Mayor and Council Members:

I am Dr. R. Paul Williamson with Rocky Mountain Rail. I very much appreciate this opportunity to come before you.

Colorado has no sustainable transportation plan. For at least the last three decades, CDOT, RTD and local governments have had their hands tied to an outdated, unworkable and ill-fated state and federal funding model. A model that has no vision, no imagination, and no innovation for the present or future. At the same time, coal-devoted railroads continue to hold their ill begotten monopoly close to the vest, no longer serving passengers or the greater public good.

Transportation, literally, has a death hold on travelers' lives, injuries, pollution, congestion and urban sprawl while decision makers turn a deaf ear to the needs of expanding population, air quality and growth.

Presently, of course, our attention is directed toward the pandemic and its effect on our families, friends and our economy. Bill Gates, in 2014, warned the world that humanity's greatest threat was the eventuality of a global pandemic, but, like transportation in Colorado, no one listened. Based on good science, there will be a better tomorrow with the pandemic, but what are we doing about the transportation conundrum?

Rocky Mountain Rail is sounding the transportation warning. Transportation and its plethora of challenges is bad now and will only get worse if solutions are not pursued. We all know that no amount of inadequate traffic lanes will solve our problem and the ever-increasing number of deaths, injuries and congestion will continue to increase. Bob Briggs, Dave Ruble and I have been working decades to develop the Colorado <u>Sustainable Transportation Master Plan</u>.

Along with our business partners, we would like to take the first step by extending the commuter line from Northglenn to Johnstown. This 15

min trip would link Johnstown to Downtown Denver and eventually, north to Fort Collins.

We are presently working with Firestone, Frederick and Dacono on this first step. I feel Johnstown 's participation would be a major positive step to enhance Johnstown's quality of life, employment opportunities, tax base and economic development while reducing road fatalities, pollution and bumper to bumper traffic.

Our Sustainable Plan is the only fiscally viable and actionable transportation initiative in Colorado – requiring NO local or state government financial support. This first step would take approximately five years. The entire system is based on implementation of much lower cost, net-zero, 21st Century technologies and use of IGA revenue bonds--to be paid back by the fare box.

We would like this body to join others as we move this Plan forward. I am here tonight doing our due diligence to ascertain:

1. your interest in working with RMR;

2. your willingness to learn more about the project; and

3. your readiness to establish a liaison with RMR.

Is there a member of the Council that would be willing to be the Johnstown/RMR Liaison?

Thank you for your time! Are there any questions? Dr. R. Paul Williamson Rocky Mountain Rail, Inc. <u>PaulRMR2020@gmail.com</u> (303)906 3767 WWW.RockyMountainRail.net