

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4622

To require Federal land managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require Federal land managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Gateway Communities
3 Cooperation Act of 2002”.

4 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL**
5 **LAND MANAGERS AND GATEWAY COMMU-**
6 **NITIES TO SUPPORT COMPATIBLE LAND**
7 **MANAGEMENT OF BOTH FEDERAL AND ADJA-**
8 **CENT LANDS.**

9 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

10 (1) Communities that are adjacent to or near
11 Federal lands, including units of the National Park
12 System, units of the National Wildlife Refuge Sys-
13 tem, units of the National Forest System, and lands
14 administered by the Bureau of Land Management,
15 are vitally impacted by the management and public
16 use of these Federal lands.

17 (2) These communities, commonly known as
18 gateway communities, fulfill an integral part in the
19 mission of the Federal lands by providing necessary
20 services, such as schools, roads, search and rescue,
21 emergency, medical, provisioning, logistical support,
22 living quarters, and drinking water and sanitary sys-
23 tems, for both visitors to the Federal lands and em-
24 ployees of Federal land management agencies.

25 (3) Provision of these vital services by gateway
26 communities is an essential ingredient for a mean-

1 ingful and enjoyable experience by visitors to the
2 Federal lands because Federal land management
3 agencies are unable to provide, or are prevented
4 from providing, these services.

5 (4) Gateway communities serve as an entry
6 point for persons who visit the Federal lands and
7 are ideal for establishment of visitor services, includ-
8 ing lodging, food service, fuel and auto repairs,
9 emergency services, and visitor information.

10 (5) Development in these gateway communities
11 affect the management and protection of these Fed-
12 eral lands, depending on the extent to which advance
13 planning for the local development is coordinated be-
14 tween the communities and Federal land managers.

15 (6) The planning and management decisions of
16 Federal land managers can have unintended con-
17 sequences for gateway communities, when the deci-
18 sions are not adequately communicated to, or coordi-
19 nated with, the elected officials and residents of
20 gateway communities.

21 (7) Experts in land management planning are
22 available to Federal land managers, but persons with
23 technical planning skills are often not readily avail-
24 able to gateway communities, particularly small
25 gateway communities.

1 (8) Gateway communities are often affected by
2 the policies and actions of several Federal land agen-
3 cies and both the communities and the agencies
4 would benefit from greater interagency coordination
5 of those policies and actions.

6 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to re-
7 quire Federal land managers to communicate, coordinate,
8 and cooperate with gateway communities in order to—

9 (1) improve the relationships among Federal
10 land managers, elected officials, and residents of
11 gateway communities;

12 (2) enhance the facilities and services in gate-
13 way communities available to visitors to Federal
14 lands, when compatible with the management of
15 these lands; and

16 (3) result in better local land use planning and
17 decisions by Federal land managers.

18 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) GATEWAY COMMUNITY.—The term “gate-
20 way community” means a county, city, town, village,
21 or other subdivision of a State that—

22 (A) is incorporated or recognized in a
23 county or regional land use plan; and

24 (B) a Federal land manager (or the head
25 of the tourism office for the State) determines

1 is significantly affected economically, socially,
2 or environmentally by planning and manage-
3 ment decisions regarding Federal lands admin-
4 istered by that Federal land manager.

5 (2) FEDERAL LAND AGENCIES.—The term
6 “Federal land agencies” means the National Park
7 Service, United States Forest Service, United States
8 Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land
9 Management.

10 (3) FEDERAL LAND MANAGER.—The term
11 “Federal land manager” means—

12 (A) the superintendent of a unit of the Na-
13 tional Park System;

14 (B) the manager of a national wildlife ref-
15 uge;

16 (C) the field office manager of a Bureau of
17 Land Management area; or

18 (D) the supervisor of a unit of the Na-
19 tional Forest System.

20 (d) PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PLANNING AND
21 LAND USE.—

22 (1) PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING.—The Fed-
23 eral land agencies shall provide for and accept mean-
24 ingful public involvement at the earliest possible
25 time by elected and appointed officials of govern-

1 ments of local gateway communities in the develop-
2 ment of land use plans, programs, land use regula-
3 tions, land use decisions, transportation plans, gen-
4 eral management plans, and any other plans, deci-
5 sions, or policies for Federal public lands under the
6 jurisdiction of these agencies that will have a signifi-
7 cant impact on these gateway communities. To fa-
8 cilitate such involvement, the Federal land agencies
9 shall provide these officials, at the earliest possible
10 time, with a summary in nontechnical language of
11 the assumptions, purposes, goals, and objectives of
12 such a plan, decision, or policy and a description of
13 any anticipated significant impact of the plan, deci-
14 sion, or policy on gateway communities.

