

## Ryan Howser

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**From:** Chana Coleman <chanacoleman25@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 11:49 AM  
**To:** Carrie Geitner; Stan VanderWerf; Cami Bremer; Holly Williams; Longinos Gonzalez, Jr  
**Cc:** nina.ruiz@vertexcos.com; Hello@coloradokidsranch.com; Ryan Howser  
**Subject:** Colorado Pumpkin Patch Support

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you all in regards to supporting a long-term solution for keeping the Colorado Pumpkin Patch in business! I plead with you all to please support an amazing local business who serves our community and provides 6+ weeks of amazing, wholesome fun to our local kids!

I have so many good things to say about the Colorado Pumpkin Patch. I am a mom to 3 kiddos and for the past few years, we are the first to show up the day it opens and get our annual pass! We live less than a mile away and it's the highlight of September/October for us. We drive by on the 105 daily throughout the year and the Pumpkin Patch is something my 4 year old talks about constantly. I can't even begin to express the heartbreak we feel hearing it's in jeopardy of being closed down. Not only will my kids be heartbroken, hundreds (if not thousands) of kids who attend each year will be sad. There are a lot of parents in this community who strive to limit screen time for their kids and places like the pumpkin patch are ways we achieve that with our kids! Getting outside, enjoying the beautiful Colorado weather and making memories is what life is all about.

I have watched the pumpkin patch grow and expand over the years - people from Denver, Castle Rock and the Springs travel to spend the day there!! We go twice a week once they open and I meet people from all over Colorado who come to visit. Even people from out of state who are visiting friends and family prioritize a day trip to the pumpkin patch. Can there be a unified effort among us to find a solution that reduces traffic in the neighborhood while still allowing the Pumpkin Patch to be a favorite family tradition for years to come? We live right by the new Monument Academy High School and we watched the roads get completely re-designed and re-structured (including a roundabout). The goal in supporting a specific cause that benefits thousands is not to focus on making any single person/entity "happy" but to address all legitimate safety concerns without taking drastic measures like shutting down an entire business.

I empathize with the neighbors who are frustrated about the traffic and safety concerns. However, my perspective of the Colorado Pumpkin Patch is more so focused on the kids impacted, especially since this is only a concern for approximately 6 weeks a year. I have such fond memories as a kid who grew up in the country with places like this. We moved here specifically because of the small town atmosphere, nice people and awesome annual traditions. It would be such a shame to lose that. I also love how the pumpkin patch employs young (usually high school) kids to work there. It's teaching them responsibility at such a young age. And how cool to be a teenager who works on a farm, feeds the animals, operates the tractors, etc.? So many people benefit from the pumpkin patch and it affects their entire life trajectory at times.

Lastly, I want to highlight that our community should be advocating for our local businesses without anger or hostility. I beg you all to be an advocate for unifying the local people while still supporting the Colorado Pumpkin Patch. I appreciate all of you who have read my letter and I am optimistic we can enjoy the pumpkin patch for years to come!

Sincerely,  
Chana Coleman