Dear Commissioners,

I am dismayed to see South Park West, yet again, identified by County Staff as an appropriate place for softball fields. I hope that this Commission will recognize that the Greater Stilson Site Planning Survey was not an appropriate medium to solicit feedback on the future of South Park West. Our community has made it abundantly clear, time and time again, that there is no desire to have artificially turfed and lighted fields occupying 80% of the available public land at South Park. Why then, must we continue to push back against rhetoric and concepts that say otherwise?

 “**PLEASE EXPAND UPON YOUR CONNECTION TO THE LAND HERE”.**

Since this parcel was identified, more than 20 years ago, for development, the community, stakeholders, and involved organizations have continually called for a river-side park with greenspaces, group shelters, and ecologically friendly access to the river and adjacent wetlands. In fact, the Recreation and Public Purposes Act Application put forth by Teton County for acquisition of South Park West, housed concepts that reflected this community desire. There is wide and diverse support for this original vision. Surely, softball fields do not complement our community’s desires for South Park West. The repeated attempts to push ballfields at South Park demonstrate blatant disregard for appropriate public process and actively erode public trust.

Aside from honoring decades of work and planning, South Park landing is too far from the schools and the population center to be a practical location for ballparks. Additionally, South Park is nested in the heart of WYDOT’s Highway 89 wildlife mitigation area. High fences and artificial turf do not align with the priorities of this area. Please instruct staff to consider a more appropriate location for ball park development, including Northern South Park, Snow King, or a similar location closer to town.

Sincerely,

**YOUR NAME**