since 1963



October 24, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Ms. Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please accept this letter as our support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Visitor Center.

If the Visitor Center had a more modern and business like appearance it would help portray our community in a more professional and positive light. The Chamber provides information to our job candidates that visit our area from other states. It is sometimes difficult to recruit engineering talent for our remote location in Sweetwater County. We rely on the Chamber to provide information to job candidates and help to convey information on the many tourist sights in our area and to promote the positive aspects of working and living in Wyoming.

The Chamber is the gateway to our community and in many instances is the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. The Rock Springs Visitor Center is outdated and the office can become very crowded. During one of our visits the lobby had other customers so we waited outside until some of the customers left so we could enter the building. During our visit the staff had to go downstairs to obtain information and left the counter unattended. If the Visitor Center was set up in a more organized appealing manner it would help to provide a more positive first impression.

We appreciate your consideration for this project that will benefit our businesses, the community and help to attract future talent to our area.

Sincerely, im Maxi

fim Maxfield, SPHR Human Resources Manager Solvay Chemicals, Inc





October 25, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council c/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

On behalf of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and our Chief Executive Officer, Gerard Klein, I am submitting this letter in support of the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to remodel and expand their facility at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, Wyoming. We agree the enhanced facilities will assist with the following:

- More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales
- More inviting and business-like façade/ modernize outside appearance of the building The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County
- Ability to highlight Rock Springs/Sweetwater County better with room for displays
- · Portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light
- · Better meeting rooms for member and community use
- · Expand the pet area
- · More efficient use of staff time not having to run downstairs and being away from the public areas
- Add a park playground/picnic pavilions and ADA compliant access Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards
- The building is outdated The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981
- · Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area
- · Safety for staff and visitors
- More room for Business Development Program
- · Acts as the Hub for directing visitors to our tourist sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually. We have a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Please feel free to contact me at 307-352-8413 or irichardson@sweetwatermemorial.com. Mr. Klein may be reached at 307-352-8411 or gklein@sweetwatermemorial.com.

Sincerely,

until

Irene Richardson Chief Financial Officer



3320 Yellowstone Road, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307.352.6789 Fax: 866.899.6787

October 29, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council e/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant applications. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce plays a very important role in our community and specifically for the Sweetwater Events Complex. Not only do they serve as the only economic development group in the area, but as our visitor's center too; they literally are the 'front door' to Rock Springs for many businesses, organizations and visitors.

By the very nature of our business, we work closely with the Chamber of Commerce to attract new events, promote our area and enhance existing events. To that end, the Chamber of Commerce routinely serves as a ticket outlet for our events. (It should be noted they are THE ticket outlet for nearly all events taking place in Rock Springs). As our events continue to grow, the Chamber has seen similar growth in visitors looking for tickets. So much so that one day in July they had in excess of 700 individuals in their office to purchase tickets! A remodel of the building would allow residents and visitors to more easily purchase tickets while maintaining a safe working environment for the Chamber staff. Additionally, with that many people purchasing tickets, visitors seeking information about our area may inadvertently be turned away; not a good first impression of us or Wyoming in general.

As mentioned, the Chamber serves as a 'front door' for us, but isn't always the most welcoming host. While they do the best they can in their present building, the facility doesn't feature public restrooms nor is it ADA compliant – keys to being traily gracious to our visitors.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce obviously has a long-standing presence in our community. The building they presently occupy has been paid for and they've developed a substantial reserve to help match grant funds. The board has proven their ability to serve the area well and will continue to do so. The grants will help them do so in an easier and more welcoming fashion.

I appreciate your consideration of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's grant applications. This is a great opportunity for our entire community to improve our business climate as well as continuing to serve our residents.

Warmly,

Executive Director

and the second of the local data in the local



Carl R. Demshar, Jr., Mayor 212 D Street, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Office [307] 352-1510 • FAX [307] 352-1516 carl\_demshar@rswy.net

October 30, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Letter of Support for Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building Renovations

Dear Ms Robbins: PAT

I am writing this letter to show my support for the proposed renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building. The Chamber has been using the existing building since 1981, and since that time, the Chamber has continued to serve more and more entities needing business information, or visitors needing general information about Rock Springs and the surrounding area. Currently, the Chamber serves as the "Gateway to the Rock Springs Community" with approximately 25,000 tourists and locals served on an annual basis. In addition, the Chamber supplies local pertinent information to approximately 75-100 business inquiries per year. To sum up the importance of the Chamber to Rock Springs and the surrounding area, the Chamber acts as a "hub" for directing visitors to tourists sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming.

At these current service levels, the Chamber has simply outgrown the existing building. The existing building was not designed or built to house the staffing levels needed today, nor was it built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The proposed renovations will enhance the Chamber's ability to grow the services required of locals and tourists alike. In addition, the renovations will update existing electrical and mechanical functions, which will allow the Chamber to reduce daily operating costs since the new systems will be more effective and efficient.

The Chamber of Commerce plays an integral role in the daily lives of the citizens of Rock Springs, in supplying information to prospective businesses, and in making visitors to the area feel welcome. An up-to-date, modern building will only enhance the Chamber's ability to provide these services. I wholeheartedly support this project and the proposed renovations to the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

Yours very truly,

Carl R. Demshar, Jr. Mayor, City of Rock Springs

**ROCKET-MINER** 

215 D St. / P.O. Box 38 Rock Springs, WY 22902-0098 307-362-3736 E-mail: ricke@rocketminer.com General Manager Rick Lee www.rocketminer.com

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

October 30, 2013

Dear Pat,

I gladly offer a letter of support to be included in the grant application for the two grants that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is applying for; the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

The need for development and renovation is great in both of these projects. The Chamber is an important resource for economic development and visitor relations and should be housed in a modern and inviting professional facility. While the current structure is functional, it is not optimal. I have not seen the Chamber of Commerce Building change since I was in Jr. High, over 31 years ago, with anything more than paint jobs.

The increased volume of business and visitors to our Chamber and the need for the Chamber to remain inviting and professional to visitors and potential community businesses warrants the need to update our local facility as it is, in its own standing, a representation of Rock Springs.

Information from the Chamber of Commerce indicates that there is an average of 25,000 individuals served by the Chamber annually. These tourists and locals deserve a pleasant experience in whatever way they use the Chamber of Commerce. An inviting and professional facility and park area will enhance a positive experience and encourage visitors to begin or continue to do business in Rock Springs, strengthening the economy of our community. In essence, investment in the Chamber is a good investment in which we can expect immediate dividends. It is a challenge for communities to keep up with the ever advancing and always changing business climate. Innovations and business practices are constantly pushing business people to adapt to modernization just to remain relevant.

It is my hope that we can help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, as an important community business; remain relevant by supporting this grant application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

20

Rick Lee General Manager Rocket-Miner 307-362-3736 (Phone) 307-382-2763 (Fax) riclee@rocketminer.com



October 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins;

The Rock Springs economy is growing stronger every day. There are more than 600 businesses in Rock Springs with information given an average of 75-100 business inquires per year by our local Chamber of Commerce. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

Businesses range from large national retail and restaurant chains, to locally owned and operated boutiques and businesses, as well as a full spectrum of home office, flex and industrial.

Businesses are being drawn to our community because of our tremendous rate of growth and the affluence of our market. The community's home town charm, the beauty of the surrounding open space and our close proximity to two major markets – Denver & Salt Lake City are also big attractions.

In Rock Springs we have an extremely supportive local government. A Chamber of Commerce that cares about the business community of Rock Springs, the Chamber Advocates the interests of local business to government organizations and provides cooperative programs such as marketing, technology and public relations to benefit local businesses, which they could not afford individually. Creating a healthy economic-business climate that contributes to the quality of life in Rock Springs.

The Chamber is currently in need of a new building the building is outdated.

There are many reasons that make The Rock Springs Chamber worthy of a new building. The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1939 with a simple but very important objective, to support and promote local businesses. Over seventy four years later, that simple mission still drives everything they do for the community. The current building was built in 1981 and mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 there is a need for more efficient lower operational costs. Roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life The Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area.

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards Safety for staff and visitors, the building needs to be up to ADA code. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff needed today. The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The community needs an area to address the growing needs of their startup business.

I would like to encourage the Wyoming Business Council to support the endeavors that the Rock Springs Chamber is in need of. They need your support. Rock Springs has a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

I encourage the Wyoming Business Council to make a difference for the Rock Springs Chamber.

Thank you for your time, if you need to speak with me further or have questions please contact me at the address below.

Sincerely; Terri Nations Alcours Hork Springs Main Street & 6 & Att South Units United Springs, Why Septer Hork Springs, Why Septer 2027-2020 (Inte terri nations@rsws.net

Follow us on BEacebook



October 30, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 2088 Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Community Enhancement Grant

To Whom It May Concern,

It is without reservation that the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board (SWCTTB) fully supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's application for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant to renovate and expand the existing building in order to provide a higher level of service to the public.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce (RSCC) serves as the gateway to the community and is therefore the first impression of Rock Springs to our visitors. This gives the Chamber a unique opportunity to promote Sweetwater County and provide information to tourists and travelers coming through the area. The renovated building will provide a more efficient and visually attractive center for community and visitor functions. Additionally, the project will be a joint effort between the RSCC and the City of Rock Springs, as the renovation will include additional upgrades and greater utilization of the public space next to the Chamber of Commerce.

The RSCC serves 25,000 tourists annually and had a single day high of 700 visitors in July of 2013. They provide information to an average of 75-100 businesses per year in addition to facilitating ticket sales for community events and directing visitors to sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming. The current building was not intended to house required staff or accommodate visitor traffic and needs to be expanded in order to meet the needs of our growing community.

Should you have any questions on the position of the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board concerning this project or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (307) 382.2538.

Sincerely.

in Bachett

Jenissa J. Bartlett Executive Director Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board

Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Jourism Board

Page 147 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014 Representative Allen M. Jaggi Wyoming House of Representatives House District 19 P.O. Box 326 Lyman, WY 82937



immy (307) 766-2817 email: Allen Jaggittwyoleg.gov

October 30, 2013

Wyoming Business Council,

As a legislator representing part of Sweetwater County, I have had many occasions to visit many places in Rock Springs. As I have attended meetings, visited businesses and constituents, I have often driven past the present Chamber of Commerce. As I drive past I am glad to have the visible sight, easy access, and feel it draws many visitors to come in and get information about Sweetwater County and Southwest Wyoming. But I am very glad to write a letter in support of the grants to make the chamber of commerce a way more inviting place for our visitors and residents to stop and get information and be ADA compliant. The present building is small, outgrown and outdated, not as appealing as a new building would be(old one built in early 1980's), and would have way better parking and a place to let small children unwind as the adults gather information for, hopefully, a continued stay in Sweetwater County. As I have attended meeting in the present building it is apparent that a bigger and more spacious display area is needed and better meeting rooms. The whole building while having served and kept nice for many years is not what we would like to have our visitor's experience. These two grants would allow the chamber to really be more inviting for visitors, for business meetings, and be able to give information about Sweetwater County and South west Wyoming.

I hope this gives a few reasons why I feel these grants would really be a wise use of our state money to enhance tourism and economic growth in southwest Wyoming.

Thanks, for your consideration,

Allen Jaggi

## WWWWYOLEG.GOV



2400 Reagan Avenue Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307-352-6737

## 10-31-13

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I would like to state that the Young At Heart Senior Center is in support of the grant proposal that will assist in the remodeling and expansion of the present Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce facility located at 1897 Dewar Drive. The Chamber has partnered with the City of Rock Springs to accomplish this goal of providing a higher level of service to the public.

Areas we see for intervention/benefit would be:

The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County

More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales

Better meeting rooms for member and community use

Add a park playground/picinic pavilions and ADA compliant access

Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

More room for Business Development Program and Employee

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

We are the ONLY economic development organization in Sweetwater County

The community needs an area to address the growing needs of our startup business. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually

Thank you for your consideration of the grant proposal.

Sincerely,

dearne Cox

Jeanine Cox, Executive Director



Senator Stan Cooper Wyoming Senate

Senate District 14

**District Address** 

417 Agence Street Kemmerer, WY 83101 307-877-6450

scooperwyldgmail.com

Committees Minnali, Busines and Framm Development

Transportation, Highways and Military Affeirs October 31, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attention: Pat Robins Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902

RE: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Pat:

This letter is written in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce grant applications for a Community Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant.

The Community Block Grant funds will be used for a very much needed and required handicap accessible Chamber office building and parking area. The Community Enhancement Grant funds will be used to renovate and expand the existing Chamber office building to provide for an enhanced level of services to local businesses, the public, and visitors to the community.

This is a joint and cooperative project with the City of Rock Springs. The current Chamber facility has been serving the Rock Springs community for the past 32 years. The community has grown considerably in all these years and continues to grow and there is real need for this expansion project. The facility is located on a main thoroughfare within the community and provides an excellent location for serving the public and visitors and with sufficient area for this proposed expansion.

The expansion project will allow for a more business friendly facility. The current facility is often referred to by locals as the "yellow shed" and a more business like appearance that portrays a positive light for the community and visitors will certainly be beneficial. The project will also allow for more effective use of staff and their time along with upgrades for more efficient, lower operating cost mechanical and electrical equipment. The project also proposes to bring the office facility and adjoining playground and picnic area up to ADA Code compliant standards.

The Chamber is the only economic development organization serving the Rock Springs area and the current building was not built with this added responsibility for staffing and additional office space in mind at the time.

The Chamber has the ability to access funds for a cash match for the grant requirements.

I would appreciate your positive consideration of these worthy grant applications by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely, 21 Sen. Stan Cooper

SD 14

Wyoming Legislature Online http://legisweb.state.wy.us



PO, Sox 10 5670 E: Lucerne Road Manila, Utah 84046

Phone: 435 784-3483

Email Ucernemarina@kve.com www.taminggorge.com

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Ms. Robbins,

On behalf of Flaming Gorge Corporation and as a Past President and current member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, I fully support the two grants needed to remodel the current Chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber and its employees are a very valuable resource for my business. They provide potential visitors leads to our facility and the Flaming Gorge from their small building located on Dewar Drive. This facility needs to be upgraded and be more inviting for visitors seeking information. It is important that the RS Chamber office be modernized and upgraded not only for visitors but for the current staffing needs. It is crucial that public restroom facilities that are ADA compliant are available to the public.

We truly believe that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce represents not only the City of Rock Springs but SW Wyoming and the Flaming Gorge. The proposed upgrade and expansions are crucial to its continued success. We hope you will accept their grant application for the much needed upgrades to the existing Chamber building.

Sincerely


Taco Time 225 Aspen Way Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a local business person in the community for the past 40 years and a Rock Springs native I am writing this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber office in Rock Springs is terribly outdated. The current facilities for community use as well as the lack of display room for the many gems of our city and county are just not adequate. Rock Springs is a community that is growing at a 3% rate annually with the average age of 31.5 years; we need a facility that can grow with these demographics. The current building is referred to as the "Yellow Shed"; with its prime location as the Gateway to the Community the building needs to be modernized and more inviting to our visitors. As a past board member we were faced with mechanical and electrical improvements for the building that are all original since 1981, just to make the building more comfortable and inviting to the business community and visitors. I ask that the Wyoming Business Council strongly consider granting the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce project. The money from these grants would provide for an ADA compliant building and a facility that is run with the upmost professionalism, with 25,000 tourists and locals benefitting from this project.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Staley and Leland V. Staley

Rock SPRINGS DORLITY ISN November 4, 2013

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce PO Box 398 Rock Springs WY 82902





I am writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce remodel project. This remodel will allow the current building to be updated to a more professional lock. The remodel will also allow the current facility to be brought up to ADA code. I feel that this remodel is necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to continue providing the level of service that they provide and will allow them room to grow with the community.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce takes on many additional duties within the community. They are the Rock Springs area visitor center and ticket distributor as well as normal Chamber operations. The proposed remodel will allow more area for the staff to conduct visitor center operations. This will also highlight the community in a much better light to our visitors as the remodeled building will have a more modern professional appearance. The added room will also allow more materials about Sweetwater County to be displayed in an organized and visually appealing way. The Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 people annually. They need a larger more professional area to continue this level of service, especially with the 3% growth rate that Rock Springs is experiencing.

The Chamber of Commerce has been in the "yellow shed" since 1981 with very little modification since that time. The roof is at the end of its life and should be replaced before it causes damage to the interior. The building itself is outdated. The electrical and mechanical are original and need to be updated to more energy efficient lower operational cost mechanicals.

Since 1981, the ADA laws have changed. The Department of Justice published the new laws that have very specific rules regarding public places. Companies are no longer "grandfathered" from these laws as they were prior to March 2012. Not only do the public areas have to be ADA compliant, but the staff work areas as well. The current layout of the building has the staff going up and down stairs often to retrieve items that have to be stored downstairs as there is not room upstairs. This would make employing a person with ADA needs almost impossible. Also located in the basement is the meeting room. Again, there is not any ADA access to this area of the current design of the building. The current proposal allows for ADA compliant access to the new restrooms and the building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has been in its existing business since 1981 without any updates or modifications. The current building is small and does not meet the ADA laws effective March 2012. The roof, electrical and mechanical all need to be updated. The "yellow shed" needs a more professional modern look to represent our town in a positive tight to travelers and potential new business. As a business that relies on business and leisure travel, I strongly support a remodel of the Rock Springs Chamber/Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

Eich

Tricia Green, CHA General Manager. Quality Inn

1671) Swelt 1 Ditwi Nock Stream, Wittaniu 82501 Picnel 307,382,3450 Fix 307,382,7333 Fiz reservation workfixide: 800 4CHOICE: choiceholem.com Pat Robbins

Wyoming Business Council

As a member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and as a past board member, I would like to support the remodel and expansion of the current building located at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, WY.

The location of the building is ideal for visitors and residents, however the general floor plan is no longer functional. In 1981 the Chamber of Commerce moved to this building. In the last 32 years, the use of the building and its surrounding area have changed greatly.

The business of promoting our city, county, and state is done from this building. This is sometimes the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs. We need to portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light. The building is outdated; the inside **and** outside needs to be more inviting and business-like. The building will first need to be brought up to ADA code. There needs to be public restrooms that meet ADA standards. Visitor information needs to be displayed in a more organized and appealing way. The pet area outside needs to be expanded. A park/picnic/playground pavilion needs to be added to allow visitors a rest area.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 visitors and locals annually. And our community continues to grow at a rate of 3% annually. Therefore, the building is no longer large enough to house the director and staff, let alone any room for future expansion of staff, such as a Business Development coordinator. The electrical and mechanical operations of the building are all original from 1981. It would be prudent to incorporate energy efficient mechanics at the time of remodel. The roof is original from 1981, therefore needing replaced.

A meeting room is currently located in the basement of the building, which is away from the public area and not an efficient use of staff time. The remodel could provide better meeting rooms for member and community use with public access. A ticket window would provide safety for staff. In conclusion, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is in need of a larger, more modern building. The current building is paid for. The Chamber has in excess of \$115,000.00 in cash as a match. They are financially sound. I would recommend approval of a grant to help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce provide Visitor Center operations and promote our region.

Dynamite Auction Company

Margaret Gibbens

rgaret Libbens

Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson 440 Uinta Drive Green River, WY 82935

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As longtime members of the Sweetwater County business community, please accept this letter expressing our support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce expansion and enhancement grants.

The Chamber not only serves the local population and over twenty-five thousand tourists annually, a large geographical area is also served either directly or indirectly. Sales to tourists significantly enhance our profitability. Anything that enhances tourist experiences is a positive factor for our business.

For travelers seeking tourism and business information, a first class experience may only be provided from a facility that portrays our area in a positive light. The public expects top notch service from the staff, a business-like appearance, public restrooms and a nice place for Rover to mark his approval!

The Chamber serves an invaluable service in business recruitment. Any savvy decision maker will check out the Chamber first hand for information. The building should reflect the success of our area. It is difficult to attract new businesses when operating from a building that implies desperation!

After spending that last year building our own dealership, dealing with the strict current guidelines regarding electrical and mechanical equipment, we are very sensitive to the reasons for updated building codes. A public building that is not ADA compliant is a law suit waiting to happen.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our recommendation for grant approval.

Sincerely

Dennis Laughlin, General Manager Dave and Lynda Laughlin, Owners Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson



Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Mrs. Robbins,

The Green River Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors supports the City of Rock Springs and Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce application for a Wyoming Business Council Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant to provide handicap accessibility for the Chamber building and renovate and expand the existing building. The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981. The roof is also original to the same year and is at the end of its life. The renovation will provide a more inviting façade and modernize the outside appearance of the building. It will also look more business-like and provide better meeting space for member and community use.

The Chamber serves as a visitor center and ticket outlet for the community as well, Renovating the space will provide more area for the staff to operate their ticket sales and allow for the visitor information to be displayed in a more organized and visually appealing way. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff levels needed today nor was the building built to handle the amount of traffic that it currently receives. Renovating and expanding the building will fix this problem and allow the staff to become more efficient.

As a Chamber of Commerce, we can fully understand the need for the Rock Springs Chambers' building renovation as explained above. The Board would appreciate your consideration of this grant application for the City of Rock Springs and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely on behalf of the Green River Chamber Board,

ebecca Briesmaster **Executive Director** 

Your Business & Community Advocate

BOO.EL.GORGE • 307 875.3711 p • 107.872.61921
 I155 W. Flaming Gorge Way • Green River • Wyoming #2935
 www.grehamber.com • Rebeccu#grehamber.com

Page 157 of 186 Wyoming Business Council - May 29, 2014



P: 307-872-3223 F: 307-872-3225 E: <u>ghsc@sweet.wy.us</u>

Golden Hour Senior Center 550 Uinta Dr., Suite A Green River, WY 82935

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their request for funding through the Wyoming Business Council for complex renovations at the current Rock Springs Chamber site.

Accessible accommodations are imperative to city residents and travelers from out of town who are senior citizens or those who have disabilities. Both live and travel in the community and this would encourage utilization of resources and allow participation in daily operations, activities, events, and promotions. It will also help to ensure that travelers and patrons are met with a friendly atmosphere when visiting the area or stopping by to purchase tickets for the many events that take place in the community. In many cases, a visit to the Chamber of Commerce is the first stop made by a potential business owner or future resident and sets the tone as to whether they should pursue their endeavors in the area.

Renovations to expand the existing Chamber of Commerce are much needed to accommodate the growing community. With a single day high of 700 visitors in July, 2013, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to reside as the doorway, information center, and ticket outlet for the community. Many businesses would like to use the chamber as a local meeting point to plan and discuss upcoming events and activities; however there is not space currently available for this use.

The Rock Springs Chamber serves as an active marketing tool to its large local and out of area membership and business associations. The location is prominent and is a natural stopping point for visitors coming into the area. Bringing the building into compliance and providing visible signage, operable restrooms, and an updated information center will serve the community for years to come.

I would be happy to address any questions you may have regarding my position in this effort.

Thank you,

Beth Whitman, Executive Director Golden Hour Senior Center November 4, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins.

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901 Hotalia tao Express & Suites Incel Sarings Green River 1660 Sumer Dr Poch Sproigs, WY 82807 USA ± 307,552 9200 1,307,072 7468 1,300 HOCIDAY



HOCK SPRINGS GREEN RIVEH

I am writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce remodel project. I feel that the this remodel is necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to continue providing the level of service that they provide and will allow them room to grow with the community.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce takes on many additional duties within the community. They are the Rock Springs area visitor center and ticket distributor as well as normal Chamber operations. The proposed remodel will allow more area for the staff to conduct visitor center operations. This will highlight the community in a much better light to our visitors as the remodeled building will have a more modern professional appearance. The added room will also allow more materials about Sweetwater County to be displayed in an organized and visually appealing way The Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 people annually. They need a larger more professional area to continue this level of service, especially with the 3% growth rate that Rock Springs is experiencing.

The Chamber of Commerce has been in the "yellow shed" since 1981 with very little modification since that time. The roof is at the end of its life and should be replaced before it causes damage to the interior. The building itself is outdated. The electrical and mechanical are original and need to be updated to more energy efficient lower operational cost mechanicals.

Since 1981, the ADA laws have changed. The Department of Justice published the new laws that have very specific rules regarding public places. Companies are no longer "grandfathered" from these laws as they were prior to March 2012. Not only do the public areas have to be ADA compliant, but the staff work areas as well. The current layout of the building has the staff going up and down stairs often to retrieve items that have to be stored downstairs as there is not noom upstairs. This would make employing a person with ADA needs almost impossible. Also located in the basement is the meeting room. Again, there is not any ADA access to this area of the current design of the building. The current proposal allows for ADA compliant access to the new restrooms and the building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has been in its existing business since 1981 without any updates or modifications. The current building is small and does not meet the ADA laws effective March 2012. The roof, electrical and mechanical all need to be updated. The "yellow shed" needs a more professional modern look to represent our town in a positive light to travelers and potential new business. As a business that relies on business and leisure travel. I strongly support a remodel of the Rock Springs Chamber/Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

un Aren

Tricla Green, CHA General Manager, Holiday Inn Express

Black Butte Coal Company P.O. Box 98 Paint Of Rocks, Wyoanag \$2942 (307)382-6200 Fax: (307)352-6234



November 4, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1440Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY \$2901

RE: Black Butte Coal Company's support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Par,

As a representative of Black Butte Coal Company I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's recent Community Grant applications. The forms applied for by the Chamber will be put to much needed use. The current Visitor Center has served the Chamber well but is in need of updating, both for functionality and for ADA compliance. For many visitors to our community the Chamber Visitor Center of the first stop they make. If needs to reflect the community. The current Visitor Center has an outdated and weathered appearance. This is not reflective of the community as it exists today. As a resident of Rock Springs for more than the years, I have personally witnessed the city put a great deal of effort into improving the image of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, with great results. That same level of improvement is needed at the Visitor Center.

Please feel free to contact me al 352-6206 if you have further questions or comments regarding Black Bure's support of the RSCC's grant applications.

Sincerely,

Steve Gill General Manager, Black Butte Coal Company

#### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



80 WEST FLAMING GORGE WAY, SUITE 109 GREEN RIVER, WY 82935 PH: (307) 872-3890 FAX - (307) 872-3992

WALLY J. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN IOHN K. ROLB, COMMUSSIONER

JOHN K. KOLB, COMMUSSIONER
 GARY BAILIFF, COMMISSIONER

đ

REID WEST, COMMISSIONER

DON VAN MATRE, COMMISSIONER

November 5, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins South Central Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite #208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### **Re: Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center Grant Applications**

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please consider this letter our support of the grant applications for improvements to the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center in partnership with the City of Rock Springs.

The proposed project will remove handicap accessibility barriers as well as renovate and expand the existing building so that the delivery of services is improved. The Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center serves as an important hub for distributing regional economic and tourist information.

The Sweetwater County Commission supports efforts that will promote our communities and increase economic health. We encourage your approval of the grant funding requests by the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center.

Sincerely, Wally J. Jo Chairman

Sweetwater County Commission

665

Carl Demilhar, Mayor, City of Rock Springs (via armail) Dave Hanks, CEO, Hock Springs Chamber of Commerce (via email) November 5, 2013

To: Wyoming Business Council

Re: \*Community Block Grant

\*Community Enhancement Grant

## **Chamber of Commerce Building Expansion**

In the past thirty years the City of Rock Springs has seen extreme growth in population and size. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building has become obsolete for the size and requirements of the Community that we live in as it was built in 1981. It has now become ill-equipment to take care of the needs that the Chamber attends to.

When people drive into Rock Springs from Interstate 80, one of the first structure they see and get a first impressions of, is our Chamber office building.

Bringing the building up to ADA code is essential, along with staff's need for more space to conduct business, meetings, office and storage, restroom area, pet walking area, and having more room for visitors to sit, be served and perhaps, relax while they are in the Chamber building as should be a welcoming 'visitor center', also.

As a City Councilor for the past three years, I have dealt with the Chamber often and personally note that they are in dire need of expansion. The City of Rock Springs works hand in hand with the Chamber to provide required and requested services of the general public.

My fellow Council Members and the Mayor are all in agreement, and I feel that I can speak for them as well as myself, that it would be highly beneficial to our Community for the visibility of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to stand out to represent who we are.....a place of diverse cultures, businesses, life-styles and a great place to work, live and raise children. Page #2

#### Facts:

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists, visitors and locals per year.

It provides information to 75 to 100 new business inquiries per year.

It serves to answer questions of local people and businesses for those planning to come here and some to relocate. The highest reported day in 2013 was 700 individuals on one particular day in July.

The building originally was not built to house the staff that is presently at work there.

The mechanical and electrical components in the building have not been up-dated to current code to make the operations of the building cost efficient and effective.

The Chamber is the only 'economic development organization' in Sweetwater County.

Our Community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

For budgeting purposes, as a fact, the Chamber has a cash match of \$117,000.00 that can be accessed for this project.

In closing, it is hopeful that with this information pertaining to the goal of an expansion project, it is obvious to see the urgency for this development to occur. I am certain that there are many more details for support of the project that I have not mentioned in this letter.

Page #3

We greatly appreciated your consideration in bestowing upon our City and County, the ability to obtain these two essential grants. Should you wish to speak with me further on this matter, reach me at 307-382-4139 or my mobile phone, 307-389-6407.

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Billy W. Shalat

Councilor Billy Wayne Shalata – Ward I 624 "A" Street Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carl R. Demshar, Jr.; David Hank. – R.S. Chamber of Commerce;

BW/las

# LEMICH LAW CENTER

GEORGE LEMICH, P.C. Also Admitted in Colorado

JON AIMONE 205 C Street Rock Springs, WY 82901 KARI MONEYHUN Telephone (307) 382-6600 Toll Free (800) 551-6604 ALSO ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON Facsimile (307) 382-4989

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### Re: Letter of Support: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Robbins:

I am writing to express my support for the renovation project proposed by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the City of Rock Springs. I strongly support the Chamber's applications for the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

The Chamber of Commerce has served this community for the past thirty-two years, but with the growth and expansion of our community, the Chamber has outgrown its current facilities. The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually. The current building was not built to handle the staff levels needed today or the amount of public use that it currently receives. With our community growing at an annual rate of 3%, new facilities would allow the Chamber to better meet the needs of the community and better portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light.

Regards,

George Lemich

km

office of tourism

5611 High Plains Rd + Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307-777-7777 + Fax: 307-777-2877 wyorningtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor

Diane Shober Executive Director

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

It has been brought to my attention that the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking grants to assist in remodeling and expanding the existing facility, currently known as "The Yellow Shed." On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism I would like to offer my full support of this worthy project.

An updated facility will provide many positives to the communing, allowing staff to assist the visitors in a professional manner, while showcasing the area's beauty and attractions with the assistance of appealing displays. The proposed facility will be ADA compliant and will offer community meeting space. An updated facility will leave the visitor with a positive impression of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, while offering the staff pride in their workplace.

I'm sure you are aware of the important role that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce shares with Wyoming Office of Tourism in contributing to Wyoming's economic fiber. A vibrant tourism industry is a growth industry that benefits us all.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 307.777.2808 or diane shober a wyo.gov.

Warm regards,

Diane Shober Executive Director

DS/vm

Wyoming will always be Forever West

Page 166 of 186

Soundtor Bernadine Craft Administy Why Wooming Scient Senate District 12 P.O. Box 63 • Rock Springs, WY 82902



imainese (307) 382-1607 enatil Bernadine Crathewysileg.gov

November 7, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce

Dear Ms. Robbins and Members of the Wyoming Business Council:

Please allow me to share with you my strong support for the "Community Development Block Grant" and the "Community Enhancement Grant" applications being submitted by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. Through a partnership with the City of Rock Springs, the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking to provide handicap accessibility for both the current building and its adjacent park, as well as renovate and expand the existing building. As a Rock Springs native, and as someone who has been actively involved with the Rock Springs Chamber for many years, I am intimately acquainted with the inadequacies of the current building. The "Yellow Shed" has served the Chamber and the community well for the past thirty two years, but the expanding demands placed upon the Chamber make the current space increasingly outdated, inconvenient and unsuitable.

I believe it important to note that the Rock Springs Chamber building is visited annually by 25,000 individuals; a single high day of 700 visitors was noted this past July, 2013. The Chamber currently serves as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County, and fields an average of 75-100 business inquiries annually. Given that the Chamber is obviously the hub for information regarding Sweetwater County, and is frequently the initial impression individuals receive of Sweetwater County, it would appear to be expedient to provide resources to enhance both the operations and the aesthetic appeal of the Chamber building.

The current building is not ADA compliant, and is operating with the original roof and mechanical/electrical systems; it is not capable of addressing the ever expanding staff, public, membership and business needs of our growing community.

Given that the current Chamber building is located in a city park, I applaud the Chamber for taking a broader and longer term approach to its expansion project through the inclusion of upgrades designed to enhance usage of the public space adjacent to the Chamber. I endorse this project enthusiastically and without reservation.

Sincerely, line L. Craft, Ph.D, NCC, LPC

#### WWW.WYOFEG.GOV

## HALLIBURTON

1801 Blairtown Road • Rock Springs, WY 82901 PHONE 307.352.8610 • FAX 307.362.0283

November 8, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a Meinber of the Rock Springs Chamber Council, I am providing this letter in support of the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center. This facility provides services to visitors and local residents and is vital in our community as a resource.

As a Business in this community, Halliburton supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex renovation. The Complex, also known as the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center, has operated in the current building since 1981. First impressions are important for a community. The Chamber Complex is one of the first impressions any visitor has of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. With over 25,000 visitors stopping by annually, the opportunity for our Chamber to provide these visitors with information on our community from an Inviting, Modern, and ADA Compliant building is needed. Many of our new imployees looking to relocate to our community use this Complex as a resource for relocation.

Thank you for your consideration of this project for our community. This renovation will be a win-win for the City of Rock Springs and for Sweetwater County.

Sincerely,

fand D. Thorn

Paul B. Moorman HR Supervisor Rock Springs District Rock Springs, WY





Sciniter John M. Hastert Minavity Gaucus Chairman Wyoning Scinite Senate District 13 P.O. Box 472 • Green River, WY 82935



hmur (207) 871-1001 emtil John Hasterittwyoleg.gov

November 08, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council South Central Region 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### Dear Pat,

I am writing in strong support of the renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex. The Rock Springs Chamber has always played a vital role in promoting and assisting with the needs of local businesses and tourism in Sweetwater County.

Potential business investors and tourists, many times, get their "first impression" of Rock Springs from their visit to our Chamber office. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the centerpiece of our community and we need to present ourselves in an esthetically pleasing manner, with modern design and conveniences that reflect our local cultural and environmental landscape.

Sweetwater County is dependent on business growth and tourism to sustain our economy and vitality into the next generation and with the Rock Springs Chamber being the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County it makes it essential that we support the necessary enhancements to this facility.

The Rock Springs Chamber is financially sound and has the resources for the matching requirements of the grant. The current building (which has been occupied since 1981 by the Chamber) is paid off but its roof is at the end of its life. The current facility or the "yellow shed" does not have room to allow for the staff capacity that is needed to handle the amount of business inquiries or to meet the demands of the tourist traffic it faces on a day to day basis. Since the current facility is in a high traffic area there is a tremendous need for restrooms, a secure playground area, and expanded pet area. These and many other reasons make the grant for the enhancement of our Chamber not only essential, but also a sound investment for Rock Springs. This will ensure our long-lasting and sustained viability to our community and the state of Wyoming.

Please help us provide a safe functional environment for the employees, and a welcoming, pleasing stop for all tourists that travel our way. We want them to have a long lasting, positive memory of Rock Springs and the great state of Wyoming. Thank you for your consideration and please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,

Martin +

John M. Hastert Wyoming Senate-13

#### WWW.WYOLEG.GOV

Sweetwater County School District Number One 307-352-3410 307-352-3411 FAX F.O. Box 1089 Rock Springs, WY 82902-1089

> Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools

Justin Spicer Chairmon of the Board

> Brody Baldwin Vice - Chairman

Leonard W. Hay Clerk

Robert J. Ramsey Transorr

Trustees Emma Waldser Joyce Corcoran Max Mickelson

November 8, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Pat Robbins:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. I would strongly encourage the Wyoming Business Council to consider their grant applications for the Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant for renovations and expansions to the existing Chamber building and adjacent park.

The Chamber building is centrally located and still remains the ideal site. It continues to serve as a hub for visitors and tourists and is often times their first impression of our community. The current building, which has housed the Chamber of Commerce since 1981, and the adjacent park would greatly benefit from the Community Development Block Grant by providing handicap accessibility as well as bringing it up to ADA code.

The Community Enhancement Grant will be used for the renovation and expansion of the existing building, which is needed, due to the rapid growth of our community and the high volume of visitors and tourists that are served annually. These renovations will afford the Chamber the ability to highlight Rock Springs and Sweetwater County as well as modernize the building in order to better serve the employees, community and tourists.

I fully support the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their grant applications. The renovations and expansions that will come from these grants will benefit the entire community.

Sincerely

Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools



WYOMING HOUSE DISTRICT 48

November 10, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council.

Greeting Pat.

I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their attempts to better serve the businesses and public of Sweetwater County and Rock Springs. The Chamber is seeking two grants to improve their current facilities. The role of the Chamber in our community is vital to growth and service to locals and tourists. There current location is a convenient location that is paid for and has been utilized by the Chamber since 1981. The proposed improvements are beneficial to commerce, recreation, safty and quality of life in our area. I would like to urge you to consider some of the impacts of the proposed upgrades to the facility. The upgrade in the facilities would accomplish multiple goals:

 The upgrades would bring the current building into ADA compliance and replace obsolete infrastructure.

a) All the mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 and will need replaced eventually

b) The roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life.

c) The proposal would add a park playground/picnic pavilions with ADA compliant access

d) Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

2. The upgrades would allow for better customer service and a better experience for visitors.

a) More area for staff to conduct operations and ticket sales/ more efficient use of staff time

b) The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives

c) An expanded pet area with a more modern and business-like appearance

The upgrades would allow businesses and the community to better benefit from the services already offered by the Chamber.

a) Better meeting rooms/ more room for the Business Development Program

b) The Chamber is a gateway to the community and is often the first impression that visitors have

c) The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

Please consider the impact that the Chamber currently has on our community and the positive results of the Chamber being able to better preform the services that they already offer. If you have any questions about my feelings on the Chamber or their desire to improve, please contact me.

Best Regards,

Wh Blue

Representative Mark Baker

HOUSE DISTRICT 48 • P. O. Box 3266 • Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902 TELEPHONE (307) 371-5113 • E-MAH. Mark.Baker@wyoleg.gov • WEB SITE www.wyoleg.gov



Representative John L. Freeman

Wyoming House of Representatives House District 60

**District Address** 

2340 North Carolina Way Green River, WY \$2935 307-825-7378 Freemanigwysening.com

> Committees Education

Wyoming Business Council Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rocks Springs, WY 82901

November 11, 2013

Dear Pat,

I would like to voice my support for the proposed update and expansion of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

When the current building was completed in 1981, the RS Chamber of Commerce served a much smaller community. Over the years, the mission of the Chamber has expanded from community promotion to include economic development and business development. With additional commitments came increased staff and activity within the building. The current building is busting at the scams. More space and the proposed additions of public restrooms, a children's playground, ticket booths, and display areas will make the building and grounds area more functional and appealing to area residents and the visitors to our county.

Building a suitable building for a highly functioning organization just makes sense. In both my professional and political roles, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has frequently been able to provide me with the information or services I needed or connect me with the people and organizations that I wanted to work with. The Rock Springs Chamber is known for building positive relationships and helping advance the goals of its partners. The Chamber has always represented the City and County well. I believe that the building expansion is appropriate and will greatly benefit the City of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

Respectfully,

John L. Freeman

Wyoming Legislature Online http://jepisweb.statt.wy.as



750, Bee 201 Literative Weening 70000 (197) 740-5007 Wyor 1-000-482 5010

> PLX Box, 100 Examplifie, Wyoming 50606 (307) 334-0613

P.O. Sol Hill: Foll Grillon, Colonado EMES-DOTE 425-2563

> P.D. This S241 Chayerin, Wyconig s2007 (a)CL cap (2)(1)

September 24, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband, John, and Lare presently serving as the Hospice House of Laramie campaign on-chairs. Our firm commitment to the project stems from our involvement with Hospice on many different levels. Having served Hospice of Laramie as both a board member and a board president, I have personally witnessed the need for the agency in Laramie as well as in many of the surrounding areas. John's relationship with Hospice began when his father passed in a Hospice facility in Arizona 9 years ago. He still gets emotional when speaking of the sense of peace and acceptance the house afforded him during a most difficult time in his life.

While the present Hospice model has served the community well for several years, changing family dynamics and an evolving healthcare system have necessitated a change for Hospice of Laramie as well. This change comes in the form of a Hospice house. To this end, we would like to strongly encourage both the business council and the county to partner with Hospice of Laramie and award the Community Block Service Grant to this most worthy Albany County agency. Upon closer inspection, I am certain that your committee will find that Hospice has a long history of efficiently and effectively utilizing all domation and grant monies. Your contribution will enable Hospice to build a house that will be a cornerstone of our community for years to come.

Most Sincerely,

John Dooley



CITY OF LARAMIE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE P.O. Box C Laramie, Wyoming 82073

(307) 721-5226 FAX (307) 721-5211 TDD (307) 721-5295

November 26, 2013.

Robert Jensen, CEO Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Bob.

I am writing to express my support for Hospice of Lanamie's application for Community Development Block Grant funding to support its development of an inpatient facility in Laramie.

The City of Laramie's mission is to provide community excellence through our core values of respect, tearnwork, integrity and stewardship. Improving the quality of life for our community is central to this mission. I believe that Hospice of Laramie not only embodies the City of Laramie's core values-especially respect and integrity- but also achieves our goal of improving quality of life all the way through the process of dying. Hospice of Laramie has provided excellent end-of-life care in Laramie homes for over 28 years, and the development of an inpatient facility is needed how more than ever.

Hospice of Laramie has found that demand inpatient services is growing because of the aging population is increasing while at the same time, the number of local family members able to provide in-home primary care is decreasing. An inpatient facility will help Hospice of Laramie to serve families that cannot provide in-home care and will be sufficiently sized to accommodate residents from other communities that do not have such facilities. I have no doubt that the quality care that Hospice of Laramie has provided in the homes of hundreds of residents since its inception will extend to its inpatient facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards.

Janine Tordan, M.P.A. City Manager City of Lammie







November 29, 2013

Hospice of Laramie Attn: Terri Longhurst, Executive Director 1262 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Unit A Laramie WY 82070

Dear Terri,

I am writing this letter to express support of a Community Development Block Grant for Hospice of Laramie. Residence of Laramie and Albany County deserve the opportunity to experience end of life comfort care. This is not always the case, because few individuals are able to receive this type of care in their home. With this being said, a facility located in our community would help us serve this need.

This past year my father was able to die with dignity through the services of this wonderful organization. We were very blessed to be able to keep him at home during this process, yet it always was in the back of my mind..., where would he die if home was not an option. Not many choices in our community now. Through the vision of your Board and wonderful staff, a solution is around the corner.

