



TOWN OF FAIRPLAY, COLORADO

RESOLUTION NO. 11 (SERIES OF 2024)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TOWN OF FAIRPLAY, COLORADO OPPOSING APPROVAL OF THE ELLIE BELLE MINE ASPHALT AND CONCRETE PLANT AT 2001 PLATTE DRIVE.

WHEREAS, Southpark Aggregates, LLC has applied to mobilize a portable hot mix asphalt operation and construct a concrete batch plant at 2001 Platte Drive, Fairplay, Colorado; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed location at the Ellie Belle Mine site is immediately adjacent to the Town of Fairplay Corporate Town limits; and,

WHEREAS, the following are within a ½ to 2 mile radius of the proposed asphalt and concrete plant:

- Middlefork River; • Fairplay Beach and River Park; • Edith Teter Preschool; • Edith Teter Elementary School; • South Park Middle School; • South Park High School; • South Park City Museum; • Historic Front Street Retail and Food District; • Fairplay Post Office; South Park Health Services; • Rocky Mountain Rural Health; • Churches; • Fairplay Shopping Center; • South Park Recreation Center; • Park County Offices; • Park County Fairgrounds; • Middlefork RV Park; • Park County Offices; • Northwest Fire Protection District; • South Park Ambulance District; • Pikes National Forest With Access to Hiking, Biking, Camping and Fishing; • Wild game migration and habitats; • Large number of private homes lying within the Town limits, multifamily residences including farms and ranches; and,

WHEREAS, the altitude of Fairplay and its adjacent surroundings causes substantial deficiencies in gas and oil-fired equipment and processes which subsequently exponentially increase emissions including toxins, particulates and general air pollution; and,

WHEREAS, prevailing winds in the area are from the northwest, which will direct most of the dust and pollutants directly into the Town of Fairplay, Colorado, impacting all of the aforementioned entities; and,

WHEREAS, asphalt plants mix aggregate with petroleum products to make asphalt and the process releases tons of toxic chemicals into the air each year, including volatile organic compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and very fine condensed particulates (soot and even heavy metals); and,

WHEREAS, these toxins and particulates can be deposited over two miles away in calm conditions; and,

WHEREAS, many of these particulates and contaminants are highly toxic and/or known carcinogens, e.g. benzene, formaldehyde, hydrogen sulfide, mercury, and cadmium; and,

WHEREAS, adverse health effects of these chemicals have been proven to increase with long-term exposure; and,

WHEREAS, the degraded quality of air will compromise the quality of life of our citizens and surrounding community that suffer with asthma and other respiratory ailments; and,

WHEREAS, asphalt emissions significantly degrade air quality, and are proven to degrade the water quality of rivers, creeks, and streams; and,

WHEREAS, mountain climates have not been considered in the past weather modeling by DENR. Fog + Smoke = Smog, which is a much more intense, acidic way to take in the many toxins produced in the asphalt production process; and,

WHEREAS, studies conducted in other areas of the state of Colorado and across the country where Asphalt and Concrete plants have been located have shown that adjacent homeowners suffered significantly decreased property values; and,

WHEREAS, studies have shown that: • Home values within ¼ mile of a quarry will drop by about 30% • Homes 1 mile away will decrease by about 13% in value • Homes as far as 3 miles away drop by 6% in value; and,

WHEREAS, the Park County BOCC has historically rejected the inclusion of portable asphalt plants in the same general vicinity for the exact reasons mentioned herein; and,

WHEREAS, an asphalt and concrete plant are in direct conflict with the priorities of the Town of Fairplay Comprehensive Plan Community Vision; and,

WHEREAS, an asphalt and concrete plant and its associated noise, odors, significantly increased truck traffic and other non-aesthetic related aspects would not be a good welcome or first impression on the gateway entering the Town of Fairplay thereby jeopardizing our tourism industry; and,

WHEREAS, due to the potential environmental and public health impact of the proposed project, a significant number of residents in our community have spoken out against it; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees for the Town of Fairplay request that Park County review and update the Mining Zone District Land Use Regulations and permitted uses to provide extra protection from high impact activities that adversely impact the public health, safety and welfare; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Park County Commissioners and County Manager; State Senators Hickenlooper and Bennet; State Representative Brittany Pettersen.

Authorized and approved by a unanimous vote of the Town Board of Trustees on the 5th day of February, 2024.



ATTEST:


Janell Sciacca, Town Clerk

TOWN OF FAIRPLAY, COLORADO



Frank Just, Mayor