

**REQUEST FOR IDEAS (RFI)
FOR USE OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS ACCOMMODATIONS TAX
RESPONSES WELCOME THROUGH JULY 16, 2012**

This public request is intended to gather ideas for the use of the approximately \$600,000 annual accommodations tax revenue. Please read this RFI carefully and provide any and all ideas for the public use of these funds in accordance with their intended purpose and the RFI guidelines.

At the November 4, 1986 Special Election, Steamboat Springs voters approved an accommodations tax of 1%. The use of the accommodations tax was prescribed in the ballot question which asked:

“Shall the City Council of Steamboat Springs, in order to provide revenues to fund development of improvements and amenities in Steamboat Springs which will promote tourism and enhance the vitality of Steamboat Springs as a premiere destination resort, and enhance the community identity, environmental desirability and economic health of Steamboat Springs, enact AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A LODGING TAX OF 1% ON PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS OF LESS THAN 30 DAYS?”

Since 1986, these funds have been used to construct the original tennis “bubble” and String’s tent and to construct the Haymaker golf course and clubhouse. In 2013, the final payment will be made on the golf course and the annual collection will be available for future projects. A committee has been formed to assist Steamboat Springs’ City Council to plan for the future use of the tax. The committee has determined that it will make its recommendation to City Council through these actions:

- 1) Stage I: Ask for general use ideas through this RFI. **RFI responses may be sent to City Clerk, Julie Franklin, jfranklin@steamboatsprings.net, or mailed to Ms. Julie Franklin, City of Steamboat Springs, PO Box 775088, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477-5088, and are due BY 5PM ON JULY 16, 2012.**
- 2) Stage II of the process will involve issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP). RFI responders with the most suitable ideas will be invited to respond to the RFP by creating a detailed proposal according to the RFP criteria. The RFP is anticipated to be issued by the end of July with an anticipated response due date of August 31.
- 3) In Stage III of the process, the committee will receive public presentations from those whose RFP responses are deemed most promising.

To qualify as a funded project and move on to Stage II and III, proposers must begin with the first step and provide an initial written idea in response to this RFI. Responses must be two pages or less in length and be written in such a way that the committee understands the project and its perceived benefits. The RFI response must also include a brief explanation of the project’s ability to meet each of the following bulleted parameters:

- Promote Tourism, AND
- Enhance the vitality of Steamboat Springs as a destination resort, AND
- Enhance the community identity of Steamboat Springs, AND
- Enhance the environmental desirability of Steamboat Springs, AND
- Enhance the economic health of Steamboat Springs.

There are no funding limitations for proposed projects. As in the case of the golf course, the tax may be used to finance projects whose costs exceed the annual \$600,000 revenue. Please direct any questions you have related to this RFI to the City Clerk at the above e-mail address.

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