This Grant would be the next step and bring a so close to building a Hospice House in Laramie. An inpatient care facility is critical to serve the needs of this community and the surrounding area. An expanded model of care delivery is needed. Without a primary care provider, individuals cannot stay at home and without a residential Hospice care option, individuals are limited to moving closer to family or friends who are able to provide such care or other in patient long term care facilities.

We will all die, and it is comforting to know that there is support through this program to help us fulfill this process with dignity. All people deserve to choose this option, which cannot be accomplished without this in-patient facility.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication making a Hospice House here in Laramie a reality.

Sincerely,

((

Nancy Stutzmal Community Bank President



LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PO Box 1250 + 500 South 31<sup>4</sup> Street + Lanamie, Wyoming + 52073 Phone: 307-742-2212 + Fax: 307-742-8200 + www.Lonamie/WV.org + www.CliniataGoolog.com

December 1, 2013

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Mr. Bob Jensen:

Laramie Economic Development Corporation hereby issues its support of the Community Development Block Grant for the construction of the Hospice House in Laramie. This facility is very much needed in our community and will solve a big concern for our citizens that have a need during their last days.

Not only is the need great in our community but it will be a beautiful facility and will create additional jobs. Hospice workers are extremely well trained and compassionate individuals and the type of individuals that are a great addition to Laramie.

As you know, when recruiting companies, the types of facilities and services available in a community are important to a company. Having a Hospice House that we can be proud of does improve our city. Accordingly, we strongly encourage your support of the CDBG proposal from Hospice.

If there are questions regarding why LEDC supports this project, please contact me,

Sincerely;

Daniel G. Furphy CEO Laramie Economic Development Corporation

02.17.14

To Whom it May Concern:

My Mom Martha McKenzie goes to Day Break at the Sheridan Senior Center Monday through Friday for 9 hours a day. She has been going there since June of 2013. She is 87 years old and cannot be left alone because she has Alzheimer's. She absolutely loves going there. She loves that she can be with others her age and not be alone. She enjoys the activities and she has made friends there and raves about it all of the time.

If my Mom didn't go to Day Break she wouldn't be able to live with us and would probably be put in a nursing home. My husband and I work full time Monday through Friday and would not be able to take care of her if it wasn't for the trained and friendly staff at Day Break.

Thank You,

Scarled Seawork

Scarlet Peacock

February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed and continue to enhance the adult day care programs through the Sheridan Senior Center.

Our organization is proud to refer veterans to the facility and program because many veterans have greatly benefited from the socialization, structure and supervision of this program. The Day Break Program gives veterans who for a variety of reasons are essentially homebound and unable to have normal social interactions with people other than family a chance to enjoy interactions with others who can relate to their circumstances and provide positive socialization opportunities. The time that veterans can spend at Day Break often allows for a significant extension of life spent at home where they can sustain life skills needed to remain in the home and family can have routine breaks from caregiving postponing the need to arrange nursing home or assisted living placement. These forms of community based support saves the national, state and local budgets large amounts of money in lessening the amount of time Sheridan County residents' lives are spent in expensive nursing home placements.

The goal of this application is to construct Day Break right next to the current facility and expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing assistance of daily living. We wholeheartedly support that goal and this application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors to ensure impactful community services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs. This is true of our partnership with the Sheridan Senior Center, as we are able to partner with care for

veterans that are extremely cost effective for both the Department of Veteran Affairs as well as the family.

The Center has a good relationship with many agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services to older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Engel

Jason Carter, LCSW Primary Care Social Worker Sheridan VAMC



February 18, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed and continue to enhance the adult day care programs through the Sheridan Senior Center.

The Day Break program supports the Family Caregiver Program in offering respite to caregivers. This is a place where a caregiver can take their loved one and be assured that caring, trained and professional staff will meet their needs. As Director of Family Caregiver Services, I refer many caregivers to the Day Break program and I know their loved ones will be in a safe, loving environment, I personally used Day Break for my mother, who suffered form dementia, and it was a Godsend for my father and me to know that she was being taken care of.

The goal of this application is to construct Day Break right next to the current facility and expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing assistance of daily living. We wholeheartedly support that goal and this application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors to ensure impactful community services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs. The Center has a good relationship with many agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services to older adults.

Sincerely,

Stella Montano Director of Family Caregiver Services February 26, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and the City of Sheridan as they apply for a BRC grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors allowing them to remain in their homes.

I've had the experience personally of utilizing Day Break when my wife became disabled and the care, kindness and love provided were invaluable.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Seymour Thickman Physician

March 12, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors allowing them to remain in their homes.

Our organization has had the pleasure of partnering/experiencing and referring clients and families to Day Break. Many times caregivers need help caring for their family or friends. We believe the services are needed. It gives families and caregivers a nice reliable option when needed for assistance with caring for their loved ones.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 and older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older in 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services. The Center's Day Break program in particular serves clientele that might otherwise have to be institutionalized. Day Break helps to save families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term healthcare costs.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and we appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Ann Aksamit, RN, CHPN Nurse Manager Sheridan Memorial Hospital Homecare/Hospice of the Big Horns



### REHABILITATION ENTERPRISES OF NORTH EASTERN WYOMING

March 12, 2014

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IEEE CVF (stani Espail, Oppositoring Employed und Providents Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### **RE: SSC Day Break Building Project**

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed.

RENEW has had the pleasure of partnering and experiencing the Sheridan Senior Center's current Day Break facility through the involvement of several of our participants that attend activities every week. The Day Break program increases the independence of our individuals with disabilities as well providing them with essential community and social integration.

The Sheridan Senior Center not only provides services to individuals, but to the community. The Center has a thirty-seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital services.

The success of the Day Break Project has lead to a greater demand for services and the approval of this grant request will allow the Sheridan Senior Center to meet this increasing demand.

Please consider supporting the Sheridan Senior Center's request for funding to construct a new Day Break facility.

Sincerely,

Alen Ar leff Foster

Sheridan Service Manager/ Program Development Officer RENEW March 12, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

#### RE: SSC Day Break Building Project

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the Sheridan Senior Center and Sheridan County as they apply for a CDBG grant for the new Day Break Building Project. This Grant will allow them to construct a new facility that is much needed. The adult day Care programs are increasingly popular and serve many seniors.

Our organization, Sheridan County Public Health, has had the pleasure of partnering/ experiencing Day Break as many of our clients attended Day Break from its inception. We believe the services are invaluable in that they allow people to remain in their homes longer, thus saving families and the taxpayers in Sheridan County money in long term care costs. In addition, Day Break provides respite for the caregiver and socialization for the client.

The goal of this application is to provide a larger and more accommodating facility. This will expand the ability of the Sheridan Senior Center to serve those needing the assistance of daily living. I wholeheartedly support this goal and application.

The Sheridan Senior Center currently provides a wide continuum of services in seven program areas to elder citizens in Sheridan and the surrounding county. Requests for services from the community continue to grow. According to the data collected by the Center, in 2030 Wyoming is projected to have more people 65 or older than under 18. More than one in every four residents in Sheridan will be age 65 or older by 2030.

The Center has a thirty seven year history of partnering for seniors providing vital Services.

The Center has an excellent relationship with the agencies here in Sheridan County to provide services for older adults. We urge you to give every consideration to this application, and we appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Susan Mireck RN Public Health



Board of Directors

Sama Joänscon President

Steve Harker Vice President

Deris-Moeller Edwards Secretory

Cheryl Hitath Treasurer

Cullie Ucell

Leonard Hurst

Dr. Lerry Lidahi

Rae Ann Morsa

(Pr. Victor Yopuncich

Directors Emeritus

Barting Elmit

Roman Skatulti

Dr. Septement The known April 15, 2014

Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Wyoming Business Council,

The cost estimate for Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FFE) for the Day Break Eldercare Facility project is \$34,000. The funding to cover this expense will be provided by the Sheridan Senior Center through private donations to this part of the project. The Center has a few major private donors who in particular like to fund such projects, rather than operational support or large capital projects.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this application. We strongly believe that this project will be highly successful and are proud to seek BRC support to transform it into reality. If you have any questions, please do not besitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Carmen Rideout Executive Director Sheridan Senior Center/Senior Citizens Council



To seen To facei

April 15, 2014

Rindy West

Oria 5 Sout S PO Box 1038 Strendum, WV 87801-1128

Unite (307) 672-6498 (sk.(307) 672-7497

yew Manato.com

Development Director Sheridan Senior Center 211 Smith Street Sheridan, WY 82801

Ro: Sheridan Senior Center - New Day Break Facility

Dear Rindy.

Analysian Expression Construction To the best of our knowledge the approximate cost for flidures, lumiture, and equipment is \$34,000

Very truly yours

ELTENW.AC

TSP Del Acker AIA, LEED AP Principal



Instatution II Maximal MN Monaecola MN Rodeatas MN Disaha NE Tispis City SD Stock Falls SD Shock Falls SD Des Money M Community Development Block Grant Program

## Community Development Block Grant Report and Recommendations to the Wyoming Business Council Board of Directors

May 29, 2014

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# **CDBG FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

Twenty Five Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications were submitted by the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Twenty three were submitted for the Community and Economic Development component of the program (housing infrastructure, public infrastructure, facilities, accessibility projects, downtown development, and job creating infrastructure) and three of the applications were withdrawn. Eight applications were received under the Planning Grant component of CDBG. The following table tracks current funding appropriations, project recommendations, and funding levels should all the recommendations be approved. The determination of the amount of allocation in each funding category is based on past experience and best judgment.

CDBG (Federal Funds) Appropriation Summary	
2014 Grant Year Appropriation	\$ 2,714,254
2013 Remaining Carryover balance	\$ 430,439
Balance	\$ 3,144,693
Proposed Grant Uses For 2014	
Administrative funds for 2014	\$ 181,428
No more than 20% of annual CDBG allocation can be used for Administration or planning (\$2,714,254 * 20% = \$542,851)	
Planning and Technical Assistance Recommendations (Limited to only 20% of annual allocation)	\$ 132,000
Community Development Recommendations	\$ 2,328,36
Economic Development Recommendations	\$ 250,000
Reserve for Imminent Threat Awards - Potential Project in Jackson	\$ 250,000
Total CDBG Fund Uses for 2014	\$ 3,141,790
Remaining balance to carry over to 2015	\$ 2,903

# PLANNING

The CDBG program has funded approximately 270 planning grants since the inception of the WBC. These range from community and economic development plans to feasibility studies for recreation centers, housing, senior centers, and daycares, to infrastructure and wastewater management plans.

The CDBG rules provide that planning grants are available to local governments and non-profit entities to perform feasibility studies related to increased economic development and community development. All planning grants must demonstrate the potential to meet one of the CDBG National Objectives: benefit low-to-moderate income persons; elimination of slum and blight; or urgent need). Grants are available as follows:

**Community Development and Economic Development plans**: \$50,000 maximum award with a cash match of 25 percent of the total project cost. Preference will be given to communities with current plans seven years old or older.

**Housing plans, assessments, or development codes:** \$20,000 maximum award with a cash match of 25 percent of the total project cost.

**Feasibility studies and site specific development studies:** \$15,000 maximum award with a cash match of 25 percent of the total project cost. Plans must demonstrate that they may create job opportunities for low-to-moderate income people or otherwise benefit low-to-moderate income people.

Planning grant funds may not be used for the implementation of any such plans. For example, a grant for a marketing study/strategy may cover costs associated with a brochure design, but not the cost of printing brochures.

Applications are scored as follows:

<u>Job Creation</u> – Emphasis placed upon the projected number and type of jobs created/retained should the results of the study prove positive (up to 20 points).

**Integrated Effort** – Up to 50 points

- *Partners* are there partners in the project and if so, describe them and their contribution (up to 20 points).
- *Percentage of CDBG funds* (up to 10 points). 0-25 percent - 10 points

26-50 percent - 5 points

51-75 percent - 0 points

- *Operations and Maintenance* Are operations and maintenance expenses addressed (up to 10 points)?
- *Community Readiness* Is there a community readiness potential in this project (up to 10 points)?
- Potential Economic Benefit Demonstrate how the overall economic boost that would accrue to a community or region if the results of the study were implemented (up to 30 points).

Additional review criteria include whether or not there are funds or plans in place to implement the study recommendations, whether or not the project involves entities with a track record of success as well as personnel, and other resources necessary to implement study recommendations.

**Partnership with State Library:** The WBC has partnered with the state library to digitize and post CDBG funded plans through the state library's website. This digital library is a valuable tool for sharing work among communities, and it will maximize limited CDBG funds so that a community does not have to start from scratch with each planning initiative. Plans can be found at <u>http://will.state.wy.us/planning/map.html</u>.

## **Planning Grants Recommendations:**

Community Deve	lopment Block Grant and Loan Prog	gram								
PLANNING	NG PROJECT PRIORITIZATION RESULTS			Job Creation	Integrated Effort	Potential Economic Benefit	Total Points	Recommendation	Consent List	
Applicant	Project	Туре	Fundi	ng Request	20	50	30	100	Re	
Greybull	Housing Study	PL	\$	15,000	0	40	30	70	\$ 15,000	x
Saratoga	Master Plan	PL	\$	49,500	0	40	30	70	\$ 49,500	х
Bear River	Waste Water Plan	PL	\$	37,500	0	40	30	70	\$ 37,500	х
Star Valley Ranch	Master Plan	PL	\$	15,000	0	30	20	50	\$ 15,000	х
Sheridan	Unit for Mental Health Issues	PL	\$	15,000	20	40	30	90	\$ 15,000	х
Total			\$	132,000					\$ 132,000	

C&ED= Community & Economic Development Plan FS=Feasibility Study H=Housing Study

# **Community and Economic Development**

**Community Development Projects:** Community Development grant applications are evaluated based on the need and urgency of an identified problem as well as the communities integrated effort. Criteria for these three components include the clarity of problem identification, quality of need documentation, and the type, number, and amounts of matches. Community Development projects do not have a required match, however, projects are ranked against each other, within project categories, and the integrated efforts of a community constitute a portion of the total 200 ranking points. There may be other aspects of a proposal that prevent it from being recommended for funding, such as the lack of dedicated funds to complete the project.

- **Public Infrastructure Grants (\$500,000 maximum awards)** includes projects such as water and sewer lines, streets, curb, gutter, and storm drainage, and water supply and storage.
- Community Facility Grants (\$500,000 maximum awards) includes facilities such as senior centers, centers for developmentally disabled children and adults, medical and mental health clinics, youth centers, neighborhood facilities, child care centers, health facilities, fire stations, and other facilities designed to assist special needs clientele.
- Accessibility Grants (\$300,000 maximum awards) includes projects designed to make public buildings, such as town halls and county courthouses, accessible to the disabled.

Community	Development Block Grant and	Loan Pro	gram						
	UNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT PRIORITIZATION RESULTS		Funding Request	Seriousness	Urgency	Integrated Effort	T otal Points Possible	Recommendation	Consent List
Applicant	Project	Type	Fund	100	50	50	200	Recor	Conse
Albany County	Dev. Pre-school	CF	\$500,000	100	30	50	180	\$500,000	x
Guernsey	Fire Hall Addition	CF	\$197,792	95	30	35	160	\$197,792	x
Albany County	Hospice	CF	\$500,000	90	15	50	155	\$408,744	x
Evanston	Child Dev Services	CF	\$215,746	90	20	45	155	\$179,746	х
Rock Springs	Visitor's Center	ADA	\$300,000	95	30	45	170	\$300,000	x
Basin	Town Hall	ADA	\$38,800	90	25	45	160	\$38,800	х
Kirby	Town Hall	ADA	\$86,000	85	20	30	135	\$86,000	х
Fremont County	Courthouse	ADA	\$175,000	70	25	15	110	\$150,000	х
Mills	Water Storage Unit	PI	\$462,280	90	35	35	160	\$462,280	х
Total			\$2,475,618					\$2,323,362	
ECONOMIC DE	EVELOPMENT DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMEN PRIORITIZATION RESULTS	I PROJECT	Funding Request	Job Creation	Integrated effort	Potential Economic Benefit	Total Points for Prioritization	Recommendation	Consent List
Applicant	Project	Type	Fundi	20	50	30	100	Recon	Conse
Rawlins	Downtown Façade	DD	\$250,000	20	40	30	90	\$ 250,000	x
Total			\$250,000					\$ 250,000	



### PLANNING

**Project Description:** The town of Greybull requests funding to conduct a study which will aid in deciding whether to purchase a parcel of land in Big Horn County from the state of Wyoming. The parcel is 534.83 acres. The town could develop 80-135 acres into a low/medium density residential area with the possibility of some commercial zoning in a highway business district area along Highway 14.

This plan will create two or three conceptual designs for the mixed use development of the 80-135 acres described above. Greybull would like to be able to present several options for the property. Then the public and the municipality can together decide which option provides the widest range of benefits to the greatest number of residents, and whether or not the purchase of the parcel makes fiscal sense.

To benefit the greatest number of income classes, the conceptual designs will include several sizes of residential lots, multi-family dwellings, and assisted

living/continuing care retirement community units.

Multiple options for sanitary sewer services will need to be developed because initial information from engineers indicates that pumping stations will need to be installed in a standard design municipal sewer system to accommodate the elevation changes in the proposed development area. It may be more cost effective to design a septic system type development to reduce initial infrastructure installation costs.

Other initial information from engineers indicates there should be no above normal or unusual expense, or other hurdles associated with the installation of other utilities (water, electric, phone, gas, and cable).

**Comments from Leah Bruscino, Regional Director:** The town of Greybull is working on all aspects of economic and community development; housing is an issue that constantly rises to the top. The options for addressing the lack of housing are limited since most of the land within the town has been developed. The area that is the subject of this grant has been talked about for years as an option for development but the feasibility has always been a question. This planning

grant will enable the town of Greybull to look at the feasibility of several different development options and allow them to determine the best steps for moving forward.

**Project Funding:** The \$20,000 plan will be funded with a contribution from the town of Greybull (\$5,000). The balance will be paid by the CDBG grant. This meets the match requirement of 25 percent of the total project cost for CDBG Site Specific Planning Grants.

Projected Grant Expenditure Schedule for Greybull Proposed Residential Plan					
DESCRIPTION	CDBG	MATCH Cash Greybull	TOTAL		
Consulting Services	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000		
Total Project Cost	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000		

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested contingent upon WBC receipt of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocation. This project has the potential to meet the national objective of benefit to low-to-moderate income persons.



### PLANNING

**Project Description:** The most recent Saratoga land use plan was completed in 1977. Because of the increased energy development, it is essential at this time, that Saratoga updates the existing master plan. Future housing needs, impact on municipal infrastructure including water, sewer, streets, law enforcement, and increased school enrollment precipitate the need for a Saratoga Master Plan that embraces energy development while maintaining important community values.

The Saratoga Master Plan will express the potential for the future of Saratoga and will serve as a statement of where the community sees itself in 20-30 years, and beyond. The plan will help to guide housing policy and provide recommendations for future actions involving housing needs, land development, sustainability, infrastructure design, North Platte restoration, open spaces, and preservation of community character.

As the town of Saratoga embraces an increasing population, a master plan will provide a road map to adequately respond to the changes arising in the community. Specific community concerns would be addressed encouraging public input. The plan must be a document, able to adapt to the needs of the community in the Upper North Platte Valley. The document will also increase leadership capabilities, collaboration, and citizen involvement.

**Comments from Pat Robbins, Regional Director:** The town of Saratoga would like to update its master plan in an effort to plan for future growth. The plan will serve as a blueprint for development in preparation for the impending industrial growth anticipated by Carbon County. This plan would be invaluable as they look at existing and available housing, as well as the potential for new housing. It would also serve the town as they look for new areas for commercial and industrial growth.

The area and economy of Saratoga has changed considerably since their last plan that was completed in 1977. An updated plan will assist the community in achieving future growth.

**Project Funding:** The \$49,500 plan will be funded with a contribution from the town of Saratoga (\$14,000) and Voices of the Valley, a non-profit serving the small communities of the Upper North Platte Valley, (\$2,500). The balance will be paid by the CDBG grant. This meets

the match	<b></b>			
requirement of	Projected Grant Ex	penditure Sched	ule for Saratoga Master Pla	an
1			MATCH	
25 percent of	DESCRIPTION	CDBG	Cash Saratoga & Voices	TOTAL
the total			of the Valley	_
project cost for	Consulting Services	\$49,500	\$16,500	\$66,000
CDBG Master	Total Project Cost	\$49,500	\$16,500	\$66,000

Planning Grants.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested contingent upon WBC receipt of HUD allocation. This project has the potential to meet the national objective of benefit to low-to-moderate income persons.



### PLANNING

**Project Description:** The town of Bear River became an incorporated town in the state of Wyoming June 2001. In July 2006 the Bear River Regional Joint Powers Board was formed in an effort to qualify for funding to install a public water distribution system. The system was put into service in 2010 and completed in 2013. In 2012 and 2013, the town of Bear River completed two phases of road improvements.

The goal of this project is to provide wastewater collection to every citizen within the existing incorporated town limits and identify areas for potential growth.

One identified area for potential growth is the Wyoming Downs race track. They anticipate being open 16-18 weekends in 2014. Further, they are exploring the possibilities for expansion and will be hosting a pro rodeo event in as early as 2015. This could result in additional

employment opportunities in Bear River.

The plan will also address the road system, land use and density issues for the existing town, and any potential development within a reasonable distance surrounding the incorporated limits of the town.

**Comments from Elaina Zempel, Regional Director:** The town needs to address the wastewater treatment and collection system that was built and installed in 1983. Currently, it services approximately half of the existing community. The town of Bear River does not have a long range plan for development or expansion. This plan will help create a strategic general plan document identifying the capacity of the wastewater treatment facility, the capacity of existing collection system and the potential for expansion to those businesses and homes not currently on the system.

