

Lisa Enourato

From: H Boyle <Boylehp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 3, 2022 6:25 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Fwd: Housing funds

For public comment

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aly Swindley <aswindley@ketchumidaho.org>
Date: December 2, 2022 at 2:35:07 PM EST
To: H Boyle <Boylehp@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Housing funds

Afternoon, Mr. Boyle - thank you for your note - would you like me to forward it to participate@ketchumidaho.org so it is filed under public comment?

ALY SWINDLEY | CITY OF KETCHUM
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-----Original Message-----

From: H Boyle <Boylehp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:17 PM
To: Aly Swindley <aswindley@ketchumidaho.org>
Subject: Housing funds

From the Mayor's Missive it looks like the City of Ketchum wants the 1% for Air to be renewed, but maybe not at 1%.

There has been no transparency on 1%, which is particularly disappointing given that Councillor Breen sits on the board of the FSVA.

If this administration pushes for 1% for Air, it will have a spillover impact that will impede its ability to get LOT for housing.

To the average resident, 1% is either not helping us, or making our challenges worse. Airfares for SUN are very high compared to BOI, so what is the subsidy getting us? And half of it has been going to promote tourism via VSV. Even VSV realizes that what it has done has no support from locals. Tourism is what is driving our housing crisis.

The City screwed up the LOT last May by increasing the tax on residents. If that's the strategy for next year, it won't pass. Residents aren't creating the problem, tourism is. It's supposed to be a tourist tax. The fact that only 30% of it is paid by residents isn't relevant. That any percent of it is paid by residents is wrong.

So if the City is good to tax residents for a tourism subsidy and a housing subsidy, it's not going to pass. By all means raise the LOT—on tourists.

And while you are at it, why are AirBNB units assessed and taxed as residences instead of hotels? Tax them like the commercial businesses they are and put that money to housing. And take a shot at limiting the number of STRs in a neighborhood. So what if you get sued. At least you tried to save the town.

You are going to have a problem raising revenue for housing as people figure out Bluebird. The City has never revealed its locals preference—why not? The City has never given any transparency on Northwood Place and its impact on the workforce housing situation. Why not? Unless you can show that the Bluebird tenants are locals working in local businesses you will have an uphill battle. People now know that the Mayor lied when he said it is housing for teachers and first responders.

And the Mayor's Missive this week is an admission of corruption of subsidized housing, with the forced sale of four units. How many of the deed restricted rental units are illegally occupied? If you want to raise money for housing you have to build confidence that the system isn't being abused. Get the enforcement done so all the units are in compliance with their deeds, and set up an audit system with teeth.

With Bluebird and Washington lots as highly visible public housing on top of the KETCH fiasco, you need to identify locations for where the money you plan to raise will be spent ahead of the vote. People won't just trust the City anymore. If it's for more low income housing apartment complexes in the retail core, a LOT increase won't pass. Much better locations for it on other City owned lots.

The smartest thing the City has done is partner with WRHT. Unlike Bluebird or Northwood, their model is true workforce housing. Like ARCH is doing with BCSD and STL.

Bottom line: repeating the last LOT referendum will be a loser and will set back workforce housing in Ketchum. Someone needs to carefully think this through and offer the voters a real plan for workforce housing, not just low income housing. The "trust us" route is a loser.

Perry Boyle
Ketchum

Lisa Enourato

From: Pamela Doucette <pameladoucette@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2022 9:25 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Resorce place for odd job helpers,

Resource place for odd job helpers, like shoveling, helping with yard work (temporary), or anything that could pay someone needing work and able to do it. There used to be a "job bank" in Ketchum that folks could leave notices of what they would be willing to help with. Now it is hit or miss on bulletin boards- most of which are monitored and swept clean often!. This would be a great service for our new residents from Peru too!

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