

April 13, 2016

Brian McBroom, City Manager
Mayor Sean Ford and City Council
7887 East 60th Avenue
Commerce City, Colorado 80022



Dear Mr. McBroom, Mayor Ford and City Council members;

First of all thank you for all that you have done to upkeep the city buildings related to the Commerce City Historical Society. We do understand how important and expensive that is and we are so grateful that you have given us this opportunity. We are sure you realize by now how important the CCHS has become in the community.

It has been expensive for us to set up the museum and to develop the displays and to continue to find ways and space to display new items. However, we are doing just that as we continue to raise funds through small fundraisers and small grants and will continue to do so.

We feel that we have run the CCHS in a good business manner. We have money in the bank. We have protected our balance in the bank to have money on hand for a matching fund grant and for a contingency fund. We are planning to make a restricted account and make a certain percentage of our money to become restricted for the future.

We would like to have written approval by Council to put a few items outside of the building such as a dog track display, and some items from the Pet Cemetery and the Johnson Farm Dairy. We have sent you a proposal with pictures on this already.

As stated in the Historic Preservation Plan the next step is to develop a Historic Preservation Board. We want to serve on this board, as we have already started identifying our Historic Commerce City Landmarks. We have not heard anything from the city since the Historic Preservation Plan was approved by City Council. We were told that we would be contacted when the next step is started. We are patiently waiting.

The most urgent request we have is to propose that our rent be \$200.00 per month going forward which will require amending our lease. We are also thinking about the future. Of course we want to ensure that the CCHS is still here 50 years from now and longer. We have laid the groundwork and the foundation. However we feel that to keep this alive for a long term time frame, we will eventually need younger people and the city to help to maintain this process. Our building is already too small. We would like to start discussing plans for a large

open space, high ceiling event hall type museum that is ultimately located on other city property such as Victory Crossing or the Dog Track land which could also allow for city and other organizational events.

We believe that it is clear that the CCHS is a benefit to the citizens in what they believe and want to preserve the history. We don't expect the City to do everything and we want to help expand and grow into the future. We would like to have a conversation with City Council and the City Manager about how to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JoAnn Stevenson, President". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Board of Directors

Commerce City Historical Society

JoAnn Stevenson, President; Esther Hall, Vice-President; Debra Bullock, Secretary/Treasurer; Reba Drotar, Historian; Sheila Harris, Membership Director