•	The \$50,000 plan will be funded with a contribution from the town of Bear The balance will be paid by the CDBG grant. This meets the match					
requirement of 2.	5 Projected Gran	Projected Grant Expenditure Schedule for Bear River				
percent of the tota	1 DESCRIPTION	CDBG	MATCH	TOTAL		
project cost for CDBC	J DESCRIPTION	CDBG	<b>Cash Bear River</b>			
Community	<b>Consultant Services</b>	\$37,500	\$12,500	\$50,000		
Development.	Total Project Cost	\$37,500	\$12,500	\$50,000		

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested contingent upon WBC receipt of HUD allocation. This project has the potential to meet the national objective of benefit to low-to-moderate income persons.



### PLANNING

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to develop a master plan for the town of Star Valley Ranch (SVR). The new plan would be similar in organization, format and layout to the current master plan, which was issued and adopted in 2008. Many of the objectives identified in the recommended implementation schedule of the 2008 Star Valley Ranch Municipality Master Plan have either been accomplished or are in progress. A new municipal master plan is needed to develop planning documents to be used by the community, leaders in community and economic development, developing policy, and to use funds in the best possible way to provide continued improvements to many infrastructure needs.

The master plan will contain information on the accomplishments and shortcomings in reaching the recommended implementation schedules for the community development objectives identified in the 2008 Municipal Master Plan.

**Comments from Elaina Zempel, Regional Director:** The town of Star Valley Ranch is Wyoming's newest community, and was incorporated in 2005. Since that time, SVR has been very proactive in their efforts to grow their town taking into consideration environmental, civic, and economic impacts. SVR's current master plan was completed in 2008. Although not all objectives are completed, implementation plans are in place and now is the ideal time for an update so SVR does not lose any momentum in their continued development.

**Project Funding:** The \$20,000 plan will be funded with a contribution from town of Star Valley (\$5,000). The balance will be paid by the CDBG grant. This meets the match requirement of 25

percent	of the	total	Projected Grant Expenditure Schedule for Star Valley Municpal Master Plan Update				
project	cost	for	DESCRIPTION	CDBG	MATCH	TOTAL	
CDBG	Master	Plan		0220	Cash Star Valley	TOTIL	
			Consulting Services	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	
Update.			Total Project Cost	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested contingent upon WBC receipt of HUD allocation. This project has the potential to meet the national objective of benefit to low-to-moderate income persons.



### PLANNING

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to evaluate the feasibility of constructing a new permanent facility to house the Administrative Services and Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) program of Sheridan Rehabilitation Enterprises of North Eastern Wyoming RENEW. If deemed feasible, the construction of this facility would allow for increased clients and service options for the autism and developmental disability programs beyond what is presently offered in the current service center.

RENEW would like to explore a design for a 6,000 – 7,000 square foot building on vacant land which is currently owned by RENEW adjacent to the current RENEW Service Center, located at 1969 S. Sheridan Ave. Sheridan, WY. The building design will comply with regulations regarding handicapped accessibility and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The building design will include administrative offices, a conference/training room, separate areas for the ABI program, expansion for the

autistic program, occupational therapist department, separate men's and women's toilets, mock apartments and/or simulated living environments, and a multi-purpose room which can be used at a later date to provide day-habilitation services as developed.

RENEW provides vocational and life skills training and education for community residents with autism, acquired brain injuries, or other developmental disabilities. RENEW's programs benefit these vulnerable populations and the community as a whole, helping clients to succeed by increasing independence and workforce readiness. This results in both social and economic advantages to the area.

**Comments from Dave Spencer, Regional Director:** This is a very straight forward planning project in which RENEW wishes to develop a feasible plan for expansion for its Brain Injury program. The facility to be studied would be located on the property RENEW owns adjacent to its facility in Sheridan. The beneficiaries will all be low-to-moderate income from a target group. I recommended that they pursue the planning grant first to better develop the concept plan for the project in anticipation of seeking implementation funding. RENEW is a very successful and longstanding non-profit in the region and has a good track record for serving its clients. I believe this planning will make for a successful implementation for improving this worthwhile program.

Today they cannot reach full potential in serving this segment of their client base and must plan for expansion to reach that potential.

**Project Funding:** The \$20,000 plan will be funded with a contribution from the city of Sheridan (\$5,000). The balance will be paid by the CDBG grant. This meets the match requirement of 25

percent of the	Projected Grant Expenditure Schedul	e for Sheridan	Admin & Brain I	njury Center	
total project	DESCRIPTION	CDBC	MATCH	ТОТАТ	
cost for CDBG	DESCRIPTION	CDBG	Cash Sheridan	TOTAL	
Feasibility	Consulting Services	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	
Study.	Total Project Cost	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested contingent upon WBC receipt of HUD allocation. This project has the potential to meet the national objective of benefit to low-to-moderate income job creation.



Albany County Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center Building

\$500,000 Community Development Grant for Community Facility

Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested

**Project Description:** Albany County is requesting \$500,000 of CDBG Community Facilities funds to purchase a new building to meet increasing needs for adequate office and work space used by additional therapists and other staff. The building is located at 1771 Centennial Drive, Laramie, Wyoming. The building will be owned by Albany County for five years, leasing the space to Albany County Developmental Preschool.

**The Business:** Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center has been in operation for 36 years. They are a nonprofit organization governed by a volunteer board of six members. Originally, they operated as part of the Albany County Association for Retarded Children, in 1982 Developmental Preschool became a separate organization with a separate board.

**Background:** Currently, the preschool and daycare center is located at 769 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Due to lack of space, some of the staff are located at 715 E. Shields. This is just one of the reasons why they need a bigger facility. If the grant is awarded, Head Start of Albany County will move into the building. The Developmental Preschool and Day Care

Center looked at options to increase space within the day care to accommodate new children ages birth to 5 years old identified with developmental disabilities. The organization provides free developmental screenings, evaluations and special education/therapy services to all children in the county. Developmental services for children 3-5 years old are provided in a preschool setting. As a non-profit day care and preschool they also provide regular day care services to all

children ages birth to 9 years old, with or without disabilities. Preference for spots in the daycare is given to low-income single-parent families. They offer fees on a sliding scale as well. This developmental preschool is the only day care in Laramie to provide options such as these.



Childcare slots are decreasing because of federal mandates to increase the physical space per each child with disabilities. The space restrictions in the current facility coupled with a large decline in total slots in the community over the last two years (200 slots lost) are making it increasingly difficult to provide adequate services to children in need. If this grant is awarded, the new building will accommodate the increased need for physical space. Acquiring a new building would provide ample expansion of the current enrollment to allow for proper placement



of the children with disabilities into a regular classroom environment while also allowing more day care slots to be available for low-income families in the community.

**Project Goals and Objectives:** By planning to offer increased day care slots in the community, the proposed project will provide much needed space for additional children with and without disabilities. The project will also assist with other projects between

the city of Laramie, Laramie Economic Development Corporation and Albany County by providing necessary services (day care and developmental services) to encourage new businesses to choose to operate in Laramie, and by recruitment and retention of highly qualified workers, this project ultimately assists to increase the number of jobs available in the community.

**Regional Director Comments by Tom Johnson:** I support this CDBG application and have no major concerns. The project represents the culmination of several years of work between the county and Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center. It fits perfectly with the goals of the CDBG, namely to benefit low-to- moderate income persons, provide economic opportunity and affordability of services. Current conditions of the existing facility no longer meet the needs of providing federally mandated services for children with developmental delays and adequate preschool slots. Over 51 percent of the families served through day care and special services are lot-to-moderate income families. This project will retain dozens of jobs, and will provide developmental and day care services to hundreds of families in the city of Laramie and Albany County.

**Project Funding:** The total project cost is \$3,175,000 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$500,000, the cash match is \$250,000 and has been committed by Albany County, and a loan in the amount of \$2,425,000. The cost per square foot for the rehabilitation/construction is \$32.00.

out of a total of 200.	Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the	e 2014 HUD allocation			
(estimated funding	Sources				
\$2.7 million).	CDBG Amount	\$500,000			
	Cash Match	\$250,000			
	Bank Loan	\$2,425,000			
	Total eligible project cost	\$3,175,000			
	CDBG % of total eligible project costs	16%			
	Local % of total eligible project costs	84%			
	Uses				
	Building and Land Acquisition	\$2,425,000			
	Non Construction Costs	\$99,300			
	Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$40,000			
	Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$55,000			
	Permanent Financing Fees	\$4,300			
	Construction Costs	\$650,700			
	Rehabilitation	\$546,200			
	Project Reserves	\$84,500			
	Contingency 3%	\$20,000			
	Total Project Cost	\$3,175,000			

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends funding as requested. This project scored 180 points

Pierce St 322 con of Laramie (a) [322] 322 Petro Laramie Stockyards Rd Laramie, WY N Pierce St **Project Site** Fairfield Inn & 🕒 Express Employn Profession 👝 Quality Inn & Suites Centennial Dr North A N Pierce St

### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Albany Count	y Dev and Day Care Center
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments
Seriousness Need (max 100)	100	They are required to serve all children they cannot turn anyone away. The facility is full so they have to go to homes or other facilities to test children.
Urgency (max 50)	30	They have outgrown the facility and are not able to take in more children.
Integrated effort (max 50)	50	They work with the county, Laramie Economic Group, and the city of Laramie.
Total Points (total max 200)	180	

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		
	yes	They have been working on this project since 2012.
Community Planning		
	yes	They have the Albany County Comprehensive Plan.
Timeliness	yes	They will be able to begin as soon as they finish their environmental review.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Community Facility



Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested **Project Description:** The town of Guernsey is requesting \$197,792 of CDBG Community Facilities funds to add a 2,000 square foot metal building addition to the town fire hall (in the photograph below). The additional space is designed to house training space, a small warming kitchen, bathrooms, laundry, and storage space. The Rural Fire District will own the building and the town will place a lien on the building for five years for the amount of the grant. The Rural Fire District will pay all operation and maintenance fees.

**Background:** The existing fire hall is uninhabitable due to major roof issues and leaks. Since the building cannot be heated during the winter, a small part was sealed off and heated. The area was portioned off from the larger building and plywood sheets were laid on the roof to try and hold heat in. Recently the building was condemned and can no longer be used. A new fire hall was built last year to house vehicles and equipment. The district used all the money they had saved and some consensus money to build the building. The district is currently levying all three mills allowed for the district.

**Project Goals and Objective:** The project will provide space for fire fighters. When they built the new fire house, consensus money was used and they only had enough funds for a building that would house four fire engines. There is no restroom in the facility or space to sit. This proposed project would provide the necessary amenities needed

for volunteer fire fighters.

**Regional Director Comments by Tom Johnson:** The town of Guernsey has had a working relationship with the Guernsey Rural Fire District over the past few years and has come to count on them as backup for the town's fire department. I have reviewed the existing fire hall and see that it is indeed inadequate for the needs of any fire department. There is a need for additional space for training and basic services at the new building as it only has space to house vehicles. This grant would



allow for this to happen and is a good fit for the CDBG program. The Guernsey Rural Fire District has a huge area to protect and this new addition would allow for better training and basic needs of the firemen. I commend the Guernsey Rural Fire District for their investment to date in their new building and see this addition as a great way to complete the fire hall.

Project Funding: The total project cost is \$197,792 of which the Community Development

Block grant request is \$197,792. The cost per square foot for the construction is \$99.00.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested. This project scored 160 points out of a total of 200. If the grant is awarded, it will benefit a large majority of the

Sources	
CDBG Amount	\$197,792
Total eligible project cost	\$197,792
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	100%
Local % of total eligible project costs	0%
Uses	
Non Construction Costs	\$38,991
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$8,991
Site Work	\$30,000
Construction Costs	\$158,801
New Building	\$140,820
Contingency (11%)	\$17,981
Total Project Cost	\$197,792

surrounding community. Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million).



# **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Guernsey Rural Fire Hall		
Scoring Criteria	Score Comments		
Seriousness Need (max 100)			
	95	There is no bathroom in the new facility.	
Urgency (max 50)			
	30	The old fire hall was condemend.	
Integrated effort (max 50)			
	35	They serve all their surrounding communties.	
Total Points (total max 200)			
	160		

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		
	yes	Used consensus money for the new fire hall.
Community Planning		The Guernsey Industrial Park sold them their lot for the
	yes	new fire hall at a reduced rate.
Timeliness	yes	They would be able to start the project as soon as the completed their environmental review.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Community Facility



**Project Description:** Albany County is requesting \$500,000 of CDBG Community Facilities funds to provide additional inpatient hospice services to terminally ill residents of the city of Laramie and Albany County through Hospice of Laramie. The grant will fund: paving lot. curb/gutter the parking and sidewalks. purchase/install an affixed generator, trash receptacle enclosure, and complete the landscaping on the property to provide a serene environment for patients to view from their rooms or sit outside. The building will be owned by Albany County for five years, and will be leased to Hospice of Laramie. The property is located at 1754 Centennial Street, Laramie, WY. Hospice of Laramie will be responsible for all maintenance and operational costs.

**Background:** Often, individuals and their families and/or friends desire hospice care, but the family members or friends are unable to perform the required 24 hour primary caregiving tasks. The most common reasons for not being able to serve in this capacity are physical, emotional and/or physical distance from the person seeking hospice care. Hospice of Laramie has attempted to address the issue by:

- Securing grants to partially pay for 24/7 private caregivers
- Examining the possibility of renting an apartment for such families
- Exploring the option of placing the individual in another care facility when needed

After many years of having limited success addressing this problem, Hospice of Laramie has concluded the best option is build a free standing inpatient hospice house to serve these important needs in Albany County.

**Project Goals and Objective:** An inpatient hospice house with six private suites will allow Hospice of Laramie provide hospice services to those who cannot receive hospice



services in the city of Laramie and Albany County due to lack of a primary care giver. This facility will allow those who desire hospice services to spend their last months, weeks, and days with dignity. The facility will also relieve the stress and emotions associated with being a primary caregiver of a terminally ill family member, allow the family to focus on spending quality time with their loved ones, and avoid the need to search for either a private care provider or a place to relocate to an inpatient hospice provider outside of Albany county and/or the state of Wyoming.

An additional public benefit is studies show hospice provides better care at less cost. Research completed at Duke University shows hospice care reduced Medicare costs by an average of \$2,309 per hospice patient. An inpatient hospice care facility in Albany County will require Hospice of Laramie's current staff to be increased by approximately 300 percent, creating a significant number of additional jobs in Albany County.

**Regional Director's Comments by Tom Johnson:** I fully support this application and have no major concerns at this time. The project represents the culmination of several years of work between the county and Hospice of Laramie. It fits with the goals of the CDBG – namely, to benefit low-and-moderate income persons, provide a suitable living environment and availability/accessibility to services for the terminally ill residents of the city of Laramie and Albany County. Eighty-five percent of the clients served by Hospice of Laramie meet the 2013 Wyoming definition of low-to-moderate income. This project will retain the current jobs and

create 26 new jobs, thus tripling the current workforce.

**Project Funding:** The total project cost is \$4,286,539 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$408,744, the cash match is \$1,341,923 has been and committed by Laramie Hospice, a BRC grant the amount in of \$1,000,000, a private loan in the amount of \$500,000, the current \$675,000 building

Sources	
CDBG Amount	\$408,744
Cash Match	\$1,341,923
BRC Grant	\$1,000,000
Private Loan	\$500,000
Current Bldg (to sell if grant awarded)	\$675,000
Land for New Building	\$360,872
Total eligible project cost	\$4,286,539
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	10%
Local % of total eligible project costs	55%
Uses	
Land Acquisition	\$360,872
Non Construction Costs	\$363,702
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$205,120
Site Work	\$158,582
Construction Costs	\$3,561,965
Building Construction	\$2,569,389
Operating Reserves	\$320,211
Contingency 18%	\$672,365
Total Project Cost	\$4,286,539

(that they have on the market listed to sell), and the equity of the land \$360,872.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends partial funding as requested. The county requested \$500,000 of funding, but staff requested that the applicant take a lesser amount due to lack of CDBG funds, with the assurance that at least a portion of the project could be completed with the awarded amount. The county worked with staff on their highest priority with the remaining available funds and that totaled \$408,744. This project scored 155 points out of a total of 200. Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million). Additionally, funding is contingent upon:

- Collection of pledged donations of \$375,000
- Execution of the private loan \$500,000
- Sale of the existing building
- BRC Grant of \$1,000,000

#### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Albany County Hospice House		
Scoring Criteria	Score Comments		
Seriousness Need (max 100)	100	There is no in-care hospice in Albany county.	
Urgency (max 50)	10	So individuals do not need to go out of town or out of state for hospice service.	
Integrated effort (max 50)	45	The county and Laramie Hospice have been great partners. Laramie Hospice has collected many donations from the community.	
Total Points (total max 200)	155		

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		
		Hospice of Laramie has secured grants and donations.
	yes	Examined the possibility of renting apartments to families.
Community Planning		
	yes	The county has been working with Hospice since 2012.
Timeliness		
		Will be able to begin the project as soon as the
	yes	environmental review is completed.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
· · ·	yes	Community Facilities





Early Childhood Building Expansion

\$215,746 Community Development Grant for Community Facilities

Staff Recommendation: Recommend partial funding of \$179,746 **Project Description:** The city of Evanston is requesting a \$215,746 CDBG Community Facilities grant to expand the Evanston Early Childhood building. The grant includes construction of a 3,716 square foot addition on city owned land. The expansion will allow the city's largest private non-profit and nationally accredited preschool. The goal of the Evanston Child Development Center (ECDC) is to enroll at least 50 to 60 more preschool pupils. The city will own the facility and lease it to ECDC.

**Background:** The building is located at 419 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and was built in 1920s. A structural assessment was conducted May 5, 2005 by Myers Anderson Architects and the building is sound. Currently, 105 preschool students attend classes in an adjacent structure, also owned by the city. With a growing waiting list and other educational programming upsurges for both students and families, the space is rapidly becoming insufficient. With the mounting emphasis on early childhood education from the state and school districts, more parents and school administrators are insisting upon preschool enrollment for their children/students. Seventy-four percent of the

current preschool students at ECDC are at or below current poverty levels with the vast majority qualifying for the free and reduced lunch programs.

Without the affordable educational services provided by ECDC, countless preschool aged children would not be adequately prepared for not only kindergarten, but also future academic and societal success. There are limited accredited and licensed preschools in the Evanston area (there are eight). Many children between the ages of three and five are not attending any kind of preschool program. ECDC has received a Daniel's Fund grant in the amount of \$200,000 and the city gave them \$466,190 of consensus funds that they have already used for work that has been completed on the building.

**Project Goals and Objective:** The city of Evanston will utilize the CDBG funds, if awarded, for a portion of the new addition construction, including all of the masonry work, the purchase and installation of all the doors and windows, the metal work.

This project will help to enhance the community, not just in the immediate future but also in the future. As more children are able to enroll in the preschool program, more will accumulate the

skills and knowledge necessary to succeed academically and socially, and ultimately avoid the negative consequences of poverty.

**Regional Director Comments by Elaina Zempel:** The former Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) building provided after school services to 8-15 year olds for the city of Evanston from 2006 to 2012. Budget constraints forced the city to explore other options and withdrew funding from the YOU programs in 2012 leaving the building vacant. A local group organized and established a Boys and Girls Club of America chapter for the city, and is utilizing a portion of the building.

The YOU building is adjacent to the Evanston Child Development Center (ECDC) building. ECDC has been highly successful in providing early childhood education to area residents. The waiting list is a testament of the quality of education and care children receive at the facility. However, the facility housing ECDC is a modular structure intended for short time use (ten years). The modular was first put into service, circa 1976 and has been updated for continued use. However, the facility has reached its realistic expansion potential.

The vacation of the YOU building, located right next door, is a serendipitous event. An addition to the former YOU building will provide the needed space for ECDC to expand an offer services to as many as 50-60 more pre-school children and co-utilize space and staff to continue to offer after school programs with the Boys and Girls Club of America.

The city of Evanston, in cooperation with ECDC has raised almost 75 percent of the funds needed for the renovation and expansion.

In addition to expanding services, four positions will be created; two to three will require a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development and/or Education.

Sources			
CDBG Amount	\$179,746		
Total eligible project cost	\$179,746		
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	100%		
Uses			
Construction Costs	\$179,746		
New Building	\$179,746		
Total Project Cost	\$179,746		

**Project Funding:** The total project cost is \$179,746 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$179,746. The total cost per square foot for the construction is \$48.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends partial funding as requested. The county requested \$215,746 of funding, but staff requested that the applicant take a lesser amount due to lack of CDBG funds, with the assurance that at least a portion of the project could be completed with the awarded amount. The county worked with staff on their highest priority with the remaining available funds and that totaled \$179,746. This project scored 155 points out of a total of 200. Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million). Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million).



## **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Evanston Early Childhood Building Expansion		
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments	
Seriousness Need (max 100)			
	90	There are only 8 accredited licensed facilities in Evanston.	
Urgency (max 50)		They have a waiting list of 13 to date. They predict there	
	25	will be more in the future.	
Integrated effort (max 50)			
	45	They have used consensus funds for the building.	
Total Points (total max 200)			
	160		

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		They received Daniel's funds and used some of their
	yes	consensus money.
Community Planning		
		The city has been working with ECDC since 2000. It is
	yes	consistent with the city's community and economic plans.
Timeliness		
		They would be able to begin as soon as the
	yes	environmental review was completed.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Community Facilities





Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested

**Project Description:** The city of Rock Springs is requesting a \$300,000 CBDG Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) grant to renovate the existing Rock Springs Community Visitor Complex (RSCVC). The current building is small, outdated, unattractive, and out of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. There are no public restrooms and the facility is not handicap accessible. The project would add public handicap accessible restrooms, walkways, picnic tables, parking, and office space. The building is owned by the Rock Springs Chamber and the land is owned by the city of Rock Springs. If the grant is awarded ownership of the building will be deeded over to the city. The operation and maintenance fees will be paid for by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

**Background:** The building, which houses the chamber of commerce, serves as the community's tourism center, ticket sales outlet, and public and business information center. While originally designed as an office building, the purpose and use of the building has expanded over the years to provide valuable public services for which the building is not suited.

