

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE,
COLORADO SUPPORTING A YES VOTE ON QUESTION 3A REFERRED BY THE SAN
MIGUEL AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SEEKING VOTER
APPROVAL FOR A .82% SALES TAX INCREASE, A 1.25% LODGING TAX INCREASE, AND
A 1.336 MILL LEVY INCREASE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0919-12

WHEREAS, the Town of Mountain Village (the “Town”) is a duly organized and existing home rule municipality of the State of Colorado, created and operating pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and the Town’s Home Rule Charter (the “Charter”); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution ("TABOR"), governmental entities are required to seek advance voter approval for any new tax or tax increase it seeks to impose; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the San Miguel Authority for Regional Transportation referred ballot issue 3A to be placed on the ballot for the November 5, 2024 coordinated election, seeking voter approval to impose a sales tax rate increase of .82%, a lodging tax increase of 1.25%, and a mill levy increase of 1.336 mills for the purpose of funding gondola operations and maintenance and regional bus services; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act (C.R.S. §1-45-117) Town Council may pass a resolution taking a position on any ballot issue; and

WHEREAS, the Gondola is a critical piece of our public transportation system. Ballot question 3A will ensure the gondola continues to operate past the year 2027 as a free public transportation service between Telluride and Mountain Village; and

WHEREAS, the gondola helps create and sustain jobs to support local workers within the community, reduces traffic between Telluride and Mountain Village, alleviates parking issues for local residents, and the gondola is crucial in reducing our region’s carbon footprint and fighting climate change.

WHEREAS, The gondola provides a reliable and free transportation alternative that reduces the number of cars on the road and cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, 3A creates a new funding source spread over different user groups to keep the gondola running and create a capital reserve for building a new gondola; and

WHEREAS, 3A also supports expanding SMART services throughout the SMART district; and

WHEREAS, the revenues generated from the increases would be subject to oversight by the SMART Board of Directors and standard independent annual financial audits; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials and staff have engaged with residents beginning in 2017 and then extensively in 2024 to hear about the community's priorities regarding the need to find a long term funding source for the Gondola and expanding regional transportation options; and

WHEREAS, residents and business leaders from throughout the community have spoken about the importance of ensuring a viable future of the gondola as it is recognized one of the elements that makes as a premier community; and

WHEREAS, a survey of residents shows that ensuring that the gondola continues to operate in the future is one of the top regional priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Mountain Village, Colorado, that the Town Council hereby supports a "yes" vote on the SMART ballot issue 3A and urges the registered electors of SMART to vote in favor of the proposed sales, lodging, and mill levy increases to pay for vital regional transportation services, including gondola and regional bus service.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Town Council at a regular public meeting held on September 19, 2024.


TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL

By:  _____
Martinique Prohaska, Mayor

ATTEST:


Susan Johnston, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


David McConaughy, Town Attorney