



Project Summary Information

Project Title:

Applicant Organization(s):

Applicant Name(s):

Partner Organization (if applicable):

Partner Name (if applicable):

Amount Requested:

Estimated Total Project Cost:

Estimated Grant Period (years):

Brief Project Description (limit to space provided without expanding the text box; use 10 pt font)

This park enhancement project represents the culmination of many years of planning and community input activities to develop an underutilized 24-acre park in Dolores, CO. Over the past five years the Town has carefully invested in Joe Rowell Park (JRP) with the help of GOCO, and Kaboom to create an awesome playground for kids. This was the beginning of our vision. Our grant proposal seeks funding for key components including a community gathering space, a bike/skate park/pump track, outdoor exercise equipment, and a permanent land acknowledgement plaque in English, Spanish, Dine and Ute. Our community's active input drove the Town's master plan design which will create more equitable access to outdoor activities and provide more ways for youth and families to utilize our park. Throughout this community-led process, almost 100 people contributed to fundraising (\$115,000 to date) and committed to in-kind donations to help bring the project to fruition. We were inspired by the community support from youth, businesses and other members of the community in letters of support and active participation in all the community engagement activities. GOCO funding will support the recreational improvements that will also enhance the largest community gathering place within our small Town. It will create new amenities to draw visitors to support local businesses as well.

Town of Dolores, Joe Rowell Park Revitalization

This park enhancement project represents the culmination of many years of planning and community input activities to develop an underutilized 24-acre park in Dolores, CO. Over the past five years the Town has carefully invested in Joe Rowell Park (JRP) with the help of GOCO, and Kaboom to create an awesome playground for kids. This was the beginning of our vision. Our grant proposal seeks funding for key components including a community gathering space, a bike/skate park/pump track, outdoor exercise equipment, and a permanent land acknowledgement plaque in English, Spanish, Dine and Ute. Our community's active input drove the Town's master plan design which will create more equitable access to outdoor activities and provide more ways for youth and families to utilize our park. Throughout this community-led process, almost 100 people contributed to fundraising (\$115,000 to date) and committed to in-kind donations to help bring the project to fruition. We were inspired by the community support from youth, businesses and other members of the community in letters of support and active participation in all the community engagement activities. GOCO funding will support the recreational improvements that will also enhance the largest community gathering place within our small Town. It will create new amenities to draw visitors to support local businesses as well.

Proposal Narrative

The "Revitalization of Joe Rowell Park" project will convert an underutilized 24-acre park in Dolores into a dynamic community hub that not only promotes youth and family engagement but also ensures equitable access to outdoor activities, contributing to the overall vitality of the community at every age. According to the Colorado state demographer's office, in 2022 the town consisted of 918 people with 12% (110) being school age. There are 730 pre-school to high school age youth going to Dolores schools from not only Dolores but the greater county. In 2022 the median income of our residents was \$27,251 while the county's median income is \$61,377.

The park has a \$337,257 (see funding in budget narrative) playground, built in 2020, that is the crowning jewel to date. The original wooden structure was torn down in 2017. It left an empty hole in our park and rejuvenated the town citizens to get the playground replaced. With volunteer time we built the park during Covid. We have this same kind of enthusiasm for the bike/skate/pump track portion of the park. We have collaborated with the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) to establish a 30-tree heritage apple orchard, complete with deer fencing and a drip irrigation system. We are currently partnering with the Dolores food bank to create a fresh produce garden each summer. The produce grown goes into Dolores kids backpacks for weekend consumption as 20.9% of our population is below the poverty line.

We have a scenic trail that runs along the river on the northern border of the park that is used overwhelmingly by citizens in the 50-70 age range. There are several areas designated for fishing along this trail. A portion of the GOCO request would be used in conjunction with CPW and the Fishing is Fun grant, to enhance the river for better habitats for fish and economic benefit through tourism around fishing.

We have three baseball diamonds, one of which serves as the home field for the Dolores School District's competitive baseball program. Currently, we host a softball tournament annually in JRP in conjunction with Escalante Days. We host teams from Shiprock, Towaoc, Cortez, and others in the region. Additionally, we have a large soccer field that hosts a soccer tournament for men. We have one covered pavilion that is located near the river trail.

Our grant proposal seeks funding for key components, including an additional picnic area that can double as a space for music to enhance community gathering during events like Riverfest and Escalante Days, a bike/skate/pump park, adult exercise equipment, ADA-compliant walkways, and more trees. Additionally,

funds will support fishing habitat enhancement and improve river access.

Alignment with GOCO's Priorities:

This project was born at the grassroots level, and it has gained momentum through community and youth support. As a result of the community-led and inclusive planning process, the final proposal aligns seamlessly with GOCO's commitment to community connections, equitable access, community vitality, and outdoor stewardship. Through collaborative efforts with local organizations, schools, and youth programs, we will ensure that the park's facilities are accessible to all residents, regardless of socioeconomic status and disabilities. Universal design principles are incorporated for inclusivity as well, such as the "all wheel" nature of our bike and skate park providing opportunities for users of all mobility and skill levels.

Community Need:

We are building upon our past community engagement; we've continued to ensure we maintain the hard-earned momentum we've built with youth and the broader community. The parks committee gathered input at our most popular festival at JRP (Riverfest approximately 2K in attendance). We spoke with citizens of Dolores, as well as people from all over the Four Corners area. Jana McKenzie, from Logan-Simpson, brought the master plan for JRP to Riverfest and Escalante Days. We set up a booth and talked to as many people as we could. The parks committee invited people in, and the mayor worked to gather opinions about the concepts in the master plan. Furthermore, we set up a booth in the Farmers Market bi-weekly all summer to gather more information from citizens that want to see the park have a diversity of spaces in which to gather.

