



June 5, 2023

Senator Dylan Roberts
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax
Room 346
Denver, CO 80203

RE: 2023 Colorado Legislative Session

Dear Senator Roberts:

The city of Aspen would like to express our gratitude for your hard work throughout the legislative session on behalf of mountain communities and the state of Colorado. We are especially grateful for the crucial leadership you provided in the final days of the session that resulted in the defeat of Senate Bill 213, which though well-intentioned would not have meaningfully achieved increased affordable housing for the state, and an amendment to HB-1255 that will preserve affordable housing regulations in our community.

All of us in mountain resort communities count ourselves very fortunate to have you representing our interests at the Capitol. Though you do not officially represent Aspen, we recognize that you went to bat for us, especially in removing mandates for the 15 rural resort job centers from Senate Bill 213 early in the session and working to represent our interests right up to the final moments on 1255.

We hope you have begun to recuperate from the long and intense days of the session and that you are enjoying a well-deserved break.

When you return to thinking about next year's session, we would be interested in assisting you and other legislators in the development of future proposals for the creation of workforce housing.

In the face of decades of overwhelming resort-driven development pressure, Aspen has led the way in development of affordable housing policies and regulations. The result is the largest system of affordable housing per capita in the nation, housing a majority of our full-time population, and preserving the vitality of one of the most desirable destination communities in the country.

The city of Aspen is committed to helping the state meaningfully increase affordable housing within the Rural Resort Regions and protecting existing affordable housing programs for our mountain communities. Please let us know how we may be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,


Aspen Mayor Torre



June 7, 2023

Rep. Julie McCluskie
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax
Room 307
Denver, CO 80203

RE: 2023 Colorado Legislative Session

Dear Speaker McCluskie:

The city of Aspen would like to express our gratitude for your hard work throughout the legislative session on behalf of mountain communities and the state of Colorado. We are especially grateful for the crucial leadership you provided in the final days of the session regarding Senate Bill 213. The bill, though well-intentioned, would not have meaningfully achieved increased affordable housing for the state.

All of us in mountain resort communities count ourselves very fortunate to have you representing our interests at the Capitol. Though you do not officially represent Aspen, we recognize that you went to bat for us and worked to bring together stakeholders in the final moments of the session to understand the issues around the need for higher area median income levels in resort communities where entry level wages are higher and where cost of living necessitates affordable housing for people making more than 80 percent of area median income.

We hope you have begun to recuperate from the long and intense days of the session and that you are enjoying a well-deserved break.

When you return to thinking about next year's session, we would be interested in assisting you and other legislators in the development of future proposals for the creation of workforce housing.

In the face of decades of overwhelming resort-driven development pressure, Aspen has led the way in development of affordable housing policies and regulations. The result is the largest system of affordable housing per capita in the nation, housing a majority of our full-time population, and preserving the vitality of one of the most desirable destination communities in the country.

The city of Aspen is committed to helping the state meaningfully increase affordable housing within the Rural Resort Regions and protecting existing affordable housing programs for our mountain communities. Please let us know how we may be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

Aspen Mayor Torre



June 5, 2023

Representative Elizabeth Velasco
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax
Room 307
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colorado 2023 Legislative Session

Dear Representative Velasco:

The city of Aspen would like to express our gratitude for your hard work throughout the legislative session on behalf of mountain communities and the state of Colorado. We are especially grateful for the crucial leadership you provided during the session regarding your position on HB-1255, and by reaching out to us during the deliberations for that bill that may still hinder our ability to regulate the unaffordable free market residential industry. Ultimately, the bill that passed includes an amendment allowing for regulating market rate development to enforce affordability requirements that will help preserve affordable housing regulations in our community.

Additionally, we applaud your effort to increase inclusive language for emergency situations.

All of us in mountain resort communities count ourselves very fortunate to have you representing our interests at the Capitol.

We hope you have begun to recuperate from the long and intense days of the session and that you are enjoying a well-deserved break.

As you prepare for next year's session and are visiting your district, to come to Aspen. We would welcome the opportunity to better understand your legislative agenda and for us to share our policy principles including environmental sustainability; diversity, equity and inclusion; and health, housing and human services. Would you be available for a meeting later this summer or in the fall at Aspen City Hall?

Additionally, Aspen would offer our assistance for you and other legislators in the development of any future proposals for the creation of workforce housing. Aspen has led the way in development of affordable housing policies and regulations. Our long experience in this policy area has resulted in the largest system of affordable housing per capita in the nation, our housing a majority of our full-time population, and preservation of one of the most desirable destination communities in the country.

The city of Aspen is committed to helping the state meaningfully increase affordable housing within the Rural Resort Regions and protecting existing affordable housing programs for our mountain communities. Please let us know how we may be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

Aspen Mayor Torre