March 20, 2023
Research on Colorado HB 23-1101 Ozone Season Transit Grant Program Flexibility
This is a new bill we will be voting on Monday, March 20, 2023
Submitted by Suze M. Kanack

Why is rural Colorado up in arms about a bill for Ozone?

HB 23-1101 Ozone Season Transit Grant Program Flexibility

I will tell you, in HB23-1101 it helps promote grants for corridors of high travel, this is a good thing. But buried in the bill is changes to the Transportation regions. ***So, what is the problem, they are going by population instead of miles. Why? Because if you keep all the money where the population is you get to have wider roads for commuters.***

While in the rural counties we are limited by how many people die before they will look to see if we need to widen the road or investigate what causes the problems. So far, we have been lucky and only a few people have died instead of enough to get the attention of the State Transportation. ***Taking away our representation because of the low population is not how we take care of our elders.*** My citizens must drive these roads to get to any kind of medical attention or even to get a prescription filled. It is 60 miles one way, and the roads up here are getting busy. Add minimal maintenance and no hope of ever getting state grants to fix our roads and now we are losing what little representation we did have.

IF you want to change how we do things do not bury it in a bill that looks like it is meant to help everyone with an issue of ozone. Then turn it into a way to lower our representation. How about let's go by miles per county and trust me the rural counties will have way more miles. ***There must be a balance without taking away from our rural citizens many of whom are elderly and do not want to move to cities for better roads.***

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> SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 43-1-106, add (18) 15 as follows: 16 43-1-106. Transportation commission - powers and duties - 17 rules - definitions - efficiency and accountability committee. (18) NO 18 LATER THAN JULY 1, 2024, THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SHALL 19 UPDATE ITS RULES GOVERNING THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PROCESS 20 AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING REGIONS,2CCR601-22, TO ADJUST THE 21 BOUNDARIES OF THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING REGIONS, AS DEFINED IN 22 SECTION 43-1-1102 (8), IN A MANNER THAT ENSURES THAT THE STATE'S 23 POPULATION IS PROPORTIONALLY AND EQUITABLY REPRESENTED ON THE 24 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE CREATED IN SECTION 43-1-1104 25 (1)(a). WHEN DECIDING WHAT ADJUSTMENTS TO MAKE TO THE 26 BOUNDARIES OF THE TRANSPORTATION REGIONS, THE COMMISSION SHALL 27 ALSO CONSIDER: -8- 1101 1 (a) HIGHWAY CORRIDORS; 2 (b) SAFETY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS; 3 (c) COMMUTING AND OTHER TRAVEL PATTERNS; 4 (d) TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT; AND 5 (e) LEVELS OF AIR POLLUTANTS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 25-7-103 6 (1.5), INCLUDING CRITERIA POLLUTANTS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 43-1-128 7 (2)(b), AND GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTANTS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION

More about CCA Member - Suze M. Kanack – Connector - Jackson County Council on Aging

I am called a Connector it is a position that I created a couple of years ago that is grant funded by Nextfifty. Basically I try and listen to my elders and then I go out to see what I can do. I enjoyed a year of listening in before I became a member I hope that I can help wherever I am needed.

Walden is my hometown I came back to help worked in Public Television in Wyoming on and off for 20 years. I was born here, and my family homesteaded here. If you like museums we have one of the best, it is a Pioneer Museum and it has wonderful items many from my family. We were never rich, but we did have love, and now I am one of the last members of my family left here. So when I say I have my roots in rural I am not kidding.