

ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
*Performing Arts Center*  
ESTES PARK, CO

May 5, 2016

Mayor and Board of Trustees  
Town of Estes Park  
170 MacGregor Avenue  
Estes Park, CO 80517

Dear Mayor Jirsa and Trustees:

Estes Performance Inc. wishes to appear on your agenda at the regular meeting of May 10, 2016 to request the Board to award to EPIC the FOSH funds now held in trust by the Town. Fourteen years ago, on May 14, 2002, those funds in the form of private donations amounting to \$475,435 were transferred in trust to the Town from FOSH in anticipation of a future theater project.

The Board of the Rocky Mountain Performing Arts Center believes that we have arrived at a point where the dispersal FOSH funds to us is crucial if we are to complete our task of raising the funds required to make a professional theater a reality in downtown Estes Park.

We are attaching an explanation of our rationale for this request. A list is also attached of milestones EPIC has met and accomplished during the four years since our inception.

In making our request, we believe that there are ample precedents for such an action. They include:

- The funds in question are dedicated in use exclusively for the performing arts in Estes Park.
- The Town funded our predecessor, SOPA, for a business design and feasibility study, using FOSH funds.
- The Town has concluded through a series of recent actions that the EPIC project does in fact meet the pivotal attribute of "viability".
- The Estes Valley Planning Commission, the Estes Park Board of Trustees, and the Estes Park Board of Adjustment have all approved unanimously the EPIC development plans.
- The Town supported and accepted, together with the Estes Park EDC, EDA grant funds to develop a long-term economic sustainability strategy for the Estes Valley. That plan, contained in the October 2015 *Report* from Avalanche Consulting of Austin, Texas, specifically recommended that the Town of Estes Park "promote the completion of the Rocky Mountain Performing Arts Center..."

- The Town has funded the position of Assistant Town Administrator whose responsibilities include monitoring and supporting Arts programs in Estes Park.
- The Town has allocated funds in response to a request from the Community Center planners for assistance in hiring a fundraising professional for a community-based capital campaign – a request that mirrors our own.
- The EPIC business plan for the Performing Arts Center is based entirely upon private donations, loans and/or equity. It neither requests nor expects public funding from the Town.

We will appreciate this opportunity to present the attached requests for your consideration and approval.

Thank you.

*Stan Black*

Stan Black, Chair  
Estes Performance Inc.