

Carbon County Visitors' Council

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March 29, 2024

PATRICK HARRINGTON
Manager, Wyoming Outdoor Recreation
A Division of Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources

Patrick,

Please accept this letter of support and estimate of community and economic impact for the Spring Creek Project. I believe this initiative holds great potential to benefit outdoor recreation in Saratoga, Wyoming.

Saratoga, Wyoming embodies the authentic charm and western heritage that defines Wyoming's identity. Visitors can experience this heritage at places like the historic Wolf Hotel, shop at unique retail businesses, explore the foodie paradise, find vast amounts of outdoor recreation opportunities, and visit local attractions. One of Saratoga's unique attractions is the Hobo Hot Springs, a natural mineral pool where visitors can swim and relax in hot baths 24-hours a day for free. The same waters that brought the first settlers into the fertile North Platte River Valley still attract tired travelers and natives alike.

As one of Carbon County's leading tourism destinations, enhancements and improvements to the Spring Creek area that includes the Hobo Hot Springs would improve the visitor and resident experience alike. Improvements will draw in more outdoor recreation enthusiasts to Carbon County. This project also supports our Carbon County Master Tourism Plan by enhancing the Visitor Experience and Outdoor Recreation goals through improving amenities and supporting community collaborations.

Each year Saratoga hosts travelers from all walks of life and from around the world. The visitor economy continues to grow, and Saratoga businesses prosper. In 2023, visitors to Saratoga spent an average of \$181 per day and were from local drive markets that included Denver, Cheyenne, Casper, Salt Lake City, and Colorado Springs. Saratoga is a wonderful spot to experience part of Wyoming's hidden treasures.

In conclusion, the Spring Creek Project would enhance access to the outdoor recreation amenities in the area, improving safety along the riverfront and throughout the area. It would also complement and assist in the growth of Saratoga's tourism economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Leslie Jefferson, CEO
Carbon County Visitors' Council
dba **Discover Carbon County Wyoming**
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