



Gilpin County Colorado

Commissioners

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Linda Isenhart, District 2
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May 3, 2022

DRAFT

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Ms. Jody Kennedy
Regional Partnership Program Manager
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

Re: NoCo PLACES 2050 - Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Application

Dear Ms. Kennedy and Members of the Committee:

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners is writing in support of the grant application from NoCo PLACES 2050 (NoCo) to use the Colorado Natural Heritage Program's (CNHP) CODEX tool and, with the help of a facilitator, create a conservation and recreation vision for the NoCo five-county region.

Gilpin County is a member and strong supporter of NoCo. Like the four adjacent counties and three state and federal land management jurisdictions who are members of the group, we have seen a tremendous increase in visitation to public lands in recent years. Locations such as Tolland Road, Apex Valley, and forest access points via county roads are seeing congestion on the roads and trails. This increasingly negatively impacts residents, the environment, wildlife, the outdoor experience, and demands on our local first responders.

This is a regional problem that requires regional solutions. That is why we support this grant request. Any efforts to address some of Gilpin County's highly used hot spots may result in the problems being shifted to other locations. We need to develop a regional vision for recreation and conservation, but to do so, we must first understand what is in our region today. That is why this grant request is so important. It will help us quantify, map, and understand the challenges and opportunities we face as a region, which will then enable us to develop that long-term regional vision.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hollingsworth

Linda Isenhart

Web Sill