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Pikes Peak Area
Council of Governments

Communities Working Together

April 8, 2026

Colorado Transportation Investment Office
Board of Directors
2829 W. Howard Pl.
Denver, CO 80204

Re: Funding Bustang Service

Dear Chair Gutierrez,

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments supports mode choice for our residents so they can choose the method that best fits their needs and goals. We believe that Bustang has a role to play in our state and region's multimodal travel, but it needs to be done in a fiscally responsible manner that balances the needs of transit riders and those who choose to travel by personal or business vehicle.

During the last two months, the Colorado Transportation Investment Office Board of Directors and the Colorado Transportation Commission have discussed long-term Bustang funding after the current three-year pilot expansion expires at the end of this state fiscal year. While other methods to address short- and long-term funding needs to maintain current levels of service, the longest discussions have focused on Transportation Investment Office revenues to support Bustang operations. Specifically, the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments is concerned that user fees collected within specific corridors may be used outside of that corridor, in violation of Colorado Revised Statutes 43-4-806(5). This requirement was reaffirmed and clarified in Senate Bill 24-184. While no formal proposal has been submitted to either Board, and understanding that a legislative bill would likely be needed to fulfill, the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments wants to reaffirm the intent that tolls collected within designated corridors should only be used within that corridor.

Bustang's record in the last 10 years has shown there is a desire for this service, and the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments supports the goal of providing choice to our residents. We are supportive of efforts to enhance the system for long-term success and encourage the Colorado Department of Transportation to take the time to fully evaluate the needs of the riders moving forward. Even with the pandemic years, we feel there is adequate data to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the system, and the pilot service expansion provides strong before-and-after data to support changes to service and fares to maximize existing revenue

streams and minimize the need for transfers from the Colorado Transportation Investment Office or the Colorado General Assembly.

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments supports the work of the Colorado Department of Transportation to strength transit service in the state within the overall mission to effectively and safely move people, goods and information. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure Bustang serves as an important component in the statewide transportation system.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of our concerns during this important decision-making period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly Williams".

Holly Williams
Chair, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
Commissioner, El Paso County

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. Gunning".

Andrew Gunning
Executive Director, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments