

COUNTY COUNCIL



John Hanrahan-Chair  
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Sally Elliott  
Chris Robinson  
David Ure

September 30, 2009

Mayor Duane Schmidt  
Coalville City  
10 North Main Street  
Coalville, UT, 84017

Dear Mayor Schmidt:

The County is in receipt of your letter dated September 3, 2009, which was hand delivered to the County Courthouse on September 15. While we appreciate your perspective as Coalville's number one advocate, we disagree with some of your conclusions.

Summit County Council is now, and has always been, willing to help Coalville City seek funding from State and/or Federal sources for re-building this bridge. We are also willing to extend a loan to Coalville City to help fund city project.

In 1998 the State of Utah notified Coalville City (see attached letter) that the bridge spanning the Weber River was structurally deficient and advised the City to hire an engineering firm for assistance. When a bridge's sufficiency rating drops below 50% the responsible agency can receive 50% of the funds from the Federal Government to help replace the bridge. This bridge qualified in 1998 with a rating of 47%. Reports detailing the bridge's deficiency were also sent to Coalville in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008. For ten years, Coalville failed to respond to the notices from Utah Department of Transportation.

You ask why should Coalville City taxpayers bear the full burden of approximately \$200,000 for a bridge that brings revenue to another government entity? Summit County taxpayers have not in the past been responsible for paying for municipal infrastructure. Nor are they responsible now to spend their taxes on municipal infrastructure. All municipalities in the County collect their own taxes to pay for municipal services and infrastructure. Coalville City can not and should not be an exception to this standard practice. Summit County does collect property taxes on the County side of this bridge. Coalville City collects sales tax and economic benefit from the citizens living there who shop in your city, attend the schools in your city and participate in events in your City. Camper World pays taxes to Coalville City and the individuals who stay at Camper World also spend money in Coalville City. City citizens use the bridge to recreate in the County. Coalville City does derive a monetary benefit from this bridge.

Summit County guides its budget process with a Capitol Facilities plan. Roads and bridges are scheduled for maintenance and repair according to a "best practices" plan. We use relatively clinical formulas and guidance from our road crews to schedule repairs in a timely manner. Last Spring, when confronted with the unexpected request from a developer at Kimball Junction to connect the WalMart roundabout to

Olympic Parkway, we declined in favor of completing \$950,000 in capital projects scheduled for North Summit. We did not bend to the pressure at Kimball Junction because we try very hard to be fair.

While Summit County originally contributed \$50,000 toward the construction of your new City Hall to house a Coalville Branch of the County Library and have paid monthly for the privilege of use, we realize that you now need the space for other uses. We continue to look for an appropriate location for the Coalville Library. Additionally, Summit County provides Coalville City with law enforcement, solid waste disposal, recycling, and youth recreation. Other municipalities pay for these services.

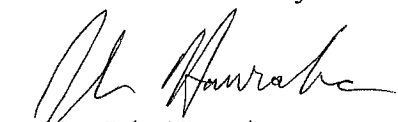
You questioned our building a new public health facility at Quinn's Junction. Here's the story. A couple of years ago, IHC offered land, worth 1.7 million dollars (based on assessed value of the adjacent lot) to the The People's Health Clinic for a new facility. The County facility in Coalville was strapped for space and operating largely out of a temporary building adjacent to the old hospital. The overwhelming majority of people using County Health services live in Western Summit County and many rely on public transportation. The People's Health Center approached Summit County about the possibility of forming a private/public partnership to build a building to house both organizations. Since People's Health Center is open in the evenings and the County Health services keep daytime hours, it seemed that sharing space was the ideal solution. Though IHC originally offered the land near the new hospital to Peoples Health Center, they eventually donated the use of the land to the County for \$1 per year, and required Summit County to offer The People's Health Clinic part of the facility with a lease of \$1 per year. Without the participation and generosity of People's Health Center, the County would not have been able to build a new clinic to serve our citizens.

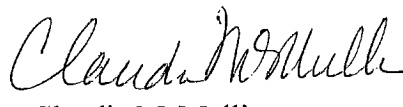
Sally Elliott, Bob Richer and Ken Woolstenhulme negotiated with People's Health Center Board members Mike Andrews and Charlie Wintzer to accomplish the agreement. Dr. John Hanrahan who helped found The People's Health Center and was a member of the People's Health Center Board at the time, was not involved in the negotiations. Dr. Hanrahan decided much later to run for County Council and is now Chair of the County Council, but he was never a part of constructing the public/private partnership.

Mayor Schmidt, we again offer to help you find funding for your bridge. The County is anxious to work with you as you seek the necessary funding.

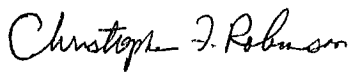
We stand willing and waiting to help.

The Summit County Council,

  
Dr. John Hanrahan  
Chair

  
Claudia McMullin  
Vice-Chair

  
Sally Elliott

  
Chris Robinson

  
Dave Ure

Cc:

Coalville City Council

Cindy Gooch, Coalville Community Development Director

Sheldon Smith Coalville Attorney

Mayor Dana Williams

Mayor Randy Ovard

Mayor Blake Frazier

Mayor Lew Marchant

Mayor John Bergen

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