



August 7, 2018

To: Town of Vail Council
From: Nanette Kuich, Education Director

Re: Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Acquisition of Habitat for Humanity Farmers Market Structure

Dear Town Council members,

Betty Ford Alpine Gardens is seeking to accept a Vail Board of Realtors donation of a newly constructed structure that was designed as a fundraiser playhouse by the Eagle County Habitat for Humanity. BFAG intends to retrofit the structure as a Farmers Market for the Children's Garden area adjoining the Schoolhouse Museum Gift Shop. The structure is 8' x 8' x 8', is completely finished inside and out with high quality materials. The exterior color matches the schoolhouse and it would fit in a former sand pit area that was recently repaved in flagstone.

Farmers markets are excellent educational opportunities for the disconnect that children have to the source of their food. The Habitat structure provides shade for children and a way to store materials. Habitat for Humanity has volunteered to retrofit it as a market and assist with ongoing maintenance.

Visitation at the BFAG Education Center has increased over 125% over the last two years. Staff is working to handle the excessive crowds by providing additional family activities in the Children's Garden area in order to free up the Education Center for exhibit space and adult programming.

I am attaching a photo of the Children's Garden area - the market would be placed on the far side of the schoolhouse and would be minimally visible from Betty Ford Way. A photo rendering of the playhouse to scale is also attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

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