

Via Email
July 6, 2021

Board of El Paso County Commissioners, Commissioner Holly Williams
Centennial Hall
200 South Cascade Avenue, Suite 100
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear Commissioner Holly Williams,

I am writing you to ask for your vote of approval for the Western Museum of Mining and Industry's (WMMI) Variance of Use request. The mining museum has been working for over a year, and at great cost to this 50-year-old nonprofit, in order to continue activities which have been part of our operations for decades. We are not asking for any new land uses. Just the land uses we have been providing to the Pikes Peak region, like being a museum, library, theater, gift shop, and agritainment (tractor pull, harvest festival, pumpkin patch, and various events).

If this Variance of Use does not get approved by the El Paso County government, then it will put the financial survival of the museum at risk. The museum has served the local community by conducting school field trips for >5,000 school students each year. It is an important tourist attraction for the Pikes Peak region. We offer an adult lecture series to help educate and inform our citizens. We help to preserve Colorado's rich mining and ranching history, including the Reynolds Ranch which is on the state historical registry. Without your approval, the museum will struggle to provide these valuable services to our community and be placed in financial hardship. Conversely, your vote of approval will lay the groundwork for WMMI to survive for another 50 years!

I have been a trustee for two and ½ years now. I personally know how hard our Executive Director, Grant Dewey, works to not only maintain WMMI but to also have it grow for the future.

If you would like to talk, my phone number is 719-388-8899 or my email address is tpriebe@priebelawfirm.com.

Kind Regards,

Timothy J. Priebe
Board Trustee of the Western Museum of Mining and Industry
225 North Gate Blvd
Colorado Springs CO 80921