In 2007, the city of Rock Springs and the RSCVC completed a branding, marketing, and development action plan, which included recommendations for these facilities. The study addressed the need for public restrooms at the RSCVC. The plan states one of the most fundamental visitor amenities is the availability of clean, convenient restrooms. Visitors are also in need of information 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year. It was also recommended that the RSCVC be a key location for an informational kiosk to service visitors when staff is no available.

**Project Goals and Objective:** Public space and its utilization is a major component of healthy community. With addition of handicap restrooms, parking, picnic tables under covered pavilions, and road improvements to accommodate today's large recreational vehicles, the RSCVC will be able to meet the existing and future needs of the community.

The project will have an impact on the population of Rock Springs and the 48,000 residents of Sweetwater County. The RSCVC sees an average of 23,000 visitors per year.

**Regional Director's Comments by Pat Robbins:** The city of Rock Springs would like to renovate and expand the existing chamber of commerce/visitors center to accommodate the changing dynamic in the region. The facility, which was designed as an office building, has evolved to serve as the community's ticket outlet for events and local information; providing tourist information and housing the business development services for the area.

This grant would allow for the structural changes necessary to the existing building and surrounding park to make the complex accessible including ADA compliant doors and restrooms. It would allow for public access for local residents, businesses, and tourists. The grant is a public/private partnership matched with funds from the Business Ready Community (BRC) Grant program along with funds from the city of Rock Springs and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

This project is strongly supported by community and economic development plans undertaken by the city of Rock Springs. More importantly, the project has strong community support as it will be renovated to serve all those needing access to the facility.

Sources	
CDBG Grant	\$300,000
Cash Match	\$333,665
BRC Grant	\$500,000
Total eligible project cost	\$1,133,665
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	26%
Local % of total eligible project costs	74%
Uses	
Non Construction Costs	\$334,850
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$61,200
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$19,250
Site Work	\$182,000
Demolition and removal	\$72,400
Construction Costs	\$798,815
Rehabilitation	\$683,260
Contingency 14%	\$115,555
Total Project Cost	\$1,133,665

### **Project Components and Funding:**

The total project cost is \$1,132,655 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$300,000, the cash match is \$300,458, and has been committed by city of Rock Springs and the \$33,000 by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, and a BRC grant in the amount of \$500,000.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested. This project scored 170 points out of a total of 200. Funding is contingent upon the BRC grant request for \$500,000 and WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million).



# **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Rock Springs Visitor Center ADA		
Scoring Criteria	Score Comments		
Seriousness Need (max 100)			
	100	The facility is not ADA compliant.	
Urgency (max 50)	30	They serve hundreds of people a year.	
Integrated effort (max 50)	45	They work with the community and businesses.	
Total Points (total max 200)			
	175		

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		They have been working on either relocating or
	yes	rehabilitating the building for years.
Community Planning		The city had a study conducted to see what the best plan
	yes	of action would be.
Timeliness	yes	The project could begin as soon as the environmental was completed.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)





# Town of Basin Handicapped Accessible Bathroom and Installation of an Automatic Door

\$38,800 Community Development Grant for Handicapped Accessibility

## Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested

**Project Description:** The town of Basin is requesting a \$38,800 for a CDBG Handicapped Accessibility Grant to remove the old bathroom in the rear of the town hall office and replace it with an accessible, ADA compliant bathroom. The proposed grant will also cover the cost of installing an automatic door opener for the front door, as well as widening the entrance of the front door as recommended for compliance with the current standards. The town owns the building and pays all the monthly operation and maintenance fees.

**Background:** Town hall is a single story wood framed commercial structure that was built in 1920. In 2013, there was a structural assessment conducted by Engineering Associates and the building was found to be sound. In 2014, asbestos and mold testing were performed by Northern Industrial Hygiene and no mold or asbestos was found.

**Project Goals and Objective:** It will be easier for the public to enter the Basin office building because currently the door is too heavy. The new ADA upgrades to the bathroom will benefit office patrons. With easier access

to the front door and upgraded bathroom facilities for a larger audience, the town can hold meetings more effectively.

**Project Components and Funding:** The total project cost is \$53,800 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$38,800. The cash match is \$15,300 and has been committed by the town of Basin.

**Regional Director's Comments by Leah Bruscino:** I think this is a good project and definitely needed so that all citizens can access town hall, and important government activities that take place there. My only concern with this project is I fear that the cost estimates are low.



Sources			
CDBG Amount	\$38,800		
Cash Match	\$15,300		
Total eligible project cost	\$54,100		
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	72%		
Local % of total eligible project costs	28%		
Uses			
Non Construction Costs	\$300		
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$300		
Construction Costs	\$53,800		
Building Rehabilitation	\$26,300		
Contingency 28%	\$27,500		
Total Project Cost	\$54,100		

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested. This project scored 160 points out of a total of 200. Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million).

#### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Basin ADA Bathroom and Front Door	
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments
Seriousness Need (max 100)	90	Cannot shut the bathroom door if in a wheelchair. The fron door is very heavy and hard to open.
Urgency (max 50)	25	Access through the heave doors is quite difficult. If there was a fire or other emergency it would be difficult to get out the door in a wheel chair.
Integrated effort (max 50)	45	Town committed \$15,000 in cash and also cover all operating and maintenance costs.
Total Points (total max 200)	160	

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		
	No	
Community Planning		
	No	
Timeliness		There is a limited environmental review that will be
		required for this project. They will be able to begin the
	Yes	project very quickly after award.
National objective		
	Yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	Yes	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



Page 36 of 50 Wyoming Business Council –May 29, 2014



# Town of Kirby Town Hall ADA Retrofit

\$86,000 Community Development Grant for Handicapped Accessibility

Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested **Project Description:** The town of Kirby is requesting an \$86,000 for a CDBG Handicapped Accessibility grant to improve the handicap accessibility to the existing town hall. The entry and interior doors need to be replaced, modified, and electrical components added to facilitate reasonable access to the town.

**Background:** The town has updated the bathrooms to make them ADA compliant in the building. A building structural assessment has been conducted by Engineering Associates and the building has been declared to be structurally sound.

**Project Goals and Objective:** Engineers evaluated potential improvements. Modifications of the structure are required to make the building accessible. The structure was evaluated to determine if a new building would be a more suitable option.

Town hall is the center of community events in Kirby, and this project would facilitate using the building more effectively for all members of the community.

Regional Director Comments by Leah Bruscino: I

d have seen, first hand, how difficult it is for a person in a

wheelchair to access the Kirby town hall. The town hall is the community center for the community and serves as the voting site so it is very important to have this facility accessible to

all community members and also people from the surrounding communities.

**Project Components and Funding Project Funding** The total project cost is \$96,200 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$86,000. The cash match is \$10,200 and as been committed by the town of Kirby.


Sources		
CDBG Amount	\$86,000	
Cash Match	\$10,200	
Total eligible project cost	\$96,200	
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	89%	
Local % of total eligible project costs	11%	
Uses		
Non Construction Costs	\$22,800	
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$14,800	
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$8,000	
Construction Costs	\$73,400	
New Building	\$66,200	
Contingency (11%)	\$7,200	
Total Project Cost	\$96,200	

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends funding as requested. This project scored 135 points out of a total of 200. Funding is contingent upon WBC receiving the 2014 HUD allocation (estimated funding \$2.7 million).

### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Kirby Town Hall ADA	
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments
Seriousness Need (max 100)		The entryway into the building is very narrow and hard to
	85	maneuver in a wheelchair.
Urgency (max 50)		The only meeting place the community has for
	20	events/meetings.
Integrated effort (max 50)		
	30	The town did commit \$10,200 in matching funds.
Total Points (total max 200)		
	135	

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		They updated the bathrooms in the hall to be ADA
	Yes	compliant.
Community Planning		
	No	
Timeliness		There will be a very limited environmental review required.
		They will be able to begin the project quickly after the
	Yes	grant award.
National objective		
	Yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	Yes	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)





## Fremont County Handicapped Accessibility County Courthouse

\$150,000 Community Development Grant for Handicapped Accessibility

Staff Recommendation: Fund as requested **Project Description:** Fremont County is requesting a \$150,000 for a CDBG Handicapped Accessibility grant to provide handicap accessibility upgrades to the county courthouse.

**Background:** There are physical barriers preventing direct access to the court system on the south end of the building. The sliding doors on the north end of the building offer the only entry for a person with disabilities. The entryway is too small and leads into an entry with no staff where there are stairs and an elevator. The elevator goes up to the first floor where one then needs to exit at the treasurer's office. To get to the courts on the south end of the building one would have to go outside to a ramp to another door to enter the court.

**Project Goals and Objective:** If this grant is awarded it will allow handicapped, elderly, and families with small children to directly access the services they need from the courthouse.

**Regional Director Comments by Roger Bower** Fremont County is one of the larger counties in Wyoming, and

home to the only Native American Reservation in the state, with a population in excess of 41,000. Approximately 20 percent of the county residents are Native American and they do not

pay property taxes to the state or county. This causes stress to the county budget.

The courthouse is somewhat handicap accessible; however the county court portion is only accessed in a circuitous manner. This project would provide more direct access for all citizens.



### **Project Components and Funding**:

The total project cost is \$150,000 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$150,000.

Sources		
CDBG Amount	\$150,000	
Total eligible project cost	\$150,000	
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	100%	
Uses		
Construction Costs	\$150,000	
Rehabilitation	\$150,000	
Total Project Cost	\$150,000	

### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Fremont County ADA Court House	
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments
Seriousness Need (max 100)	65	Need better public access to courthouse and county offices.
Urgency (max 50)	25	If there were emergencies it would be very difficult to get out of the building.
Integrated effort (max 50)	20	The community is supportive of the project.
Total Points (total max 200)	110	

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		Part of their plan to make all buildings handicapped
	yes	accessible.
Community Planning		Part of their plan to make all buildings handicapped
	yes	accessible.
Timeliness		They will have a limited environmental that will need to be
		completed and they can start the project as soon as that is
	yes	completed.
National objective		
	yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)





**Project Description:** The town of Mills is requesting a Public Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$462,280 to rehabilitate and upgrade water storage tank #3. The project will replace the interior tank coating including spot repair of corroded areas, installation of cathodic (an electrode through which electric current flows out of a polarized electrical device) protection in the tank, and the installation of an in-tank mixing system. The town owns the tank and pays all maintenance and operating fees.

**Background:** The Department of Environmental Quality does not inspect the interior of municipal water storage tanks. Inspection of these tanks is conducted by private companies, as the inspection process involves a scuba diver entering the tank and performing the inspection. The inspection was conducted on September 10, 2012. During the winter months, ice forms within the water tank due to low residual temperatures and reduced water usage. Ice formation damages the interior tank coating as the water in the tank fluctuates. This fluctuation causes the ice to literally scrape the interior coating off of the tank exposing the tank to corrosion. A recent inspection of the tank indicated that the interior tank coating has been damaged not dengarous to drink but along pings and fixtures.

due to ice formation. The coating is not dangerous to drink, but clogs pipes and fixtures.

**Project Goals and Objective:** The interior of the tank will be recoated. In order to lessen or prevent ice formation in the future, an in-tank mixing system will be installed, as well as a cathodic protection system to prevent or lessen any future corrosion of the tank. The mixing system will supply constant movement to the water stored in the tank, which will inhibit the formation of ice. Installation of an in-tank mixing system will also improve water quality as the tank appears to have some dead spots (areas of the tank in which water does not flow out of the tank as readily as other areas). Completion of the project would ensure that the town can continue to provide safe, reliable water to the citizens and businesses of Mills.

### **Project Funding**

The total project cost is \$577,850 of which the Community Development Block grant request is

\$462,280. The cash match is \$115,570 and has been committed by the town of Mills.

StaffRecommendation:Staff recommends fundingasrequesteduponWBC receipt of HUDallocation.Thisprojectmeetsthenationalobjective of serving low-to-moderate income people.

Sources	
CDBG Amount	\$462,280
Cash Match	\$115,570
Total eligible project cost	\$577,850
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	80%
Local % of total eligible project costs	20%
Uses	
Non Construction Costs	\$88,900
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$44,450
Other fees (surveys, tests, etc.)	\$44,450
Construction Costs	\$488,950
New Building	\$444,500
Contingency (11%)	\$44,450
Total Project Cost	\$577,850

### **Community Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Mills Water Storage Tank Rehab and Upgrade		
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments	
Seriousness Need (max 100)		The tank is rusting and the coating is falling into the	
	90	water.	
Urgency (max 50)			
	35	The water tank serves a large portion of the community.	
Integrated effort (max 50)			
	35	Town of Mills will provide 20% cash match.	
Total Points (total max 200)			
	160		

Additional Evaluation	Yes/No	Comments
Criteria		
Additional & Previous Activities		
	Yes	Created a Community Development Plan.
Community Planning		
		One of the plans goal is to provide quality and adequate
	Yes	quantity of public utilities in a cost effective manner.
Timeliness		
		The project would begin as soon as the environmental
	Yes	review is completed.
National objective		
	Yes	Low to Moderate Income Benefit
Qualifying Activity		
	Yes	Public Infrastructure





**Project Description:** The city of Rawlins is requesting a \$250,000 Downtown Development Grant to eliminate a National Objective of Slum and Blight to stimulate brick and mortar redevelopment in their downtown area. The grant funds will be used for the final phase (phase II) of the façade project. The participating property owners will provide the city a façade easement for up to eight years. The easement will stay in effect for five years following project completion.

Phase I was funded with a CDBG Downtown Development grant May 2013 for \$250,000 and a Business Ready Community Downtown Development grant in January 2014 in the amount of \$1,000,000.

**Background:** The city of Rawlins and Rawlins Downtown Development Authority (DDA)/Main Street have created a unique and creative program to rehabilitate the commercial facades (storefronts) in downtown Rawlins – the Rawlins Downtown Façade Easement Program. The Downtown Development Plan is Rawlins DDA/Main Street's blue-print to economically revitalize the downtown.

**Project Goals and Objective:** The Façade Easement Program is one more project that will revitalize downtown. The city and Rawlins DDA/Main Street will partner with the downtown property owners to improve the appearance of the downtown buildings. The property owners will deed their facade to the city and Rawlins DDA/Main Street. Rawlins DDA/Main Street currently has 88 percent of all the easements

signed by the downtown property owners. The program will include public/private partnerships totaling \$1,646,183 for enhancements to downtown.

The Rawlins Downtown Façade Easement Program will accomplish similar outcomes as compared to the renovation program being used in Casper, Wyoming to revitalize the Old



Yellowstone District; which was also funded by a Casper Entitlement Community Development Block Grant.

The applicant has provided a Facade Easement Program Overview which includes the following parameters:

- 1. The property must lie within the boundaries of the DDA/Main Street District.
- 2. The program is strictly for the exterior of the buildings and will be applied to the architectural design and physical construction.
- 3. Eligible improvements include exterior signs, lighting, windows, awnings, storefronts and entrances, doors, brickwork stonework, painting, repair or replacement to decorative details, cornices or spot blight.
- 4. Up to 65 total façade improvements on downtown businesses.
- 5. A three year timeframe once all funds are awarded for the design and construction.
- 6. A property owner may apply for funds ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000 based on structure's condition and level of need.
- 7. Private funds of 10 percent from the property owner will be required on the construction, contingency, and escalation costs.
- 8. The property owner provides the city a façade easement for up to eight years. The easement will stay in effect for five years following projection completion.
- 9. The property owner must possess a clear title to the property and be current on all taxes.
- 10. For the purpose of the program, a building with four or more residential units will be considered commercial.
- 11. The roof of the property must be new or in good repair.

The Façade Easement Program is innovative and will have a broad downtown district impact. The benefits directly impact the economy while aiding the physical transformation of the downtown, reducing rural sprawl and creating destinations for tourist and local residents.

**Project Funding** The total project cost is \$275,000 of which the Community Development Block grant request is \$250,000. The cash match is \$25,000 and has been committed by the city of Rawlins.

Sources	
CDBG Amount	\$250,000
Cash Match	\$25,000
Total eligible project cost	\$275,000
CDBG % of total eligible project costs	91%
Local % of total eligible project costs	9%
Uses	
Construction Costs	\$275,000
Rehabilitation	\$244,800
Contingency 11%	\$30,200
Total Project Cost	\$275,000

**Regional Directors Comments by Pat Robbins** The Rawlins DDA/Main Street, in partnership with the city of Rawlins, is submitting a CDBG application for an innovative façade project for the Main Street district. This project would utilize both CDBG and BRC funds, along with

private investment, to undertake an ambitious and innovative solution to remodel and update the majority of the storefronts in the area.

The Rawlins DDA/Main Street program had a thorough master plan completed a few years ago that outlined action steps for revitalization of the area. The DDA/Main Street program has completed several of the steps outlined including a branding study and marketing plan; multi modal plan which will redesign parking and add visual enhancements; and a wayfinding/signage program that is in progress. The final, and most complicated component, is the façade project which has been three years in planning and development.

The DDA/Main Street organization will be deeded the front three feet of at least 80 percent of the downtown buildings, and then will utilize public funding to renovate those building facades at one time to the specifications and design criteria outlined in the master plan. The results will be drastic visual improvements to the area, which will hopefully increase traffic, enhance businesses, and aid in future expansion and recruitment. This project has widespread support of elected officials, the business community, and the residents. The success of the DDA/Main Street program, and their ability to complete successful projects, has created an energy and atmosphere of support in the business community, which will aid in their execution of the renovations. The project is a critical component in the success of their downtown master plan, and when completed, could serve as a model for other Wyoming communities.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff does recommend funding as requested of \$250,000. Project funding is contingent upon WBC receiving their allocation from HUD. The project scored 100 points out of a possible 100.



### **Economic Development Detailed Analysis of Project**

	Rawlins Downtown Façade Easement	
Scoring Criteria	Score	Comments
Job Creation (max 25)	25	They are projecting that at least twenty new jobs will be created.
Organization (max 25)	25	They work with many organizations and business owners.
Integrated effort (max 25)	25	They have been working with over 80 businesses to get easements for the storefronts.
Economic Benefit (max 25)	25	This project has good economic development potential to draw new businesses into the downtown.
Total Points (Total max 100)	100	

Additional Evaluation		
Criteria	Yes/No	Comments
Private Investments		The business owners have paid in \$25,000 to participate in
	yes	the program.
Additional Economic Development		
Activity		They have been working on enhancing their downtown
	yes	for years. They have been awarded two BRC grants.
Historic Value		
	no	
Participation		They have many partners that they work with and also the
	yes	community.
		The project could begin as soon as the environmental
Timeliness	yes	review is completed.
National objective		
	yes	Downtown Development
Qualifying Activity		
	yes	Elimination of slum and blight



Addendum	
Correspondence	
<u>TOPIC</u> CDBG Letters of Support:	PAGE_
Albany County Developmental Preschool Albany County Hospice Evanston Child Development Center Rock Springs Visitor's Center Rawlins Downtown Façade Program	1-3 4-7 8-10 11-49 50-56



LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

800 South Third Street • PO Box 1250 • Laramie, Wyoming • 82073 Phone: 307-742-2212 • Fax: 307-742-8200 • www.laramiewy.org

December 12, 2013

Wyoming Business Council

RE: Community Development Block Grant for Developmental Preschool and Daycare Center

Laramie Economic Development Corporation is in support of the grant application of the Developmental Preschool and Daycare Center. This facility provides a much needed service in our community. They provide wonderful assistance to developmentally delayed children, helping them to make great progress in areas where they need improvement. We have seen the skillful staff in action. Not only are they compassionate to the children but have the skills and training necessary to improve their abilities.

The Daycare is also a much needed service. Preference for spots in the day care are given to low income and single parent families, with fees based on a sliding scale. This is important for working families that cannot afford normal daycare services. Having the daycare with normally developing children also provides a great benefit to the developmentally delayed children since integration has shown to significantly help these children.

The current facilities that they are located in are very dated as well as they have substantially outgrown the capacity. The proposed new facility is attractive and modern as well as provides much room for expansion.

Please help improve this necessary organization by approving the Community Development Block Grant.

Sincerely;

Daniel G. Furphy President and CEO

Representatives Matt E. Greene Wyoming House of Representatives. House District 45 115 East Grand Avenue Laramie, WY 82070



metsik (307) 760-3859 maar Matt Greenwavereig gev

March 19, 2014

Wyoming Business Council

RE: CDBG funds for Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center

To whom it may concern:

Please approve the Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center's CDBG grant application to help purchase a new facility in Laramie. The Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center provides much needed services to children with disabilities in Albany County. Many of my constituents' families have benefited from these essential services over the years, and many more will benefit if the Developmental Preschool's grant is approved.

The Developmental Preschool has done a phenomenal job renovating an old grocery store; however, a new building will have more space and better classrooms. This will enable more children to be served. The limited space in the current building impacts Developmental Preschool's ability to provide the best possible service to children with disabilities because it limits the number of children that can be placed in a classroom. In addition to serving more children, improved services will be provided. When classrooms are full and more kids are identified with a disability, there is no way to serve them in a classroom environment as required.

Lastly, the new building is located in a largely underserved area for day care and preschool. With the exception of a few home based day cares, there is a lack of available programs in West Laramie. The vast majority of programs are located in the east side of Laramie. Ultimately, this means that my constituents, many of whom are young and low income families, will have day care and preschool services available closer to home.

