



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO**

P.O. Box 1507 / 398 Lewis Street / Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Tel (970) 264-8300

February 14, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (the "BoCC") is in full support of the application by Build Pagosa, Inc. for the grant funding request for a regional workforce center.

The BoCC has witnessed first-hand the dedication and the success of Build Pagosa, Inc. and the Career Trade Education program in our community. It is obvious that they are out of space, which in turn limits the expansion of services to local students as well as adult learners who may be underemployed.

We are an economically distressed county as defined by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade. Our regional deficits include meeting the needs of local employers, upskilling the existing workforce from service industry jobs into skilled labor positions, limited space to teach Career Trade Education at the high school level and for adult learners, geographic isolation from other resources in central and southwest Colorado.

When a new center is completed, we will have resources to assist us as a county government and major employer. The following departments will gain staff and expertise: Public Safety, Public Works (including Road and Bridge and Waste Management and Recycling), Airport, Building & Planning, Information Technology and Transportation.

Thank you for your consideration of this application and for your support of the present and future workforce of Archuleta County.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Maez
Chairman