



**Gilpin County
Colorado**

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Gilpin County Colorado

October 10, 2023

State Historical Fund Program Team
History Colorado
1200 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

To Whom It May Concern:

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners writes to express our strong support for the grant application submitted by the property owner, the Honorable Gary Jackson, Senior Denver County Court Judge, with the support of their nonprofit partner, The Friends of Blair Caldwell African-American Research Library. This grant application seeks funding from the State Historical Fund to support the rehabilitation of the Zephyr View Cabin, a designated Local Landmark (Reso. 20-22). in the historic Lincoln Hills area of Gilpin County.

The Zephyr View Cabin, originally built by William Pitts, stands as a poignant testament to the rich history of Lincoln Hills, which holds a unique place in the story of Black Americans' resilience and perseverance in the face of segregation and adversity. It stands as one of the few properties in Lincoln Hills still owned by one of the original families. The cabin and the story of its builder, a trained carpenter and the son of an enslaved woman, provide a vital link to our shared past. The rehabilitation of the south-facing windows to their 1947 appearance and the addition of a ramp for accessibility are critical steps towards preserving this historic gem for future generations. The significance of this project in preserving and rehabilitating the Zephyr View Cabin aligns seamlessly with the purpose and goals of the State Historical Fund.

As you well know, Lincoln Hills was founded in 1922 as a resort community by Black Americans, for Black Americans, providing a sanctuary and recreational opportunities at a time when segregation and racial discrimination were rampant. It served as a beacon of hope and a sanctuary for Black communities in Colorado and beyond. The history of Lincoln Hills represents an essential chapter in the fight for civil rights and the struggle against racial segregation in our state and nation.

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners recognizes the cultural, historical, and educational value of the Zephyr View Cabin and fully supports the efforts to ensure its continued preservation and accessibility. We believe that this project is not only a testament to the resilience and contributions of Black communities but also an opportunity to educate and inspire future generations about the significance of Lincoln Hills in our history.

We urge History Colorado to give favorable consideration to the grant application for the Zephyr View Cabin rehabilitation project. Your support will not only help honor the legacy of Lincoln Hills but also contribute to the broader narrative of civil rights and racial equality in our state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to the positive impact that this project will have on preserving our shared heritage.

Sincerely,


Marie Mornis


Susan Berumen


Sandy Hollingsworth