

November 16, 2022

Dear Enterprise Zone Administrator,

I am pleased to be writing on behalf of the Routt County Commissioners' to express our support for the Enterprise Zone application from the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC), Steamboat Springs, CO.

Since 1993, RMYC has provided our community with an effective and efficient job training program for local and regional youth and young adults. The organization has grown to serving over 800 participants aged 11-30 years annually. The impact on these youth participants is outstanding, with measurable outcomes including increased job readiness, career development, and economic independence. RMYC employs more youth throughout northwest Colorado than any other organization.

The benefits of RMYC's programs go beyond the personal and professional impacts on the participants. RMYC is also a strong economic driver through expending millions of dollars on payroll and operating expenses annually. This spending provides added support to our businesses throughout the service region. Additionally, the work that the RMYC participants perform on public lands enhances the generation of tourist revenue. This work includes fire fuels mitigation, wildfire rehabilitation, trail and fence maintenance and creation, historic preservation, and many other high profile community service projects.

In addition to the program operations, RMYC's endeavor to provide seasonal housing for nonprofits in our region will greatly bolster the local economy by increasing the placement and retention of valuable nonprofit employees.

The Commissioners of Routt County strongly support of RMYC's application to renew their status as an Enterprise Zone project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'B. Melton'.

M. Elizabeth Melton, Chair
Routt County Board of County Commissioners