This park is the only park large enough in Dolores to house all the planned features. This development will center around a sense of belonging and social connection by focusing on inclusivity for the diverse population of the region and creating more pro-social opportunities and safe spaces for all youth. Not only will this project positively impact the Town of Dolores, but it will also make a positive change in health outcomes for individuals across the county and the entire Four Corners area. Additionally, it will bring people to Dolores to picnic, bike, play in the playground, and fish along the river. This will create economic opportunity for the Town of Dolores. A new pavilion will create not only shade but make it easier to host music at festivals since the pavilion can have a dual purpose.

Safe spaces are defined to be "physical or virtual spaces which enable youth to come together and freely express themselves without judgement or fear of retribution." (UNFPA 2015) These zones can be a powerful platform within positive youth development programs to develop core life skills, form friendships, receive and give peer support, increase social networks, and receive mentoring from trusted adults.

The need is also exemplified by Generation Wild's Montezuma Inspire Coalition (MIC), who found that 69-88% of respondents in Montezuma County want to spend more time outdoors, but face barriers such as cost and transportation (See attached). As a response to this issue, they funded a gear lending library to try and circumvent some of these challenges. However, youth still face obstacles in transportation, especially in rural Dolores. The town does not have a recreation center nor a no cost gym. Many youth have taken to building multiple dangerous dirt jumps and ramps across the back alleys of the community. The amenities, which will be professionally constructed, being added to our park because of this grant application will provide safely constructed and engineered ways that youth can be active and socialize.

The Montezuma County Community Values Survey and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Report about recreation and conservation find that skating, parks, and biking are among the top-rated activities in the county. They also found that major obstacles to these activities include the cost of activity and equipment, limited access to the outdoors, and overcrowding in parks. This

project would address these findings by building a new space for people to recreate and come together while also partnering with organizations who will address the cost barriers.

Currently, Montezuma County youth experience high levels of risk factors that can hinder healthy development. 60% of the 6K+ youth living in the county are eligible for the free and reduced lunch programs, and 29% live in poverty compared to the state average of 12%. The teen pregnancy rate is 34% or more than 3 out of every ten girls. Investments in this community will have far-reaching effects on many key health indicators. Along with safe spaces, prosocial activities, like the School Community Youth Collaborative's (SCYC) skate club, one of the project's partners, are key to lowering these rates.

Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducted a survey that showed that about 90% of people in Montezuma County are interested in a 4-day school week. It identified that families wanted more time to spend doing shared activities. The county decided to adopt this change. However, now that the school week is shorter, there is a gap in places for youth to recreate safely. The bike park, which is a component of this grant application, will provide safely constructed and fun ways that youth can be active and socialize. Paths will allow people of all ages, cultures, and abilities to enjoy the outdoors, and increased access to the river connects people directly to water and wildlife while increasing visibility and security.

Widespread Community Support:

The community and the town government recognize the urgency and need for this project and have shown their support through substantial monetary, in-kind, and volunteer commitments.

To ensure the project meets community expectations, the team conducted extensive surveys of citizens of all ages and engaged with residents through town hall meetings, focus groups, and online platforms. This input informed the design and features of the pump track, skate park, bike park, and community gathering space, ensuring they align with the desires and preferences of the community. The town survey demonstrated that 82% of people were interested in using a new larger picnic area seasonally; 74.6% would use the outdoor exercise equipment; and 66% would use the bike park features.

At the two Joe Rowell Park Community Outreach Sessions, the Parks Committee got feedback from a diverse range of ages, races, and backgrounds. As the chair of the Parks Committee said, "I must have spoken to over 100 people," at one of the events, including youth, parents and older community members. Their input was considered in the overall design. The listening sessions demonstrated that the community believes that the park proposal holds significant potential for multifaceted benefits to both individuals and the Dolores community.

We visited local skate clubs in the county where Natives interact with other youth during the design process. We consulted with the director of High Dessert Devo, a local mountain biking youth program, and collaborated with the American Ramp Company (ARC) to lead a local interactive bike/skate park design meeting with Olympic skateboarder, Julia Bruckler. Additionally, the Town of Dolores received letters from over thirty youth in Dolores ranging from elementary to high school-aged, all to support the new and improved space. Another eleven local and regional businesses and non-profits in our small rural community took the time to write to declare their support for the project.

Overall, the community envisions the park as a transformative investment in both the physical and emotional health of its residents, catering to various age groups. These dreams reflect a collective aspiration for the park to evolve into a vibrant and inclusive space, contributing significantly to the well-being and vitality of Dolores.

Our Partners:

We have forged partnerships with various stakeholders and organizations to maximize the project's impact and ensure inclusivity. Over 100 individuals contributed more than \$115,000 since the inception of the project with additional in-kind donations from the Town, Dolores Bike Hostel, Kokopelli's Bike and Board, American Ramp Company, Sage Messaging, and Trautner Geotech.

Teamup and MIC. According to a recent survey from Team Up, a collective impact initiative under the United Way of SW Colorado, and MIC, there are very few locations where youth can spend time outside of school and feel comfortable. In this survey, they found that Dolores and Towaoc have the lowest number of places where youth can recreate without harm. TeamUp and MIC have been meeting monthly with a group of non-profit leaders and community members to create more areas where youth feel comfortable.

School Community Youth Collaborative's (SCYC) Skate Club. Connections have already been established with the Skate Club, a safe haven for dozens of youths, ranging in experience level from beginner to veteran. The club provides a weekend outlet for students outside of school hours, providing a safe place for aspiring skaters during the non-winter months. The club coach and riders provided their feedback on the design of the park and are excited about the prospect of increasing their skills.

Gear Lending Library. This project, managed by the SCYC and funded through MIC, lends free outdoor gear to Montezuma County organizations and individuals that take children, youth, and families on outdoor trips. We will partner with them to provide bikes and skateboards to people who may face obstacles to procuring these on their own along with local entities the Dolores Bike Hostel, which with host events and Kokopelli Bike and Board.

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. The Four Corners area is home to a large Native population. Montezuma County in particular, borders the Tribal lands of the Ute Mountain Ute people. K'ia Whiteskunk, the Director of the Towaoc Recreation Center, personally assured the team that many youth will benefit from the amenities the new park will provide. The Ute Mountain Ute Recreation Center already brings groups of youth to Dolores as one of the many activities they provide. We have included this population in our planning process by traveling to other spaces where youth meet to discuss and are confident that the addition of the bike and skate park will provide more much-needed activities for this particular group of youth. These sections are intentionally designed to be accessible of all ability levels - whether they are a beginner or expert rider. In addition, one of the parts of this proposal is to add a land acknowledgment in English, Dine, Ute, and Spanish as a plaque at the entrance of the park. This translation will occur through consultation with the Ute Mountain Ute's school as they are teaching children to speak Ute again. It is a small step in correcting the iniquity of the past, but it is a step in the right direction, nonetheless. Tribal members are attracted to JRP and the Dolores River and have been for many years. Recreate, picnic, escape the heat, swim, fish, and play ball. We will work to welcome and hold this space for all to gather.

Montezuma Youth Pride. Partnering with the MYP, we will offer the park as a safe and sober space for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies to gather, promoting social support and well-being.

High Desert Devo. Partnering with HDD, a youth cycling program based in the county, we hope to support their mission of providing the confidence, compassion, and perseverance that kids can carry into their lives and their interactions with their community. In addition to building basic biking skills, this partnership will also bring a sense of community and engagement among the youth teams who can use the bike park and pump track to build their skills and to foster a love for the outdoors.

Community Impact:

The revitalization of the JRP not only impacts the quality of life for the citizens of Dolores, it also creates one more space where youth can enhance their skills and be outdoors meeting kids from all over the four corners instead of inside where activity is limited. This park will also unite all of our partners and create a bridge for all involved.

This park is essential to the overall vitality and quality of life of the community, including:

- strengthening community bonds through social interaction and cultural expressions,
- providing facilities, such as a performance stage, bike park, river access, dog park, and group and family gatherings for more equitable and diverse activities and programming,
- promoting stewardship through education/interpretation, sustainable design, river and riparian restoration, and increasing opportunities for connections with nature and the Dolores River,
- improving health and wellness through exercise associated with games, loop trails, biking/skating, and outdoor equipment for people of all abilities,
- providing structures and trees for shade to mitigate increased temperatures associated with climate change, and
- attracting tourists and businesses that contribute to the Town's economic health through events and public land improvements.

Impact on Outdoor Tourism Economy:

This is expected to have a high impact on the outdoor tourism economy that will be supplemented by the new community gathering space. There is already a lot of forward movement on supplementing the outdoor tourism economy in Dolores. Over the past three years, a bike shop and hostel have opened, and miles of new trails have been added to the nearby Boggy Draw US Forest trail system. The trail connects the Town of Dolores to the larger trail system and loops back to the other side of town in a 35-mile stunning display of high desert landscape.

The project aligns with GOCO's values of community vitality by supporting efforts to strengthen the local economy through sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities. The proposed project also aligns with the state and county's economic development frameworks. According to the State Rural Development Blueprint, the following activities are fiscal priorities: 1) Leverage the unique assets of rural Colorado 2) Make critical investment in community infrastructure 3) Build on successful economic development programs and 4) Community identified priorities. The community's Region9 economic development plan further highlights "access to recreation" and "leveraging the unique assets of the area" as two of the priority goals (2021).

The revitalization project will address the priority areas at both the state and county level by providing an accessible point of entry into biking and will encourage youth and adults to spend more time in the beautiful outdoor assets of our community. In addition, it is a community identified priority, as demonstrated by the town survey results, the safe spaces questionnaire, and the American Ramp Company's to bring Julia Bruckner here to meet and inspire our kids through additional outreach efforts. According to the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), 16% of jobs in the county are related to tourism and this project will augment this sector.

Dolores is already increasing its investment around sustainable recreation and leveraging outdoor resources, which will have a direct impact on conservation. This project will also maximize the impact and will

contribute to building a deep appreciation for the outdoor assets of our great corner of the state.

Conclusion:

Joe Rowell Park is an integral community asset, yet it is underutilized today because of the lack of modern amenities. By investing in the elements we've highlighted in this grant, we will be revitalizing a key resource within the town. The park will be a more vibrant gathering place for a diverse group of our community. Whether community members voted to add youth amenities like the bike/skate park or expressed a desire for more outdoor exercise opportunities – addressed by the new adult exercise equipment, shade structures, walking trails, fishing spots, and landscaping – our design teams have incorporated this feedback every step of the way. Today, we present these plans to ensure that our community's core resources are fully leveraged for everyone's benefit.

The proposed revitalization of Joe Rowell Park stands as a beacon for community-driven change, reflecting the aspirations and needs of Dolores residents. By fostering inclusivity, addressing urgent community needs, and leveraging strategic partnerships, the project aims to create a vibrant and inclusive space that enhances the wellbeing of youth while contributing significantly to the vitality of the town, county, and region. This transformative initiative aligns seamlessly with GOCO's values and program priorities, promising a lasting impact on the community's quality of life and outdoor connections.

If our request is approved by GOCO it will cover the design and construction of key components that can be implemented more efficiently as one project. This would have a significant positive, near-term impact compared to numerous small projects over many years that the Town struggles to fund.

Timeline:

Award – November 2024

Winter 2025 – Vendor identified to complete Fishing is Fun activity

Summer 2025 – Fishing is fun grant completed

Winter 2025 – Bike park/Skatepark/Pump track - design engineering completion

Spring 2025 – contract for builder of shade structures, installation of benches and picnic tables

Summer 2025 – Bike/Skate/Pump Track build begins

Fall 2025 – Bike/Skate/Pump Track completed

Spring 2026 – Walkways installed, adult exercise equipment installed 36 shade trees w/irrigation completed.

