Ryan Howser

From:	Riley Chapman <silverappleseed@gmail.com></silverappleseed@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, June 10, 2023 3:14 PM
To:	Holly Williams; Cami Bremer; Longinos Gonzalez, Jr; Stan VanderWerf; Carrie Geitner
Subject:	Hwy 105 access for the Colorado Pumpkin Patch
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
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Dear County,

My name is Riley, and I am sending this email with regard to the Colorado Pumpkin Patch. The Colorado Pumpkin Patch has been running for 15 years, providing happiness and enjoyment to customers and a beneficial work experience to those who are blessed to work with the CPP. Indeed, every year, people from around the state plan a trip to come play at the Pumpkin Patch. The CPP regularly receives visitors from Fort Collins, Denver, Colorado Springs, locally, and sometimes even internationally! The Pumpkin Patch provides more than just a play place, but a place for families to connect, bond, and enjoy time together, outdoors. I ask for your patience to read these brief reasons why I am asking for the Pumpkin Patch to be allowed to remain in operation by obtaining Hwy 105 access and/or an unrestricted customer limit.

1: the CPP hires and trains many people, giving the opportunity for employment. In particular, the CPP hires teenagers who have not worked a job before, and provides a safe place to learn essential skills for long term employment in the future such as, respect, interpersonal communication, ethics, perseverance, kindness, and motivation. Regardless of age, race, or religion, the CPP has offered this to many.

2: the CPP not only offers benefits to others, but it is the primary income for a whole family. Rather than traditional work, the Chapman family takes pleasure in offering others the most enjoyable experience possible. To limit or restrict the CPP would take their primary means of support and income and also take away that for others.

3: the CPP offers one of the best local outside agritainment options in El Paso county. There are other pumpkin patches but none that offer the same expansive and enjoyable experience. While at the CPP, customers can enjoy a large plethora of activities to enjoy and use to bond with their family and friends. Families return year after year just to come, schools will reserve their field trips, and kids can enjoy just running around and playing, instead of being cooped up inside. Additionally, kids with special needs enter for free, and their whole family, providing a safe and fun spot to play.

While there are concerns, such as traffic and noise, from neighbors, the CPP offers the same opportunity to those neighbors to come and bond with their own family, for free! Free of charge, they can come and spend quality family time!

Due to these complaints, some wish to restrict the CPP to where it could no longer function and could no longer provide the joy and opportunity to others, with this experience. But to do so would rob a family of their income, teenagers of experience and opportunity, families of bonding and joy, and more.

The Colorado Pumpkin Patch borders Colorado Hwy 105, which could easily be used to provide access to the Colorado Pumpkin Patch without any disturbance to the neighborhood. Even if access does not get granted, I ask that no limitation be placed on Colorado Pumpkin Patch in regards to people, for the reasons mentioned above. The Colorado Pumpkin Patch has moved through half a dozen locations to find one that will allow them to offer a family friendly experience for all who wish to come. I trust that the wisdom of this county board will understand the benefits offered to those who choose to come and enjoy. I hope that this will be the location that finally welcomes the Colorado Pumpkin Patch and allows it to continue its outreach to the locals and special needs community, as well as provide quality agri-tainment for all who come.

Thank you for your time to read through this written petition.

Sincerely, Riley Chapman.

On Fri, Jun 9, 2023, 4:14 PM Colorado Kids Ranch <<u>Hello@coloradokidsranch.com</u>> wrote: Hi Friends. We really need some help here from our friends. I realize I left some helpful info out of the last post. Here's the question. Do you have a knowledge of our pumpkin patch and if so are you willing to send an email (or visit a board meeting) in our support? If so please Here are the contact emails and info.

Listed here are the Board members to reach out to and please BCC us for tracking at Hello@Coloradokidsranch.com and <u>nina.ruiz@vertexcos.com</u>> then in the To field address these board members for their help. Please be polite as we are petitioning them for their help.

CarrieGeitner@elpasoco.com

stanvanderwerf@elpasoco.com

LonginosGonzalezJr@elpasoco.com

camibremer@elpasoco.com

and HollyWilliams@elpasoco.com

Reach out about what issue?

The county is very concerned about traffic. We need access to Hwy 105 to remove the risk to the neighborhood and we are also asking that they do not limit us to so low a number of cars as to make running the business unsustainable. Please also discuss:

Why you love the Colorado Pumpkin Patch and the activities and the experience we have here

What you have learned by going/working/volunteering at the Patch or

If this has become a family tradition and /or

How the family/community has benefitted from the pumpkin patch or the Johnny Pumpkinseed Program for kids and families

Thank you very much and I would consider it a great favor!!

JD Chapman



Colorado Kids Ranch 719-799-6708 18065 Saddlewood Rd Monument CO 80132 www.ColoradoKidsRanch.com