I wholeheartedly support this project. The Developmental Preschool will be able to serve more children and provide better services in the city of Laramie and Albany County. And an underserved area of Laramie will have greater opportunity for day care and preschool services.

Sincerely.

Mat Green

Matt Greene

WWW.WYULLG GOV

To the Wyoming Business Council,

My name is Anna Beck, and my 3 year (almost 4!) old son Zeb attends the Developmental Preschool here in Laramie, Wyoming. For him, the Developmental Preschool and Daycare Center (DPDC) has been instrumental in helping him grow and develop and work towards overcoming challenges for the past two years. I have been so impressed with the Special Education Team- impressed by their interest, patience, and focus on the children in our community. Giving a grant to this organization will prove a sound investment in the health, well-being, and education of Wyoming children and will effect communities, families, and future generations.

Moving the DPDC to a new building would provide greater opportunities for families and children. One benefit would be that they would be able to provide developmental screenings in house. I remember when my son Zeb was first screened 2 years ago, I was very confused about the actual location of where the services would take place- the screening was at a different preschool than the DPDC, and the staff offices of the Birth to Three team were also in a different building. Being able to have one location for screening, staff, and the DPDC would make a huge difference in accessibility for parents. Having staff offices in the DPDC simply makes the most sense for the staff to work effectively, and a new building would allow for that. The staff and teams of therapists that we have worked with are exceptional at what they do, and have helped our family and my son in countless ways. The new building would give staff greater access to students and families benefiting from services, and that would increase their influence and effectiveness.

Another benefit of a larger facility is that it would provide more room for typically developing students. As we created an IEP (individualized education plan) for my son, I was impressed with the mandate that each child with special needs be placed in the least restrictive environment (LRE). This means that children should be able to mix with their typically developed peers- or be in a mainstream classroom as much as possible. The DPDC currently is at capacity for their building, but having a larger building would allow for more typically developed children to be integrated into the classroom. What this means for my son is that he would have more positive peer interactions to learn from. For him, more mainstream students would create social interactions that would act as examples and learning opportunities to help him progress socially and emotionally.

One benefit that a new building would provide for the DPDC is especially exciting to me at this time in my child's life. A new building would mean restrooms in each classroom. As my son struggles with potty training, it would be so helpful to have a restroom readily available for him. I'm sure it will also help prevent accidents, since right now there is a long walk down hall for bathrooms. Now that I think of the many positive outcomes from having restrooms in each classroom, I am not sure how they have survived this long without them!

Being a parent is hard, but can bring a lot of joy. Being a parent of a child with special needs increases those feelings of difficulty but also of joy. The DPDC has provided me with encouragement, help, and relief when things are hard and celebrates with me when my son progresses. A larger building would only increase what they are capable of. I appreciate your time in reading this letter and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I can assure you that should you gift this grant to the DPDC, the positive effects will be far reaching- it will assist children in becoming ready for school and improve educational success, making lives better for individuals, families, and generations to come.

Sincerely,

Anna V. Beek

#(801-703-4933 Anna.v.bcck@gmail.com



November 29, 2013

Hospice of Laramie Attn: Terri Longhurst, Executive Director 1262 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Unit A Laramie WY 82070

Dear Terri,

I am writing this letter to express support of a Community Development Block Grant for Hospice of Laramie. Residence of Laramie and Albany County deserve the opportunity to experience end of life comfort care. This is not always the case, because few individuals are able to receive this type of care in their home. With this being said, a facility located in our community would help us serve this need.

This past year my father was able to die with dignity through the services of this wonderful organization. We were very blessed to be able to keep him at home during this process, yet it always was in the back of my mind.... where would he die if home was not an option. Not many choices in our community now. Through the vision of your Board and wonderful staff, a solution is around the corner.

This Grant would be the next step and bring a so close to building a Hospice House in Laramie. An inpatient care facility is critical to serve the needs of this community and the surrounding area. An expanded model of care delivery is needed. Without a primary care provider, individuals cannot stay at home and without a residential Hospice care option, individuals are limited to moving closer to family or friends who are able to provide such care or other in patient long term care facilities.

We will all die, and it is comforting to know that there is support through this program to help us fulfill this process with dignity. All people deserve to choose this option, which cannot be accomplished without this in-patient facility.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication making a Hospice House here in Laramie a reality.

Sincerely,

Nancy Stutzman **Community Bank President** 



CITY OF LARAMIE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE P.O. Box C Laramie, Wyoming 82073

(307) 721-5226 FAX (307) 721-5211 TDD (307) 721-5295

November 26, 2013

Robert Jensen, CEO Wyoming Business Council 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Bob,

I am writing to express my support for Hospice of Laramie's application for Community Development Block Grant funding to support its development of an inpatient facility in Laramie.

The City of Laramie's mission is to provide community excellence through our core values of respect, teamwork, integrity and stewardship. Improving the quality of life for our community is central to this mission. I believe that Hospice of Laramie not only embodies the City of Laramie's core values-especially respect and integrity- but also achieves our goal of improving quality of life all the way through the process of dying. Hospice of Laramie has provided excellent end-of-life care in Laramie homes for over 28 years, and the development of an inpatient facility is needed now more than ever.

Hospice of Laramie has found that demand inpatient services is growing because of the aging population is increasing while at the same time, the number of local family members able to provide in-home primary care is decreasing. An inpatient facility will help Hospice of Laramie to serve families that cannot provide in-home care and will be sufficiently sized to accommodate residents from other communities that do not have such facilities. I have no doubt that the quality care that Hospice of Laramie has provided in the homes of hundreds of residents since its inception will extend to its inpatient facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Janine Jordan, M.P.A. City Manager City of Laramie

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> P.O. Box 1241 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007 (307) 632-7616

September 24, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband, John, and I are presently serving as the Hospice House of Laramie campaign co-chairs. Our firm commitment to the project stems from our involvement with Hospice on many different levels. Having served Hospice of Laramie as both a board member and a board president, I have personally witnessed the need for the agency in Laramie as well as in many of the surrounding areas. John's relationship with Hospice began when his father passed in a Hospice facility in Arizona 9 years ago. He still gets emotional when speaking of the sense of peace and acceptance the house afforded him during a most difficult time in his life.

While the present Hospice model has served the community well for several years, changing family dynamics and an evolving healthcare system have necessitated a change for Hospice of Laramie as well. This change comes in the form of a Hospice house. To this end, we would like to strongly encourage both the business council and the county to partner with Hospice of Laramie and award the Community Block Service Grant to this most worthy Albany County agency. Upon closer inspection, I am certain that your committee will find that Hospice has a long history of efficiently and effectively utilizing all donation and grant monies. Your contribution will enable Hospice to build a house that will be a cornerstone of our community for years to come.

Most Sincerely,

Tracy Doole

John Dooley

## 

LARAMIE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PO Box 1250 • 800 South 3rd Street • Laramie, Wyoming • 82073 Phone: 307-742-2212 • Fax: 307-742-8200 • www.LaramieWY.org • www.ClimateCooled.com

December 1, 2013

Wyoming Business Council 214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Mr. Bob Jensen:

Laramie Economic Development Corporation hereby issues its support of the Community Development Block Grant for the construction of the Hospice House in Laramie. This facility is very much needed in our community and will solve a big concern for our citizens that have a need during their last days.

Not only is the need great in our community but it will be a beautiful facility and will create additional jobs. Hospice workers are extremely well trained and compassionate individuals and the type of individuals that are a great addition to Laramie.

As you know, when recruiting companies, the types of facilities and services available in a community are important to a company. Having a Hospice House that we can be proud of does improve our city. Accordingly, we strongly encourage your support of the CDBG proposal from Hospice.

If there are questions regarding why LEDC supports this project, please contact me.

Sincerely;

Daniel G. Furphy CEO Laramie Economic Development Corporation



### Offering educational programs through a cooperative partnership with Uinta County School District #1 and Western Wyoming Community College

1013 West Cheyenne Drive Suite A | Evanston, WY 82930 | Tel: 307-789-5742 | Fax: 307-789-7975 | Toll Free: 1-866-225-2003 www.ulntaeducation.org

March 31, 2014

RE: Evanston Child Development Center

To Whom it May Concern

The Evanston Family Literacy program began in 2012 by forming a partnership between the Uinta B.O.C.E.S. #1 Education Center, College and Career Readiness Center and Evanston Child Development Center. (E.C.D.C.)

We provide Adult Education and English Second Language instruction and E.C.D.C. provides the early childhood education component. This program has expanded from 16 families the first year to 22 this year. We are at capacity at this time and have created a wait-list for students who want to join the program. We are completely out of space. We currently use 2 classrooms. We share both rooms with the preschool program and use the teachers' lounge area for testing. We need additional classrooms so that we could increase our classes and reach additional families and eliminate our waiting list.

We currently allow 11 families in our English Second Language program and 11 families in Adult Education/High School Equivalency. These families bring with them a variety of barriers we can assist with, and our attendance and improvement statistics are very high. These families also bring one to four children per family with them, and the ability to serve more families has been capped due to high enrollment and lack of additional space in the Evanston Child Development Facility.

We look forward to continuing to grow this valuable program with Evanston Child Development Center and ask for your consideration of this expansion grant. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane White Family Literacy Coordinator College and Career Readiness Center



Friday, March 28th, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the expansion of Evanston Child Development Center (ECDC) preschool. As the coordinator of the Evanston Early Childhood Coalition, I have had the opportunity to work closely with the ECDC preschool teachers and director. They have shown their commitment to Evanston's youngest learners through their collaboration, participation with the coalition and their quality instruction in the preschool classroom. It is for this reason that I am excited at the prospect of their expansion.

With the adoption of the Common Core State Standards, preschool is more critical now than ever before. Evanston has a huge void when it comes to quality preschool programs and ECDC has the potential to fill this void with the expansion. They also have a unique opportunity to move their work to scale with the partnership of the Boys and Girls Club of Evanston. The influence of their quality program can continue all the way into the middle school years!

I encourage you to strongly consider this as an opportunity to give more of Evanston's youngest learners the chance to attend a quality preschool and take the first step preparedness for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

If you have any questions or would like have a more in depth conversation I welcome the opportunity! My contact information is: <u>kfessler@uinta1.com</u> or (307) 679-2734.

Sincerely,

Kimber L. Fessler Evanston Early Childhood Coalition Uinta County School Dist. #1



Lincoln Uinta Child Development Association

350 City View Drive, Suite 104 Evanston, WY 82930 (307) 789-7384

April 3, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Kendra West's proposal for CDBG funds to add preschool rooms for Evanston Child Development Center. We have worked in cooperation with ECDC for many years and have developed a great community partnership. Lincoln Uinta Child Development Association – Evanston works closely with ECDC to provide preschool opportunities to children in our community. Teachers from both agencies work in cooperation to meet the individual needs of all children and families.

Research shows that the majority of brain development occurs by the age of five. Developmentally appropriate early learning opportunities are essential in order for our children to be "ready to learn" by the time they begin kindergarten.

More preschool classrooms will only help benefit our community. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

OUN

Hana Norris Lincoln Uinta Child Development Association ECSE, Regular Education Coordinator 307-799-5003 hnorris@lucda.org

Senator Bernadine Craft Minority Whip Wyoming Senate Senate District 12 P.O. Box 63 • Rock Springs, WY 82902



business (307) 382-1607 email Bernadine.Craft@wyoleg.gov

November 7, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce

Dear Ms. Robbins and Members of the Wyoming Business Council:

Please allow me to share with you my strong support for the "Community Development Block Grant" and the "Community Enhancement Grant" applications being submitted by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. Through a partnership with the City of Rock Springs, the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking to provide handicap accessibility for both the current building and its adjacent park, as well as renovate and expand the existing building. As a Rock Springs native, and as someone who has been actively involved with the Rock Springs Chamber for many years, I am intimately acquainted with the inadequacies of the current building. The "Yellow Shed" has served the Chamber and the community well for the past thirty two years, but the expanding demands placed upon the Chamber make the current space increasingly outdated, inconvenient and unsuitable.

I believe it important to note that the Rock Springs Chamber building is visited annually by 25,000 individuals; a single high day of 700 visitors was noted this past July, 2013. The Chamber currently serves as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County, and fields an average of 75-100 business inquiries annually. Given that the Chamber is obviously the hub for information regarding Sweetwater County, and is frequently the initial impression individuals receive of Sweetwater County, it would appear to be expedient to provide resources to enhance both the operations and the aesthetic appeal of the Chamber building.

The current building is not ADA compliant, and is operating with the original roof and mechanical/electrical systems; it is not capable of addressing the ever expanding staff, public, membership and business needs of our growing community.

Given that the current Chamber building is located in a city park, I applaud the Chamber for taking a broader and longer term approach to its expansion project through the inclusion of upgrades designed to enhance usage of the public space adjacent to the Chamber. I endorse this project enthusiastically and without reservation.

Sincerely, uadin indine L. Craft, Ph.D. NCC

WWW.WYOLEG.GOV

Representative Allen M. Jaggi Wyoming House of Representatives House District 19 P.O. Box 326 Lyman, WY 82937



home (307) 786-2817 email Allen.Jaggi@wyoleg.gov

October 30, 2013

Wyoming Business Council,

As a legislator representing part of Sweetwater County, I have had many occasions to visit many places in Rock Springs. As I have attended meetings, visited businesses and constituents, I have often driven past the present Chamber of Commerce. As I drive past I am glad to have the visible sight, easy access, and feel it draws many visitors to come in and get information about Sweetwater County and Southwest Wyoming. But I am very glad to write a letter in support of the grants to make the chamber of commerce a way more inviting place for our visitors and residents to stop and get information and be ADA compliant. The present building is small, outgrown and outdated, not as appealing as a new building would be(old one built in early 1980's), and would have way better parking and a place to let small children unwind as the adults gather information for, hopefully, a continued stay in Sweetwater County. As I have attended meeting in the present building it is apparent that a bigger and more spacious display area is needed and better meeting rooms. The whole building while having served and kept nice for many years is not what we would like to have our visitor's experience. These two grants would allow the chamber to really be more inviting for visitors, for business meetings, and be able to give information about Sweetwater County and South west Wyoming.

I hope this gives a few reasons why I feel these grants would really be a wise use of our state money to enhance tourism and economic growth in southwest Wyoming.

Thanks for your consideration,

Allen Jaggi

WWW.WYOLEG.GOV

Senator John M. Hastert Minority Caucus Chairman Wyoming Senate Senate District 13 P.O. Box 472 • Green River, WY 82935



home (307) 871-1001 email John-Hastert@wyoleg.gov

### November 08, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council South Central Region 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### Dear Pat,

I am writing in strong support of the renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex. The Rock Springs Chamber has always played a vital role in promoting and assisting with the needs of local businesses and tourism in Sweetwater County.

Potential business investors and tourists, many times, get their "first impression" of Rock Springs from their visit to our Chamber office. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the centerpiece of our community and we need to present ourselves in an esthetically pleasing manner, with modern design and conveniences that reflect our local cultural and environmental landscape.

Sweetwater County is dependent on business growth and tourism to sustain our economy and vitality into the next generation and with the Rock Springs Chamber being the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County it makes it essential that we support the necessary enhancements to this facility.

The Rock Springs Chamber is financially sound and has the resources for the matching requirements of the grant. The current building (which has been occupied since 1981 by the Chamber) is paid off but its roof is at the end of its life. The current facility or the "yellow shed" does not have room to allow for the staff capacity that is needed to handle the amount of business inquiries or to meet the demands of the tourist traffic it faces on a day to day basis. Since the current facility is in a high traffic area there is a tremendous need for restrooms, a secure playground area, and expanded pet area. These and many other reasons make the grant for the enhancement of our Chamber not only essential, but also a sound investment for Rock Springs. This will ensure our long-lasting and sustained viability to our community and the state of Wyoming.

Please help us provide a safe functional environment for the employees, and a welcoming, pleasing stop for all tourists that travel our way. We want them to have a long lasting, positive memory of Rock Springs and the great state of Wyoming. Thank you for your consideration and please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,

John M. Hastert Wyoming Senate-13

### WWW.WYOLEG.GOV



Senator Stan Cooper Wyoming Senate Senate District 14

District Address 417 Ages Street Kemmerer, WY 83101 307-877-6450 scooperwy@gmail.com

Committees Minerals, Business and Economic Development

Thensportation, Highways and Military Affairs

Wygming Legislature Online

http://legisweb.state.wy.us

October 31, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attention: Pat Robins Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902

RE: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Pat:

This letter is written in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce grant applications for a Community Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant.

The Community Block Grant funds will be used for a very much needed and required handicap accessible Chamber office building and parking area. The Community Enhancement Grant funds will be used to renovate and expand the existing Chamber office building to provide for an enhanced level of services to local businesses, the public, and visitors to the community.

This is a joint and cooperative project with the City of Rock Springs. The current Chamber facility has been serving the Rock Springs community for the past 32 years. The community has grown considerably in all these years and continues to grow and there is real need for this expansion project. The facility is located on a main thoroughfare within the community and provides an excellent location for serving the public and visitors and with sufficient area for this proposed expansion.

The expansion project will allow for a more business friendly facility. The current facility is often referred to by locals as the "yellow shed" and a more business like appearance that portrays a positive light for the community and visitors will certainly be beneficial. The project will also allow for more effective use of staff and their time along with upgrades for more efficient, lower operating cost mechanical and electrical equipment. The project also proposes to bring the office facility and adjoining playground and picnic area up to ADA Code compliant standards.

The Chamber is the only economic development organization serving the Rock Springs area and the current building was not built with this added responsibility for staffing and additional office space in mind at the time.

The Chamber has the ability to access funds for a cash match for the grant requirements.

I would appreciate your positive consideration of these worthy grant applications by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely, ton Sen. Stan Cooper SD 14



WYOMING HOUSE DISTRICT 48

November 10, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Greeting Pat,

I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their attempts to better serve the businesses and public of Sweetwater County and Rock Springs. The Chamber is seeking two grants to improve their current facilities. The role of the Chamber in our community is vital to growth and service to locals and tourists. There current location is a convenient location that is paid for and has been utilized by the Chamber since 1981. The proposed improvements are beneficial to commerce, recreation, safty and quality of life in our area. I would like to urge you to consider some of the impacts of the proposed upgrades to the facility. The upgrade in the facilities would accomplish multiple goals:

1. The upgrades would bring the current building into ADA compliance and replace obsolete infrastructure.

a) All the mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 and will need replaced eventually

b) The roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life

c) The proposal would add a park playground/picnic pavilions with ADA compliant access

d) Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

2. The upgrades would allow for better customer service and a better experience for visitors.

a) More area for staff to conduct operations and ticket sales/ more efficient use of staff time

b) The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives

c) An expanded pet area with a more modern and business-like appearance

The upgrades would allow businesses and the community to better benefit from the services already offered by the Chamber.

- a) Better meeting rooms/ more room for the Business Development Program
- b) The Chamber is a gateway to the community and is often the first impression that visitors have
- c) The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

Please consider the impact that the Chamber currently has on our community and the positive results of the Chamber being able to better preform the services that they already offer. If you have any questions about my feelings on the Chamber or their desire to improve, please contact me.

Best Regards,

Whe Blus

Representative Mark Baker

HOUSE DISTRICT 48 • P. O. Box 3266 • Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902 TELEPHONE (307) 371-5113 • E-MAIL Mark.Baker@wyoleg.gov • WEB SITE www.wyoleg.gov



Representative John L. Freeman Wyoming House of Representatives **House District 60** 

**District Address** 2340 North Carolina Way Green River, WY 82935 307-875-7378 freeman@ewyoming.com

> Committees Education



Wyoming Business Council Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rocks Springs, WY 82901

November 11, 2013

Dear Pat.

I would like to voice my support for the proposed update and expansion of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

When the current building was completed in 1981, the RS Chamber of Commerce served a much smaller community. Over the years, the mission of the Chamber has expanded from community promotion to include economic development and business development. With additional commitments came increased staff and activity within the building. The current building is busting at the seams. More space and the proposed additions of public restrooms, a children's playground, ticket booths, and display areas will make the building and grounds area more functional and appealing to area residents and the visitors to our county.

Building a suitable building for a highly functioning organization just makes sense. In both my professional and political roles, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has frequently been able to provide me with the information or services I needed or connect me with the people and organizations that I wanted to work with. The Rock Springs Chamber is known for building positive relationships and helping advance the goals of its partners. The Chamber has always represented the City and County well. I believe that the building expansion is appropriate and will greatly benefit the City of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

Respectfully,

John L. Freeman





October 30, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208B Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Community Enhancement Grant

To Whom It May Concern,

It is without reservation that the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board (SWCTTB) fully supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's application for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant to renovate and expand the existing building in order to provide a higher level of service to the public.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce (RSCC) serves as the gateway to the community and is therefore the first impression of Rock Springs to our visitors. This gives the Chamber a unique opportunity to promote Sweetwater County and provide information to tourists and travelers coming through the area. The renovated building will provide a more efficient and visually attractive center for community and visitor functions. Additionally, the project will be a joint effort between the RSCC and the City of Rock Springs, as the renovation will include additional upgrades and greater utilization of the public space next to the Chamber of Commerce.

The RSCC serves 25,000 tourists annually and had a single day high of 700 visitors in July of 2013. They provide information to an average of 75-100 businesses per year in addition to facilitating ticket sales for community events and directing visitors to sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming. The current building was not intended to house required staff or accommodate visitor traffic and needs to be expanded in order to meet the needs of our growing community.

Should you have any questions on the position of the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board concerning this project or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (307) 382.2538.

Sincerely.

