# 2017-18 Citizens Guide Table of Contents

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The Citizens Guide is compiled and published annually by the Budget Administration Department. It is designed both as an educational and resource tool for readers wanting to learn more about El Paso County. This booklet provides the citizens of El Paso County with a general overview of County Government — including its structure, relationship to other government bodies, statutory functions, fiscal management, community collaborations and key comparisons with Colorado’s other large counties.

The 2017-2018 Citizens Guide is a product of
El Paso County Administration and Financial Services Department
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200 S. Cascade, Suite 150, Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(719) 520-6400
**Counties** are subdivisions of state government. They are the local administrators of federal and state programs and are on the “front lines” of public safety, justice, elections, motor vehicle registrations, criminal investigation and prosecution, public health, human services, and transportation.

**El Paso County** includes both urban and rural areas, and all citizens benefit from the services provided by El Paso County offices and agencies.

**El Paso County** is a statutory county, meaning that it is a service arm of the State. Its elected official structure, powers and responsibilities come from State laws. The State grants to the County such powers as are required for the health, welfare and safety of our residents. Subsequently, the County is required to provide many mandated services, which are directed by the State and Federal Governments.

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**Mandated Services Provided to all Citizens**

- Construction, maintenance and operation of the County jail and County courthouse
- District Attorney — Investigation and prosecution of crimes
- Certification of automobile titles; motor vehicle registrations; administration of all primary, general and special elections in the County; records and maintenance of public documents
- Valuation of all real property and taxable business and residential property in the County
- Certification of all deaths and investigation into the causes of suspicious deaths that fall under the Coroner’s jurisdiction
- Releases of Deeds of Trust and administration of foreclosures
- Design, construction and maintenance of public highway systems in the County
- Administration of Human Services programs to include Child Support, Child and Adult Abuse/Neglect Prevention, and Food and Medical Assistance
Governments are broadly divided into three major branches; Federal Government, State Government, Local Government which includes Counties, Cities, Towns, Special Districts and School Districts. All of the government bodies referenced in the model are related in various ways — including funding sources and services provided. It is critical that all government entities work in collaboration for the common good of taxpayers, allowing all levels of government to provide quality and effective services to citizens.

**Federal Government**
The United States of America

**State Government**
State of Colorado

**Local Government**
Counties (El Paso County)
Cities and Towns
School Districts
Water Districts
Fire Districts
Special Districts
El Paso County is governed by five County Commissioners representing the five geographic Commissioner Districts equal in population as shown below. El Paso County Commissioners are elected by the citizens within their respective districts and serve staggered four-year terms. Commissioners are term-limited, serving a maximum of two consecutive four-year terms. The Board of County Commissioners elects officers and assigns community liaison responsibilities annually. Commissioner District boundaries are revised every two years to ensure equal citizen representation for all five districts.

The Board of County Commissioners serves as both a policy-making and administrative body for the County. All powers of the County, as a legal entity, are exercised by the Board of County Commissioners and not by its individual members.

Our Mission: El Paso County is a regional leader providing valued and necessary community services in the most cost-effective manner.

El Paso County\textquotesingle s Five Commissioners Districts.
For a detailed map go to the El Paso County Clerk & Recorder\textquotesingle s web page.
The City of Colorado Springs recruits 200 new police officers and those new officers patrol the city streets and arrest suspected criminals.

The City police officers take suspected criminals to the El Paso County Jail because jail operations are not a function of municipalities.

The El Paso County Jail by State of Colorado statute has to house, feed, clothe and provide appropriate medical attention to inmates.

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Deputies then transport inmates to the El Paso County Courthouse, built and operated by El Paso County to house Court operations, which are a function of the State of Colorado.

The State of Colorado then holds judicial proceedings with a State of Colorado Judge, the El Paso County District Attorney, the El Paso County Sheriff, a City of Colorado Springs police officer and, in some cases, the El Paso County Coroner in attendance to perform their respective duties.

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**The Domino Effect**

- Additional city police officers result in additional arrests
- Additional city arrests result in additional county inmates
- Additional county inmates lead to increased county jail costs for operations
- Additional city arrests also lead to additional county courthouse use
- Additional courthouse use creates the need for additional courtrooms, judges, district attorneys and supporting staff
El Paso County is the most populous county in Colorado, estimated to have 695,000 citizens in 2017.

El Paso County’s unincorporated population for 2017 is estimated to be more than 185,500 citizens and incorporated to be 509,500. Since 2000, El Paso’s population has grown by more than 145,000 people.

When Colorado became a state in 1876, it had a population of about 100,000. The Centennial State now has more than 5,400,000 residents. The largest city in El Paso County is Colorado Springs, with an estimated population of more than 445,000 citizens.
The above chart is based on 2016 budgeted level of full-time employees and 2016 population estimates (most current 10-County Survey data available).

El Paso County’s estimated number of citizens served per County employee was 263 for 2016.
El Paso County has the lowest mill levy of the ten largest populated Colorado Counties.

This means El Paso County citizens are paying substantially less in property taxes compared to other large-population Colorado counties.

On average, only 10% of property tax revenues collected in El Paso County go to support County government. About 90% go to support school districts, cities and towns and special services districts.

