

3/1/18

Park City City Council,

I am writing to you today to ask that you waive the city's fees for the upcoming Park City March for Science.

The organizers of the March wanted Park City residents to be able to join millions across the country on April 14th as we raised our voices to protest policies detrimental to our environment and support good science's role in our daily lives and in policymaking.

We also recognize the need to ensure public safety and to work with the city to assure that our free speech activity harmonizes with the neighborhood it will take place in. In order to not have to find corporate sponsorship for our first amendment activity, we have only accepted private donations to help us bear the operational costs. Purchasing event insurance and printing advertising posters, already stretches our meager budget. We organizers are a group of concerned citizens, and do not enjoy the endowment of a foundation behind us.

It is not our wish that our free speech require commercial activity to subsidize it. We feel that enough Park City and Summit County residents would again participate to make this worth the personal investment of our time to organize. We recognize that in using city property, that the city has a list of reasonable requirements concerning mass gatherings.

But this event, unlike almost every other in the calendar, is not in any way a commercial exercise, a fundraiser for any group or organization, or a promotion for any company or product. We would like to provide a platform for Park City residents and local scientists to redress our grievances. The fees that the city is asking make it considerably more difficult to provide such a platform without some corporate logo on a banner next to the speaker.

Thank you for your consideration,

Josh Hobson

Lead Organizer

Park City March for Science