



City of Thornton

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March 30, 2017

The Honorable Michael Bennet
261 Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Meals on Wheels Program

Dear Senator Bennet:

On behalf of the Thornton City Council, I am writing to ask for your support for the continued funding for the Meals on Wheels program. There has been a lot of discussion that President Trump's budget will propose an elimination of funding to this very important program. We recognize that elimination of this funding will impact Meals on Wheels program providers differently depending upon the percentage of their funding coming from the federal government. However, the ultimate impact will be the same – a reduction in a program that is essential to the continued public health of our seniors.

Seniors are a vital part of our community and this program has provided essential meal services to many of our residents and seniors living in adjacent communities. In 2016, the program delivered approximately 56,000 meals to residents in Adams County. Meals on Wheels provides the necessary nutritional support and helps seniors continue to live independently and in their own homes. Unfortunately, many seniors face the threat of hunger because of the limitations they deal with in their daily lives such as difficulty walking, not being able to drive, not able to prepare meals themselves, and memory issues. Meals on Wheels has also provided the added benefit of quick safety checks and human connection that comes with each delivery.

We urge you and your colleagues in Congress to continue to support Meals on Wheels. If we can be of any assistance in this effort, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Heidi Williams, Mayor

cc: Council