15 (2) EARLY NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISIONS.—
16 To the extent practicable, the Federal land agencies
17 shall provide local gateway communities with early
18 public notice of proposed decisions of these agencies
19 that may have a significant impact on gateway com-
20 munities.

21 (3) TRAINING SESSIONS.—The Federal land
22 agencies shall offer training sessions for elected and
23 appointed officials of gateway communities at which
24 such officials can obtain a better understanding of—

25 (A) agency planning processes; and

1 (B) the methods by which they can partici-
2 pate most meaningfully in the development of
3 the agency plans, decisions, and policies re-
4 ferred to in paragraph (1).

5 (4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—At the request of
6 the government of a gateway community, a Federal
7 land agency shall assign, to the extent practicable,
8 an agency employee or contractor to work with the
9 community to develop data and analysis relevant to
10 the preparation of agency plans, decisions, and poli-
11 cies referred to in paragraph (1).

12 (5) REVIEW OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT
13 PLANNING.—At the request of a gateway commu-
14 nity, a Federal land manager shall assist the gate-
15 way community to conduct a review of land use,
16 management, or transportation plans of the Federal
17 land manager likely to affect the gateway commu-
18 nity.

19 (6) COORDINATION OF LAND USE.—To the ex-
20 tent consistent with the laws governing the adminis-
21 tration of the Federal public lands, a Federal land
22 manager may enter into a cooperative agreement
23 with a gateway community to provide for coordina-
24 tion between—

1 (A) the land use inventory, planning, and
2 management activities for the Federal lands ad-
3 ministered by the Federal land manager; and

4 (B) the land use planning and manage-
5 ment activities of other Federal agencies, agen-
6 cies of the State in which the Federal lands are
7 located, and local and tribal governments in the
8 vicinity of the Federal lands.

9 (7) INTERAGENCY COOPERATION AND COORDI-
10 NATION.—To the extent practicable, when the plans
11 and activities of two or more Federal land agencies
12 are anticipated to have an impact on a gateway com-
13 munity, the Federal land agencies involved shall con-
14 solidate and coordinate their plans and planning
15 processes to facilitate the participation of the gate-
16 way community in the planning processes.

17 (8) TREATMENT AS COOPERATING AGENCIES.—
18 Upon request of a gateway community, a Federal
19 land manager shall certify the gateway community
20 as a cooperating agency for purposes of complying
21 with the requirements of the National Environ-
22 mental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et.seq.)
23 with respect to Federal lands administered by the
24 Federal land manager.

25 (e) GRANTS TO ASSIST GATEWAY COMMUNITIES.—

1 (1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED; PURPOSES.—A Fed-
2 eral land manager may make grants to an eligible
3 gateway community to enable the gateway
4 community—

5 (A) to participate in Federal land planning
6 or management processes;

7 (B) to obtain professional land use or
8 transportation planning assistance necessary as
9 a result of Federal action;

10 (C) to address and resolve public infra-
11 structure impacts that are identified through
12 these processes as a likely result of the Federal
13 land management decisions and for which suffi-
14 cient funds are not otherwise available; and

15 (D) to provide public information and in-
16 terpretive services about the Federal lands ad-
17 ministered by the Federal land manager and
18 the gateway community.

19 (2) ELIGIBLE GATEWAY COMMUNITIES.—To be
20 eligible for a grant under this subsection, a gateway
21 community may not have a population in excess of
22 10,000 persons.

23 (f) FUNDING SOURCES.—

24 (1) GENERAL AGENCY FUNDS.—A Federal land
25 agency may use amounts available for the general

1 operation of the agency to provide funds to Federal
2 land managers of that agency to make grants under
3 subsection (e).

4 (2) OTHER PLANNING OR PROJECT DEVELOP-
5 MENT FUNDS.—Funds available to a Federal land
6 manager for planning, construction, or project devel-
7 opment may also be used to fund programs under
8 subsection (d) and make grants under subsection
9 (e).

10 (3) COMBINATION OF FUNDS.—Federal land
11 managers from different Federal land agencies may
12 combine financial resources to make grants under
13 subsection (e).

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