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March 1, 2016

Senate Local Government Committee  
200 E. Colfax  
Denver, CO 80203

**Re: House Bill 16-1030**

To the members of the Senate Local Government Committee:

Thank you for your leadership and review of HB 16-1030. I know that you receive multiple opinions on many bills, and therefore I weigh my thoughts based on the impact of this bill to the entire San Luis Valley and other mountain communities in Colorado. If there is any other information that I can provide to you related to this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

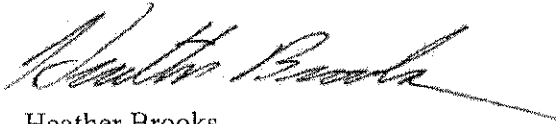
While the City of Alamosa does not see as much visitors as our Valley neighbors related to ATVs, we are in full support of efforts to help improve this segment of tourism. HB 16-1030 will allow for local control crossing of state highways. This is a top priority for many of the Valley municipalities, including South Fork, Del Norte, Monte Vista, and Creede. Many of these communities are prime locations for ATV tourism. When access to trails require loading an ATV on a trailer to cross a state highway that also function as communities low-speed main streets to get to the other end of the trail, this turns tourists off from visiting. As many of you know, tourism for smaller communities is a vital part of our revenue and helps economic recovery.

Many of these communities have already passed ordinances allowing ATVs to use town roads and streets to safely get to trails on public land. This legislation is critical to amending the State Statute due to last year's bill passing that placed an exception to not allow crossing state highways in municipalities. Changing this law would prove tourism growth. The Town of South Fork has shared with us that they have already seen an impact on their ATV tourism due to this limitation.

ATV excursions are popular throughout the whole year for these communities and without change brought by **HB 16-1030** many municipalities will face slower economic growth. It is very important to become more ATV friendly. This legislation is part of a handful of bills that also support a larger, intergovernmental effort to connect communities and counties throughout the San Luis Valley for ATVs and become a destination for this type of activity.

Again, thank you for your leadership and review of the City's support on HB 16-1030

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Heather Brooks", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heather Brooks  
City Manager