Your property taxes are calculated using a variable called a “mill levy.” See page 12 for more information on calculating your property taxes.

What is a “mill” or a “mill levy?”

A mill is one-thousandth of a dollar or one-tenth of cent. A mill levy is the number of mills that local governmental bodies tax based upon the assessed value of your property. By Colorado law, the County cannot permanently increase the mill levy without a vote of the citizens.
The total combined El Paso County property, sales and use taxes paid by El Paso County citizens is substantially less per person than any of the other large Colorado Counties.

2016 10-County Combined Per Capita Taxes

The chart above is based on 2016 budgeted tax revenues and 2016 population estimates (most current data available from the 10-County Survey).

El Paso County's combined per-person tax revenue for 2016 was estimated at $243
The El Paso County Treasurer is the collection agent for all property taxes. Citizens pay their entire property tax bill to El Paso County but the County only keeps a small portion of that revenue. Most of the tax revenues collected are distributed to the cities, towns, school districts, library districts, water districts, fire districts and special improvement districts, which set their own budgets.

El Paso County’s mill levy comparison with the other large counties in Colorado is shown on page 9. El Paso County’s low mill levy rate translates to the lowest property tax revenues per capita compared to the other Colorado counties.

The chart above is based on 2016 budgeted property taxes and population estimates for the ten largest counties in Colorado.

For 2016, El Paso County’s per-citizen property tax revenues were estimated at $71.
Calculating Property Taxes

- **Market Value** of the home as valued by the El Paso County Assessor’s Office
- **Assessment Rate** as determined by the State of Colorado in accordance with Colorado Revised Statute 39-1-104.2 C.R.S.
- **Mill Levy** is a tax rate expressed in 1/10 of a cent. A tax rate of 1 mill per thousand means $1.00 of tax per $1,000 of assessed value

Below is an example of property taxes for a $300,000 home in School District 11 with a total related mill levy of 57.973.

\[
\text{Market Value} \times \text{Assessment Rate} = \text{Assessment Value} \\
\text{Assessment Value} \times \text{Mill Levy} = \text{Property Taxes}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Market Value} & = \$300,000 \\
\text{Assessment Rate} & = 0.0729 \\
\text{Assessment Value} & = \$21,600 \\
\text{Mill Levy} & = 0.057973 \\
\text{Property Taxes} & = \$1,252.22
\end{align*}
\]

- **School District 11 Levy** 
  = 40.878
  = $882.97
- **City of Colorado Springs Levy** 
  = 4.279
  = $92.43
- **El Paso County Levy** 
  = 7.919
  = $171.05
- **Colorado Springs Road and Bridge Levy** 
  = 0.165
  = $3.56
- **Library District Levy** 
  = 3.957
  = $85.47
- **Water Districts Levy** 
  = 0.940
  = $20.30

Based on the calculation above, this homeowner would pay **$1,252.22** in total property taxes, of which El Paso County would receive **$171.05** or **13.6%** of total property tax collected.
El Paso County property tax revenues traditionally grow correspondingly with a rise in property values. But the impacts of the worldwide real estate and financial crisis which started in 2008 were reflected when properties were reassessed in 2011, resulting in lower revenues starting in 2012. The County Assessor updates the value of real properties in the county every two years as required by Colorado law and property taxes for each year are collected the following year.

**Sales Tax Distribution**

Shown is sales tax distribution for 2017 (totalling 7.63%) for retail purchases within the Colorado Springs City limits.

Allocations shown below:

- **2.9% State of Colorado**
- **2.5% City of Colorado Springs**
- **1.0% PPRTA (see page 52)**
- **1.23% El Paso County**
In 1987, El Paso County voters approved a one-percent sales tax.

The County’s sales tax revenues dipped sharply during the 2008-2009 recession and did not recover until 2014. Sales tax revenues grew in 2013, reflecting voter approved public safety sales and use tax of .23% (in red).

Historical Comparison of Sales Tax vs. Property Tax

Historical County Sales Tax Revenues

In 1987, El Paso County voters approved a one-percent sales tax.

The County’s sales tax revenues dipped sharply during the 2008-2009 recession and did not recover until 2014. Sales tax revenues grew in 2013, reflecting voter approved public safety sales and use tax of .23% (in red).
**Restricted Revenue:** Represents revenue sources with legal restrictions for use, such as federal or state government grants and park fees paid by developers

**Sales, Use and Property Taxes:** Represent nearly 50% of all County revenue sources, explained in more detail on previous pages

**Service Fees and Charges:** Sale of fixed assets, rent collections, parking fees and miscellaneous revenue

**Intergovernmental and Direct Bills for Support Services:** Payments to El Paso County for services provided to cities, towns, special districts or other governmental organizations

**Other:** Includes ownership taxes on motor vehicles, trailers and mobile homes, and PILT (payment in lieu of taxes)
### 2017 General Fund Expenditures by Major Category

- **Public Safety**: 37.36% / $64,990,977
- **Restricted**: 30.11%* / $52,365,989
- **Other Elected Offices**: 7.6% / $13,228,065
- **County Administration**: 12.15% / $21,129,642
- **Info Technologies**: 6.51% / $11,324,050
- **Utilities**: 2.87% / $5,000,000
- **Health Department**: 2.86% / $3,285,804
- **Parks, Environmental Services & Veterans Services**: 2.28% / $2,615,364

*Restricted: These funds have legal or mandated restrictions on their use based on the sources of the revenue.*

### 2017 BoCC Discretionary Budget

- **Public Safety**: 56.59% / $64,990,977
- **Information Technology**: 9.86% / $11,324,050
- **County Administration**: 9.02% / $10,358,679
- **Clerk & Recorder**: 7.12% / $8,178,462
- **Utilities**: 4.35% / $5,000,000
- **Assessor**: 3.3% / $3,788,545
- **Health Department**: 2.86% / $3,285,804
- **Planning & Development**: 1.83% / $2,107,229
- **Parks, Environmental Services & Veterans Services**: 2.28% / $2,615,364
- **Treasurer**: 1.09% / $1,251,929
- **BoCC**: 0.68% / $786,210
- **County Attorney**: 1.01% / $1,163,803

About 39% of the County Budget is within the Board of County Commissioners Discretion.

Darryl Glenn graduated from Doherty High School in Colorado Springs. He holds a Bachelor of Science from the United States Air Force Academy, a Master’s in Business Administration from Western New England College and a Juris Doctor from New England School of Law.

Glenn retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel after 21 years of active duty and reserve service. He led a $19 million Iceland Command and Control Enhancement Program implementing performance standards that saved $400,000. He served as Program Manager for a $5 billion office responsible for implementing a base realignment and closure plan. And, he supervised 35 communication system programs valued at $1 billion developing support plans that saved $20 million while providing a 40 percent increase in warfighting capability.

Glenn was appointed to the Colorado Springs City Council in June 2003. He was elected to serve a four-year term in April 2005 and reelected to another term in 2009. As a Council Representative, he served as a member of a board of elected officials overseeing a $350 million municipal budget, a $1 billion four-service municipal utility and a $600 million municipal health care system.

On November 2, 2010, Glenn was elected to the El Paso County Board of Commissioners. Glenn was then reelected in 2014 by more than 80 percent of his constituents in Commissioner District 1. Here, he serves as a member of a board of elected officials responsible for overseeing and implementing federal and state requirements impacting County financial operations for more than 600,000 residents.

On June 28, 2016, Glenn won the Republican Nomination for U.S. Senate.

On January 10, 2017, Glenn was selected by his peers to serve as President of the El Paso County Board of Commissioners.

Glenn has two adult daughters and is married to Jane Northrup Glenn. Glenn is the owner of DLG Esquire Attorney at Law specializing in Family Law, Public Policy and Campaign Management consulting. Glenn’s personal and professional affiliations and accomplishments include: Christian, New Life Church member, Former Vice Chairman El Paso County Republican Party, Republican Precinct Committee Leader, Member of the Colorado and El Paso County Bar Association, Personal Fitness and Nutrition Coach, Former President of the Douglass Valley Elementary Parent Teacher’s Organization and three-time Collegiate National Powerlifting Champion.
Mark Waller was sworn in as the District 2 Commissioner on July 19, 2016.

He is an Attorney in Colorado Springs. He served in the Colorado General Assembly from 2009 – 2014 as the Representative from House District 15, which encompasses portions of Northeastern Colorado Springs. Mark served as the House Minority Leader for the 2013 legislative session and the Assistant House Majority Leader for the 2011 and 2012 legislative sessions. He has also served on the Committee on Judiciary, State Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, Committee on Local Government, Executive Committee, Legislative Council, and the Committee on Legal Services.

He was born and raised in Macomb, Illinois. Mark received his undergraduate degree in political science from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 1992. He then studied at the University of North Dakota where he received his Master’s Degree in Space Studies in 1998, followed by his Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver, College of Law in 2003.


Mark has been married to his lovely wife Jennifer, who is a Lt. Col. In the United States Air Force, since 1994. They have two children Truman (1999) and Camille (2003).
Stan VanderWerf serves District 3 on the Board of County Commissioners. His district encompasses central and western El Paso County, including the Town of Green Mountain Falls, the City of Manitou Springs, the Town of Palmer Lake, the Westside and downtown areas of Colorado Springs, and unincorporated areas within District 3 including Ute Pass and areas south of Cheyenne Mountain State Park.

Commissioner VanderWerf is founder of several small businesses and previously served 28 years in the US Air Force. Stan has over 30 years experience in scientific, program director, engineering, contracting, plant manager, and C-level positions in industry and public agencies. Stan has experience in research and development, manufacturing, and sustainment of a wide variety of products from space systems and airplanes to electronics. He is the founding CEO of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Colorado, Advanced Capitol LLC (aerospace defense consulting), and CEM-TEK USA (design and 3-D printing). He created and co-chaired the Chamber of Commerce’s Aerospace Defense Team and is active in the community providing award-winning expertise to many local and national non-profits. He has extensive public budgeting, public policy, and public disaster planning and recovery experience. Stan is a veteran, mountain climber, skier, and active pilot. Stan has been married to his wife, Betsy, for 26 years and has two children, Erik and Carolyn.

