



City of Ketchum

December 6, 2021

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors
City of Ketchum
Ketchum, Idaho

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors:

Update regarding potential Resort Cities Representation in 2022 Legislative Session

Recommendation and Summary

During the FY22 budget development process, Council requested staff investigate retaining a professional resource to represent the city and potentially other resort cities in the 2022 Idaho Legislative Session. Staff has completed discussions with several potential resources and will provide a verbal update and request direction from the Council regarding next steps.

The scope of work for a potential professional resource could be:

1. **Prevent negative/hostile legislation:** in recent years, the legislature has taken action to limit city authority on a range of issues (short-term rentals, property taxes, minimum wage, transportation management companies (i.e. Uber)). The priority of the firm would be to defeat any potential new negative legislation affecting the city.
2. **Coalition Creation:** there are approximately sixteen Idaho resort cities who utilize local option taxing authority (LOT). Beyond the LOT authority, these communities share a common goal/challenge of address workforce housing and adequate employee supply for local businesses. This new resource could serve as a coordinating resource between all resort cities in Idaho with a goal of speaking with one voice with the Governor's Office and Legislature. The resource would also closely coordinate with the Idaho Association of Cities.
3. **Socialize new legislation concepts:** the new resource could start to work with the Governor's Office, legislators, and other interested parties (Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, Idaho Assoc. of Realtors, etc.) to discuss future legislative solutions:
 - a. Use of state ARPA (federal COVID funds) via statewide grants to cities and counties to address workforce housing infrastructure needs
 - b. 1% real estate transfer tax program for workforce housing in resort cities only
 - c. Relaxing state restrictions on city ability to regulate short-term rentals

Sustainability Impact

No direct impact. Increased inventory of a local workforce and housing does decrease the amount of auto trips as local workers are closer to their place of employment.

Financial Impact

Initial discussions with potential firms could cost \$30,000 for the session. Should the Council support the concept, staff would work with other cities to determine if they would be a financial participant.

Attachments:

None