



Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report

File #: 24-061

Agenda Date: 3/26/2024

Agenda #:

To: Board of County Commissioners

Through: Michelle Halstead, Director, Commissioners' Office

Prepared By:
Cody O'Brien, Management Analyst I, Commissioners' Office

Presenter: Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell, Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs

Subject:
1:00 PM *Legislative Update

Purpose and Request:

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the status of Colorado's state legislative session, including potential impacts to Arapahoe County, and seek Board direction on legislative positions or specific advocacy activities.

Background and Discussion: As a constitutional subdivision of Colorado state government, Arapahoe County can only exercise those powers specifically expressed in statute or in the constitution. Arapahoe County contracts with Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs for state advocacy activities. The Director of the Commissioners' Office coordinates federal and state intergovernmental relations, in partnership with the Director of Human Services, the County Attorney, the Director of Community Resources, the Director of Public Works and Development, and the Director of Public Health (staff legislative team).

Staff reviews proposed legislation through the lens of operational and fiscal impacts to the county, in the context of the County's legislative guide (attached for reference).

This week, the lobbyist team will provide updates on the following bills that could impact Arapahoe County as well as other topics deemed appropriate:

Workforce/Economic Development

- HB24-1364 Education Based Workforce

Housing/Land Use

- HB24-1239 Single Stairway Exit Multifamily Structure

Additionally, the lobbyist and staff legislative team will provide updates on the following bills and topics:

- HB24-1359 Public Notification of Hazardous Chemical Releases
- SB24-174 Sustainable Affordable Housing Assistance
- HB24-1366 Sustainable Local Government Community Planning

- HB24-1313 Housing in Transit Oriented Communities

Please note that this report was amended on Friday in advance of the Legislative Update as information becomes available.

Fiscal Impact: Please refer to the attached 2024 Internal Legislative Report.

Alternatives: The Board could decide to not move forward with staff recommendations.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☒ Be fiscally sustainable
- ☒ Provide essential and mandated service
- ☒ Be community focused

Staff Recommendation: Please refer to the attached reference documents.

Concurrence: The staff legislative team will be in attendance to answer questions as needed.