Among his professional achievements, VanderWerf received the Industry Cluster Team Award from the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and the El Pomar Institute. He is a Bronze Star awardee for his service in Iraq and a Legion of Merit awardee for his military service. Stan has National Team Performance and National Leadership Awards from the Defense Contract Management Agency and is a former National Aviation Speed Record Holder from the National Aeronautic Association. Stan is a Distinguished Graduate from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces achieving a Masters Degree in public policy and budgeting. He is also a National Newsletter Editor Award winner and is a multiple award winning author with over 100 published professional and community interest articles.
Longinos Gonzalez, Jr. serves District 4 on the Board of County Commissioners. His district encompasses south and eastern El Paso County, including the Towns of Fountain, Security/Widefield, Hanover, Ellicot, Rush, Yoder and S/SE areas of Colorado Springs as well as the unincorporated area of Stratmoor Hills.

Graduating from the Air Force Academy in 1992, Longinos returned to Colorado Springs because of his love for the outdoors and beauty of the region, particularly the mountainous Front Range. He enjoys hiking in our areas’ great parks and trails and is an avid fisherman and tennis player.

His background includes a 20 year career as an Air Force Intelligence officer, retiring as a Lt Colonel in 2012. In addition to a Political Science degree from the Academy, Longinos has a Masters degree in science education and was a teacher with Harrison School District 2 prior to his election.

Longinos is the county representative on the Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control, Board of Health, and Housing Authority. He serves on numerous other boards and committees — including the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority, Community Development Advisory Board, and City/County Drainage Board.

Longinos’ community involvement includes serving on the Colorado Springs Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee, and being a volunteer Sunday school teacher and lector at his church.
Peggy Littleton has served as Commissioner since January 2011 and represents the citizens of District 5, which covers most of the City of Colorado Springs. Prior to her public service as a Commissioner, she served on the Colorado State Board of Education for seven years, from February 2004-January 2011 representing the 5th Congressional District. Her involvement in education spans many years. She taught for 15 years in a variety of educational settings, including home-schooling her three children and serving as a faculty member at Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy and Colorado Springs Christian School. Peggy was also appointed as the director for Colorado’s GEAR UP grant, which was administered by the office of former Governor Bill Owens. Peggy has conducted professional staff development seminars for teachers nationwide. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the Regents University of New York (renamed Excelsior) and has earned numerous graduate hours in literacy and education.

Commissioner Littleton serves on many boards and commissions, including Gubernatorial appointments to both the Homeland Security and All-Hazards Advisory Council, the Coroners Training and Standards Board, the National Association of Counties (NACo) Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee, The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, County Board of Retirement, 911 Authority Board, the Pikes Peak Library Board as well as a liaison to the Offices of the Sheriff and Clerk and Recorder.

Peggy is focused on educating citizens on their responsibility to be personally prepared for incidents that might dictate a You’re On Your Own (YOYO) experience when first responders and the government might not be able to assist. In December 2011, she led the efforts to be the first county nationwide to adopt the NDAA resolution preserving Habeas Corpus and Civil Liberties.

She is proud of her three productive, taxpaying adult children and their families.
Public Safety Services are provided by the Sheriff’s Office, the District Attorney’s Office, the Coroner’s Office, the Criminal Justice Center (County Jail), Office of Emergency Management, and Security services for all county facilities including the Terry R. Harris Judicial Complex (County Court House) and County parking structures. Public Safety is the largest budget commitment for the County totalling nearly 60 percent of the unrestricted funds.

Counties are mandated by the State of Colorado to provide county courthouse facilities to house district judges, court rooms and support staff. The Security Office provides protection which includes screenings of all who enter the building. In an average year more than 800,000 people pass through the security check points as they enter the Terry R. Harris Judicial Complex, about 3,500 a day. These screenings turn up more than 8,000 contraband items a year.

The County is also mandated by the State to provide a jail. Cities and towns do not have jail facilities, so all arrested from any police agency in the County are taken to the Criminal Justice Center. Typically, the County houses and feeds 1,700 inmates a day which makes it the largest jail in the state.
The Sheriff’s Office maintains the peace, enforces State Statutes, serves court issued civil process, executes arrest warrants, performs extraditions, transports the mentally ill, maintains criminal justice records, issues concealed weapon permits, coordinates search & rescue and acts as the Fire Warden. The Sheriff’s Office also operates the El Paso County Criminal Justice Center.

Sheriff’s Office Mission:
The mission of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office is to provide public safety services to our community by fulfilling the duties and responsibilities as defined by Colorado law with a determination to meet the growing expectations of our citizens.

Sheriff’s Office Vision:
Our vision is to ensure the future quality of life for our citizens as our community grows. We will set the standard in public safety through innovation, flexibility and commitment while recruiting and retaining a dynamic work force. Through community support and fiscal responsibility we will strategically plan and prepare for the necessary resources to meet future needs in Law Enforcement, Detentions, Wildland Fire, Search and Rescue, and Civil Process.

