

AGNC 18-3
Support for Colorado Welcome Center in Dinosaur, Colorado

WHEREAS tourism is a major component of Colorado's economy and Colorado Welcome Centers are an important introduction for visitors to the State of Colorado,

WHEREAS the important task of disseminating visitor information at the various entrances to Colorado is critically important to the tourism economy,

WHEREAS the task of disseminating visitor information is to be performed in a fair and professional manner with standards set by the Colorado Tourism Office,

WHEREAS the current guidance of the Colorado Tourism Office is to provide leadership in driving visitation to all parts of the State of Colorado and enhancing the performance of the tourism industry for all,

WHEREAS the diversification of the western slope economy, including tourism and outdoor recreation is a substantial contributing factor, is critical,

WHEREAS state support for important services such as the driver's license bureau and state patrol have been retracted in Northwest Colorado, the area is underserved by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and workforce support is being considered for removal in Rio Blanco County,

WHEREAS a recommendation has been made, although currently tabled, to the Colorado Tourism Board to begin defunding the Dinosaur Welcome Center in Northwest Colorado,

WHEREAS the Dinosaur Welcome Center has a significant positive impact to the community of Dinosaur as well as other communities across Northwest Colorado, and

WHEREAS the local communities have shown continued and ongoing support of the Dinosaur Welcome center through financial, in-kind, and volunteer services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC):

- Urges the Colorado Tourism Office Board of Directors to provide full funding for the operations of the Colorado Welcome Center at Dinosaur, Colorado.
- Urges the Office of the Governor of Colorado to fully support the needs of rural Colorado and to support the remote parts of Northwest Colorado with visitor services.
- Encourages the Colorado Tourism Office to continue to promote rural tourism through signage and remote visitor service facilities, including the Welcome Center at Dinosaur, Colorado.

Resolution AGNC 18-3 duly approved by a vote of the Board on the 18th day of July 2018.

Ray Beck, AGNC Chairman



