



City of Cañon City

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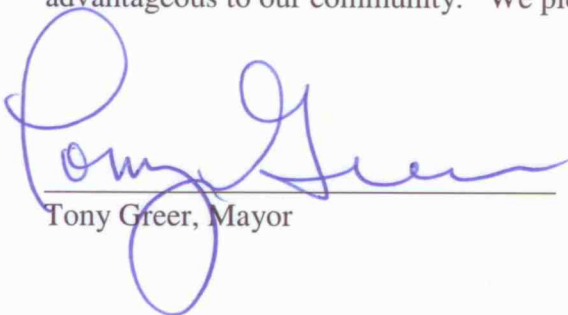
***Office of the
City Council***

July 21, 2010

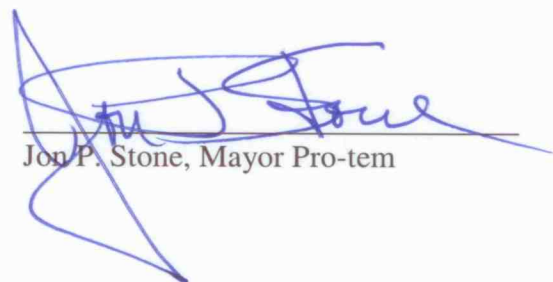
We, the undersigned elected officials of the City of Cañon City, Colorado, write to signify our enthusiastic endorsement of the Over the River project. We truly appreciate that the artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude offered to make our river canyon and region a part of their compilation of unique works of art. We are convinced that Over the River will have lasting world-wide significance.

We are aware of objections raised by some but are totally confident that the project will be accomplished in a manner that protects wildlife within the Big Horn Sheep Canyon and preserves the scenic beauty of the canyon. We trust that this can and will be done safely and with a minimum of inconvenience to local residents. We have observed that Christo and his staff have been responsive to reasonable local concerns and know that he can be expected to take appropriate precautions to ensure that wildlife and residents will neither be harmed nor seriously inconvenienced. Christo's demonstrated willingness to focus on local concerns and find workable solutions is reassuring to us.


Aside from the art, we welcome the positive economic impact the project will have in our region before, during and long after the display. These financial rewards will come at a time when they are very much needed and will help heal a struggling regional economy. We also are certain that our local tourism industry will prosper as a result of the project. The notoriety and free positive publicity that Over the River will bring to our area could not be purchased by even the most ambitious advertising budgets of all regional tourism industry concerns combined. The Royal Gorge Bridge, which the City owns and depends upon for much of its general fund revenue, will be a primary beneficiary. Our tourist train, numerous local rafting companies, hotels, motels, restaurants, retail merchants and other service providers all will share in the financial fruits of the project, as will local contractors, laborers and suppliers. In short, it is difficult to imagine a project that could be more advantageous to our community. We pledge our unequivocal support for the Over the River project.




Tony Greer, Mayor



Jon P. Stone, Mayor Pro-tem



Ron Bates, Council Member



Patricia Freda, Council Member



Jerry Gill, Council Member



Kevin J. Grantham, Council Member



Daryl Robinson, Council Member