



April 3, 2023

**Open Letter from the Mayor and All Members of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Mead
Regarding Local Control of Land Use Decisions**

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Mead strongly believes in the importance of local control, not only for residents of the Town, but residents across Colorado. In particular, the Town is concerned with specific efforts of the Colorado legislature to enact statewide legislation that would impinge on the Town's long held and legally established statutory authority to implement zoning and other measures to guide local land use determinations. Local control of zoning and land use decisions has been a cornerstone tenant throughout Colorado's history.

The Town of Mead's elected and appointed officials, staff and resident volunteers have worked hard and will continue to work hard to be a place where all residents are proud to call Mead home. The Town's vision statement (as set forth in our Comprehensive Plan) is:

"A First-Choice Quality of Life Community set at the base of the Rockies, the Town of Mead is founded on its small-town community character, diverse economy, friendly neighborhoods, strong connectivity, dynamic parks, recreation and open space, expansive natural and agrarian setting and thoughtful community planning, facilities and services."

At its root, the proposed legislation (SB 23-213) aims to strip away the ability of the Town to continue to plan in a thoughtful and deliberate manner.

Enclosed is a letter from Mayor Colleen Whitlow on this topic (addressed to the Governor and other members of the State legislature) which is supported by all members of the Board of Trustees.

Each community has its own unique needs and challenges, and local governments should be empowered to make decisions that best serve their constituents. More information on SB 23-213 may be found here: <https://www.cml.org/home/advocacy-legal/sb23-213-land-use>

