



# **“Comparing and Contrasting County and City Government”**

**Presented By:**

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***Chairman, Board of County Commissioners***

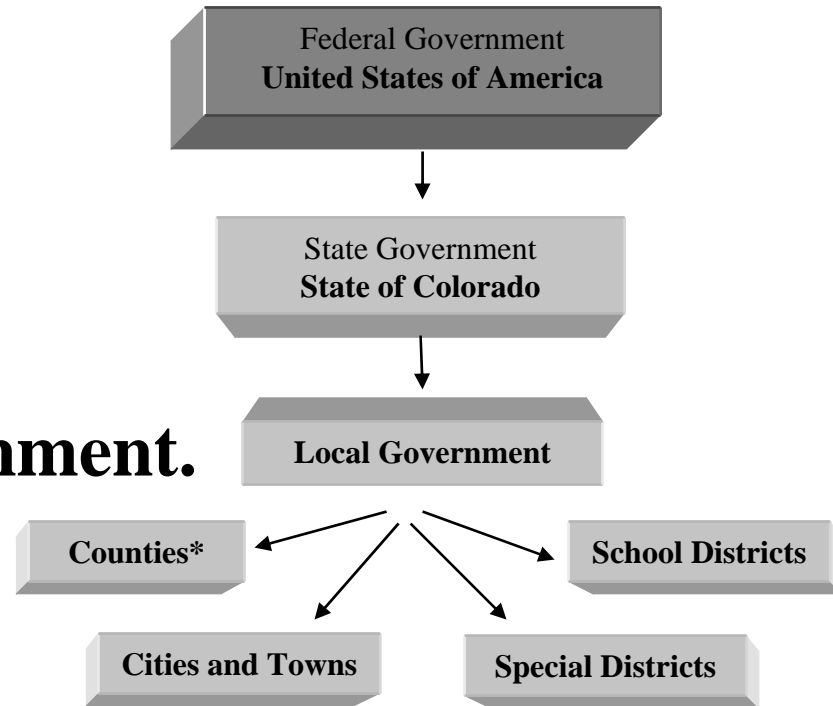




# Government Structure

**Governments are divided into three major branches:**

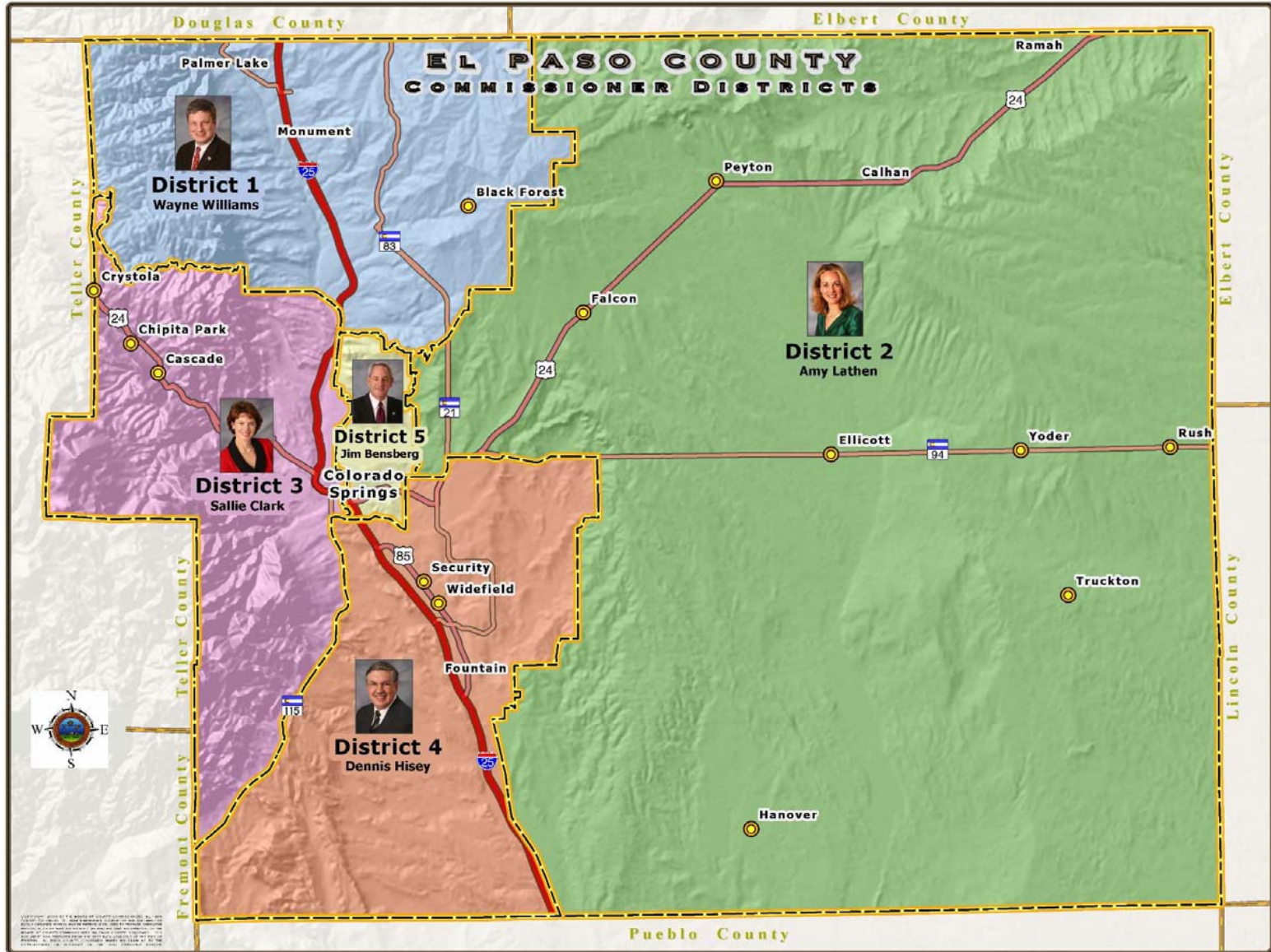
- **Federal Government**
- **State Government**
- **Local Government**
- **El Paso County is a branch of local government.**





# El Paso County Commissioner Districts

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# Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)

- Constitutional Elected Officers  
(Agents of the State)
- Five Commissioner Districts  
(Public Interest)
- Implement State and Federal Laws
- Administer Zoning and Land Use
- Public Safety and Governmental  
Services

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# Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) Continued

- County Roads and Transportation
- Set Property Tax Mill Levy
- BoCC is the Funding Body for All County Offices
- Liquor License Authority with State
- Administrative Oversight for Pikes Peak Workforce, DHS, Health Department

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# Unfunded Federal & State Mandates

- Criminal Justice Mandates  
(E.G., Court and Jail Services)
- Health and Environment Mandates
- Human Services Mandates
- Endangered Species Mandates  
(E.G., Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse)

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# City “Home Rule” vs. County “Statutory Authority”



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- City’s Home Rule allows for more governmental autonomy than County.
- Council members can enact, change or repeal local laws on a wide range of issues.
- County serves as extension of State and Federal government, establishing and administering policy as empowered by State/Federal law.





# City “Home Rule” vs. County “Statutory Authority”

- Only two Colorado Counties have adopted a City-County government: Denver and Broomfield.
- Converting to a City-County government structure requires Statewide vote.
- Defining and combining duties between City and County would be a very complex and risky process.

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QUESTIONS?