

## **Diane Mitsch Bush, Democratic Candidate for Colorado's Third Congressional District Summary of Qualifications**

### **Elected Office**

In **2006** Diane was elected as Routt County Commissioner, District 3 with 58% of the vote in a county where Democrats were only 28% of the electorate. Diane was reelected in 2010 with no opposition.

**2013-2017** As State Representative for Colorado House District 26 - Eagle County and Routt County, Diane has served on:

- House Transportation and Energy Committee, Chair
- House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee, Vice Chair
- Interim Joint House & Senate Water Resources Review Committee
- Interim Joint House & Senate Transportation Legislation Review Committee
- House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee

75% of her evidence based, bipartisan bills have been signed into law, even with split chambers. More than 80% of her bills were co-prime sponsored with a Republican, so Diane became known as a practical, pragmatic problem solver.

**2017-2018** Diane ran for the US House in Colorado's Third Congressional District.

- She won the 2018 three-person Democratic primary with 64% of the vote
- She lost the 2018 General Election to incumbent Scott Tipton (R-Cortez) by 7.97%. She came closer to unseating him than any of the three Democrats who ran against him in 2012, 2014, and 2016.

### **Professional Experience**

Diane has served on the social science faculty at the University of Arizona, Colorado State University, and Colorado Mountain College, Steamboat Springs.

**1982 - 1993** Diane taught and did research at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, earning tenure by a unanimous Sociology Department vote in 1984.

**1993-2005** Diane was a full time faculty member at Colorado Mountain College - Steamboat Springs, where she was twice named CMC faculty of the year.

### **Education**

**1975** BA, Summa Cum Laude, Sociology, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

**1979** PhD, Sociology, emphasis in quantitative analysis of social policy, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

### **Volunteer Community Work**

**1984-1987** President of the Board, Crossroads Safehouse for Battered Women and their Children, Fort Collins

**1988-1990** Volunteer social science consultant for family ranchers in Pleasant Valley, focusing on economic, transportation, and social impacts of proposed development

**1993-1994** Vision 2020 Citizens' Committee (Joint Routt County-Steamboat Springs)

**1996-2006** Routt County Planning Commissioner focusing on preserving family ranching, connecting land use with water efficiency/conservation, energy, and multimodal transportation

**2007-2012** Member, Chair, and Representative to Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee for the NW Transportation Planning Region Commission

**2007-2011** Rocky Mountain Rail Authority Board of Directors and Steering Committee for CDOT/FRA funded Feasibility Study of high speed rail in the I-25 and I-70 mountain corridor

**2007-2012** Board Member Club 20, later served on Club 20 Executive Committee

**2009-2012** Member of the Steamboat Springs Community Cycling Initiative (aka cycling as Economic Development Task Force, later "Bike Town, USA")

**2010-2011** Chair/Grant Manager for CDOT Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Grant for School Bike/Walk Rallies

**2010-2011** Member, Governor John Hickenlooper's Transition Team for Transportation

**2006-2012** Yampa Valley Sustainability Council

**2007-2012** Representative on Mainstreet, Steamboat Springs (downtown business association)