# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Mark Newcomb
Chair, Board of County Commissioners
Teton County
P.O. Box 3594
Jackson, Wyoming 83001

Dear Mr. Newcomb:

Thank you for your letter dated October 5, 2026, to Secretary Burgum regarding the National Park Service's (NPS) amendment to the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Moose-Wilson Corridor Comprehensive Management Plan at Grand Teton National Park. I appreciate Teton County's (County) longstanding partnership with the NPS and its commitment to visitor safety, recreational access, and resource conservation.

The Department of the Interior is in the process of implementing Executive Order 14314, *Making America Beautiful Again by Improving Our National Parks*, which prioritizes improving access and the visitor experience. As part of this effort, the NPS reevaluated elements of its 2016 decision for the Moose-Wilson Corridor and amended the ROD to include a separated multiuse pathway along the corridor and realign a segment of Moose-Wilson Road between Sawmill Ponds and Death Canyon Road. The other improvements selected in 2016 remain unchanged.

The NPS determined that the effects of the amended decision were sufficiently analyzed in the 2016 Final Environmental Impact Statement. This determination relied on the important collaborative work and analysis presented in the 2016 plan rather than initiating a new National Environmental Policy Act process. The amendment includes minor refinements and mitigation measures intended to further reduce impacts to wildlife, wetlands, archaeological resources, and historic properties, including locating the pathway as close to the existing roadway as practicable.

I recognize your concerns about potential resource impacts and the County's opportunity to participate in the reevaluation. Gateway communities are important partners in national park stewardship, and Secretary's Order 3434, *Strengthening Coordination with Gateway Communities*, underscores the importance of transparent communication and coordination with local leadership. The NPS conducted Tribal consultation; coordinated with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer and other consulting parties; provided a public participation period on the draft Programmatic Agreement; and held a gateway community meeting in June 2026. I understand, however, that these efforts have not resolved the County's concerns about its opportunity to comment on the pathway decision itself.

As the amended decision moves into implementation, the NPS will continue communicating with Teton County as project design and implementation details are developed, consistent with applicable

law and the approved decision. The most current information about the project can be found at the project website here: Planning - Grand Teton National Park (U.S. National Park Service).

Thank you for bringing these concerns to my attention and for Teton County's continued partnership with Grand Teton National Park. We value your contributions to protecting park resources while supporting responsible recreation and visitor access.

Sincerely,

KEVIN LILLY Digitally signed by KEVIN LILLY
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Kevin J. Lilly
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks