



CITY OF BOULDER HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

April 26, 2023

Dear members of Boulder City Council:

The Boulder Housing Advisory Board appreciates the complexities faced by the Airport Community Working Group (CWG) as it considers the future of the airport as a precursor to the Boulder Airport Master Plan update.

HAB strongly recommends that housing options be fully examined with other scenarios for the future of the Airport. HAB would like to see this process yield a high-level and visionary overview of what is possible for housing on the airport property. A hybrid option that would allow continued airport uses represents another potentially positive outcome.

The potential to create much needed “Missing Middle” housing on up to 180 acres owned by the city could present a once-in-a-generation opportunity where the city controls the outcomes. If repurposed, the site could fit as many as six Holiday neighborhoods, an award-winning project that is widely acknowledged for providing an integrated, multi-use community including all kinds of housing, including for-sale “Missing Middle” housing and permanently affordable housing.

An innovative project, the car-light Vauban neighborhood in Freiberg, Germany, suggests another scenario for a sustainable community that matches Boulder’s values and those of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan.

HAB strongly recommends that housing options at Boulder Airport be thoroughly examined through the CWG and fully considered by City Council as it decides the airport’s future. This recommendation passed unanimously (5-0 with two absentees) at the HAB meeting of April 26, 2023.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Michael Leccese
Chair, Housing Advisory Board