**BUDGET NARRATIVE
GOCO TOWN OF DOLORES**

SEPTEMBER 2024

Methodology for Cost Estimates

All cost estimates were developed by Logan-Simpson except for the Bike/Skate Park/Pump Track, which was completed by American Ramp Company, a design/build company specializing in bike and skate parks.

Our project has been community driven with strong engagement and input for the past several years. The goal of the community engagement was to ensure that the park improvements designed to revitalize Joe Rowell Park meet the goals and needs of our town and the larger community. In addition to the input phase of engagement, our community has come together with donations, both in cash and in-kind form.

RECENT PREVIOUS INVESTMENT IN JOE ROWELL PARK

The town wants to explain the recent investments in JRP. This summary is meant to provide the reviewers with additional information to better understand the town's commitment.

COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND

In 2020 the town built a \$337K community playground. The town received a \$174K GOCO grant, \$86K from Kaboom. Private donors committed \$15K and the town contributed \$62K in remaining funding. Volunteers committed to 100s of hours of labor.

JRP MASTER PLAN

In 2021 the town hired Logan Simpson to develop the park master plan (map included). Additionally, the town had the park surveyed by Trautner Geotech at two-foot intervals for a total cost of \$30,000.

BIKE PARK PRELIMINARY PLAN

The town hired American Ramp Company to produce the preliminary design for the bike park of \$30,000. They have donated \$9,000 by creating a website to view the design.

ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

In 2024 the town purchased and installed two pieces of equipment at a cost of \$15,000. The town received partial funding from a CDPHE grant. The town is seeking funds from GOCO for three additional pieces of equipment.

FUTURE INVESTMENTS IN JOE ROWELL PARK

The bike park is financed with funds requested from GOCO, fund raising, and from in-kind labor.

The not-for-profit Lost Canyon Bike/Skate Park has \$85,000 cash commitments for the project and in-kind labor and materials are committed. Lost Canyon also raised \$30,000 for the bike park design for a total of \$115,000.

DOLORES RIVER IMPROVEMENTS

The river improvements are the Fishing is Fun project in cooperation with CPW. The town received a \$53,250 grant from CPW and committed \$17,750. The town is seeking \$20,000 from GOCO to help with unanticipated design costs and for the Army Corps 404 permitting process.

WALKWAY

Funding for the stabilized crusher fines gravel walks are a combination of GOCO funds and town funds.

Skatepark

- Concrete: 100 CY - \$275/CY
- Shotcrete: 50 CY - \$325/CY
- Rebar: 16,000 LF - \$7.00 per Stick (Comes in 20' Sticks) = \$5,600
- Aggregate Material: 500 CY - \$50/CY
- Accommodations: 3 months \$1500 per week / \$18,000 for 3 month
- Equipment* (needed for 3 months unless otherwise noted):
 - Skidsteer \$2882/month
 - Mini Ex \$3,166/month
 - Drum Roller \$1632/ month
 - Attachments -\$1765/month
 - Air Compressor (2 weeks) \$362/week.

Pump Track

- Asphalt: 58 Tons - \$120/ton
- Aggregate Material: 522 CY - \$50/CY
- Accommodations: 1 month \$1500 per week / \$6000 per month
- Equipment* (needed for 1 month unless otherwise noted):
 - Skidsteer \$2882 per month
 - 18k Mini Ex \$3,166 per month
 - Smooth Drum Roller (2 weeks) \$765 per week
 - Water Truck \$2708 1 month

Bike Park/Bicycle Playground

- Clean Fill Material: 1067 CY - \$30/CY
- Top Coat Material: 143 CY - \$60/CY
- Boulders: 16 Tons - \$68/Ton
- Accommodations: 1 month \$1500 per week / \$6000 per month
- Equipment *(needed for 1 month unless otherwise noted):
 - Skidsteer \$2882/month
 - 18k Mini Ex \$3,166/month
 - Smooth Drum Roller (2 weeks) \$765/week
 - Water Truck \$2708/month

*Add \$1200 for equipment delivery/pickup. Savings if multiple pieces of equipment can be picked up/dropped off at the same time.

**Disclaimer: Materials, lodging, etc is a moving target depending on time of year, price increases, availability, etc

PROJECT BUDGET & DETAILS

APPLICATION SCOPE OF WORK

Source of Funds (CASH)		Date Secured	GOCO Funds	Matching Funds
			\$776,845.00	
Funding Sources				
Fishing is Fun CPW		11/1/2021		\$ 53,250.00
Donations for Bike Park		Committed		\$ 115,000.00
Dolores match Fishing is Fun		11/1/2021		\$ 17,750.00
Town Funds for Park Trails		1/1/2025		\$ 26,150.00
Source of Funds (IN-KIND)				
Town of Dolores, Volunteers, Equipment and materials				\$199,000.00
		<i>subtotal</i>	\$776,845.00	\$411,150.00
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS				\$1,187,995.00
Use of Funds (CASH)	Description	GOCO Funds	Matching Funds	Total Funding
Bike Park/Skate Park/Pump Track <i>American Ramp Co</i>	Contracting, mobilization, dirt work, pre construction, utilities	\$475,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$590,000.00
Adult Exercise <i>Paris</i>	Outdoor adult exercise area, 3 new pieces of exercise equipment	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00
River Recreation <i>TBD</i>	Fishing is Fun CPW project-committed	\$20,000.00	\$71,000.00	\$91,000.00
Park Enhancement <i>TBD</i>	2- Shade Structures, 8 benches, 3 picnic tables	\$73,500.00		\$73,500.00
Pleasant View Farms <i>TBD</i>	36-shade trees w/ irrigation	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00

OTHER LEVERAGED RESOURCES (OPTIONAL)

