A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING GRANT FROM THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND FOR THE MT. MANITOU INCLINE

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs ("City") and the City of Manitou Springs have entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for the purpose of planning for safe, legal and enjoyable public use at the Mt. Manitou Incline, located in Manitou Springs, CO; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Colorado ("GOCO") is soliciting grant applications to assist local governments with planning projects that are strategic and forward thinking in nature and directly relate to an effort to develop an outdoor recreation facility; and

WHEREAS, the City is requesting funding from GOCO to plan for public use at the Mt. Manitou Incline and nearby recreational facilities in Ruxton Canyon ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Colorado Springs to apply for a GOCO grant for the Project; and

WHEREAS, GOCO requires that the City Council state its support for the Project grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. That the City Council strongly supports the application to Great Outdoors Colorado for planning for the Mt. Manitou Incline.

Section 2. That the Director of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department for the City of Colorado Springs, or his designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and submit the grant application to GOCO requesting funding for this project.

Section 3. That the City Council acknowledges that the grant application includes matching funds, which the City of Colorado Springs is solely responsible to provide if a grant is awarded.

Section 4. That the City Council will appropriate those matching funds and authorize the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of any grant awarded by GOCO and accepted by City Council.

DATED at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 11thday of August., 2009.

Mayor Mayor

ATTEST:



FORMAL AGENDA ITEM

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: August 11, 2009

TO:

Honorable Mayor and Members of City, Council

VIA:

Penelope Culbreth-Graft, DPA - City Manager

FROM:

Paul Butcher, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Subject Title: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL

PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING GRANT FROM THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND

FOR THE MT. MANITOU INCLINE

Strategic Goal(s) this item supports:



SUMMARY: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is applying to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for funding to plan for safe, legal and enjoyable public use at the Mt. Manitou Incline in Manitou Springs. The application requires a City Council resolution in support of the project.

<u>PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION</u>: On June 23, 2009, City Council approved Resolution #157-09 to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Manitou Springs for the purpose of identifying issues related to potential public use of the Mt. Manitou Incline.

BACKGROUND: Once the site of a scenic railway to the summit of Mt. Manitou the privately-owned Mt. Manitou Incline is a popular recreation area accessed illegally by hundreds of users each day and in all kinds of weather. Gaining 2,000 vertical feet in one mile at 41% to 68% grades, the trail has been referred to as the most difficult trail in Colorado. As such, it attracts both elite and novice athletes, soldiers from Fort Carson, sports teams and many others.

In light of the increasing public use at the site, the City of Colorado Springs and the City of Manitou Springs entered into an IGA to investigate and plan for formally opening the Incline for public use. Issues to address include property ownership, parking, liability, construction and maintenance of the trail, and impact on surrounding recreational amenities. Funding is needed to begin this planning process. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department would be requesting up to \$75,000 from GOCO for the project. Required matching funds (up to \$25,000) will be secured from outside sources.

<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</u>: None. This is only a grant application. If the project is awarded funding, the Council will be requested to accept the grant and appropriate the funding.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: None.

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS: None.

ALTERNATIVES: Deny approval of the attached resolution and preclude the City from applying for GOCO funds.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution.

PROPOSED MOTION: Move to approve the resolution supporting a grant application to GOCO.

c: Assistant City Manager Public Communications

> List of attachments for this item: Resolution