



City of Boulder City Council

Mayor Aaron Brockett Mayor Pro Tem Rachel Friend

Council Members: Matt Benjamin, Lauren Folkerts, Junie Joseph, Nicole Speer Mark Wallach, Tara Winer, Bob Yates

August 23, 2022

The Honorable Joe Neguse
United States House of Representatives
1419 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Appreciation for Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act

Dear Congressman Neguse:

On behalf of Boulder's City Council, I want to share our deep gratitude for your role in passing the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022. This historic investment will address some of our greatest affordability challenges while creating significant opportunities to combat climate change and its increasingly catastrophic effects.

There are numerous climate related provisions and programs included in the IRA that will make a significant difference and which the city supports. Specifically, I want to thank you for your efforts to secure funding that helps address forest- and wildfire-related issues impacting our communities. I am heartened by these increased federal investments in wildland urban interface treatments and other actions through the U.S. Forest Service that are designed to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and other extreme weather events.

As you know, the enacted bill includes new and critical funding for the Urban and Community Forestry program. This was and remains a city council priority that Boulder has actively advocated for in recent years. The city is taking a leading role nationally in the development of the science and best practices related to using urban forestry as an extreme heat management strategy. This includes actively helping to coordinate a network composing of about 100 cities and counties across the country that are exploring urban forestry as climate action strategies. In doing so, Boulder is placing equity at the center of its work. For example, in 2021, Boulder helped lead the development of a Front Range urban forestry expansion strategy which contains a significant focus on equity-

centered workforce development. With the availability of this new federal funding, it is our hope that the Front Range will be well positioned to secure funding and demonstrate leadership in this area.

I also believe there are significant opportunities to integrate the interests of both urban and rural communities in the vital work of restoring and regenerating living systems as part of our climate action strategy. This includes helping expand the Colorado Conservation Corps and other mechanisms to create economic opportunity and community improvement in both urban and rural communities.

In conclusion, I wanted to thank you again on behalf of the City of Boulder for your dedication in helping pass this bill as well as your continued commitment to addressing the ongoing climate crisis. Boulder looks forward to doing its part in making these important federal investments a demonstration of success.

Sincerely,

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Aaron Brockett
Mayor



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August 23, 2022

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Appreciation for Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act

Dear Senator Bennet:

On behalf of Boulder's City Council, I want to share our deep gratitude for your role in passing the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022. This historic investment will address some of our greatest affordability challenges while creating significant opportunities to combat climate change and its increasingly catastrophic effects.

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August 23, 2022

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
United States Senate
374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Appreciation for Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act

Dear Senator Hickenlooper:

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