

Dear Steamboat Springs City Council:

My name is Laura Rotaru and I am the Area Manager for Christy Sports, representing 5 local stores. I am unable to attend the first reading of the Steamboat Citizens to Ensure Air Service ordinance on June 18, 2018, but would like to voice my support on this issue to ensure it makes the November 2018 ballot.

As one of the largest employers in Steamboat whose business relies largely on the destination guest, I firmly believe Air Service is vital to the economic success of Steamboat, drives the economy, provides jobs and preserves the quality of life we all value.

Currently, Steamboat is home to one of the most widespread air programs in the Rocky Mountain region for resort communities. The proposed air tax will allow for continued contracts with airlines, in turn attracting destination guests from all areas of the country.

Surveys have show that over 80% of both guests and locals agree that service into Hayden is an extremely important issue for both convenience and local economy.

The success of the 2011 ballot decision for an air tax increase is a testament to this. The increase in travelers directly translates to an increase of local spending, vital for continued local economic success.

Please take the action necessary to ensure that our air program can be sustained and continue to grow well into the future.

Respectfully,

Laura Rotaru
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