



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

970.453.3438 ph | 970.453.3535 f | 208 East Lincoln Ave. | PO Box 68
www.SummitCountyCO.gov | Breckenridge, CO 80424

To: BOCC and Scott Vargo
From: Sarah Vaine
RE: 2021 DOLA Energy/Mineral Impact Assistance Program – Tier 1
Date: February 19, 2021

Background:

Libraries in Summit County and around the nation continue to serve a critical purpose in the communities they serve. Job losses, lower incomes, lack of Internet and computer access, and distance learning have created an escalation in library need. As our services, programming, and technology adapt and evolve, our buildings must follow suit. The Summit County libraries in Frisco and Silverthorne were built at a time when Summit County's needs and the role of the local library were vastly different. Changes in population and expanding technology, paired with the expanding social, educational, and economic roles of modern libraries, are severely limited with facilities designed for the past.

While the need to offer patrons access to a wider array of services is paramount, there is also a great need for libraries to serve as community meeting spaces for large and small groups and serve as resource centers for different demographics. All of this requires a library with a flexible, 21st-century layout. Hence, the initiation of a substantial remodel and expansion project for the Main and North Branch Libraries. This project will ensure the longevity of the Summit County Library through community collaboration and a commitment to the diverse needs of future generations of library users.

Some features of the project include:

- Expand and modernize the North Branch Library in Silverthorne by approximately 4000 square feet, helping us meet the growing demand for space and resources
- Create a brighter, more open, and user-friendly space at the Main Branch in Frisco
- Build more community meeting rooms and study rooms for students
- Provide expanded outdoor spaces, allowing us all to relish in our stunning outdoor setting
- Expand children's reading and creative areas

Summit County Government and the Summit County Library Board and Foundation are engaged in a \$4.1 million building project to remodel the Main Library in Frisco and expand the North Branch in Silverthorne. The County is providing \$3.1 million towards the total cost of the Project and the Summit County Library Foundation is expected to contribute an additional \$1.0 million in contributions from the community, through local businesses and grants. The DOLA Tier 1 EMIA grant is a perfect opportunity to work towards filling the \$1M project deficit.

Staff Request:

The Manager's Office is asking for approval to submit a grant to DOLA in the amount of \$200,000 to support these activities.