

Senate Transportation & Energy

03/29/2022 02:00 PM

SB22-180 Programs To Reduce Ozone Through Increased Transit

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Vadim Uzdensky For Self	Hello Colorado legislators, I am Vadim Uzdensky, a senior at Fairview High School. One of the reasons I love my community is because of the care that my fellow Boulderites and I give to the natural environment. And ozone levels are an aspect of our natural surroundings that affects all of us directly. I don't want to be kept inside by poor air quality, especially when there are so many alternatives to personal cars for transportation. In the interests of fighting climate change as well, we should incentivize public, mass transit over cars. This is why I urge you to vote to approve this bill, which would protect our environment and our climate. Thank you.



The Denver
Foundation

March 29, 2022

SB22-180: Programs to Reduce Ozone Through Increased Transit

Dear Members of the Senate Transportation and Energy Committee,

On behalf of The Denver Foundation, we ask that you vote yes on Senate Bill 22-180, sponsored by Senator Faith Winter, Senator Nick Hinrichsen, Representative Matt Gray, and Representative Jennifer Bacon.

The Denver Foundation is a community foundation with a long-standing history of funding nonprofit organizations working to address environmental, climate, and transportation issues in Metro Denver. We believe environmental justice begins with targeted policy efforts and investments in under-resourced communities that address the impacts of climate change. We also believe that accessible and affordable transportation options are a core function of a thriving community.

Transportation is the leading source of emissions in Colorado. Such emissions, especially during ozone season, disproportionately impact those communities located along with areas where transportation pollution is high. Additionally, transportation costs can create a financial burden for those with lower incomes.

To tackle the impact of vehicle miles traveled, an investment in programs to remove barriers to using transit systems in communities across the state is necessary. By establishing two years of funding for the Regional Transportation District and transit agencies and creating a program within the Colorado Department of Transportation, the legislature can immediately invest in a targeted approach to reduce emissions and make it easier for people to use the transit system, saving people money and reducing harmful emissions.

SB22-180 also provides a framework to build from to further investment in transit infrastructure and services to continue reducing greenhouse gas emissions resulting from transportation.

The Denver Foundation appreciates the efforts of Sen. Winter, Sen. Hinrichsen, Rep. Matt Gray, Rep. Bacon, and transportation and climate advocates and respectfully requests a yes vote on SB22-180.

Sincerely,

Javier Alberto Soto
President and CEO

Dace West
Chief Impact Officer

Naomi Amaha
Director of Policy and Gov. Affairs