CASH OR IN-KIND	Description	Total Funding
Previous investment		
<i>GOCO, Kaboom and TOD</i>	2020 \$174K from GOCO, Town \$59K, Private donors \$15K, Kaboom \$86K	\$334,000.00
Planning		
<i>Logan Simpson/Montelores Survey</i>	Logan Simpson performed the park master plan and Montelores performed the 2-foot contour survey	\$30,000.00
Preliminary Design		
<i>American Ramp CO</i>	Bike Park Preliminary Design raised by Lost Canyon	\$30,000.00
Adult Exercise Equipment	Two pieces of Adult exercise equipment	
<i>Paris and Town</i>		\$15,000.00
Volunteer installation of adult ex. Equip		
<i>Dolores citizen and town emp</i>		\$207.64
Work on Grant		
<i>Park committee</i>		\$374.38
	<i>subtotal</i>	\$409,582.02
TOTAL PROJECT VALUE		\$1,597,577.02
	<i>GOCO % of project cost</i>	65%
	<i>GOCO % of project value</i>	49%

**Town of Dolores
Resolution
No R559
SERIES 2023**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS
COLORADO TRUST FUND GRANT FOR THE COMPLETION OF
IMPROVEMENTS TO JOE ROWELL PARK**

WHEREAS, the Town of Dolores has adopted a Master Plan for Joe Rowell Park on the recommendation of the Town Parks Advisory Committee and input from citizens and members of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has identified implementing the vision of the Master Plan and developing the improvements called for therein a matter of important to the citizens of the Town of Dolores; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Dolores supports the Great Outdoors Colorado grant application for improvements to Joe Rowell Park in accordance with the Master Plan. And if the grant is awarded, the Town supports the completion of the project.

WHEREAS, the Town of Dolores has requested \$765,713.00 from Great Outdoors Colorado to fund completion of certain components of the Master Plan for Joe Rowell Park as set forth in the grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE Board of Trustees for the Town of Dolores as follows:

Section 1: The Town of Dolores Board of Trustees strongly supports the application for a grant with Great Outdoors Colorado.

Section 2: If the grant is awarded, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Dolores strongly supports the fulfillment of the project.

Section 3: The Board of Trustees authorizes the Town Manager to sign and submit the grant application; and, if the grant is awarded, the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Town Manager to sign the grant agreement with Great Outdoors Colorado.

Section 4: If the grant is awarded, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Dolores authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of the grant agreement.

Section 5: All action heretofore taken in furtherance of the purposes of the Grant Application are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Section 6: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its


passage and approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of November 2023.



Mayor Leigh Reeves

ATTEST:



Town Clerk Tammy Neely





COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE WILDLIFE REVIEW

The applicant is responsible for addressing any environmental impacts associated with the project, including securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analysis necessary to comply with local, state, or federal law.

Applicant

Name: **Kalin Grigg/Town of Dolores**

Email: **kalin@townofdolores.com**

Title: **Town Board Member**

Phone: **970-560-3349**

Please consult with your local Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) District or Area Manager to complete the table below and associated narrative questions as appropriate.

CPW Representative

Name: **Matt Sturdevant**

Email: **matt.sturdevant@state.co.us**

Title: **District Wildlife Manager III**

Phone: **9707491435**

CPW representative, check this box if no significant environmental considerations exist and skip the remainder of the form.

Environmental Considerations	Not Applicable	Negligible Impacts	Minor Impacts	Significant Impacts	Insufficient Information
Plant/animal species of special concern; state/federal listed or proposed listed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unique or important habitat (<i>i.e. migration, winter-range, reproductive considerations</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unique or important aquatic habitat (<i>i.e. fish passage, spawning habitat</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water quality/quantity – surface and ground water considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stream flow characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
River corridors/lakes/ponds/ seasonal water ways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands/floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storm water runoff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sedimentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbances to neighboring properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil/erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Introduction or promotion of non-native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental disturbances during construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

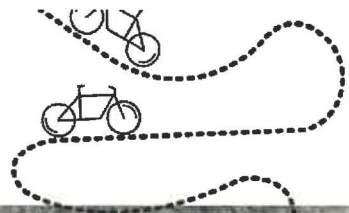
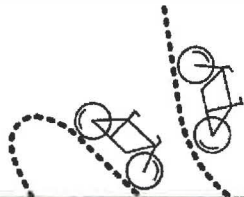
MITIGATION Please describe any necessary mitigation measures under consideration for impacts exceeding negligible (consider alternative design or trail route system; screening users from wildlife area, protection of critical habitat, channeling use through less sensitive habitat areas; re-vegetation of disturbed areas and control of invasive species; management of users and related activities with signs, fencing, and education programs; consideration of runoff when selecting project materials, such as uncured concrete to encourage seepage; comprehensive storm water runoff plan).

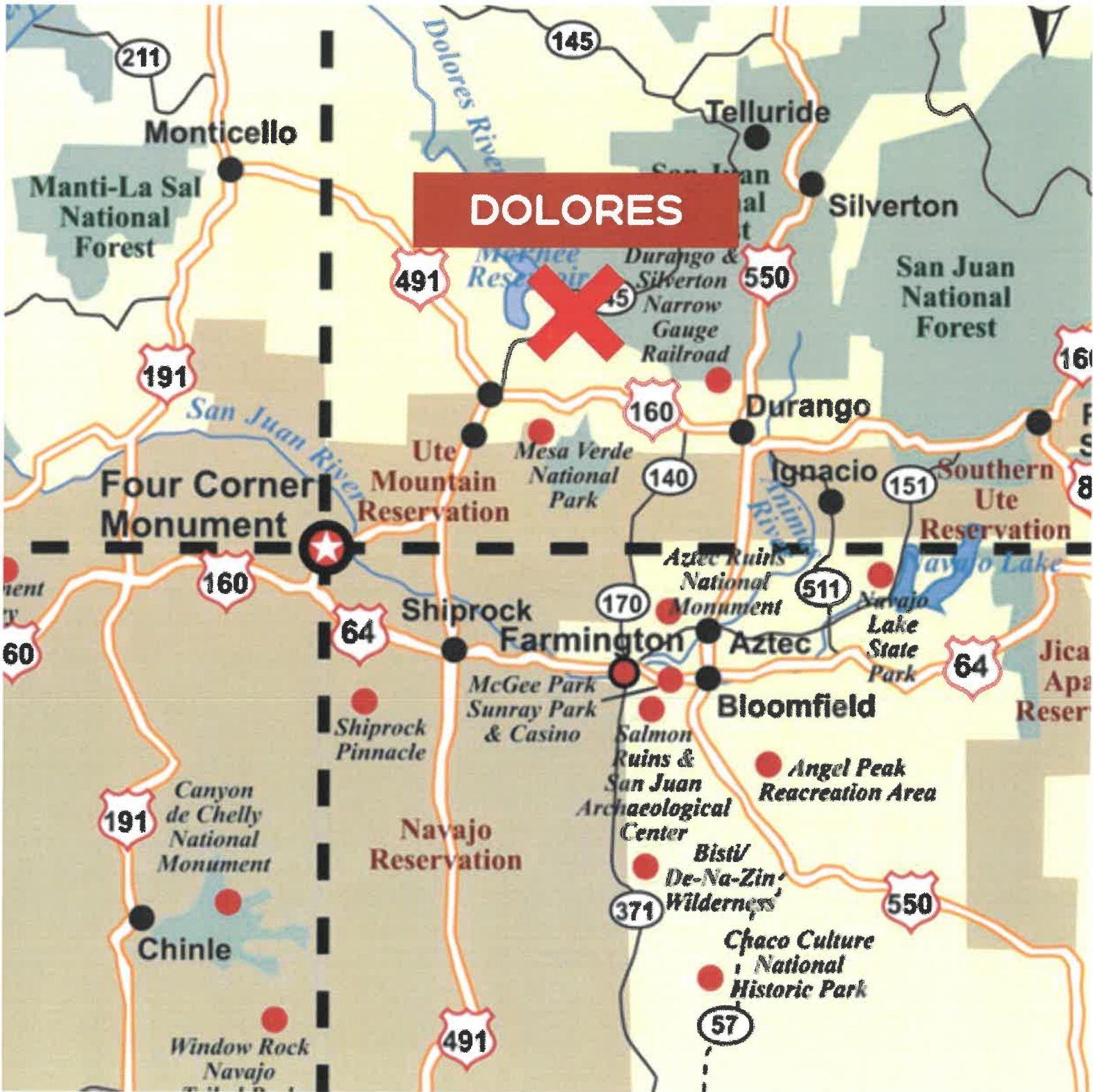


BENEFIT Please describe any anticipated positive impacts on wildlife and/or sensitive species (consider habitat improvement such as restoration of native habitat, wetlands restoration, erosion reduction, sediment reduction, river corridor clean-up, or plantings with a diversity of species and plant types for habitat restoration, and the reduction or elimination of non-native plant species; education of users through environmental education programs, opportunities for “watchable wildlife,” and wildlife impact monitoring).

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE The applicant is responsible for adhering to all applicable environmental compliance regulations including, but not limited to Migratory Bird Treaty Act; concurrence with US Fish and Wildlife Service if any federally listed species of concern exist in project area; Clean Water Act section 404; US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permits; raptor buffer guidelines and incorporation of CPW recommended wildlife best management practices; CO Senate Bill 40 (33-5-101-107, CRS 1973 as amended); Colorado Historical, Prehistoric and Archeological Resources Act.

New connected bike trail up to Boggy Draw Trail System and back through town





JOE ROWELL REVAMP

Donated and Painted
Decks for Auction



↑ Lost Canyon
Committee

My Hopes & Dreams about the park are Hoping it will bring more people & families & dream of it growing & expanding & improving the park itself.

My hopes and dreams are that our community will grow with the new park. Hoping to have the Festival will be held at the skate park.

Photo of the Dolores River Fest, one of the many well-attended tourist events at the park



Outreach



Community

YOUTH
VOICE





11-29-23

The Dolores park is great.

It would be even better if it had a bike park so other peepol can play at the Dolores park. Gerise 1st grade



Heidi Beyhan
Dolores Middle School
1301 Central Avenue
Dolores, CO 81323
November 30, 2023

Mike Wight
Great Outdoors Colorado
1900 Grant Street, Unit 725
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Wight:

Hello, my name is Heidi, I am a Dolores Middle School student. I am writing you this letter to ask you for funding for a new park. I think it would be a great way for the town of Dolores to bring the community together. Since it would only be the eighth park like it in the country, it would also bring people from out of town to Dolores. Making the new skate park could also cause fewer accidents. People ride their bikes on the side of the road, with the new park they could go there instead. Many people would enjoy the new scenery for Dolores as well. Adding the park could help with sports, like hosting baseball and soccer games too, which could raise money for our new school. Overall, adding the new park would bring a lot to the community of Dolores. Thank you for considering my ideas.

Sincerely,
Heidi Beyhan
Heidi Beyhan

YOUTH LETTERS AND COMMUNITY-LED DESIGNS

November 30, 2023

Mike Wight
Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)
1900 Grant Street, Unit 725
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Mike Wight:

My name is Matthew Vega and I'm an 8th grade student from Dolores Middle School who spends a lot of time in Dolores. I am writing this letter to you to encourage the organization to fund the Dolores reformation of Dolores's Joe Rowell Park. Dolores would be more fun if Joe Rowell Park had more activities to engage in and it would attract more visitors and could be a great place for friends to hang out. If this was to happen, Dolores could host more events and competitions all year long with its asphalt track instead of Cortez hosting them all. The park would also have the chance to be the 8th skate park with this unique design which may attract more travelers to skate it. It would be a great option for family and friend hangouts with its many attractions it would have to offer like a kayak area, skate park, volleyball net, dog park, and way more. There will also be more options for adults (like outdoor gym) instead of just the kids, so everyone can have fun. The skate park would also allow beginners and advanced people to use it with its four different skate parks built for all ages. There are also many ways this could benefit the community. It will make the park look nicer when they cover the long non playful grass with the park. We could also fix our dusty and ugly baseball fields with the money which will allow us to host more games, which will benefit our Dolores baseball team and teams will be jealous of our super nice fields. Since the park will be free and it'll have new features, it will have a drastic change of people going outside more. All in all, this new park will benefit Dolores Colorado for several reasons, and from the bottom of my heart please allow us to get the money needed to let this happen. It will bring joy and happiness to so many people and will stop a sad storm from happening.



