

# ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder  
City of Golden -- City of Northglenn -- City of Thornton -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior  
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders  
Arthur Widdowfield

## **RESOLUTION regarding SUPPORT FOR THE ROCKY FLATS COLD WAR MUSEUM**

WHEREAS, the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council is a separate legal, public entity, created by an intergovernmental agreement, as permitted by Colo. Const. Art. XIV, and section 18(2), part 2 of article 1, title 29, C.R.S., among ten Colorado local governments, Boulder County, Jefferson County, City and County of Broomfield, the City of Arvada, the City of Boulder, City of Golden, City of Northglenn, City of Thornton, the City of Westminster, and the Town of Superior (collectively, the “Stewardship Council”); and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Council was created to allow local governments to work together on the continuing local oversight of the activities occurring on the Rocky Flats site to ensure that government and community interests are met with regards to long term stewardship of residual contamination and refuge management; and

WHEREAS, the site for the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant was selected in 1951 in northern Jefferson County and operated until 1992 to mass produce plutonium cores for nuclear weapons for the U.S. Department of Defense as part of the nation’s Nuclear Weapons Complex and the cores remain in weapons today around the world; and

WHEREAS, Rocky Flats was an important part of the local, national and international history of the Cold War, the central conflict of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, in which two superpowers, the United States and the former Soviet Union, developed nuclear weapons and political alliances to protect their interests; and

WHEREAS, the Rocky Flats plant provided stable jobs and economic development in the northwest Denver Metropolitan Area for more than 50 years during the plant’s operation and subsequent decontamination and decommissioning; and

WHEREAS, operations at Rocky Flats produced significant legacies for local communities, the State of Colorado and the United States, but institutional memory of the plant’s activities is being lost over time; and

WHEREAS, the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum (RFCWM) formed an independent, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization in 2001; collected key artifacts; completed a comprehensive feasibility and scoping study; gathered 150 oral histories of former Rocky Flats workers, activists, government regulators and public officials; leased a building; hired staff; and contracted with an exhibit design team which invited broad input from adult and youth stakeholders to create informative, balanced and compelling exhibits for a museum; and

WHEREAS, the RFCWM board of directors has been collaborating with officials from the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Rocky Flats-related organizations, as well as civic, community and educational organizations in preserving the history, inviting their involvement and making presentations; and

WHEREAS, interest in Cold War history is increasing, and the RFCWM has the potential to spur local economic development as an atomic tourism site for visitors from the U.S. and abroad.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** That we support the RFCWM as a means of documenting the history and legacies (e.g., social, scientific, political, economic and environmental) of Rocky Flats; and

**Section 2.** That we support the continuing collection of Rocky Flats-related artifacts and oral histories to document the multi-faceted history of this site; and

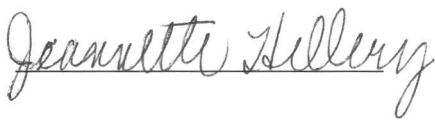
**Section 3.** That we acknowledge the potential for such a museum to support the U.S. Department of Energy and local stakeholders in meeting their responsibilities for long-term stewardship at Rocky Flats. That support may include: providing educational programs for local schools, colleges, and community groups; hosting meetings and conferences related to Rocky Flats issues; fostering public dialogue about Rocky Flats; and supporting long-term stewardship of the site; and

**Section 4.** That we support the RFCWM's efforts in securing the necessary resources from foundations, corporations, governments and individuals in order to open and operate the RFCWM to preserve the history of Rocky Flats.

Passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.

ATTEST:

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP  
COUNCIL

  
By: Lisa Morzel, Chair