



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NWCCOG Hires Regional Grants Navigator**

*Access to Funds less complicated for Member organizations*

SILVERTHORNE, CO, January 30 - NWCCOG announces the hire of Jonathan Godes, with whom it will contract to serve Region 12 as the Regional Grants Navigator, assisting 31 member organizations across 6 counties to connect to funding opportunities from recent, historic Congressional funding opportunities. The hiring process was managed by Executive Director Jon Stavney who noted that the position is funded by the State through Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) directly to each Council of Governments (COG). The posting for the position had several excellent candidates. "Godes' research ahead will clarify the nuances of myriad funding opportunities through the Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA), the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) coming out from various federal agencies," says Stavney, "as his knowledge base grows, he will become an increasingly valuable asset to NWCCOG members." Godes's head start begins with his talent as a connector and communicator as President of CAST (Colorado Association of Ski Towns) , years of experience running an early childhood non-profit and as the current Mayor of the City of Glenwood Springs. "We are excited to offer Godes this opportunity to advance his public service at a regional level. His growing understanding of the IIJA and IRA funding streams will provide guidance to local governments on how best to access the multitude of funding streams," notes Stavney. He will begin as soon as OEDIT finalizes the contract with NWCCOG. In the meantime, Godes can be reached by entities within Region 12 anticipating technical assistance in fulfilling their capital project needs. He will also work to establish strategic collaborations across jurisdictions to pursue grant funding as well. His email address is [jgodes@nwccog.org](mailto:jgodes@nwccog.org).

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Jonathan Godes Bio:

Jonathan has lived and worked in the mountain communities of the Western Slope building relationships, fostering collaborations, and working in, and with, local governments and the nonprofit community for the last 20 years. He founded the Boys & Girls Club of Craig and served as its Executive

Director before moving to Glenwood Springs to work for the City of Aspen. There, he started and directed the nonprofit Early Childhood Network for seven years prior to his most recent work in private business finance. Elected to the Glenwood Springs City Council in 2017 he has served a four year term as the mayor since 2019. His term on Council ends in 2025.

Jonathan is a strong believer in regionalism and is a long-serving board member of the largest rural transit system in the country (Roaring Fork Transportation Authority). He also serves as the current board president of CAST (Colorado Association of Ski Towns). He is a federal appointee to the Small Community Advisory Subcommittee of the EPA and has testified many times at the state legislature on issues impacting mountain communities. His recent areas of work have been in housing affordability, infrastructure resiliency, and ensuring that rural communities are not overlooked. His consensus-building approach will be a strong asset for this position and our member communities.

Jonathan is excited to speak with NWCCOG member counties and municipalities to assess community needs, identify potential regional partnerships, and align submittals to appropriate funding opportunities. This is a once-in-a-generation federal investment, and it is important that the region positions itself to leverage as many opportunities as possible. Jonathan's outreach will launch shortly to arrange calls and meetings to see how he can best assist you. Please feel free to reach out to him at [jgodes@nwccog.org](mailto:jgodes@nwccog.org) in the meantime.