



March 25, 2020

U.S. Congressman Scott Tipton

225 N 5th St #702
Grand Junction, CO 81501

U.S. Senator Cory Gardner

400 Rood Avenue, Federal Bldg., Ste 220
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Senator Kerry Donovan

200 E. Colfax, Rm 346
Denver, CO 80203

U.S. Senator Michael F. Bennet

225 N 5th St #511
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Representative Julie McCluskie

200 E. Colfax, Rm 307
Denver, CO 80203

URGENT MATTER: Third Coronavirus Supplemental Funding Bill

Dear Congressman Tipton, Senator Bennet, Senator Gardner, Senator Donovan, and Representative McCluskie:

On behalf of our citizens and businesses, it is vital to Aspen and other municipalities that economic recovery and stabilization funds be provided directly to counties and municipalities. The current third Coronavirus supplemental economic aid package funding bill must focus on, and include, priorities for rural Colorado. Our businesses and employees need funds now. Shelter in place orders are enacted, schools are closed, ski resorts have ended their seasons, businesses are shut down, and bookings are cancelled, yet rents are due. Many employees are hand to mouth and now their places of employment are closed.

Aspen and other small-town governments need to provide aid and assistance ASAP. Our citizens are counting on us. Adding a barrier to the flow of assistance to local governments, whose general fund dollars are being spent at an incredible pace to combat COVID to assist our residents and small businesses, could be the straw that breaks their backs. It is imperative to note that localities are most efficient in delivering services and support without bureaucracy and friction. Please communicate with, and implore, the administration to use this package most efficiently by allowing aid and assistance to flow directly to municipalities. Our recovery phase of this declared disaster emergency needs all the help we can get from the federal government.

Please continue to engage your peers and urge the prioritization of the needs here in rural Colorado. Speak now with leadership for the inclusion of all counties and municipalities. Direct stabilization is crucial, and you must insist that stabilization aid be provided directly to MUNICIPALTIES and counties.

Sincerely,



Torre, Mayor

Aspen City Council members: Ward Hauenstein (Mayor Pro Tem), Skippy Mesirow, Ann Mullins and Rachael Richards

copy: Colorado Governor Jared Polis