

APA Colorado
Legislative Committee Meeting Notes
March 14, 2006
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Colorado Planning Act, HB 1053, Discussion

Bill Status - HB 1053 will be heard in Senate Local Government Committee next Thursday, March 23rd, upon adjournment.

Testimony - Three people are lined up to testify. Dan Guimond, Tim Baldwin, and Susan Wood. Additionally, Susan will ask Bill Lamont, Peter Italiano, and Bill Healy if they will also testify. Ellen Ittleson reported that she contacted Sen. Groff and will call again. He is the Vice Chair of the Senate Local Government Committee (D. Hanna, current Committee Chair, is leaving on March 22nd) Sol Malick will follow up with Sen. Groff, too. Bill Healy was going to ask the lobbyist for Colorado Springs to talk to Ed Jones, a member of the Senate Local Government Committee.

Press Release - Susan stated that she had not yet called the House Majority Press Release office, but committed to do on Wednesday morning, and to also ask Abby to send out a press release to the APA list. Later discussions led the group to put this item on HOLD until the sponsor issue is resolved.

What to Expect - With 1053, there is a problem with Sponsor Entz. He is getting beaten up by his Party saying the bill is anti-business, anti-growth, and is double dipping. There is also concern that a Vested Rights Amendment will be added.

Chuck relayed to the group that the bill is on life support. He further noted that we need to seek support from San Luis Valley , including Alamosa, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Mineral, Pitkin, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties. Sen. Entz needs to hear from people in cities, counties, commissioners, and business.

Chuck also stressed that people need to call Senators Groff, Entz, Tochtrop, Isgar and Hagedorn, (Chuck will ask Edie to talk with Hagedorn) It was determined that we need to start a solid list of Senators who need to be contacted (Committee assignments will come through on Monday).

It was suggested to create a list of people to be contacted, and write a script that can be followed. The script might read, "I am in your District, and a member of APA. I would like you to support HB1053 because it gives Local Government more choices. Also, please oppose the addition of a Vested Rights Amendment."

Eminent Domain Discussion

SB 169 (The BIG One) Eliminates “blight” as a condition for urban renewal and instead requires property to meet the definition of “slum.” A compromise might be in the works from Urban Renewal Authorities (Monitor unless amended)
Chuck/Sol asked to review the other ED bills for Board.

HB 1096 Effects Special Districts (MONITOR).

HB 1099 Eminent Domain is disallowed unless used primarily for Public Use or benefit (status - OPPOSE, unless dramatically amended).

HB1208 Compensation for Property Taken, adds additional compensation to property holders (OPPOSE)

SB78 Prohibits Eminent Domain for toll roads (SUPPORT)

SB 154 Mostly clarification language (SUPPORT)
Passed out of committee 3/14.

HCR1001 Taking of Private Property (This process would avoid the Governor because he could not use Veto power. Instead, it would go straight to a vote of the People. SCR3, a Senate Concurrent Resolution, would also be processed in this manner, and would make it harder for people to get things on the ballot.

If HCR 1001 is placed on the ballot and approved, it would amend the Constitution. There are Amendments being made in Hearing that would result in language that would not completely stop the use of eminent domain. Chuck did not have copies of amendments made in the 1st Committee in the House. It passed Committee, but still needs a 2/3 vote from both Houses
Chuck/Sol will get official language in the morning.

Takings Initiative

Acknowledged, but not discussed.

Next Meeting 2 weeks; March 28th; Webb Building; City and County of Denver; Room 1D.1
7:30 PM Adjourn