11-29-23
I think the Dolores park is great. It would be even better if it had a bike park so other peepol can play at the Dolores park. Gerise 1st grade



Community Programs and Perspectives on Outdoor Activity

Survey results highlighted below are from a Montezuma County Community Values Survey and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Report about recreation and conservation.

Top Rated Activities



Skateboarding¹⁰



Gardening, farming, and ranching¹⁰



Walking, hiking, and backpacking⁶



Fishing⁶



Family activities at the park¹⁰



Road biking for transportation¹⁰

~90%⁶

want to get outside to recreate and spend time with their family and friends

Barriers to Outdoor Recreation



- Access to transportation causes low enrollment and participation rates in programming for low income families.⁶
- Traffic congestion deters commuting for outdoor activity.⁶
- Need transportation to Cortez for higher participation rates.¹

Montezuma County reported being most dissatisfied with access to road biking as a means of transportation to school and work.¹⁰



Additional barriers include:

- Cost of activity and equipment.¹⁰
- Limited access to the outdoors.⁶
- Overcrowding in parks.⁸
- Lack of free time and other people to recreate with.¹⁰

Montezuma County Youth

6,000
Youth Population ¹

60%
Eligible for Free and
Reduced Lunch ⁵

Child Poverty Rate ²



Children under 18 Living in Single-Family Homes ⁵



Key Youth Behavioral Health Indicators ¹



Teen birth rate



Felt **sad or hopeless** for two weeks or more in the past 12 months



Had at least one **alcoholic beverage** in the past 30 days



Had **attempted suicide** in the past 12 months

650:1

per capita mental health provider ratio

Key Youth Education Indicators



Feel school work is often or almost **important and meaningful** ¹



Fourth grade students **not reading** at grade level ¹



Skipped a **whole day** of school in the past month ¹



High school **dropout rate** (highest quartile in state) ⁵



To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the inclusion of a Bike and Skate Park in the Town of Dolores Revitalization Project. Team UP uses collective impact to support children, youth, and families, and we believe that investing in spaces that promote pro-social activities for our youth is crucial for the overall well-being of our youth and families.

The establishment of a Bike and Skate Park aligns with the growing need for positive and healthy recreational outlets for our youth. Engaging in sports like biking and skating not only fosters physical fitness but also promotes teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. These activities provide an avenue for our young residents to channel their energy constructively and develop valuable life skills. A Bike and Skate Park would serve as a hub for the community, offering a safe and supervised environment for young individuals to interact, make friends, and cultivate a sense of belonging.

Moreover, such recreational spaces contribute significantly to the overall vibrancy and culture of the town. By investing in facilities that cater to the diverse interests of our youth, we are actively working towards creating a more inclusive and dynamic community. A Bike and Skate Park will not only be a source of joy for our community's youth but will also enhance the overall quality of life in Dolores.

We give the highest recommendation for prioritizing funding the development of the Bike and Skate Park as part of the broader effort to create positive recreational opportunities for our youth. Your commitment to this project will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the community and contribute to the long-term success and well-being of children, youth, and families in Dolores.

Sincerely,

Emily Huminski

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Emily Huminski'.

Director of Team UP
United Way of Southwest Colorado
emilyh@unitedway-swco.org
952-452-3278

December, 2023

Mike Wight
Great Outdoors Colorado

RE: Town of Dolores, CO application to Great Outdoors Colorado for a bicycle and skate park.

Dear Mr. Wight:

I am pleased to learn about the opportunity to build a bicycle and skate park in the town of Dolores, CO to support safe, healthy, and pro social activities for youth in Montezuma County and the Four Corners Region. I would like to take this opportunity to share my full support of the aforementioned project. As an educator, coach and mentor at Southwest Open School (SWOS), I understand the importance of healthy and safe activities for youth in our area. Southwest Open School serves students grades 9-12 with more than 95% defined as "high risk" according to the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE) ten risk factors. The student population at SWOS is ethnically diverse with approximately 35 % Native American, 53% Caucasian, 15% Hispanic, and 2% defined as "Other." SWOS serves students from four school districts in the Four Corners area: Montezuma-Cortez RE-1, Dolores RE-4A, Dolores County RE-2J, and Mancos RE-6. SWOS also serves students from the Ute Mountain Ute and Navajo reservations.

During my tenure at SWOS, I have been the director of a biking and bicycle technician program that promotes healthy lifestyles and provides career and technical training for students' individual career and postsecondary plans. I have witnessed outdoor education and outdoor activities serve as a lifeline for youth in our region. Furthermore, I have seen the impact of biking and skating as a means of engagement, promote mental health and lead to student success in school and overall graduation rate.

I highly encourage every opportunity possible to provide bike and skate space for our youth.

Kind Regards,

Scott Spear
Career and Technical Education
Humanities Instructor
Southwest Open School

School Community Youth Collaborative
10 West Main #102
Cortez, CO 81321



Dear Great Outdoors Colorado Community Impact Grant Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the School Community Youth Collaborative (SCYC) to express our support for the new park renovations and the proposed bike/skate park in Montezuma County. This project aligns with our goals of providing positive pro-social activities for youth in our community.

