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CLEAR CREEK COUNTY AND THE CITY OF IDAHO SPRINGS SECURE IHOP GRANT FOR COMMUNITY WIDE HOUSING

Media Partners,

Clear Creek County and the City of Idaho Springs have been awarded an Innovative Affordable Housing Strategies (IHOP) Grant. The grant, which funds a \$225,000 project, stems from House Bill 21-1271 which created three new programs offering grant money and other forms of state assistance to local governments to promote creative solutions for the development of affordable housing across the state.

Securing this grant will fund a series of community-wide conversations and projects about collaboratively advancing affordable housing, public education on the topic, and multi-entity review of zoning codes.

This project builds on past work. The need for affordable housing in the area was made clear by a Housing Needs Assessment conducted by Clear Creek County in 2017, and was refined with the adoption of a new Housing Strategy Report this year.

"The Housing Needs Assessment was like the grocery list, and then the Housing Strategy provided the recipe--now we are ready to make the meal," Strategic and Community Planning Division Director Amy Saxton said. "By bringing the communities together, we have the most opportunity."

For the next step in the process, Clear Creek County will be working with Idaho Springs to publish requests for proposals. In addition, the grant will also make the two governments available for future housing grants.

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