From: Kathlene.Smith@HealthONEcares.com
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: RE: Resolution 17-0687 - Music Festival
Date: Monday, July 24, 2017 10:38:43 AM

Hi there!
My name is Kathlene Smith, and I live on Harrison Street in 80206.

I am writing you today to express my complete support for the music festival proposal put forth in Resolution 17-0687. This music festival, while inherently surrounded by logistical worries, would be a huge boon to our economy. When my husband and I moved to the area four years ago, we were surprised that a city with such a vibrant music scene wouldn't have a regularly scheduled festival. Sister cities like Austin and San Francisco have held festivals for many years now, with enormous success. Not only would it increase tourism by at least the number of attendees (capped at 80,000), but also through the peripheral services/goods purveyors that would follow the festival to town as well. Ongoing, it could serve as a pipeline for local acts to be recognized on a larger scale more often.

While I am sensitive to the worries of local residents, many of us that live in areas close to popular attractions must deal with similar concerns already. In my neighborhood, the City Park Jazz performances cause over-crowded streets every Sunday for the entirety of the summer. This includes increased trash left, decreased availability of parking, and often loud disturbances as people make their way away from the park and head home. Despite this, the impact on my life is minimal – I plan to look for garbage and wash down my sidewalks on most Mondays. This proposal, however, plans to address many of these concerns on the front-end, instead of waiting for an issue to arise. I feel that if local residents and businesses are against this proposal, they should be required to demonstrate the impact of their concern. Living in Denver, a vibrant and rapidly growing city, does not mean the same thing it did 20 years ago. Today, it means making room for the new leaders that are travelling here, and supporting that community with events that are mutually beneficial. This music festival will do that, and I feel strongly that any opposition is due to ignorance of plans and a media-fueled distrust of the people who attend these events.

Kathlene R. Smith