



October 1, 2026

Mark Newcomb
Chair
Teton County Commissioners

Arne Jorgensen
Mayor
Town of Jackson

Rick Howe
President/CEO
Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce

Dear Chair Newcomb, Mayor Jorgensen, and Mr. Howe,

Thank you for your letter of September 28, 2026. We, of course, recognize the important role that Grand Teton National Park plays in the lives of the residents of Jackson Hole and Teton County. Because of that, I feel compelled to provide some information that has not been publicly reported.

Throughout my tenure as Commissioner, we have made an effort to play regular season Major League games in parts of our country that are not within driving distance of an MLB stadium. We have played games on the grounds of the Fort Bragg military base in North Carolina, at the site of the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, at the nation's oldest Negro League stadium in Birmingham, Alabama (Rickwood Field), at the iconic Field of Dreams in Dyersville, Iowa and at the Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tennessee. Before choosing these venues, we have discussed or evaluated literally scores of potential sites the vast majority of which were dismissed for various reasons. Every concept goes through careful diligence and multiple rounds of viability; including venue/location assessments, review of the local infrastructure needed to support a large-scale event, community engagement and meaningful connection to a theme or celebration of something connected to our game. I can assure you that we have been very selective and have shown very sound judgment in deciding which ideas ultimately merit serious consideration.

With all of these special events, we have been careful to leave the selected sites better than when we arrived. For example, at Fort Bragg, we built a field and temporary seating for the event and then repurposed the site into several baseball and softball fields to be used by

servicemen and women. In Williamsport, we worked with the State of Pennsylvania to renovate a historic minor league facility. And, in Iowa, we worked with state and local officials to build a permanent stadium that preserves the original charm of the site while creating significant economic opportunity. I believe this track record demonstrates the care in which we approach these events and alleviates any concern that MLB would pursue a project that could damage or diminish a National Park.

MLB has no formal plan to play a game in Grand Teton National Park. Our team was conducting initial due diligence on many potential sites when this story was reported, and we had made no decision on the feasibility of staging a game in Grand Teton National Park. We also had not reached the stage in our due diligence in which we evaluated environmental impact, or spoke to members of the community to solicit their views – steps that would have certainly been part of any process should it have moved forward. That said, since the story was reported, it has become clear the local community does not want us to continue evaluating Grand Teton National Park as a potential site. We obviously would not bring a game to a community that has concerns about the venue, and will not continue to evaluate Grand Teton National Park as a potential site.

I hope this additional context clarifies the situation and addresses the concerns raised in your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert D. Manfred, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert D. Manfred, Jr.