Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

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RE: Maggie Huyck | Buena Vista Candidate Questionnaire Responses

 In a few sentences, please briefly share why you're motivated to run for public office, and why you believe you're qualified to serve in this context. (your response will be printed on the in-person Forum Program).

I am looking forward to serving in Buena Vista in every way I am able. I have spent the last year and a half volunteering with various organizations, working with the Chamber of Commerce, and building relationships with the people of Buena Vista. I was given an amazing opportunity to move back to BV in 2022 and feel that with this opportunity I must try to give back all I can. I have spent time in Buena Vista since 2001, having lived here 2007-2010, and have seen the challenges and celebrations that have come in the last 20+ years. I hope to bring a spirit of curiosity and innovation to the Board of Trustees for Buena Vista.

- 2. I support changing codes and processes towards increased use of Administrative decisions by public sector staff, while focusing public input on changes to the code itself.
 - Somewhat Agree
- 3. Development approval times are:
 - I don't feel that I am knowledgeable enough on this topic to answer
- 4. As you are likely aware, the Chaffee County 2020 Comp Plan stated, "keep the country country and the towns towns". What does this statement mean to you and how would you use this guiding principle in setting land use policy?
 - I understand the importance of agriculture and conservation in Chaffee County. With Buena Vista town limits being relatively small it has set a clear definition of the town within the country lands that surround it. I do understand the need for developmental growth, and am looking forward to continuing to carry a balance of the two in the area.
- 5. The Town's government is sufficiently connected to, and collaborative with, the school district.

- Somewhat Agree
- 6. How can the Town's government encourage/support/facilitate increasing work-based learning programs for local youth?
 - Having a safe learning environment for our youth is of utmost importance for the successful growth of Buena Vista and Chaffee County. The continued knowledge that is passed on in work-based learning opportunities is crucial. I would be interested to discuss potential grant opportunities available to support programs that offer work-based learning in Buena Vista. I would encourage local business owners to become a part of the process to ensure that the programs available are successful for everyone.
- 7. Passing a local ordinance requiring the installation of broadband infrastructure as a part of all new development is a must.
 - Somewhat Agree
- 8. Internet infrastructure should be treated as equally important to other utilities (water, sewer, gas, electricity) in infrastructure projects.
 - Somewhat Agree
- 9. What is local government's role in increasing broadband availability and reliability for the community?
 - I would like to see local government provide more support to growing the accessibility of broadband for the population as a whole. I support broadband being included in the "dig once" philosophy, but that will primarily support new development which is limited in the Buena Vista town limits. I think one solution to help the larger population would be to help bring accessible broadband access to existing locations in town, and help expand the library's free internet access within town.
- 10. [BV/Poncha] has enough water to meet municipal, housing, and commercial development growth.
 - Somewhat Disagree
- 11. In the face of inadequate current water supply Town should...
 - The town should be reviewing all possible options to help relieve the strain on our water resources, including all of the options above and more.
 - Restrict Development
 - Allow development but require development to pay for additional water rights

- Pursue additional municipal water sources to support future development
- 12. What is the most important next step for Town in regards to water or wastewater?
 - To continue looking for a permanent water source for our future development, while seeing where we can obtain temporary water rights in the meantime.
- 13. Producing housing that is accessible to our local workforce requires public subsidy in amounts that directly affect affordability levels.
 - Somewhat Disagree
- 14. Density is directly linked to affordability (i.e. increased density lowers the cost of each housing unit).
 - Somewhat Disagree
- 15. Encouraging housing development, including market rate housing, is helpful to the overall health of the housing market and to the community.
 - Somewhat Disagree
- 16. Housing policy is a local government responsibility.
 - Somewhat Agree
- 17. What specific policy would you change or advocate for that would have a tangible impact on workforce housing if elected?
 - I would advocate for a solution to the lack of attainable workforce housing in Buena Vista. Although I do not know exactly what the solutions is, I have some ideas of how we can expand our housing offerings to the community that needs it most. I understand the need for market rate housing, but if the ratio favors the market rate housing while the need is clearly for attainable housing then we need to work on those ratios in creative ways.
- 18. New rules & regulations for environmental sustainability should be weighed against, and modified for, their impact on the health of local businesses.
 - Somewhat Agree
- 19. Environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with innovation and technology.
 - Somewhat Agree

- 20. The single most important action [BV/Poncha] can take in 2024 to advance environmental sustainability is...
 - We can address the fact that we are in a large traffic area that has no local recycling facilities, as well as reducing the amount of vehicle traffic within the valley as much as we can. There are quite a few groups that work as stewards of our area, and I would like to see more involvement from a policy level to ensure that the stewards have what they need to keep our area pristine and healthy for generations to come.
- 21. "Closing question: What question have we not asked that you'd like to share (and answer?)"
 - Is there something, in particular, you hope to accomplish while serving on the Board? I hope to help build a sustainable long term solution to the challenges that are happening in Buena Vista, including building an infrastructure for our workforce including housing, services, support, and education. We are at a tipping point in Buena Vista, and if we don't choose to foster a support system for our workforce then our continued status cannot sustain. I hope to encourage creative thought in how we can not only bring and retain the needed workforce, but also grow into an example of how other small communities can do the same.