

Dear Boulder County Commissioners,

The City of Boulder is excited to see the Affordable Housing Extension Tax (County Issue 1B) on this year's ballot that focusses on investing in more affordable and attainable housing. We support the regional housing partnership goal that was adopted by every municipality in our county. The City agrees with the goals of this measure and think the best way to ensure it is approved by the voters is by demonstrating that it is a product of partnership and collaboration which will result in meeting the needs of those most acutely impacted by both the lack of housing affordability and constraints on housing inventory in our communities. Toward that end, we offer our endorsement for the County Issue 1B but we request that the Boulder County Commissioners commit to partnering with Boulder to fund and implement the following four housing and services programs.

- Invest in the programs and infrastructure to expand permanently supportive housing (PSH) across the county. We request that if the tax is approved, the county set aside no less than 25% of the revenues generated by the housing tax to make an immediate and long-term impact in providing housing coupled with services to those living on the brink. We are cautiously optimistic that the state and federal government will also begin to invest in these programs and reduce the financial and regulatory burdens currently facing cities and counties across the country.
- In coordination with the city, fund and implement transitional housing coupled with services that offer a unique opportunity to build the necessary scaffolding for individuals and families to increase their opportunities for success toward securing permanent supportive housing. This scaffolding approach to housing could range from temporary sheltering in the form of safe sleeping programs to tiny home villages.
- Join the City of Boulder and the City of Longmont in fulfilling our obligations to the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless and invest the money necessary to allow them to expand their services to meet the growing needs in our community. The shelter needs the county's investment of ~\$700,000 along with the ~\$300,000 from the City of Boulder and ~\$50,000 from the City of Longmont.
- Work with the City of Boulder to implement the High System Utilizer proposal as drafted by the Interagency task Force on Boulder Unhoused High Utilizers. Such an investment will not only create a life-changing benefit to these individuals but will offset current fiscal impacts and threats to public safety that result from failing to support them.

We recognize that there is not a single issue that our respective governments deal within isolation. The City of Boulder and Boulder County are intrinsically connected and thus we face the same challenges, we succeed together and thus fail together. This tax offers a chance for us to succeed together and lift up so many in our communities that are living on the brink and/or have been forgotten about.

We greatly appreciate your willingness to consider this request and look forward to opportunities to discuss our potential partnerships further.

Boulder City Council