Bartett

≟énissa J. Bartlett Executive Director Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism Board

Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Jourism Board

404 N Street, Suite 304 . Rock Springs, WY 82901

Phone: 307.382.2538 Fax: 307.382.3095 www.tourwyoming.com

office of tourism

5611 High Plains Rd + Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307-777-7777 + Fax: 307-777-2877 wyomingtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor Diane Shober Executive Director

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

It has been brought to my attention that the Rock Springs Chamber is seeking grants to assist in remodeling and expanding the existing facility, currently known as "The Yellow Shed." On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism I would like to offer my full support of this worthy project.

An updated facility will provide many positives to the communing, allowing staff to assist the visitors in a professional manner, while showcasing the area's beauty and attractions with the assistance of appealing displays. The proposed facility will be ADA compliant and will offer community meeting space. An updated facility will leave the visitor with a positive impression of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, while offering the staff pride in their workplace.

I'm sure you are aware of the important role that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce shares with Wyoming Office of Tourism in contributing to Wyoming's economic fiber. A vibrant tourism industry is a growth industry that benefits us all.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 307.777.2808 or diane.shober@wvo.gov.

Warm regards,

sin

Diane Shober Executive Director

DS/vm

Wyoming will always be Forever West



White Mountain Mall 2441 Foothill Blvd, Rock Springs, WY 02001 T:307-382-660 F:307-362-4103 ROUSEPROPERTIES.COM | NYSE | RSE

October 21, 2013

TO:	Pat Robbins
	Wyoming Business Counsel
RE:	Letter of Support for Communi

Letter of Support for Community Development Block and Community Enhancement Grants

I'm writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs applications for a Community Development Block Grant and a Community Enhancement Grant. The Chamber of Commerce building sits in one of the most visible locations for visitors entering our city and the current lack of facilities such as handicap accessibility for the building, public restrooms, park playground/picnic pavilion, and a dated building are not the first impression that we should be presenting to our visitors.

These two grants would allow the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs to provide amenities and services that travelers have come to expect. Along with the park upgrades the building remodel/expansion will enable the Chamber of Commerce to better serve visitors by providing information in a visually appealing and interesting way, and also enable the staff to provide better service.

I fully support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their efforts to obtain these grants and create the environment for our visitors that will represent Rock Springs in the best possible light.

Regards,

elen Debbie Orr

General Manager

WWW.ROUSEPROPERTIES.COM | NYSE: RBE





October 21, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter as my enthusiastic support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the core of this community through its services and activities for local residents and visitors alike.

The current location is exceptional as it is located at the convergence of many traffic patterns; however, the outdated facility is limited by size and accessibility, which directly limits many of the services that are needed by this community. The building has served this community since 1981. The population and business environments have expanded geometrically since that time. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has kept up with these changes, but the facilities are no longer adequate for the volume and variety necessary to serve this dynamic community.

With its location next to a city park, the new Chamber Visitor's Center will enhance the services available to people exploring southwest Wyoming. Public restrooms will meet a need that has gone long unaddressed. The newly ADA-compliant facility will provide visitor information, meeting spaces, and an expanded pet area. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to provide many services beyond a typical Chamber operation. In fact, the Chamber is the only true economic development entity in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project for our community. The businesses in Rock Springs are dedicated and generous in supporting this city and the Chamber's updated facilities will help to recruit and retain the future employees that are so vital to our expanding workforce.

Sincerely,

Karla Leach, President



An Equal Opportunity Employer



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I write to you in support for the inclined grant the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce seeks to be awarded for the remodel of their existing building and the green belt area closely surrounding. The Chamber of Commerce continues to be the front door to the city of Rock Springs, providing services and events for all visitors, entrepreneurs, and local citizens.

The Chamber of Commerce is persistently expanding and offering more services as technology advances, and events progress on an annual occurrence. It is incumbent that the Chamber keeps up with the times and adapts accordingly, enabling them to offer such assistance for the great people of this community, as well as the increased activity taking place year round.

With the expansion of the building, the newly ADA-compliant facility will provide an updated, national code abiding opportunity for visitors and local citizens to explore the needed information that the Chamber works to improve and promote on a daily basis. This expansion will also allow the adequate space needed for the recently extended staff to continue offering an honest, and sole, economic development entity to the city of Rock Springs, WY.

I appreciate your consideration for this grant application. This is a prodigious opportunity for not only the Chamber of Commerce, but all the businesses and members who support our local community and strive to make the great place we call home a remarkable place to live, recreate, and prosper.

Sincerely,

eatar D. Ulest

Keaton D. West Sales Director

PLUMBING 

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SHEET METAL 1130 SIGNAL DRIVE ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82901 (307) 362-7550 Fax (307) 362-8721 Serving Southwest Wyoming Since 1963



October 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins;

The Rock Springs economy is growing stronger every day. There are more than 600 businesses in Rock Springs with information given an average of 75-100 business inquires per year by our local Chamber of Commerce. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

Businesses range from large national retail and restaurant chains, to locally owned and operated boutiques and businesses, as well as a full spectrum of home office, flex and industrial.

Businesses are being drawn to our community because of our tremendous rate of growth and the affluence of our market. The community's home town charm, the beauty of the surrounding open space and our close proximity to two major markets – Denver & Salt Lake City are also big attractions.

In Rock Springs we have an extremely supportive local government. A Chamber of Commerce that cares about the business community of Rock Springs, the Chamber Advocates the interests of local business to government organizations and provides cooperative programs such as marketing, technology and public relations to benefit local businesses, which they could not afford individually. Creating a healthy economic-business climate that contributes to the quality of life in Rock Springs.

The Chamber is currently in need of a new building the building is outdated.

There are many reasons that make The Rock Springs Chamber worthy of a new building. The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1939 with a simple but very important objective, to support and promote local businesses. Over seventy four years later, that simple mission still drives everything they do for the community.
The current building was built in 1981 and mechanical and electrical are original from 1981 there is a need for more efficient lower operational costs. Roof is original to 1981 and it is at the end of its life The Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area.

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards Safety for staff and visitors, the building needs to be up to ADA code. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff needed today. The current building was not built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The community needs an area to address the growing needs of their startup business.

I would like to encourage the Wyoming Business Council to support the endeavors that the Rock Springs Chamber is in need of. They need your support. Rock Springs has a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

I encourage the Wyoming Business Council to make a difference for the Rock Springs Chamber.

Thank you for your time, if you need to speak with me further or have questions please contact me at the address below

Sincerely: Matins Jerri Nations

Terri Nations Rock Springs Main Street/TRA 501 South Main Historical Teals Depot Rock Springs, WY 82001 307-3524-1334 terri nations@rswy.net Follow us on Fracebook



Taco Time 225 Aspen Way Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a local business person in the community for the past 40 years and a Rock Springs native I am writing this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber office in Rock Springs is terribly outdated. The current facilities for community use as well as the lack of display room for the many gems of our city and county are just not adequate. Rock Springs is a community that is growing at a 3% rate annually with the average age of 31.5 years; we need a facility that can grow with these demographics. The current building is referred to as the "Yellow Shed"; with its prime location as the Gateway to the Community the building needs to be modernized and more inviting to our visitors. As a past board member we were faced with mechanical and electrical improvements for the building that are all original since 1981, just to make the building more comfortable and inviting to the business community and visitors. I ask that the Wyoming Business Council strongly consider granting the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce project. The money from these grants would provide for an ADA compliant building and a facility that is run with the upmost professionalism, with 25,000 tourists and locals benefitting from this project.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Staley and Leland V. Statey

Sweetwater County School District Number One 307-352-3400 307-352-3411 FAX

# R

P.O. Box 1089 Rock Springs, WY 82902-1089

> Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools

Justin Spicer Chairman of the Board

> Brady Baldwin Vice - Chairman

Leonard W. Hay Clerk

Robert J. Ramsey Treasurer

> Trustees Emma Waldner Joyce Corcoran Max Mickelson

November 8, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Dear Pat Robbins:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce. I would strongly encourage the Wyoming Business Council to consider their grant applications for the Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant for renovations and expansions to the existing Chamber building and adjacent park.

The Chamber building is centrally located and still remains the ideal site. It continues to serve as a hub for visitors and tourists and is often times their first impression of our community. The current building, which has housed the Chamber of Commerce since 1981, and the adjacent park would greatly benefit from the Community Development Block Grant by providing handicap accessibility as well as bringing it up to ADA code.

The Community Enhancement Grant will be used for the renovation and expansion of the existing building, which is needed, due to the rapid growth of our community and the high volume of visitors and tourists that are served annually. These renovations will afford the Chamber the ability to highlight Rock Springs and Sweetwater County as well as modernize the building in order to better serve the employees, community and tourists.

I fully support the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in their grant applications. The renovations and expansions that will come from these grants will benefit the entire community.

Sincerely

Mathew Neal Superintendent of Schools





3320 Yellowstone Road, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307.352.6789 Fax: 866.899.6787

October 29, 2013

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council c/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

Please accept this letter of support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant applications. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce plays a very important role in our community and specifically for the Sweetwater Events Complex. Not only do they serve as the only economic development group in the area, but as our visitor's center too; they literally are the 'front door' to Rock Springs for many businesses, organizations and visitors.

By the very nature of our business, we work closely with the Chamber of Commerce to attract new events, promote our area and enhance existing events. To that end, the Chamber of Commerce routinely serves as a ticket outlet for our events. (It should be noted they are THE ticket outlet for nearly all events taking place in Rock Springs). As our events continue to grow, the Chamber has seen similar growth in visitors looking for tickets. So much so that one day in July they had in excess of 700 individuals in their office to purchase tickets! A remodel of the building would allow residents and visitors to more easily purchase tickets while maintaining a safe working environment for the Chamber staff. Additionally, with that many people purchasing tickets, visitors seeking information about our area may inadvertently be turned away; not a good first impression of us or Wyoming in general.

As mentioned, the Chamber serves as a 'front door' for us, but isn't always the most welcoming host. While they do the best they can in their present building, the facility doesn't feature public restrooms nor is it ADA compliant – keys to being truly gracious to our visitors.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce obviously has a long-standing presence in our community. The building they presently occupy has been paid for and they've developed a substantial reserve to help match grant funds. The board has proven their ability to serve the area well and will continue to do so. The grants will help them do so in an easier and more welcoming fashion.

I appreciate your consideration of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's grant applications. This is a great opportunity for our entire community to improve our business climate as well as continuing to serve our residents.

Warmly,

Lloyd Executive Director

w sweetwaterevents of



October 24, 2013

Wyoming Business Council Attn: Ms. Pat Robbins 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please accept this letter as our support for the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Visitor Center,

If the Visitor Center had a more modern and business like appearance it would help portray our community in a more professional and positive light. The Chamber provides information to our job candidates that visit our area from other states. It is sometimes difficult to recruit engineering talent for our remote location in Sweetwater County. We rely on the Chamber to provide information to job candidates and help to convey information on the many tourist sights in our area and to promote the positive aspects of working and living in Wyoming.

The Chamber is the gateway to our community and in many instances is the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. The Rock Springs Visitor Center is outdated and the office can become very crowded. During one of our visits the lobby had other customers so we waited outside until some of the customers left so we could enter the building. During our visit the staff had to go downstairs to obtain information and left the counter unattended. If the Visitor Center was set up in a more organized appealing manner it would help to provide a more positive first impression.

We appreciate your consideration for this project that will benefit our businesses, the community and help to attract future talent to our area.

Sincerely im Ma

im Maxfield, SPHR Human Resources Manager Solvay Chemicals, Inc

Solvay Soda Ash Joint Venture, 400 County Road 85, PO Box 1167, Green River, WY 82935 • 307-875-6500 www.solvay.com



#### October 22, 2013

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Dave Hanks

Subject: Renovation of Rock Springs Chamber Building

#### Dave,

Please accept this letter as a letter of support for the renovation of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. I have been a Chamber board member for the past three years and have seen the value that the Chamber brings to the community. The growth of the community and business in the area has loaded the existing facility to its limit of efficient operation. As the main outlet of information for potential businesses and tourists to the area, it is vital that the Chamber can take care of these information requests quickly and completely. New staff has been hired to help but there just is not enough space in the current building. The current staff is extremely professional however their building is out of date and needs updating inside and out to extend that professionalism of the Chamber. Simplot Phosphates and myself support this renovation project.

Sincerely,

Eric Schillie Plant Manager Simplot Phosphates 307-382-1542



October 23, 2013

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BANK

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

RE: Application for Community Development Block Grant Application for Community Enhancement Grant

Dear Pat;

In order to allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to provide a higher level of service to our public please support the approval for the above grants to help improve and enhance the current chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce functions as the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County providing information to an average of 75-100 business per year. In addition the Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually with a single day high of 700 visitors in July 2013.

By supporting the above grants you will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to improve our display area in a more organized/visually appealing manner which will better serve our members ability to advertise their goods and services. The grants will allow the Chamber to provide ADA public restrooms as a service to travelers, and also allow the new and improved facility to be ADA compliant, while providing improved facilities for community and member meetings.

As the current building has remained largely unchanged since 1981 it is time for our facility to look like what our membership is – a forward thinking, proactive organization, that is proud to be a part of Rock Springs and the state of Wyoming.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely;

1. Walke

Gary L. Watkins Rock Springs Market Manager Rocky Mountain Bank

ROCK SPRINGS OFFICE phone 307 362 1234 fax 307 362 6284 PO BOX 1770 ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82902 215 D St. / P.O. Box 98 Rock Springs, WY 82902-0098 307-362-3736 E-mail: riclee@rocketminer.com

**General Manager Rick Lee** 

www.rocketminer.com

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

October 30, 2013

Dear Pat,

I gladly offer a letter of support to be included in the grant application for the two grants that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is applying for; the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

CKET-MIN

The need for development and renovation is great in both of these projects. The Chamber is an important resource for economic development and visitor relations and should be housed in a modern and inviting professional facility. While the current structure is functional, it is not optimal. I have not seen the Chamber of Commerce Building change since I was in Jr. High, over 31 years ago, with anything more than paint jobs.

The increased volume of business and visitors to our Chamber and the need for the Chamber to remain inviting and professional to visitors and potential community businesses warrants the need to update our local facility as it is, in its own standing, a representation of Rock Springs.

Information from the Chamber of Commerce indicates that there is an average of 25,000 individuals served by the Chamber annually. These tourists and locals deserve a pleasant experience in whatever way they use the Chamber of Commerce. An inviting and professional facility and park area will enhance a positive experience and encourage visitors to begin or continue to do business in Rock Springs, strengthening the economy of our community. In essence, investment in the Chamber is a good investment in which we can expect immediate dividends.

It is a challenge for communities to keep up with the ever advancing and always changing business climate. Innovations and business practices are constantly pushing business people to adapt to modernization just to remain relevant.

It is my hope that we can help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, as an important community business; remain relevant by supporting this grant application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

20

Rick Lee General Manager Rocket-Miner 307-362-3736 (Phone) 307-382-2763 (Fax) riclee@rocketminer.com





October 25, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council c/o Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 398 Rock Springs, WY 82902

Dear Ms. Robbins:

On behalf of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and our Chief Executive Officer, Gerard Klein, I am submitting this letter in support of the efforts of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to remodel and expand their facility at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, Wyoming. We agree the enhanced facilities will assist with the following:

- More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales
- More inviting and business-like façade/ modernize outside appearance of the building The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County
- Ability to highlight Rock Springs/Sweetwater County better with room for displays
- · Portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light
- · Better meeting rooms for member and community use
- Expand the pet area
- More efficient use of staff time not having to run downstairs and being away from the public areas
- Add a park playground/picnic pavilions and ADA compliant access Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards
- The building is outdated The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981
- Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area
- Safety for staff and visitors
- More room for Business Development Program
- Acts as the Hub for directing visitors to our tourist sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is the only economic development organization in Sweetwater County. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually. We have a more diverse community that requires different levels and types of service.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Please feel free to contact me at 307-352-8413 or irichardson@sweetwatermemorial.com. Mr. Klein may be reached at 307-352-8411 or gklein@sweetwatermemorial.com.

Sincerely. lah.

Irene Richardson Chief Financial Officer

1200 College Drive • Rock Springs, WY 82901 • 307-362-3711 • Fax 307-352-8180 www.sweetwatermemorial.com



Carl R. Demshar, Jr., Mayor 212 D Street, Rock Springs, WY 82901 Office [307] 352-1510 • FAX [307] 352-1516 carl\_demshar@rswy.net

October 30, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins, Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Re: Letter of Support for Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building Renovations

Dear Ms-Robbins: PAT!

I am writing this letter to show my support for the proposed renovation of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building. The Chamber has been using the existing building since 1981, and since that time, the Chamber has continued to serve more and more entities needing business information, or visitors needing general information about Rock Springs and the surrounding area. Currently, the Chamber serves as the "Gateway to the Rock Springs Community" with approximately 25,000 tourists and locals served on an annual basis. In addition, the Chamber supplies local pertinent information to approximately 75-100 business inquiries per year. To sum up the importance of the Chamber to Rock Springs and the surrounding area, the Chamber acts as a "hub" for directing visitors to tourists sights in Sweetwater County and Western Wyoming.

At these current service levels, the Chamber has simply outgrown the existing building. The existing building was not designed or built to house the staffing levels needed today, nor was it built to handle the amount of public use that it currently receives. The proposed renovations will enhance the Chamber's ability to grow the services required of locals and tourists alike. In addition, the renovations will update existing electrical and mechanical functions, which will allow the Chamber to reduce daily operating costs since the new systems will be more effective and efficient.

The Chamber of Commerce plays an integral role in the daily lives of the citizens of Rock Springs, in supplying information to prospective businesses, and in making visitors to the area feel welcome. An up-to-date, modern building will only enhance the Chamber's ability to provide these services. I wholeheartedly support this project and the proposed renovations to the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Building.

Yours very truly,

Carl R. Demshar, Jr. Mayor, City of Rock Springs



Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Ms. Robbins,

On behalf of Flaming Gorge Corporation and as a Past President and current member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, I fully support the two grants needed to remodel the current Chamber building.

The Rock Springs Chamber and its employees are a very valuable resource for my business. They provide potential visitors leads to our facility and the Flaming Gorge from their small building located on Dewar Drive. This facility needs to be upgraded and be more inviting for visitors seeking information. It is important that the RS Chamber office be modernized and upgraded not only for visitors but for the current staffing needs. It is crucial that public restroom facilities that are ADA compliant are available to the public.

We truly believe that the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce represents not only the City of Rock Springs but SW Wyoming and the Flaming Gorge. The proposed upgrade and expansions are crucial to its continued success. We hope you will accept their grant application for the much needed upgrades to the existing Chamber building.

Sincerely MynJaylor N. Taylor by 15

## LEMICH LAW CENTER

GEORGE LEMICH, P.C. Also Admitted in Colorado

JON AIMONE	205 C Street
	Rock Springs, WY 82901
KARI MONEYHUN Also Admitted in Washington	Telephone (307) 382-6600
	Toll Free (800) 551-6604
	Facsimile (307) 382-4989

November 5, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

## Re: Letter of Support: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Robbins:

I am writing to express my support for the renovation project proposed by the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the City of Rock Springs. I strongly support the Chamber's applications for the Community Development Block Grant and the Community Enhancement Grant.

The Chamber of Commerce has served this community for the past thirty-two years, but with the growth and expansion of our community, the Chamber has outgrown its current facilities. The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually. The current building was not built to handle the staff levels needed today or the amount of public use that it currently receives. With our community growing at an annual rate of 3%, new facilities would allow the Chamber to better meet the needs of the community and better portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light.

Regards,

George Lemich

km

November 4, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Rock Springs Green River 1660 Sunset Dr. Rock Springs, WY 82901 USA 1: 307.362.9200 fi 307.922 7468 1.800.HOLIDAY historess.com



ROCK SPRINGS GREEN RIVER

I am writing this letter in support of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce remodel project. I feel that the this remodel is necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to continue providing the level of service that they provide and will allow them room to grow with the community.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce takes on many additional duties within the community. They are the Rock Springs area visitor center and ticket distributor as well as normal Chamber operations. The proposed remodel will allow more area for the staff to conduct visitor center operations. This will highlight the community in a much better light to our visitors as the remodeled building will have a more modern professional appearance. The added room will also allow more materials about Sweetwater County to be displayed in an organized and visually appealing way. The Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 people annually. They need a larger more professional area to continue this level of service, especially with the 3% growth rate that Rock Springs is experiencing.

The Chamber of Commerce has been in the "yellow shed" since 1981 with very little modification since that time. The roof is at the end of its life and should be replaced before it causes damage to the interior. The building itself is outdated. The electrical and mechanical are original and need to be updated to more energy efficient lower operational cost mechanicals.

Since 1981, the ADA laws have changed. The Department of Justice published the new laws that have very specific rules regarding public places. Companies are no longer "grandfathered" from these laws as they were prior to March 2012. Not only do the public areas have to be ADA compliant, but the staff work areas as well. The current layout of the building has the staff going up and down stairs often to retrieve items that have to be stored downstairs as there is not room upstairs. This would make employing a person with ADA needs almost impossible. Also located in the basement is the meeting room. Again, there is not any ADA access to this area of the current design of the building. The current proposal allows for ADA compliant access to the new restrooms and the building.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has been in its existing business since 1981 without any updates or modifications. The current building is small and does not meet the ADA laws effective March 2012. The roof, electrical and mechanical all need to be updated. The "yellow shed" needs a more professional modern look to represent our town in a positive light to travelers and potential new business. As a business that relies on business and leisure travel, I strongly support a remodel of the Rock Springs Chamber/Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

und se Tricia Green, CHA

General Manager, Holiday Inn Express

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## HALLIBURTON

1801 Blairtown Road + Rock Springs, WY 82901 PHONE 307.352.8610 + FAX 307.362.0283

November 8, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Dr., Ste. 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As a Member of the Rock Springs Chamber Council, I am providing this letter in support of the grant to renovate the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center. This facility provides services to visitors and local residents and is vital in our community as a resource.

As a Business in this community, Halliburton supports the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Complex renovation. The Complex, also known as the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor's Center, has operated in the current building since 1981. First impressions are important for a community. The Chamber Complex is one of the first impressions any visitor has of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County. With over 25,000 visitors stopping by annually, the opportunity for our Chamber to provide these visitors with information on our community from an Inviting, Modern, and ADA Compliant building is needed. Many of our new employees looking to relocate to our community use this Complex as a resource for relocation.

Thank you for your consideration of this project for our community. This renovation will be a win-win for the City of Rock Springs and for Sweetwater County.

Sincerely,

faul D. Thorner

Paul B. Moorman HR Supervisor Rock Springs District Rock Springs, WY





Page 37 of 56 Wyoming Business Council–May 29, 2014



Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council

Dear Mrs. Robbins,

The Green River Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors supports the City of Rock Springs and Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce application for a Wyoming Business Council Community Development Block Grant and Community Enhancement Grant to provide handicap accessibility for the Chamber building and renovate and expand the existing building. The Chamber has operated the current building since 1981. The roof is also original to the same year and is at the end of its life. The renovation will provide a more inviting façade and modernize the outside appearance of the building. It will also look more business-like and provide better meeting space for member and community use.

The Chamber serves as a visitor center and ticket outlet for the community as well. Renovating the space will provide more area for the staff to operate their ticket sales and allow for the visitor information to be displayed in a more organized and visually appealing way. The current building was not built to house the amount of staff levels needed today nor was the building built to handle the amount of traffic that it currently receives. Renovating and expanding the building will fix this problem and allow the staff to become more efficient.

As a Chamber of Commerce, we can fully understand the need for the Rock Springs Chambers' building renovation as explained above. The Board would appreciate your consideration of this grant application for the City of Rock Springs and the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely on behalf of the Green River Chamber Board,

Rebecca Briesmaster **Executive Director** 

## Your Business & Community Advocate

800.FL.GORGE • 307.875.5711 p • 307.872.6192 f 1155 W. Flaming Gorge Way • Green River • Wyoming 82935 www.grchamber.com • Rebecca@grchamber.com



P: 307-872-3223 F: 307-872-3225 E: <u>ghsc@sweet.wy.us</u>

Golden Hour Senior Center 550 Uinta Dr., Suite A Green River, WY 82935

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I support the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rock Springs in their request for funding through the Wyoming Business Council for complex renovations at the current Rock Springs Chamber site.

Accessible accommodations are imperative to city residents and travelers from out of town who are senior citizens or those who have disabilities. Both live and travel in the community and this would encourage utilization of resources and allow participation in daily operations, activities, events, and promotions. It will also help to ensure that travelers and patrons are met with a friendly atmosphere when visiting the area or stopping by to purchase tickets for the many events that take place in the community. In many cases, a visit to the Chamber of Commerce is the first stop made by a potential business owner or future resident and sets the tone as to whether they should pursue their endeavors in the area.

Renovations to expand the existing Chamber of Commerce are much needed to accommodate the growing community. With a single day high of 700 visitors in July, 2013, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is asked to reside as the doorway, information center, and ticket outlet for the community. Many businesses would like to use the chamber as a local meeting point to plan and discuss upcoming events and activities; however there is not space currently available for this use.

The Rock Springs Chamber serves as an active marketing tool to its large local and out of area membership and business associations. The location is prominent and is a natural stopping point for visitors coming into the area. Bringing the building into compliance and providing visible signage, operable restrooms, and an updated information center will serve the community for years to come.

I would be happy to address any questions you may have regarding my position in this effort.

Thank you,

Beth Whitman, Executive Director Golden Hour Senior Center



Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson 440 Uinta Drive Green River, WY 82935

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

November 1, 2013

Dear Ms. Robbins:

As longtime members of the Sweetwater County business community, please accept this letter expressing our support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce expansion and enhancement grants.

The Chamber not only serves the local population and over twenty-five thousand tourists annually, a large geographical area is also served either directly or indirectly. Sales to tourists significantly enhance our profitability. Anything that enhances tourist experiences is a positive factor for our business.

For travelers seeking tourism and business information, a first class experience may only be provided from a facility that portrays our area in a positive light. The public expects top notch service from the staff, a business-like appearance, public restrooms and a nice place for Rover to mark his approval!

The Chamber serves an invaluable service in business recruitment. Any savvy decision maker will check out the Chamber first hand for information. The building should reflect the success of our area. It is difficult to attract new businesses when operating from a building that implies desperation!

After spending that last year building our own dealership, dealing with the strict current guidelines regarding electrical and mechanical equipment, we are very sensitive to the reasons for updated building codes. A public building that is not ADA compliant is a law suit waiting to happen.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our recommendation for grant approval.

Sincerely

Dennis Laughlin, General Manager Dave and Lynda Laughlin, Owners Flaming Gorge Harley-Davidson

Pat Robbins

Wyoming Business Council

As a member of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and as a past board member, I would like to support the remodel and expansion of the current building located at 1897 Dewar Drive in Rock Springs, WY.

The location of the building is ideal for visitors and residents, however the general floor plan is no longer functional. In 1981 the Chamber of Commerce moved to this building. In the last 32 years, the use of the building and its surrounding area have changed greatly.

The business of promoting our city, county, and state is done from this building. This is sometimes the first impression visitors have of Rock Springs. We need to portray our Visitor Center and community in a positive light. The building is outdated; the inside **and** outside needs to be more inviting and business-like. The building will first need to be brought up to ADA code. There needs to be public restrooms that meet ADA standards. Visitor information needs to be displayed in a more organized and appealing way. The pet area outside needs to be expanded. A park/picnic/playground pavilion needs to be added to allow visitors a rest area.

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves 25,000 visitors and locals annually. And our community continues to grow at a rate of 3% annually. Therefore, the building is no longer large enough to house the director and staff, let alone any room for future expansion of staff, such as a Business Development coordinator. The electrical and mechanical operations of the building are all original from 1981. It would be prudent to incorporate energy efficient mechanics at the time of remodel. The roof is original from 1981, therefore needing replaced.

A meeting room is currently located in the basement of the building, which is away from the public area and not an efficient use of staff time. The remodel could provide better meeting rooms for member and community use with public access. A ticket window would provide safety for staff. In conclusion, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce is in need of a larger, more modern building. The current building is paid for. The Chamber has in excess of \$115,000.00 in cash as a match. They are financially sound. I would recommend approval of a grant to help the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce provide Visitor Center operations and promote our region.

**Dynamite Auction Company** 

**Margaret Gibbens** 

Margaret Libbens

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



80 WEST FLAMING GORGE WAY, SUITE 109 GREEN RIVER, WY 82935 PH: (307) 872-3890 FAX - (307) 872-3992

WALLY J. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN

JOHN K. KOLB, COMMISSIONER
GARY BAILIFF, COMMISSIONER

GARY BAILIFF, COMMISSIONE
REID WEST, COMMISSIONER

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• DON VAN MATRE, COMMISSIONER

November 5, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins South Central Regional Director Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite #208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

#### **Re: Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center Grant Applications**

Dear Ms. Robbins,

Please consider this letter our support of the grant applications for improvements to the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center in partnership with the City of Rock Springs.

The proposed project will remove handicap accessibility barriers as well as renovate and expand the existing building so that the delivery of services is improved. The Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center serves as an important hub for distributing regional economic and tourist information.

The Sweetwater County Commission supports efforts that will promote our communities and increase economic health. We encourage your approval of the grant funding requests by the Rock Springs Chamber Visitor Center.

Sincerely, Wally J. Jo

Chairman Sweetwater County Commission

cc:

Carl Demshar, Mayor, City of Rock Springs (via email) Dave Hanks, CEO, Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce (via email) November 5, 2013

To: Wyoming Business Council

Re: \*Community Block Grant

\*Community Enhancement Grant

## **Chamber of Commerce Building Expansion**

In the past thirty years the City of Rock Springs has seen extreme growth in population and size. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building has become obsolete for the size and requirements of the Community that we live in as it was built in 1981. It has now become ill-equipment to take care of the needs that the Chamber attends to.

When people drive into Rock Springs from Interstate 80, one of the first structure they see and get a first impressions of, is our Chamber office building.

Bringing the building up to ADA code is essential, along with staff's need for more space to conduct business, meetings, office and storage, restroom area, pet walking area, and having more room for visitors to sit, be served and perhaps, relax while they are in the Chamber building as should be a welcoming 'visitor center', also.

As a City Councilor for the past three years, I have dealt with the Chamber often and personally note that they are in dire need of expansion. The City of Rock Springs works hand in hand with the Chamber to provide required and requested services of the general public.

My fellow Council Members and the Mayor are all in agreement, and I feel that I can speak for them as well as myself, that it would be highly beneficial to our Community for the visibility of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to stand out to represent who we are.....a place of diverse cultures, businesses, life-styles and a great place to work, live and raise children. Page #2

Facts:

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists, visitors and locals per year.

It provides information to 75 to 100 new business inquiries per year.

It serves to answer questions of local people and businesses for those planning to come here and some to relocate. The highest reported day in 2013 was 700 individuals on one particular day in July.

The building originally was not built to house the staff that is presently at work there.

The mechanical and electrical components in the building have not been up-dated to current code to make the operations of the building cost efficient and effective.

The Chamber is the only 'economic development organization' in Sweetwater County.

Our Community is growing at a 3% rate annually.

For budgeting purposes, as a fact, the Chamber has a cash match of \$117,000.00 that can be accessed for this project.

In closing, it is hopeful that with this information pertaining to the goal of an expansion project, it is obvious to see the urgency for this development to occur. I am certain that there are many more details for support of the project that I have not mentioned in this letter.

Page #3

We greatly appreciated your consideration in bestowing upon our City and County, the ability to obtain these two essential grants. Should you wish to speak with me further on this matter, reach me at 307-382-4139 or my mobile phone, 307-389-6407.

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Belly W.

Councilor Billy Wayne Shalata – Ward I 624 "A" Street Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carl R. Demshar, Jr.; David Hank. – R.S. Chamber of Commerce;

BW/las



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

It is my pleasure to write to you in support of the grants available for the renovation and expansion of the current Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce building. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce serves as the gateway to our community and is in need of a modernized facility to provide a vibrant first impression to our 25,000 tourists and visitors yearly.

The Chamber of Commerce is often the key component of the first impression for visitors and new residents to our area. Although the current building has served the City of Rock Springs for 32 years, it was not built to handle the amount of public use or house the staff that is needed today to continue to grow. With the continuing increase in population in our thriving community, it is more difficult to keep serving the public with our limited resources. The Rock Springs Chamber acts as the main hub for directing visitors and for ticket sales for local events, which in July 2013 they had over 700 visitors in one day. The building is also outdated and no longer meets ADA code.

With the projected updates, the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce will portray a more modern and business-like appearance. The larger facility will allow for meeting rooms for member and community use, as well as will be able to highlight Sweetwater County with organized displays. The addition of public restrooms, a playground park, picnic pavilions, and a pet area, will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to better serve our visitors and our community.

Thank you for your consideration for this essential renovation that will allow the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce a higher level of service to our community.

Sincerely,

Juni

Stacy Pivic Assistant Vice President Business Banking Officer Commerce Bank of Wyoming

> 1575 Dewar Drive, Suite 100 • P.O. Box 3000 • Rock Springs, WY 82902 Phone: 307-362-4455 • Fax: 307-362-4457

Black Butte Coal Company P.O. Box 98 Point Of Rocks, Wyoming 82942 (307)382-6200 Fax: (307)352-6234



November 4, 2013

Pat Robbins Wyoming Business Council 1440Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs, WY 82901

**RE:** Black Butte Coal Company's support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce Grant Applications

Dear Pat,

As a representative of Black Butte Coal Company I would like to express my support for the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce's recent Community Grant applications. The funds applied for by the Chamber will be put to much needed use. The current Visitor Center has served the Chamber well but is in need of updating, both for functionality and for ADA compliance. For many visitors to our community the Chamber Visitor Center is the first stop they make. It needs to reflect the community. The current Visitor Center has an outdated and weathered appearance. This is not reflective of the community as it exists today. As a resident of Rock Springs for more than ten years, I have personally witnessed the city put a great deal of effort into improving the image of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County, with great results. That same level of improvement is needed at the Visitor Center.

Please feel free to contact me at 352-6206 if you have further questions or comments regarding Black Butte's support of the RSCC's grant applications.

Sincerely,

Steve Gili General Manager, Black Butte Coal Company

Enclosure:



2400 Reagan Avenue Rock Springs, WY 82901 Phone: 307-352-6737

## 10-31-13

Pat Robbins, Wyoming Business Council 1400 Dewar Drive Suite 208A Rock Springs WY 82901

Dear Ms. Robbins,

I would like to state that the Young At Heart Senior Center is in support of the grant proposal that will assist in the remodeling and expansion of the present Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce facility located at 1897 Dewar Drive. The Chamber has partnered with the City of Rock Springs to accomplish this goal of providing a higher level of service to the public.

Areas we see for intervention/benefit would be:

The Chamber is the Gateway to the Community and is therefore the first impression that visitors have of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County

More area for staff to conduct Visitor Center operations and ticket sales

Better meeting rooms for member and community use

Add a park playground/picinic pavilions and ADA compliant access

Visitor Information needs to be displayed in a more organized/visually appealing display area

Public restrooms need to be added in order to best serve travelers and meet ADA standards

More room for Business Development Program and Employee

The Chamber serves 25,000 tourists and locals annually

We are the ONLY economic development organization in Sweetwater County

The community needs an area to address the growing needs of our startup business. Our community is growing at a 3% rate annually

Thank you for your consideration of the grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Dearne Cox

Jeanine Cox, Executive Director



Friday August 30, 2013

Wyoming Business Council,

I am writing to offer my wholehearted support of the submission of the Rawlins Downtown Façade Easement Program grant through the Wyoming Business Council. Their two primary goals, promote an economically viable corridor that attracts and provides for the needs of institutions, residents, businesses and shoppers, and advocate economic development by renovating downtown buildings for currents, new or expanding business will greatly improve the quality of life in Rawlins, Sinclair and Carbon County.

It is in Sinclair's our best interest to support as many avenues as possible to create healthy social, recreational, educational and retail opportunities for the family of Sinclair. This benefits our hardworking employees, and their families, increasing options for full lives and work experiences.

The new Façade Easement Program will stimulate Carbon County's economy. The idea is innovative and creative; we applaud Rawlins DDA/Main Street and the City of Rawlins to set the tone for future communities to follow in Wyoming. Please give their application all of your thoughtful consideration.

Thank you for making this opportunity available.

Sincerely,

Soude

Steve Sondergard & Refinery Manager Sinclair Wyoming Refining Company



P.O. BOX 277, SINCLAIR, WYOMING 82334 AREA CODE (307)324-3404



January 15, 2013

Re: Letter of Support for Rawlins Main Street

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Rawlins DDA/Main Street grant application for the CDBG Grant through the Wyoming Business Council for a Façade Easement improvement project. The assistance for this project would greatly in pack the downtown district and help maintain its historic integrity by refurbishing many of the storefronts in the commercial district. I am a business and property owner in the downtown district and feel that this type of project is beneficial not only for the downtown but for the community as a whole.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robyn Taylor, GRI, CRS Broker/Owner Property Manager

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Phone: (307) 328-Home (4663) Fax; (307) 324-5712 E-mail: robyn@sagecreek\_realty.com 413 W. Cedar P.O. Box 2018 Rawlins, WY 82301



August 30, 2013

DDA Main Street Pam Thayer, Executive Director P.O. Box 1778 Rawlins, WY 82301

Dear Pam,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Carbon County Economic Development, we fully support your application to the Wyoming Business Council's Business Ready Community Grant for \$1,000,000 for the Façade Easement Program for downtown Rawlins.

The City of Rawlins and Rawlins Downtown Development Authority (DDA/Main Street) has created a unique and creative program to rehabilitate the commercial storefronts in downtown Rawlins. The program is the next component in the Downtown Development Plan to stimulate bricks and mortar redevelopment in the downtown. This program will not only revitalize the downtown, but will improve the appearance of the buildings! The funding for the Façade Easement Program will be funded with up to three grants. Downtown property owners will contribute 10% of construction costs and will meet specific criteria to participate in the program. Completion of the whole downtown revitalization will take about three years to complete.

CCEDC is excited to see the changes and beautification of downtown Rawlins. Not only will this revitalize our community, but set an example to other communities on what they can do to spruce up their buildings and downtowns! Seeing the downtown being changed is also leading to other businesses in town to update their buildings and taking pride in their appearance.

We fully support the application to WBC for the Business Ready Community Downtown Development Grant and hope it is funded.

Sincerely,

Cindy Wallace, Executive Director Carbon County Economic Development Corporation



215 West Buffalo Street Room 304 Rawlins, WY 82301

www.cowyed.net

307-324-3836 Fax: 307-324-3820 info@ccwyed.net



Rawlins DDA/Main St. P.O. Box 1778 Rawlins, WY 82301 Attn: Pam Thayer

August 29, 2013

Dear Pam,

The Wyoming Frontier Prison is in full support of the City of Rawlins BRC Downtown Development grant application for the Façade Easement Program This proposed system of building improvements is an integral part of our community's plan to become more visitor friendly while increasing local pride.

As the Director of the largest attraction in Rawlins, I appreciate the efforts of the Rawlins Downtown Development Authority to revitalize the downtown area making it more visually appealing for the 15,000 visitors that the Wyoming Frontier Prison brings to the community annually. The proposed system in this application would provide a much needed "face lift" for a town that has struggled to maintain a sense of pride.

Enhancing our community for local citizens and visitors is a priority for the City of Rawlins and the Wyoming Frontier Prison. This project will coordinate nicely with other ventures being pursued, such as the Rawlins Interpretative Trail and the Rawlins Pride initiative.

We greatly appreciate the dedication of the City of Rawlins and DDA/Main Street to the betterment of this community, and wish the best of luck with this grant application. If we can be of any assistance with this project, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely yours,

Tina Hill Historic Site Director Wyoming Frontier Prison



1520 Etchepare Circle + Cheyenne, WY 82007 Phone: 307.777.777 + Fax: 307.777.2877 wyomingtourism.org

Matthew H. Mead Governor Diane Shober Director

Office of Tourism

August 29, 2013

Wyoming Business Council 214 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: City of Rawlins and Rawlins DDA/Main Street BRC Downtown Development Grant

Dear WBC Board Members and Staff,

The Wyoming Office of Tourism is pleased to submit this letter in support of the City of Rawlins and Rawlins DD/Main Street's application for \$1,000,000 for a Façade Easement Program. The downtown, more than any other place in most communities reflects much of the heritage and experiences of a broad spectrum of people, residents and visitors alike. A thriving downtown serves as a place for employment, shopping, tourism, housing, government services, dining, entertainment, lodging, cultural attractions, and community events.

The City of Rawlins' and Rawlins DDA/Main Street proposal for a Façade Easement Program is an excellent example of community revitalization, partnership and collaboration. This investment in the Rawlins Main Street District will facilitate business recruitment and retention; leading to a thriving business district in which residents and visitors will be drawn to spend more time and money.

On behalf of the Wyoming Office of Tourism, I applaud the work of the City of Rawlins to pursue tourism enhancements, and am enthusiastic about supporting this request for infrastructure improvements and development.

Sincerely,

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Kristin Phipps Industry Services Sr. Specialist Wyoming Office of Tourism

Wyoming will always be Forever West

MICHAEL B. ENZI WYOMING

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## United States Senate WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 August 26, 2013

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the Fifth Annual Passion and Pride Bali. This year's event, Moonshine and Mischlef, promises to be the best ever as you come together as a community to help support the work that is being done to preserve – and improve – one of Rawlins' most important treasures – Main Street and the downtown area!

You can be very proud of the good work you have been doing over the years to keep the Main Street area active, alive and growing stronger! Your efforts are a constant reminder of the history of your home town and the great potential that lies just ahead. It is no secret. Your best days are still to come!

The progress you continue to make would not be possible without an energetic team in place with a vision for how to take this project forward – step by step. Each year, and each step ahead, has produced another interesting innovation that has helped to bring a touch of the old and the new to the downtown area. We owe everyone on the Rawlins DDA/Main Street team a great and enthusiastic thanks for all they are doing for your community.

This year's effort will help to provide solar powered lights that will light up the night sky. They will serve as a constant reminder of the changes that are being made to make Rawlins better and better year after year.

Diana joins in sending our best wishes to you for coming to be a part of this great annual event. We wish we could be with you. We couldn't be more proud of your community spirit and your support for the future of your home town. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

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Michael B. Enzi United States Senator

MBE:rh



Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2301 Central Ave, Cheyenne, Wy. 82002 307-777-6401

January 14, 2013

re: Letter of Support for Rawlins Main Street

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing in support of Rawlin's DDA/Main Street (RMS) Grant application for a CDBG Grant through the Wyoming Business Council for a façade improvement design project. Technical assistance of this nature is extremely important to ensure the historic integrity of Rawlin's National Register of Historic Places district remains intact. The project sponsored by RMS is the proper step and process to begin to update and refurbish many of the storefronts in the main commercial district.

Our office supports the efforts of RMS, and Wyoming Main Street for that matter, and hope that many of the recommendations will be implemented in the future per the recommended standards and guidelines.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 307-777-6311.

Sincerely,

Mary Hoplein

Mary Hopkins Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer

