

## Participate

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**From:** James Hungelmann <jim.hungelmann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2024 1:59 PM  
**To:** Neil Bradshaw  
**Cc:** Amanda Breen; Courtney Hamilton; Tripp Hutchinson; Spencer Cordovano; Participate  
**Subject:** Re: PUBLIC COMMENT/ KCC MEETING/ FEB 5 2024: "CLOUD SEEDING" TOXICITIES

Thanks, Neil.

At the end of that Jan 2023 letter I made suggestions; I will give some further thought on what might be practical and revert shortly.

Jim

El lun, 29 ene 2024 a las 13:27, Neil Bradshaw (<[NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org)>) escribió:

Thanks for your email Jim

I would be interested in the suggested policy for the Ketchum council to adopt

As you know, we have no jurisdiction over this matter

I am sympathetic to your claims but am not sure what action we could possibly take

Happy to discuss further

Cheers

Neil

**NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM**

**Mayor**

P.O. Box 2315 | 191 5th Street,W | Ketchum, ID 83340

o: 208.727.5087 | m: 208.721.2162

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On Jan 29, 2024, at 11:27 AM, James Hungelmann <[jim.hungelmann@gmail.com](mailto:jim.hungelmann@gmail.com)> wrote:

**Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors**

**City of Ketchum**

**Ketchum City Council Meeting of february 5, 2024, 2023**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT / "CLOUD SEEDING" TOXICITIES**

**Dear Mayor and Councilors,**

**It has been over one year since my letter to you on this subject; see copy below.**

**The response from you so far has been Dead Silence.**

**Will this Council continue to duck and deny legitimate public inquiry on the ongoing blitzkrieg in our skies, or will you responsibly address this important matter of health and safety?**

**And what is up with the "seeding" this year? - Lots of aerial spraying and yet a horse-laughable dud of a snow year. 🙄 What then is that filthy mist coming down on our children's heads? Pow pow? Is it safe for them to keep eating the white "snow" when on recess at school?**

**Thank you in advance for your kind and thorough reply.**

**Jim**

January 16, 2023

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors

City of Ketchum

Ketchum City Council Meeting of January 17, 2023

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Re:

***Health and Safety concern about Contaminants in Cloud Seeding:  
Pay for Snow – At what cost?***

Dear Mayor and Councilors:

**REQUEST IS HEREBY MADE TO YOU**, in the interest of protecting public health and safety, to test the level of contamination appearing in our snowfall and rains; to evaluate and publicly communicate any risks to health and the environment so indicated; and to force by process of law the shutdown of any cloud seeding activities assessed to be unreasonably dangerous.

### **Background**

How nice it has been to see the snow coming - and coming and coming. A banner year, some say. We have our Pray for Snow parties, but as it turns out, there is no need. We have Pay for Snow - and have had for quite some time, they now say. After many years of silence, distraction, and denial, suddenly the mainstream reporting is telling us all about cloud seeding

and how it has been going on for decades, including locally. See, for example, “*Cloud Seeding: Will science be the answer to our snow prayers?*” Sun Valley Magazine (Winter 2022/23).

### **What is Cloud Seeding?**

Cloud seeding is a weather modification technique that involves introducing chemical substances into clouds to convert a greater percent of the moisture available in clouds into precipitation that reaches the earth’s surface. According to the mainstream depiction, cloud seeding involves the release of silver iodide (AgI) vapors into the atmosphere using ground-based propane generators or dropping it from aircraft amid storms. The silver iodide particles serve as a nucleating agent for the formation of ice crystals. Mentioned also by some mainstreamers to be in the chemical mix are potassium iodide, dry ice, and even compressed liquid propane.

### **Pros of Cloud Seeding**

Proponents tout that cloud seeding can increase precipitation and snow falls by up to 15% above what would be available from the normal hydrological cycle, with year-to-year consistency that mitigates increasingly volatile and destructive weather conditions including drought and flood. If true, a consistent 15% increase, without downsides, is an attractive proposition for all parties currently participating in contracted cloud seeding services, including power companies, water boards and districts, agriculturalists, and mountain resorts.

### **Cons**

Opponents insist that cloud seeding as reported is not only expensive, requiring airplanes and chemical supply, but that much of the scientific literature indicates that it fails to achieve any meaningful increase in precipitation in the short-term and could well be disastrously counterproductive long-term as natural weather is derailed; and further, that silver iodide is a highly toxic substance to which chronic exposure is exceptionally damaging for humans and the

environment. They claim that cloud seeding interferes with and sabotages the natural hydrological cycle and alters the amount and distribution of precipitation that falls within a particular region, potentially causing problems such as drought in some areas and flooding in others.

#### **- Human toxicity**

Humans absorb silver iodide through the lungs, nose, skin, and GI tract. Mild exposure can cause GI irritation, renal and pulmonary lesions, and mild argyria (blue or black discoloration of the skin). Severe accumulated exposure can result in hemorrhagic gastroenteritis, shock, enlarged heart, severe argyria, and death by respiratory depression. A key manufacturer of silver iodide for weather modification, Deepwater Chemicals, warns of potential health hazards of silver iodide in its Material Safety Data Sheet as follows:

Chronic Exposure/Target Organs: Chronic ingestion of iodides may produce “iodism”, which may be manifested by skin rash, running nose, headache and irritation of the mucous membranes. Weakness, anemia, loss of weight and general depression may also occur. Chronic inhalation or ingestion may cause argyria characterized by blue-gray discoloration of the eyes, skin and mucous membranes. Chronic skin contact may cause permanent discoloration of the skin.

#### **- Toxicity to Environment including water and food supply**

Environmental agencies rate silver iodide as a non-soluble, inorganic, hazardous chemical that accumulates in and pollutes water and soil and all living things. Silver iodide is classified as an "extremely hazardous substance" by the Environmental Protection Agency. Under the guidelines of the Clean Water Act, silver iodide is considered a “priority” toxic pollutant, considered to be particularly harmful to human health and the environment.

In a 1971 “Freezing Nucleation” patent (US3587966A), the ongoing use of silver iodide is explained as follows:

The early great success with silver iodide as a freezing nucleant for clouds led to the supposition that because silver iodide has a crystal structure somewhat similar to ice, its success in freezing nucleation was entirely due to this fact. *Some fear has recently been*

*expressed about the toxicity of silver iodide. Accordingly, a search has been made for other crystals which would have similar crystalline form, in the hope that they would prove to be freezing nucleants. Limited success has been made in this direction. (Emphasis added.)*

Knowing all this, who wants to take the risk for a possible additional 15% moisture, unless the level of actual contamination can be scientifically shown to be safe?

### **The Rest of the Story**

Evidence-based forensic analysts challenge the mainstream depiction of cloud seeding, of twinengine Pipers flying into clouds with silver iodide-releasing flares attached to the wings, as misleading and not the predominant method of cloud seeding. They point out that in recent years our snow has been exhibiting very bizarre characteristics which cannot be explained by the presence of silver iodide alone. These unusual characteristics include: snow being extremely compacted and slick, making it dangerous for walking and driving; people who work or play in it experiencing disorientation, dizziness, and nausea, as well as difficulty breathing; snow sliding off the tops of cars and roofs in sheets, crashing with a metallic sound and impact; snow charring rather than melting when exposed to flame; having a strange chemical odor; coming down in amorphous globs rather than naturally formed, hexagonal shaped flakes; being exceptionally difficult to push around and damaging heavy-duty snow removal equipment; and shrinking and sublimating directly to gas, bypassing the liquid state and often leaving little trace of melted water behind. Lots of snow maybe, but little to show for it. All of this begs the need for close scrutiny: What is in this stuff coming down?

These forensic observers maintain that what is called cloud seeding is only part of large-scale operations designed to modify and control the climate, which involve fleets of jet aircraft specially equipped with aerosol spray nozzles releasing heavy loads of a nanoparticulate mix of aluminum, barium, strontium, polymer fibers, and anti-coagulating surfactants, showing up as massive trails drifting across the skies in waves and especially pronounced in advance of storms. They claim that air, soil and water sampling consistently show dangerously high levels of toxicity in the mix. Some experts also suspect that the aerosols contain hazardous biological materials, such as bacteria, viruses, and other natural or modified microorganisms and possibly even vaccines or other so-called “biological therapeutics”.

These same analysts insist that current climate intervention efforts serve to derail atmospheric chemistry and destroy the natural hydrological cycle, which has led to more frequent and more severe weather events like ice storms and flooding. They also maintain that climate intervention is the primary cause of overall climate deterioration today.

To conclude, on multiple occasions in recent years, I and others have urged this Council, on the record, to *Strip Search the Elephant in the Sky*, to investigate the visible geoengineering activities taking place that most people are hesitant or afraid to talk about. Regrettably, the Council's reply has been silence, denial, and even ridicule. This aligns with the ominous observation that "the most grossly obvious facts can be ignored when they are unwelcome."

### **A Call to Action**

I respectfully submit that, given the serious threat represented by "cloud seeding" activities as are now being publicly acknowledged, it is legally and ethically incumbent on the City of Ketchum, with neighboring municipalities, to implement periodic professional testing of toxicities in our snow and rain and to take appropriate action to protect public health, safety and the environment. This is not a costly proposition and by so doing, the Council would be setting an example for future generations on the importance of facing our most significant challenges head-on.

Thank you for taking the time to consider and respond to this matter.

Jim Hungelmann

Ketchum

## Participate

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**From:** James Hungelmann <jim.hungelmann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 4, 2024 11:09 PM  
**To:** Neil Bradshaw  
**Cc:** Amanda Breen; Courtney Hamilton; Tripp Hutchinson; Spencer Cordovano; Participate  
**Subject:** Re: PUBLIC COMMENT/ KCC MEETING/ FEB 5 2024: "CLOUD SEEDING" TOXICITIES

### ***FOR THE RECORD OF 5 FEB 2024 KCC MEETING***

February 5, 2024

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors

City of Ketchum

Ketchum City Council Meeting of February 5, 2024

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Re:

*Health and Safety concerns about Contaminants in Cloud Seeding/ Weather Modification activities*

Dear Mayor Bradshaw and Councilors:

In reply to your email request, I offer the draft letter to the governor set out below as a responsible approach for you and the Council to take.

Sincerely,

Jim

February \_\_, 2024

Mr. Brad Little  
Governor  
State of Idaho



Re: Public Concern about Cloud Seeding/ Weather Modification activities

Dear Governor Little:

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to respond publicly to the growing concerns of the public as to the nature and toxic impact of cloud seeding and related weather modification activities going on in the skies locally and all of Idaho. While we deem this matter to be of municipal health and safety importance that merits full investigation and disclosure, our view is that it is most properly addressed by our governor.

The website of the Idaho Department of Water Resources and the State Water Board (IWRB) describes several cloud seeding projects whose stated scope and purpose is as follows: "In Idaho, cloud seeding is used during the cold season to augment high-elevation snowpack." Silver iodide is indicated to be the primary ice nucleating chemical agent utilized to seed our clouds. In the Wood River Valley, cloud seeding is indicated to have been pursued annually since 2013 as part of what is called *The Idaho Collaborative Cloud Seeding Program*, operated by Idaho Power Company in partnership with the IWRB and local water users who contribute to project funding. That Collaborative Program is said to operate also in the Boise and Upper Snake River Basins, all utilizing remote ground and aircraft spraying.

The following serious concerns have been expressed by members of the public:

1. Not authorized by Idaho law –

In Idaho, "state funds may be used or expended on cloud seeding programs *only in* basins where the water resource board finds that existing water supplies are not sufficient to support existing water rights, water quality, recreation, or fish and wildlife uses dependent on those water supplies." Idaho Code 42-4301 (4). Critics here indicate that the IWRB has never made any such required Finding that existing water supplies in the Wood River Basin are insufficient to support existing users and insist that such a Finding could not be factually supported.

2. Toxicity of cloud seeding material to humans and the environment –

Concerned members of the public assert that the claim made by the IWRB is false and misleading, that "... more than 20 comprehensive studies and data reviews on the environmental effects of the use of AgI for cloud seeding all concur that there is no evidence for adverse effects to human health or the environment from the use of silver iodide for cloud seeding" and that cloud seeding has been going on in the West for decades "without evidence of environmental concern". They insist that such testing has been very limited and scientifically inadequate to evaluate toxicities.

In fact, all relevant environmental agencies rate silver iodide as a non-soluble, inorganic, hazardous chemical that accumulates in and pollutes water and soil and all living things. Silver iodide is classified as an "extremely hazardous substance" by the Environmental Protection Agency. Under the guidelines of the Clean Water Act, silver iodide is considered a "priority" toxic pollutant, particularly harmful to human health and the environment especially with chronic exposures. Nonetheless, in authorizing cloud seeding projects, the Idaho legislature expressed no concern whatsoever about toxicities of seeding agents and saw fit to provide a blanket protection of immunity from liability from any claims of poisoning or other injury to person or property:

“The act of cloud seeding pursuant to a project funded in whole or in part by the state of Idaho or authorized by the state water resource board shall not be the basis of any claim of liability, including but not limited to trespass or public or private nuisance . . . “ IC 42-4301 (5)

### 3. Unproven augmentation of water –

Critics of Wood River Basin cloud seeding activities hotly dispute the validity of the testing methodology used by Idaho Power and the IWRB as well as the results of such testing supposedly indicating that since 2013, there has been increased snowpack with an average incremental water benefit in the neighborhood of 10%, ranging from 6 to 15% in any year. These critics insist that cloud seeding as reported is not only expensive, requiring installations, airplanes, and chemical supply, but that much of the scientific literature indicates that it fails to achieve any meaningful increase in precipitation in the short-term and could well be disastrously counterproductive long-term as natural weather is derailed. They claim that cloud seeding interferes with and sabotages the natural hydrological cycle and alters the amount and distribution of precipitation that falls within a particular region, potentially causing problems such as drought in some areas and flooding in others and long-term climate deterioration.

### 4. False economics:

Critics also dispute the claimed economic benefits in the Wood River Valley, i.e., “Estimated additional annual runoff of 112,000 acre-feet at a current annual [project] cost of \$670,000” as being based on a 10% annual water gain that cannot be substantiated and not including any costs connected with known but ignored toxicities damaging health and environmental systems essential to our recreation and tourist-based economy.

### 5. Undisclosed related weather modification activities of serious concern to health, safety, and the environment -

Forensic -based analysts challenge the mainstream depiction of cloud seeding as deceptively inadequate. They maintain that what is called seasonal cloud seeding is a small part of large-scale, year-round operations designed to modify and control the climate, which involve fleets of high-altitude jet aircraft specially equipped with aerosol spray nozzles releasing heavy loads of a nanoparticulate mix of aluminum and other heavy metals, polymer fibers, and anti-coagulating surfactants, and showing up as massive trails slowly drifting across the skies in waves and especially pronounced in advance of storms, turning the sky into a grey envelope. They claim that air, soil and water sampling consistently show dangerously high levels of toxicity in the mix. Some professional testing by the public has been reported locally, confirming these worrisome results.

Many complaints from the public have been registered in recent years about our snow exhibiting very bizarre characteristics which cannot be explained by the presence of silver iodide alone. These unusual characteristics include snow being extremely compacted and slick, making it exceptionally dangerous for walking and driving; people who work or play in it experiencing disorientation, dizziness, and nausea, as well as difficulty breathing; snow sliding off the tops of cars and roofs in sheets, crashing with a metallic sound and heavy impact; snow charring rather than melting when exposed to flame and emitting a strange chemical odor; snow coming down in amorphous globs rather than naturally formed, hexagonal shaped flakes; snow rapidly compacting and being

exceptionally difficult to push around and remove; snow shrinking and sublimating directly to gas, bypassing the liquid state, and often leaving little trace of melted water behind; and desiccating and weakening forests making them much more susceptible to disease and “wildfire”.

At the same time, our sunny, deep blue skies that used to prevail in the Wood River Valley and that have been at the heart of our health, happiness, and economic viability are more and more a thing of the past, being replaced by increasingly gloomy, silvery skies.

Lastly, in this era where the deterioration of mental health is a major crisis in Idaho, we find it imperative for state and local governments to model, especially for our youth, the importance of addressing complicated and controversial matters such as this head-on.

Consequently, the City of Ketchum respectfully requests you as governor, in the interest of protecting public health, safety, and the environment, and consistent with sound economics, to

- 1)** Implement systematic testing of contamination levels appearing in our snowfall and rains;
- 2)** Evaluate and publicly communicate those results and disclose any risks to health and the environment so indicated; and,
- 3)** Shutdown any cloud seeding and other weather modification activities assessed to be unreasonably dangerous.

Thank you, Governor, for taking the time to evaluate and publicly respond to these concerns which are shared by many if not all Idaho communities.

Mayor Bradshaw

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Councilors

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Cheers

Neil

**NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM**

**Mayor**

P.O. Box 2315 | 191 5th Street,W | Ketchum, ID 83340

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**Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors**

**City of Ketchum**

**Ketchum City Council Meeting of february 5, 2024, 2023**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT / "CLOUD SEEDING" TOXICITIES**

**Dear Mayor and Councilors,**

**It has been over one year since my letter to you on this subject; see copy below.**

**The response from you so far has been Dead Silence.**

**Will this Council continue to duck and deny legitimate public inquiry on the ongoing blitzkrieg in our skies, or will you responsibly address this important matter of health and safety?**

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**Thank you in advance for your kind and thorough reply.**

**Jim**

January 16, 2023

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors

City of Ketchum

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Re:

***Health and Safety concern about Contaminants in Cloud Seeding:  
Pay for Snow – At what cost?***

Dear Mayor and Councilors:

**REQUEST IS HEREBY MADE TO YOU**, in the interest of protecting public health and safety, to test the level of contamination appearing in our snowfall and rains; to evaluate and publicly communicate any risks to health and the environment so indicated; and to force by process of law the shutdown of any cloud seeding activities assessed to be unreasonably dangerous.

**Background**

How nice it has been to see the snow coming - and coming and coming. A banner year, some say. We have our Pray for Snow parties, but as it turns out, there is no need. We have Pay for Snow - and have had for quite some time, they now say. After many years of silence, distraction, and denial, suddenly the mainstream reporting is telling us all about cloud seeding and how it has been going on for decades, including locally. See, for example, “*Cloud Seeding: Will science be the answer to our snow prayers?*” Sun Valley Magazine (Winter 2022/23).

**What is Cloud Seeding?**

Cloud seeding is a weather modification technique that involves introducing chemical substances into clouds to convert a greater percent of the moisture available in clouds into precipitation that reaches the earth's surface. According to the mainstream depiction, cloud seeding involves the release of silver iodide (AgI) vapors into the atmosphere using ground-based propane generators or dropping it from aircraft amid storms. The silver iodide particles serve as a nucleating agent for the formation of ice crystals. Mentioned also by some mainstreamers to be in the chemical mix are potassium iodide, dry ice, and even compressed liquid propane.

### **Pros of Cloud Seeding**

Proponents tout that cloud seeding can increase precipitation and snow falls by up to 15% above what would be available from the normal hydrological cycle, with year-to-year consistency that mitigates increasingly volatile and destructive weather conditions including drought and flood. If true, a consistent 15% increase, without downsides, is an attractive proposition for all parties currently participating in contracted cloud seeding services, including power companies, water boards and districts, agriculturalists, and mountain resorts.

### **Cons**

Opponents insist that cloud seeding as reported is not only expensive, requiring airplanes and chemical supply, but that much of the scientific literature indicates that it fails to achieve any meaningful increase in precipitation in the short-term and could well be disastrously counterproductive long-term as natural weather is derailed; and further, that silver iodide is a highly toxic substance to which chronic exposure is exceptionally damaging for humans and the environment. They claim that cloud seeding interferes with and sabotages the natural hydrological cycle and alters the amount and distribution of precipitation that falls within a particular region, potentially causing problems such as drought in some areas and flooding in others.

- **Human toxicity**

Humans absorb silver iodide through the lungs, nose, skin, and GI tract. Mild exposure can cause GI irritation, renal and pulmonary lesions, and mild argyria (blue or black discoloration of the skin). Severe accumulated exposure can result in hemorrhagic gastroenteritis, shock, enlarged heart, severe argyria, and death by respiratory depression. A key manufacturer of silver iodide for weather modification, Deepwater Chemicals, warns of potential health hazards of silver iodide in its Material Safety Data Sheet as follows:

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The early great success with silver iodide as a freezing nucleant for clouds led to the supposition that because silver iodide has a crystal structure somewhat similar to ice, its success in freezing nucleation was entirely due to this fact. *Some fear has recently been expressed about the toxicity of silver iodide. Accordingly, a search has been made for other crystals which would have similar crystalline form, in the hope that they would prove to be freezing nucleants. Limited success has been made in this direction.* (Emphasis added.)

Knowing all this, who wants to take the risk for a possible additional 15% moisture, unless the level of actual contamination can be scientifically shown to be safe?

#### **The Rest of the Story**



Evidence-based forensic analysts challenge the mainstream depiction of cloud seeding, of twinengine Pipers flying into clouds with silver iodide-releasing flares attached to the wings, as misleading and not the predominant method of cloud seeding. They point out that in recent years our snow has been exhibiting very bizarre characteristics which cannot be explained by the presence of silver iodide alone. These unusual characteristics include: snow being extremely compacted and slick, making it dangerous for walking and driving; people who work or play in it experiencing disorientation, dizziness, and nausea, as well as difficulty breathing; snow sliding off the tops of cars and roofs in sheets, crashing with a metallic sound and impact; snow charring rather than melting when exposed to flame; having a strange chemical odor; coming down in amorphous globs rather than naturally formed, hexagonal shaped flakes; being exceptionally difficult to push around and damaging heavy-duty snow removal equipment; and shrinking and sublimating directly to gas, bypassing the liquid state and often leaving little trace of melted water behind. Lots of snow maybe, but little to show for it. All of this begs the need for close scrutiny: What is in this stuff coming down?

These forensic observers maintain that what is called cloud seeding is only part of large-scale operations designed to modify and control the climate, which involve fleets of jet aircraft specially equipped with aerosol spray nozzles releasing heavy loads of a nanoparticulate mix of aluminum, barium, strontium, polymer fibers, and anti-coagulating surfactants, showing up as massive trails drifting across the skies in waves and especially pronounced in advance of storms. They claim that air, soil and water sampling consistently show dangerously high levels of toxicity in the mix. Some experts also suspect that the aerosols contain hazardous biological materials, such as bacteria, viruses, and other natural or modified microorganisms and possibly even vaccines or other so-called “biological therapeutics”.

These same analysts insist that current climate intervention efforts serve to derail atmospheric chemistry and destroy the natural hydrological cycle, which has led to more frequent and more severe weather events like ice storms and flooding. They also maintain that climate intervention is the primary cause of overall climate deterioration today.

To conclude, on multiple occasions in recent years, I and others have urged this Council, on the record, to *Strip Search the Elephant in the Sky*, to investigate the visible geoengineering activities taking place that most people are hesitant or afraid to talk about. Regrettably, the

Council's reply has been silence, denial, and even ridicule. This aligns with the ominous observation that "the most grossly obvious facts can be ignored when they are unwelcome."

### **A Call to Action**

I respectfully submit that, given the serious threat represented by "cloud seeding" activities as are now being publicly acknowledged, it is legally and ethically incumbent on the City of Ketchum, with neighboring municipalities, to implement periodic professional testing of toxicities in our snow and rain and to take appropriate action to protect public health, safety and the environment. This is not a costly proposition and by so doing, the Council would be setting an example for future generations on the importance of facing our most significant challenges head-on.

Thank you for taking the time to consider and respond to this matter.

Jim Hungelmann

Ketchum

## Participate

---

**From:** HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 10:02 AM  
**To:** Participate  
**Cc:** Andrew Guckes; editorialboard@mtexpress.com; gfoley@mtexpress.com  
**Subject:** PUBLIC Comment City Council meeting 2/5 ITEM 14

To the Council:

I urge you to approve the process being proposed by the City Administrator for running the City, with some significant caveats/suggestions. This process was a key part of my campaign for City Council and, two years ago, for Mayor, and it is encouraging to see the City finally take a step toward good governance in representing the electorate.

One key element of a management plan is reporting. It is one thing to adopt a plan, but unless there is a regular reporting process on progress toward deliverables, it is about as useful as the Ketchum Master Transportation Plan. A portion of every City Council meeting should be devoted to hearing progress against the plan. Right now, that only occurs for the Housing Plan.

The other key element of a quality planning process is transparency. Much of Ketchum's business is conducted in darkness. One example—the City has no written records of the Bluebird development process, other than the Mayor choosing the name. How can that be possible unless it was conducted “off-piste”? When the Mayor proclaims the Council is transparent, but it is patently not transparent, it begs the question: what are you hiding from us, and why? For example, the City's acquisition of a dilapidated condo for its Housing program. This was done in secrecy as the very last act of the outgoing Council; while that is legal, it is not ethical (IMO) and undermines confidence in the government. You are about to repeat this mistake in the next Council Meeting.

One of the techniques this administration uses to hide things from the public eye is to hand over taxpayer money to unaccountable organizations. The list is long: BCHA, KCDC, FSV, VSV, SVASB, Mountain Rides, the housing mediation program, BCCF, hand-selected citizens “advisory committees” —there are probably more. City Council members sit on the boards of many of these organizations. There is almost never any report to the public on what transpires with their money. As part of the planning process for the City of Ketchum, I urge you to dedicate a portion of each City Council meeting to a report on what is happening at these organizations.

I also suggest you require the staff to include in staff memos a cost/benefit analysis and more than one option for their recommendations to the Council. Without this, the Council does not make informed decisions and becomes a tool of the staff rather than a representative of the people. A great example is the lack of analysis and options for the Water Treatment Facility (WTF). We are now stuck for the next 40 years with a non-state-of-the-art facility at a cost that could have covered a state-of-the-art facility on a smaller footprint, freeing up land for workforce housing.

I also suggest you start incorporating an analysis of the impact on quality of life for Ketchum residents in staff memos. I cannot recall a single memo that addresses this, nor a substantive conversation in the Council about this.

We deserve “good government” in Ketchum. This proposal is a step in the right direction. It does not go nearly far enough. As our representatives, it is up to you to ensure Ketchum is run professionally and transparently.

Thank you,

Perry Boyle  
Ketchum

## Participate

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**From:** HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 9:02 AM  
**To:** Participate  
**Subject:** Questions on mediation program

How much Ketchum taxpayer money has been spent on this program to date?  
How much money does the State of Idaho or any other Blaine County electoral entity provide money to the program?  
How does the Ketchum Housing Department define the word “local” as used below?  
How many of the 25 people who were helped lived in Ketchum City Limits?  
How many of the 25 people were legal residents of Ketchum?  
How many of the 25 people work in the City of Ketchum?  
When “alternative housing” is found, where was each of those housing units located?

Thank you,

Perry Boyle  
Ketchum

“Democracy Dies in Darkness” (Washington Post)  
“Ketchum is committed to transparency” (Mayor Bradshaw)

## THE HOUSING MEDIATION PROJECT HAS ALREADY IMPROVED HOUSING STABILITY FOR 25 PEOPLE. YOU CAN PARTICIPATE TOO!

The Housing Mediation Project, administered by Neuro Mediation Group, provides mediation and non-eviction solutions for Blaine County landlords who are considering an eviction and for tenants facing eviction. Participation is free. So far, four local residents were able to renew their leases, five avoided eviction, and 13 extended their lease terms thanks to the program. Payment plans were used for three tenants, enabling them to extend their lease. Extensions ranged from six days to 12 months and provided more time for tenants to find alternative housing.

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**From:** HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 8:54 AM  
**To:** Participate  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT: Squeezing out the last of the Ketchum middle class...

To the Council:

Here are some comments I put into the IME today on the deed restriction program. There is a left-hand, right-hand sleight of hand going on in City Hall. On the one hand, you say you are trying to preserve the nature of Ketchum. But you take no action to do that. On the other hand, you are doing everything you can to turn Ketchum into another Aspen, but you do that in darkness.

You have been particularly slick with how you have set up the Housing Department to overlap with BCHA in an irreconcilable conflict of interest to shift Ketchum taxpayer money out of the hands of Ketchum taxpayers. Another genius move is getting Ketchum taxpayers to fund your plan for increased private jet capacity and more commercial flights to flood Ketchum with tourists.

And now you are fast-tracking all the kinds of things that should be done as a result of a community-wide comprehensive plan before that plan can be formulated, as you know the locals don't want what you are doing. Another master stroke of genius.

Aspen, here we come!

Perry Boyle  
Ketchum

**Lila Braun** Feb 2, 2024 6:43am

If their income is \$117,500 they can't buy anything in Ketchum, therefore how do they expect the program to be used? Make it make sense!!!

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Your comment has been submitted.



**Perry Boyle**

This program was proposed years ago by some locals--I think only one of them was able to still hold on to her housing in Ketchum--the rest are gone forever. My cynical interpretation having watched the City Council carefully is that they have little interest in preserving housing for locals. They are looking to push the middle class to Hailey and Bellevue and replace them with Soviet style worker housing for low wage employees who will be imported into Ketchum to work for the major tourism companies like Marriott, This particularly

program is an experiment, It might house a couple of peoplem and that is better than nothing. But the big numbers of housing units will have income caps to keep wages depressed and to tie people's housing to their employment. That is not a way to build a community. Bluebird 1 will be ready for occupancy this summer. Bluebird 2 is in active process with KURA on the Washington Lot. There are at least two other spots being eyed for Bluebird's 3 and 4: The YMCA parking lot and the 6th/Leadville parking lot. Oh, I forgot. The City put in an application to get \$5mm to build another Bluebird on the site of LiftTower Lodge--at least 50 units. That site is worth even more than the old City Hall site (the city says it is worth \$7mm). And then there is the original Bluebird, let's call it Bluebird 0, next to the firehouse--at least that one is somewhat tasteful in its construction, but the City will not release who lives there because it isn't the workforce housing they promised us. By the time this Mayor leaves office, there will be at least 6 Bluebirds built or in the process of being built. All on extremely valuable real estate. Our two new council members can try to stop it, but as we saw at the last Council meeting, they are outvoted by the Mayor and his pro-Bluebird contingent. If you want a flavor for what is going on at City Hall, all you need to do is read the last page of this document. Any one who disagrees with Ms Connolley has been labelled "polarizing." Who is the polarizing person? It proves my point that they are going to do whatever it takes to achieve their agenda, regardless of what the local people want for their community. Here is the link: <https://www.projectketchum.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Application-for-Submission-City-of-Ketchum.pdf> "Roadblocks Staff to be involved in the implementation of this grant are familiar with the polarizing viewpoints on affordable housing within our community. Navigating the NIMBYism that accompanies new affordable housing projects has been a key part of their roles on the City of Ketchum housing team, and we anticipate it will continue to be so in the implementation of this grant. We also anticipate that some of the changes to the comprehensive plan and land use code will assist with this navigation. The City of Ketchum's current Mayor and City Council have proven to be extremely prohousing and have supported and led on a wave of progressive efforts to house low- and moderate-income individuals in our community. There is a possibility that the Mayor and Council composition will change during the course of the grant period, making the execution of some projects more challenging. We have accounted for this work by proposing that BCHA, a non-political entity somewhat insulated from the vagaries of elections, be involved with Affordable Housing Gap Fund and by front-loading activities into the first 12-24 months of the grant period. " At the same time, check out the survey on <https://flysunvalleyalliance.com/>. The first question: do you fly private. It gives you a flavor of how your tax dollars are being subverted by this non-accountable organization to maximize the number of super-wealthy and tourists that can be flown into SUN. Aspen, here we come!