



FRUITA
COLORADO

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: SHANNON VASSEN, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

DATE: MARCH 21, 2023

AGENDA TEXT: LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR MESA COUNTY - A Request to Authorize the Mayor to sign a Letter of Support for Mesa County's Congressional Directed Spending Request

BACKGROUND

Each year, members of the United States Congress and Senate accept requests from governments and non-profit organizations for community projects to be funded through Congressional Directed Spending. These projects are accepted through an application process, then some are recommended for funding by each representative, and then may be approved through the federal appropriations process. This week, staff was informed that Congresswoman Boebert will be accepting community projects to be considered for funding in the next appropriations bill. The deadline to submit projects to Congresswoman Boebert is Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

Mesa County is planning to apply for a Congressional Directed Spending award for sewer improvements in Mack. Mesa County is applying on behalf of the Lower Valley Public Improvement District ("PID"), who operates the sewer service in Mack. The PID is requesting funding to replace a sewer lagoon and transition to a small batch reactor Wastewater Treatment Facility, to serve Mack Residents. The current sewer lagoon system causes issues with the Mack Wash, and has had several other issues in recent years.

In order to apply, a Letter of Support from an outside agency is required. The purpose of this agenda item is authorize Mayor Kincaid to sign Letter of Support for this project. Mesa County and the City of Fruita has a long history of partnering on projects to support Fruita and the lower valley.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact for the City of Fruita for this project. If Mesa County is awarded funding, it will significantly offset the costs of the project to residents of Mack and the lower valley, which benefits Fruita and the county as a whole.

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City of Fruita has a long history of partnering with Mesa County on a number of projects that have benefited Fruita and the lower valley. This project, although not in Fruita, will benefit residents and our neighbors through providing essential core services for our region.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL

- Authorize the Mayor to sign the Letter of Support for Mesa County's Congressional Directed Spending Request.
- Advise staff to revise the letter and authorize the Mayor to sign it with changes.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of staff that the Council by motion:

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MESA COUNTY'S CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTED SPENDING REQUEST.