Montezuma County presents an incredible opportunity for outdoor recreation. However, the lack of adequate facilities has limited local youth to activities like biking and skateboarding. Through our Gear Lending Library, SCYC has been working to bridge this gap by offering free outdoor gear, including bikes and skateboards, to young people in our community.

The Skate community in Montezuma County is large and passionate. In recent years these individuals have created an event, in memory of one of their fellow skaters, that raised awareness around suicide prevention, youth activities and wellness activities for their community. Currently, SCYC provides a Skate Club during the warmer months that provides an opportunity for these young people to become a part of the amazing Skate community in Montezuma County. Because Montezuma County is such a spread out, rural area, the need for a skate park in each town, Mancos, Cortez and Dolores is essential. SCYC's Skate Club, played a role in the design process for the proposed park. Their insights and creativity have been essential in creating a space that meets the unique preferences and needs of Montezuma County's youth.

The Gear Lending Library, coupled with the proposed park renovations, will eliminate barriers when it comes to accessing gear and equipment needed. We are confident that the implementation of the bike/skate park project will have a lasting and positive effect on Montezuma County, transforming it into a hub for outdoor enthusiasts and fostering a sense of community pride. The Great Outdoors Colorado Community Impact Grant represents a crucial step toward turning this vision into reality, and we support this project.

Sincerely,

Christine Brice-Nelson

Director

School Community Youth Collaborative



Subject: Endorsement for Joe Rowell Park Revitalization Project

December 13, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic endorsement and support for the Joe Rowell Park revitalization project in Dolores. As the Director of the Montezuma Inspire Coalition (MIC), an organization dedicated to removing barriers to getting youth and families into the outdoors in Montezuma County, I am acutely aware of the transformative impact that community initiatives can have on the well-being of our residents, especially our youth.

The proposed revitalization of the 24-acre park represents a worthy effort to convert an underutilized space into a dynamic community hub. I firmly believe that initiatives like these play a crucial role in fostering youth and family engagement while ensuring equitable access to outdoor activities. Such endeavors contribute significantly to the overall vitality and cohesion of our community.

The components outlined in the proposal, including the community gathering space, bike/skate park, outdoor exercise equipment, and the permanent land acknowledgment plaque, reflect a thoughtful and inclusive approach. I appreciate the commitment to inclusivity demonstrated by the translations in English, Spanish, Dine, and Ute (Wugama Núuchi) on the acknowledgment plaque, recognizing and honoring the diverse cultural heritage of our community.

Having witnessed firsthand the positive impact of outdoor recreation on youth development, I am particularly excited about the potential of this project to create a space that not only encourages physical activity but also fosters a sense of community and belonging.

As the leader of the Montezuma Inspire Coalition, I am proud to lend my support to the Joe Rowell Park revitalization project. I endorse this endeavor and believe it aligns with the values and goals of our coalition.

If there is any additional information or assistance required from my end, please do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to witnessing the positive impact of the Joe Rowell Park revitalization on our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gabrielle Morey".

Gabrielle Morey
Director
Montezuma Inspire Coalition



KOKOPELLI

BIKE & BOARD

315 Central Ave Dolores CO 81323

(970) 565-4408

November 22nd, 2023

Re: Letter of Support, Joe Rowell Park Revamp Project

Kokopelli Bike and Board is a local business, operated by Scott Darling and Pete Eschallier, and we would like to show our support for grant funding for the Joe Rowell Park Revamp Project. As a local business we appreciate the partnership with the town of Dolores and Great Outdoors Colorado, GOCO. This partnership has worked well with local organizations and interest groups to improve the recreational benefits to the Dolores Area. This relationship has helped our business grow in the 29 years of operation, including our newest store location in the town of Dolores. Without funding and these partnerships our business and our sport of mountain biking would not be possible. Locals and tourists love our area for the outdoor activities, but sometimes just having something in town close to home helps us get outdoors without having to load our equipment and get it to the trail head. The proposed bike and skate park at Joe Rowel Park will take our community to the next level and keep our community active, healthy and involved. I believe that our community is special because of the people, yes we have beautiful forest and trails, but with this park it gives the community the opportunity to share something together not spread out on a great trail system. This park project will keep our youth engaged in outdoor activities and my hope is that older and younger generations will use this park and our youth will continued to be mentored by our outstanding community.

Recreational activities directly affect our business and our community. In 1994 there was no bike shop and there was no Boggy Draw Trail System. It is no coincidence that now 29 years later the trails are going strong and so is our business of over a million in sales per year, adding tax dollars to the economy, creating jobs, donating to multiple organizations, providing a source for trail information, and being an advocate of leave no trace and responsible, sustainable recreating. Now the time feels right to focus on the demands of this

community base and create a space that this love can be shared in a smaller community setting.

The Dolores Area Trails and San Juan Forest Trails have become quite a destination for bikers. With the surrounding mountain bike meccas, Moab, Durango, Fruita, and now Phil's World in Cortez this area has tons to offer outdoor enthusiasts. Please keep in mind that these trails will bring dollars to the local economies, but this park project will entice people to stay longer and spend more dollars in our community. This park project will also entice professionals to stay in the area such as teachers and doctors, which are currently lacking in our region. Biking is growing in our community especially for the local youth, new youth programs have started with great success. This bike and skate park will continue the momentum to making Dolores an outdoor-centric community in the Southwest.

Thank you for reviewing our comments regarding the Grant for the Joe Rowell Park Revamp Project. We appreciate the work that has been done by the Town of Dolores and Great Outdoor Colorado, and thanks for the funding that continues to build a great community.

If you have any questions, or comments, please contact us at (970) 676-0060.



Scott Darling

Owner

Kokopelli Bike & Board

315 Central Ave Dolores, CO 81323

(970) 676-0060

scott@kokopellibike.com

Pete Eschallier

Owner

Kokopelli Bike & Board

130 W Main Cortez, CO 81321

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