[**Names**]

[**Addresses**]

[**Email Addresses**]

[**Date**]

Yemi Mobolade

Office of the Mayor

City of Colorado Springs

30 S Nevada Ave UNIT 601, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear Mayor Mobolade,

We are writing to bring to your attention the urgent issue of housing displacement in our community and to advocate for the development and implementation of an Anti-Displacement Toolkit for the City of Colorado Springs. As concerned residents and advocates for affordable housing, we believe that such a toolkit would add significant value to our city by helping residents stay in their homes or transition into new housing without being displaced due to economic or social pressures.

As residents, businesses, and allies, we worry about the ramifications of displacement and want to see a solution (for example, 58% of Mill Street residents surveyed are apprehensive about being displaced in upcoming years). These concerns come from primarily historical neighborhoods, including:

* Hillside
* Knob Hill
* Mill Street
* K-Land
* Stratton Meadows

Here are some of the key values and benefits that an Anti-Displacement Toolkit would bring to our city:

1. **Preservation of Community Fabric**: Displacement often leads to the fragmentation of communities as residents are forced to move away. An anti-displacement toolkit can help preserve the social fabric of thriving neighborhoods by allowing long-time residents to remain in their homes and continue contributing to the community.
2. **Equity and Social Justice**: Displacement disproportionately affects low-income households and communities of color. An anti-displacement toolkit can address these inequities by providing targeted support and resources to vulnerable populations, ensuring that housing policies and practices are fair and just for all residents.
3. **Stability and Well-Being**: Stable housing is essential for individual and family well-being. By preventing displacement, the toolkit can promote stability, reduce stress and anxiety, and improve overall quality of life for residents. Addressing affordable housing and creating long-term stability can improve the mental health of residents and help prevent homelessness in these areas.
4. **Economic Benefits**: Displacement can have negative economic impacts on individuals and communities, such as loss of employment due to relocation or increased commuting costs. By keeping residents in their homes or facilitating smooth transitions, the toolkit can support economic stability and local prosperity. The toolkit will also work to prevent the displacement of small neighborhood businesses who face similar pressures as residents due to rising rents and increased interest in Downtown-adjacent real estate.
5. **Collaborative Solutions**: This process encourages collaboration among government agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders to develop holistic solutions. By fostering partnerships and leveraging resources, the toolkit can maximize its effectiveness and reach.
6. **Resilience to External Pressures**: Our city faces various external pressures, such as rising housing costs, population growth, and economic changes. An anti-displacement toolkit equips us with proactive tools and strategies to mitigate these pressures and build a more resilient community.

We urge you and our city council to prioritize the development and implementation of an Anti-Displacement Toolkit as part of our broader housing and community development efforts. By taking proactive measures to address displacement, we can create a more equitable, resilient, and vibrant city for all residents.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to seeing positive progress on this issue and are available to discuss further or provide any additional information needed.

Sincerely,

[List of Names]