

**TOWN OF EMPIRE, COLORADO
RESOLUTION 24-33**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL RESILIENCE
TEAM TO SUPPORT, ADVISE, AND LEAD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVES IN CLEAR CREEK AND GILPIN COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, the Town of Empire recognizes the importance of a sustainable and resilient economic base in creating diverse, livable, affordable communities that are equitably accessible to all ages, incomes, and abilities, including, but not limited to, quality housing, childcare, employment, education, healthcare, transportation, infrastructure, recreation, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Empire strives to not only be a desirable community for residents to live, work, and do business, but also as a frequented destination for visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Empire strives to create a robust and reliable annual revenue stream supported by sustainable sources, in turn, contributing to an environment where our residents are provided opportunities to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Empire recognizes that there are shared community barriers that are better addressed together through regional teamwork; and

WHEREAS, economic development should not be constrained by political boundaries, which is why both Clear Creek and Gilpin counties desire to work collaboratively with neighboring community partners to improve the economic well-being and quality of life in the region; and

WHEREAS, Clear Creek County is experiencing a declining extraction industry that historically accounted for approximately 70% of its business personal property tax, inevitably, putting a strain on public services; and

WHEREAS, following the significant economic impacts felt by Gilpin County as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it became clear that a more diverse and sustainable economic base is needed to support critical public services moving forward, and

WHEREAS, the Clear Creek Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC), a 501(c)6 non-profit organization, provides economic development services to Clear Creek County and its municipalities and, over the last two years, has become more actively engaged in Gilpin County and its municipalities; and

WHEREAS, in February 2024, the CCEDC convened county and municipal leaders, business owners, and community stakeholders to discuss economic resilience, which informed and led to the development of the CCEDC Region 3 Economic Resilience Framework; and

WHEREAS, the CCEDC Region 3 Economic Resilience Framework recommends the formation of a Regional Resilience Team to encourage collaborative leadership in economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Empire that the formation of a Regional Resilience Team to support, advise, and lead economic development initiatives in Clear Creek and Gilpin counties is supported.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Town of Empire will appoint a representative to participate as a member of the Regional Resilience Team, commencing in January 2025.