

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-17

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING SUMMIT COUNTY'S STRONG COMMUNITIES
GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL
AFFAIRS TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROUNDABOUT FOR THE
USFS WORKFORCE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN SUMMIT COUNTY, CO**

WHEREAS, it is essential to our local economy and sense of community that our workers and their families live in Summit County, for without these workers our local businesses could not survive, much less thrive; and

WHEREAS, mountain and resort communities such as ours face unique challenges regarding our housing inventory such as a supply that is constrained by land shortages, labor shortages, high construction costs, the second homeowner market and the increasing popularity of short-term rentals in residential units of all types; and

WHEREAS, under the authority of the 2018 Farm Bill, Summit County has entered into a first-of-its-kind partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to utilize USFS leasing authority for the construction of affordable housing on USFS administrative sites; and

WHEREAS, USFS signed a 50-year ground lease with Summit County to develop an affordable housing project on the USFS Administrative Site located near the Town of Dillon in unincorporated Summit County and accessed from State Highway 6; and

WHEREAS, in recent years Summit County and the municipalities, working separately or in collaboration through various local housing authorities or other entities and instrumentalities, have acquired, constructed, or facilitated the construction of more than 2000 units of deed-restricted workforce housing within Summit County; and

WHEREAS, despite the commendable efforts of the municipalities, Housing Authorities, and Summit County Government generally to acquire and construct workforce housing units as well as purchase lands that will support workforce housing communities, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes the need for additional, immediate funding to achieve the above-referenced goals and preserve our local economy, community character, and cultural landscape; and

WHEREAS, increasing housing inventory requires transportation considerations and this project requires the construction of a roundabout on Highway 6 to ensure safe access to the residents and Forest Service employees; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has designated roundabouts as

one of nine proven safety counter measures, resulting in fewer crashes and reducing fatalities by 90%; and

WHEREAS, Colorado House Bill 22-1304 established two grant programs in the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for the purpose of offering grant money to enable local governments to invest in transformational affordable housing and to invest in infill infrastructure projects that support affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Summit County desires to submit an application to the Strong Communities opportunity and the Board of County Commissioners wishes to formally approve and express its support for such grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, STATE OF COLORADO THAT:

1. A workforce housing crisis exists in Summit County that warrants immediate action by local, state, and federal authorities. Inaction will result in irreversible changes to the fabric of the community and limit the ability of the community to serve visitors and residents alike.
2. Action includes actively seeking and applying for state and federal grants to obtain additional funding to be put toward addressing the workforce housing crisis.
3. Summit County and the U.S. Forest Service are working collaboratively to plan, construct and manage an affordable workforce housing project on USFS owned land in unincorporated Summit County and adjacent to the Town of Dillon.
4. The project will deliver 162 units of affordable workforce housing.
5. The units will be maintained at rents affordable to households earning 80-120% Area Median Income via a Restrictive Housing Covenant, which will run with the land.
6. The Board of County Commissioners does hereby approve a grant application to be submitted for Strong Communities in the amount of \$3.7 million for a request for funds to be used toward the construction of the roundabout.
7. The Board of County Commissioners also commits to providing the minimum 20% match required from the Capital Improvement Fund within the County budget.
8. The funds will help address access challenges by constructing a roundabout on Highway 6 to provide safe access to the development for residents and Forest Service employees.
9. These ongoing efforts to improve affordable workforce housing in Summit County will continue to allow local businesses and public service providers to keep a quality workforce in the County, resulting in a stronger economy and more robust community which will ultimately benefit the State of Colorado as a whole because our exceptional recreational amenities are cherished by the residents of Colorado as well as citizens across our nation who visit Summit County.

ADOPTED THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO
BY AND THROUGH ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



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Amara Pogue, Chair

ATTEST:

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Taryn Power, Clerk & Recorder