

9/1/22

Dear City of Salida Mayor, Council members, and Staff,

I write today to express my concerns about Ordinance 2022-17 and request you postpone the inclusion of both questions on the November 2022 ballot. After listening to the council's meetings and reading the proposed ballot language, I fear this ordinance offers **too little, too soon**.

I realize the housing crisis is critical and getting worse every month, therefore I suggest in the event the home rule ballot issue does not pass, a special election be held to consider a **revised ordinance**.

I began to seek information about this ordinance as a matter of personal interest when our turn came up on the waitlist for an STR permit. As I learn more about the ordinance's connection to addressing the Salida affordable housing crisis, I am opposed.

My opposition is not because it would affect my ability to leverage my primary residence a few weeks during the year to afford a modest vacation, but rather because the ordinance stands to further erode our community's shared values. Erosion adding to damage already done due to the current nature of the development/housing market of Salida.

I moved to Salida in 2005 and found a community that was inclusive, creative, economically diverse, and who elevated and celebrated each member as a contributing asset to our collective success. As Salida grows and the housing crisis worsens, I notice a departure from these values when it comes to property and policy. .

The ordinance, and discussion around it, is currently supported by a "something is better than nothing" approach. The danger with this justification is it can create an illusion of positive action, while resources might be utilized in a more thoughtful, even-handed manner.

The ordinance as written, is premature. There isn't enough transparency to inform how the funds are going to address the crisis. This incomplete approach has the potential for unintended, dangerous consequences. The toxicity that is brewing, in part due to blaming our permanent-resident neighbors and painting them as selfish obstacles to addressing the crisis, is heart-breaking to say the least, but also neglects to truly understand the nature of the crisis. Until a systemic approach (city and county) is applied to assess and mitigate (with proven practices) all related policies, small disconnected projects will only serve to treat symptoms. We need a cure. I support measures that distribute responsibility with greater equity and include individuals and corporations who are making great profits developing a housing market that is unsustainable.

It is my understanding that a home rule charter can address the housing crisis and other issues, with more creativity and be written to reflect the local values and character. I have seen heart, soul, concern, and great questions by the city council, and I urge you to take more time to look at this ordinance before presenting it as one part of a holistic plan. Please strive to make it

better, more inclusive and promote economic diversity, before you put it to a vote or include it in a home rule charter. If we remain bound by statutes and this is the only option, at the very least I want to see a preliminary plan on how 100% of this money will address the crisis directly.

Thank you for all of your work on this multidimensional issue. I support the council hitting pause before presenting this as the best possible option to address the housing crisis. I have full faith that all of your research, worksessions, and time you have spent listening to your constituents, will best serve the community in addressing the crisis, if a little more patience is exercised.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Davis".

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