

November 22, 2023

City of Colorado Springs Planning Department 30 S Nevada Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Re: Letter of Support for Zone Change Application - Garden of the Gods Trading Post

Dear City of Colorado Springs Planning Department,

Please accept this letter from the City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department ("Parks Department") in support of the zone change application submitted by the Garden of the Gods Trading Post. This application aligns with our shared vision for enhancing the recreational and natural assets within our community, particularly in relation to the recent successful encroachment correction land exchange conducted in March of 2023.

As you may be aware, the land exchange involved a 1.62-acre portion of Garden of the Gods Park being exchanged for a 2.62-acre parcel owned by the Garden of the Gods Trading Post. This strategic exchange not only facilitated the expansion of Garden of the Gods Park, but also rectified a parking lot encroachment issue, presenting an opportunity to significantly improve the park's overall access and parking facilities in partnership with the Garden of the Gods Trading Post.

The Garden of the Gods Trading Post's desire to develop and expand its parking lot aligns seamlessly with our collective goal of enhancing visitor experience and accommodating the growing number of park enthusiasts. The proposed expansion will not only contribute to the aesthetic appeal of the area but will also address the increased demand for parking, ensuring that visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of Garden of the Gods Park without facing unnecessary challenges.

In conclusion, the City of Colorado Springs Parks Department supports the zone change application for the Garden of the Gods Trading Post. We believe that this proposed development will further contribute to the overall success of Garden of the Gods Park, providing an improved and seamless experience for residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact us if you require any additional information.

Sincerely.

Britt I. Haley

Director - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

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