



HB21-1095

County Road Maintenance and 811 Locate Requirements

Sponsors: Reps. Baisley & Kipp, Sens. Ginal & Woodward

County road and bridge departments are responsible for maintaining over 100,000 miles of unpaved roads across Colorado. Maintenance grading activities are required regularly to keep the roads' surface and adjacent roadside drainage in safe condition and usable by all sectors of the traveling public. Under the current 811 "Call Before You Dig" law, counties are required to submit every mile of road for verification of the location of underground utilities (aka "locates") before they can begin grading – even though this grading activity does not disturb more than a few inches of soil and utilities are routinely required to be buried at least 2-3 feet underground. This locate requirement is time-consuming and cumbersome for counties to comply with and results in costly delays at the local level – at a time when transportation dollars are becoming scarcer.

HB21-1095 would establish that counties performing routine maintenance on county roads do not have to seek a utility locate from Colorado 811, provided that the maintenance activities do not lower the grade of the road or disturb more than six inches of soil. The bill represents a compromise agreement between CCI, Colorado 811, PUC – Pipeline Safety Division, the Colorado Contractors Association, Xcel Energy and the Colorado Association of Road Supervisors and Engineers (CARSE). It is worth noting that 29 other states do not currently require 811 locates for county road maintenance.

HB21-1095 will save valuable time and resources without endangering infrastructure or public safety. While routine county road maintenance would not have to get locates, any road construction activities that involve excavation of more than six inches would still require a formal locate request by the county to Colorado 811.

CCI asks for your "YES" vote on HB21-1095

Contact: Eric Bergman 303.915.2909/ebergman@ccionline.org