

Paso County to protest the bill. He stated, however, that “the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce is in favor of it, which I find strange.” LaKind warned that he would not comply if the bill passes and that it will be difficult to get anything built for the state if the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department (PPRBD)

also refuses to comply. During public comment, residents expressed their opposition to the bill, and council members mentioned that Rep. Don Wilson and Rep. Paul Lundeen were also against it. President and CEO of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Terri Hayes expressed opposition to the bill but explained that the Colorado Springs Chamber sees it as a way to bring more people to town. “They see it as a way to solve their labor shortages,” she said. King read a letter written collectively by the Town Council to oppose Senate Bill 23-213. They argued that

the bill would eliminate their ability to zone multi-family housing to locations where the infrastructure is in place, remove their discretion to place certain criteria on multi-family housing, allow the character of neighborhoods to be destroyed by forcing incompatible land uses directly adjacent to single-family homes, mandate expensive studies relative to housing and water resources, and shift the burden and responsibility of what have traditionally been local decisions up to “a state agency.” The letter claimed the bill reflects the state’s belief that “it knows far more about what’s best for the quality of life in their communities than their own citizens do,” and they urged legislators to reject the bill. The Town Council is also working on a plan to mitigate the impact of the bill if it is passed. After La-Kind pledged to not comply, King added, “We will do everything we can to make sure that this bill does not have a negative impact on Monument.” See letter “Monument Town Council opposes bill” in Letters to the Editor on page 24.

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