Bill Elder was raised in Colorado Springs, attended Russell Middle School, graduated from Palmer High School in 1975, and attended Pikes Peak Community College, and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. His law enforcement career started as a volunteer with the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office in 1978. He was hired full time in January 1979, and graduated from the Colorado Springs Police Academy later that year. Bill spent the next 20 years serving under four different Sheriff’s, holding assignments from Dispatcher, Deputy, Sergeant and Lieutenant. Along with many years as a Patrol Deputy, he was assigned to the Investigations Division, managed the Communications Center, Civil and Fugitive Units. After his promotion to Lieutenant, he served as a Patrol Shift Commander. His last assignment was in the Metro Vice, Narcotics and Intelligence (Metro VNI) Division. During his 20 year career with the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, he received numerous awards and commendations After leaving the Sheriff’s Office, Bill obtained his Colorado Real Estate License. He built and ran a highly successful real estate business. In 2010, Bill joined the Fountain Police Department as the Commander of Police Operations and subsequently was appointed as Deputy Chief of Police, supervising all Law Enforcement functions for the agency. Bill Elder was elected as the 28th Sheriff of El Paso County in November 2014.
The District Attorney is the prosecutor for the Fourth Judicial District which includes El Paso and Teller Counties. The Office of the District Attorney represents the State and counties of the district in all criminal proceedings. The Fourth Judicial District has the largest case load in the state. In addition to pending cases from prior years, the District Attorney’s Office represented the People of the State of Colorado on 32,546 new cases filed in 2016. The mission of the Fourth Judicial District Attorney’s Office is to administer justice, advocate for victims and partner with law enforcement and the citizens of this community in the deterrence and prevention of crime.

After graduating from Creighton School of Law in Omaha, Nebraska, Dan May began his legal career in 1982 as an entry level prosecutor in the 4th Judicial District Attorney’s Office. During his 35 years as a prosecutor he gained experience in virtually every department in the Office. He served as head of Homicide, Vehicular Homicide, Narcotics, Chief Trial Attorney and Assistant District Attorney. Dan has tried scores of felony cases, including 18 homicide trials. Dan has served under six elected District Attorneys, including Bob Russel, John Suthers, and Jeanne Smith.

After leaving the 4th Judicial District Attorney’s Office in 2004, May served as head of county courts in the 18th Judicial District. Dan was elected D.A. for Teller and El Paso Counties in 2008 and is currently serving his third term.

As District Attorney Dan May oversees and manages 79 attorneys, 138 support staff and a volunteer team of 100-125. El Paso County is the most populous county in the state and his office consistently prosecutes one of the highest caseloads.

The Office of the District Attorney works with several specialty programs and problem solving courts. These include: Juvenile Diversion, Adult Diversion, Neighborhood Justice Center (Mediation), Prescription Drug Fraud Diversion, Sexting, Minor In Possession, Domestic Violence, Not One More Child, Drug Court and DUI Court. In 2009, May worked to establish the first Veteran’s Court in Colorado. This innovative program ensures that our veterans are not only held accountable for their actions but are also treated with dignity and respect while receiving necessary therapy and assistance as they transition from battle zone duty to civilian life.
The County Coroner is responsible for the certification of all deaths that fall under the Coroner’s jurisdiction. The Coroner provides the District Attorney, and respective law enforcement agencies and grieving families with a determination concerning the cause and manner of death.

The Office of the County Coroner is established by the Constitution of the State of Colorado. It is a separate and independent office within El Paso County Government and is funded through the El Paso County General Fund. El Paso County has the only on site Forensic Toxicology lab in Colorado staffed by two Forensic Toxicologists who routinely perform toxicology studies for many other Colorado counties. Six full time Deputy Coroners, a Histologist and one Office Administrator staff the office.

The Coroner and staff recognize the tragedy surrounding an untimely death and perform investigations, in part, to assist the grieving family. A forensic investigation provides for the expeditious settling of insurance claims and estates, as well the implementation of civil and criminal actions. Questions which seem irrelevant in the initial hours after death can become significant in the following months. The surviving family and general public can have the peace of mind that the Coroner will conduct a separate, factual and unbiased investigation.

The Coroner’s Office determines the cause of death under any of the following circumstances:

- Disease that may be hazardous or contagious, or that may constitute a threat to the health of the general public
- External violence, unexplained cause or suspicious circumstances
- When no physician is in attendance, or the physician in attendance is unable to certify the cause of death
- Thermal, chemical, radiation injury or criminal abortion
- When death occurs while in the custody of law enforcement officials or while incarcerated in a public institution
  - When death is sudden and occurs from an industrial accident while person is deemed in good health
- When death occurs in a hospital less than 24 hours after admission
The **County Assessor** determines values for real property and certain types of personal property for taxation purposes.

The County Assessor is a constitutional officer elected to a four-year term. The primary duty of the Assessor is to discover, list and value all real property and taxable personal property located in the County. The Assessor’s budget is supported by the General Fund.

The Assessor’s Office establishes and fosters positive relationships with taxpayers and other interested parties — providing convenient public access to real property records, assessments, appraisal information, the public ownership record and parcel maps. This Office is where taxpayers go to appeal the assessed value of their property.

The Assessor’s Office is located in the Citizens Service Center at 1675 Garden of The Gods Road.

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<th>Assessed Value of Taxable Property:</th>
<th>Revenues Generated by Appraisals:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2007 — $6,489,749,120</td>
<td>Actual 2007 — $437,143,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2009 — $6,825,492,150</td>
<td>Actual 2009 — $456,752,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2011 — $6,321,760,160</td>
<td>Actual 2011 — $439,518,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2012 — $6,334,487,370</td>
<td>Actual 2012 — $442,704,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2013 — $6,337,964,970</td>
<td>Actual 2013 — $445,187,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2014 — $6,439,985,430</td>
<td>Actual 2014 — $449,758,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2015 — $6,852,564,340</td>
<td>Actual 2015 — $473,400,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual 2016 — $6,962,839,210</td>
<td>Actual 2016 — $483,702,121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Steve Schleiker** has served in the El Paso County Assessor’s Office since 1999 as a Personal Property Appraiser, Personal Property Manager, Office Operations Manager and Deputy Assessor. He was elected to the Office of County Assessor in November 2014.

He has been a strong voice for fiscal responsibility and has led major initiatives that have helped El Paso County usher in new technologies that have provided greater efficiencies in the appraisal processes, such as “mobile office” programs for the field appraisers, and changing to a more detailed and accurate method of re-appraising property.

After graduating from Widefield High School in 1987, Steve joined the United States Marine Corps where he received numerous awards and was a decorated veteran from Operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch, and Deny Flight. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Technology Management, a Master’s Degree in Project Management, and an Executive Master’s in Business Administration.
The Office of Clerk and Recorder is where many of the transactions between County Government and its citizens occur. This office is where you go to be issued a marriage license, search for land records and deeds, title your vehicle, renew your vehicle registration, and register to vote. We also are responsible for conducting all County elections.

The Office of Clerk and Recorder has four major departments:

- **Elections**: Voter registration, candidacy for elected office, County-based recalls
- **Recording**: Marriage licenses, document recordings, public record searches
- **Motor Vehicle**: Vehicle titles and registration, driver’s license renewals
- **Clerk to the Board** of County Commissioners: County liquor and medical marijuana license applications, Commissioners’ meeting agendas, minutes and audio recordings

Clerk & Recorder Office Branches and Locations

- Main Office Citizens Service Center — 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road
- North Branch Office (Union and Research Parkway) — 8830 N. Union Blvd.
- Southeast Branch Office (Powers and Airport) — 5650 Industrial Place
- Downtown (Centennial Hall) — 200 S. Cascade Ave.
- Fort Carson — Bldg 1525, 6351 Wetzel Avenue, Highway 115 and Gate 1

*All branches operate Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*The North Office is open Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

In 2014, Chuck Broerman was elected El Paso County Clerk and Recorder. Having served as Chief Deputy since 2013, and as Operations Manager since 2011, Chuck had experience in the office’s many diverse functions. His major goals include fair, accurate, transparent elections and efficient, professional customer transactions. Chuck attained the national CERA (Certified Elections/Registration Administrator) certification in 2014.

Previously, Chuck had a 20-year career in the semiconductor industry. In 2001, Governor Bill Owens appointed Chuck the South-Central Colorado Business Development Representative.

Chuck holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and two Associate’s Degrees, in Electronics Technology, and Electromechanical Engineering. Chuck and his wife Vickie have four daughters and two grandchildren.
The **Office of the Treasurer** is responsible for the collection, receipt, custody and disbursement of County funds. The Treasurer collects some state taxes and all property taxes within the County — including those for other divisions of local government. *See “Mill Levy” on Page 11.*

The office collects all property taxes for about 165 local government entities, including municipalities, school districts, fire districts and special service districts, charging a statutory collection fee. The Treasurer also conducts tax lien sales on delinquent real property taxes, serves distraint warrants for delinquent business personal property taxes, and, on occasion, issues Treasurer’s deeds.

The Treasurer makes investments on behalf of the County with the objective of ensuring the safety and liquidity of those funds for timely payment of County obligations, in addition to maximizing the return on those investments.

The Treasurer’s Office is located in the Citizens Service Center at 1675 Garden of The Gods Road.

**Mark Lowderman**, a native of Colorado Springs, graduated from Palmer High School in 1976. Mark earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Colorado State University in 1980. He then earned his first appraisal license and began working as a Residential Appraiser in the El Paso County Assessor’s Office.


He returned to the El Paso County Assessor’s Office in 1995, as a Commercial staff appraiser. Promoted in 2001, he became the Commercial Appraisal Manager. In 2005 he was appointed as Deputy Assessor and Mark was elected to the Office of County Assessor in 2007. He was re-elected in 2011.

In 2014 Mark made the decision to run for the office of County Treasurer. He was elected in November of 2014, and began serving as your Treasurer on January 1, 2015.
The County Surveyor represents the County in boundary disputes, notifies the County Attorney of any unsettled boundary disputes or boundary discrepancies within the County, and files all surveys, field notes, calculations, maps and any other records pertaining to work authorized and funded by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Public Trustee releases deeds of trust and protects the rights of borrowers and lenders during foreclosure on properties in El Paso County. The Public Trustee’s Office is committed to providing service and education regarding foreclosure proceedings, serving as a liaison between the lender and the homeowner during foreclosure proceedings, and ensuring that homeowners are aware of their rights under Colorado Law. The Public Trustee’s Office compensates El Paso County for facilities and support provided by the County.

The Public Trustee is appointed by the Governor of Colorado.

The El Paso County Public Trustee Office is located in the Russell Professional Building, 105 E. Vermijo Avenue, Suite 101, in downtown Colorado Springs.
The **County Administrator** is the Chief Administrative Officer of the County and is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to provide advisement and recommendations regarding operations and administrative polices. The County Administrator has responsibility for the operational functions of the County’s Budget and Economic Development Administration, Community Services, Development Services, Human Services, Public Services and Support Services. County administrative services provides a variety of services and support to the citizens of El Paso County, Board of County Commissioners, County-wide Elected Officials and associated agencies.

El Paso County’s administrative offices are located in Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade in downtown Colorado Springs.

El Paso County’s Citizens Service Center is located at 1675 Garden of the Gods Road and hosts the main offices for the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Treasurer, Department of Human Services and Public Health. Also in the building are Pikes Peak Workforce Center, Small Business Development Center and PTAC.
The **County Attorney** is the Chief Legal Officer of the County and is statutorily appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to provide legal advisement and support to the County Commissioners, County Administrator, administrative departments and appointed advisory boards, committees and commissions regarding civil matters and human services. Since 1986, the Office of the County Attorney has assumed the responsibility for representing the County in all public liability and tort actions as a result of the County being self-insured. Likewise, the County Attorney’s Office represents other elected officials in a variety of other civil matters.

**El Paso County Human Resources & Risk Management Department** provides a full range of human resources services to include the recruitment, pre-employment screening, employee relations, performance management, job classification and compensation, policy and procedure interpretation and ensuring compliance with applicable employment laws and regulations. Processes workers’ compensation claims for El Paso County employees and directs the self-insurance program through the administration of liability claims, property losses, accident investigations, claims subrogation, and loss prevention.

The **Public Information Office** serves County staff, volunteers, community partners and citizens at large by providing timely and accurate information and administrative support related to the statutory duties of Elected Offices and Officials, in addition to the County’s varied public service and outreach initiatives.
The Administrative and Financial Services Department provides financial, budget and other support to the County’s elected offices, administrative departments and affiliated agencies. Budget Administration is organized into five divisions: Budget, Finance, Economic Development, Procurement, and Public Information.

The Budget Division is responsible for planning annual budgets and for tracking and reporting the County’s financial position. The Finance Division handles the accounts payable, accounts receivable, accounting and payroll functions for the County. It also produces the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which serves as the official annual financial report of El Paso County.

The Economic Development Division oversees business, housing, and community initiatives throughout El Paso County. The department provides incentives and assistance for businesses and individuals and non-profits to encourage economic growth and enhance quality of life for all citizens.

The County Engineer serves the County in matters dealing with Road & Bridge standards and compliance; capital investment, maintenance and rehabilitation program planning; funding and construction execution. The Engineer provides coordination with Development Services in private sector development review processes and is responsible for long-range transportation network planning. The county engineer provides and receives input from citizen oversight and review groups including the Highway Advisory Commission and the Planning Commission. The Engineer also coordinates and all aspects of storm water management to ensure County compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System regulations.

Security and Parking Operations
Phone: 520-6507

Security’s mission is to protect El Paso County assets (facilities, people, information and physical assets) and provide professional parking services. They screen nearly one million visitors to the Judicial Complex annually and provide security at various county facilities. This section also manages over 2,000 paid-parking and no-fee spaces in four downtown parking garages and at the Citizens Service Center.

Facilities Maintenance
Phone: 520-6556

Facilities maintains more than 130 County-owned buildings and public spaces, including operations, repairs, services, and compliance inspections for public safety and building efficiency. They also provide facility planning to assess the County’s infrastructure.

The Facilities staff includes electricians, carpenters, plumbers and other craftsmen. They take care of more than 130 County-owned buildings and properties.
needs of today and into the future. The section manages County utility use including Energy Performance Contracts projected to save $5.6 million over the next 10 years. County Facilities also operates and maintains 134 Colorado Springs-owned facilities under an Intergovernmental Agreement.

**Transportation**
Phone: 520-6460
Call for Service Requests

- **County Transportation** infrastructure needs are managed through the combined efforts of the **Engineering and Operations Divisions**. These two divisions are responsible for a network consisting of more than 2,100 miles of paved and gravel roads, drainage systems, 260-plus bridges and related right-of-way assets.

Engineering is responsible for Road & Bridge standards and compliance; capital investment, maintenance and rehabilitation program planning; funding and construction execution; coordination of private sector development review processes; and long-range transportation network planning. The Major Transportation Corridors Plan outlines multiregional and multimodal planning.

El Paso County maintains more than 1,000 miles of paved roads and 1,000 miles of gravel roads.
Transportation Continued

for the County’s transportation system. Engineering also handles all aspects of storm water management to ensure County compliance with the National Pollutio

The Operations Highway Section provides maintenance and repair of County roads and bridges, drainages, signs and signals, and right-of-way work — including mowing, debris removal and tree trimming. Snow and ice removal utilizes all 125 employees of the Highway Section and all plows, graders and chemical trucks to keep County roads as safe and passable. The Adopt-a-Road program is a partnership with citizens. Participating citizens agree to pick up litter from both sides of a two-mile stretch of a County road at least four times a year. In turn, participants receive recognition in the form of a sign at each end of the adopted section of roadway, giving credit for citizen/group contribution to the community.

To report a transportation-related problem, citizens can email dotweb@elpasoco.com, call 520-6460 or complete an online customer service request on the “Roads” page on the County website. To view transportation policies, plans, project updates, permit applications, Adopt-a-Road information or to submit a customer service request, visit the “Transportation” page on the County website.

El Paso County is responsible for 270 bridges on County roads and suburban streets.
Fleet Management
Phone: 520-6830

- The Fleet Section manages, services and repairs El Paso County’s fleet of more than 1,100 vehicles, equipment and attachments with a combined replacement value of $28 million. The average age of fleet vehicles is 13 years. Fleet operates three garages and also utilizes mobile services to keep vehicles and equipment operational and safe in support of County departments and elected offices.
Office of Emergency Management participates in an preparedness excercises during the year to be ready for a real emergency in the community.

**Office of Emergency Management**
Phone: 575-8400

The mission of the **El Paso County Office of Emergency Management** is to serve the citizens of El Paso County by building a more resilient community, through cooperation and competence in emergency management services with integrity and dedication to excellence.

The El Paso County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) holds responsibility to comprehensively plan for and manage response to all manner of disasters, whether man-made or natural. OEM provides coordination and direction of activities relating to disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The mission is generally thought of in four phases: mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Mitigation consists of preventing future emergencies or minimizing their effects. Preparedness is focused on preparing to handle an emergency. Response is the initial reaction to an emergency. Recovery includes activities that help restore critical needs as quickly as possible and manage long term reconstruction.

OEM is committed to providing comprehensive emergency preparedness, response, and recovery directed by the Board of County Commissioners. These activities improve El Paso County’s ability to recover from a disaster, reducing the time and cost required to return to normal operations and making El Paso County a more resilient community.
The Community Services Department provides a variety of programs and services that are valued by our residents and enhance the quality of life in El Paso County. The services include parks, trails, and open space, recreation and cultural programs, County Fair, community-wide special events, recycling programs, environmental stewardship, veteran services, community outreach, justice services, and CSU Extension programs. About 70 percent of the department’s operating budget is provided by third party funds (non-tax).

**Environmental Division**
Phone: 520-7878

The Environmental Division manages Environmental Compliance, Noxious Weeds, Natural Resources, and Household Hazardous Waste Disposal and Recycling.

Environmental Compliance ensures that County-owned and operated facilities are compliant with all local, state and federal environmental regulations.

Noxious Weeds develops and implements policies, procedures and standards for efficient mapping, monitoring, enforcement, education and control of noxious weeds, diseases and pests as defined in the Colorado Noxious Weed Act and the El Paso County Noxious Weed Management Plan.

Natural Resources ensures compliance with laws pertaining to threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, and wetlands, monitors conservation easements and reviews subdivision development plans for environmental impacts.

The Solid Waste Disposal Site and Facility Users’ Fund (SWF) was created by the County Commissioners in 1990 to develop short-term and long-range plans
Environmental Continued

concerning hazardous waste, environmental education and recycling in the County. All funding is provided by service charges collected at three landfills in El Paso County.

The El Paso County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF), located at 3255 Akers Drive, allows citizens of El Paso and Teller counties to properly dispose of their household hazardous waste. The HHWF also provides a reuse program for products that are in pristine condition and a public space for basic recycling such as paper, glass, plastic, and metal. The SWF also sponsors the seasonal Black Forest Wildfire Mitigation Program, and a year-round yard waste recycling program and the Treecycle Program.

Planning Division
Phone: 520-6999

• The Planning Division provides professional planning, project management and landscape architecture services. The Division’s focus is on parks, trails and open space planning and implementation of Capital Improvement Program projects. The Division also provides expertise in water resources and long range planning and represents the County in regional planning initiatives.

Colorado State University Extension
Phone: 520-7690

• For more than 100 years, CSU Extension has helped people in Colorado find the answers they need for a healthy home life to a successful business. And now with our partners at eXtension.org, everyone with a computer has access to a nation-wide network of professionals who can help answer specific questions and solve distinctive problems.

There is only one difference between Colorado State University Extension and the University itself: the entire state is our campus. Our system of county offices puts Extension resources within easy reach of Colorado's 64 counties. In 1914, Congress authorized land-grant Universities in every state to feed research-based information to Extension agents in each county. We’ve been in
the education/information business ever since. Faculty and staff with expertise in agriculture, horticulture, range, forestry, water, health promotion, financial literacy, business management, community development and 4-H youth-development-based in counties and on campus-are all part of Extension’s effort to bring the latest information to the people of Colorado.

**Park Operations Division**

Phone: 520-7529

- The Parks Division is responsible for maintaining 8,000 acres of park land/open space and 105 miles of trails. Regional parks provide a wide range of amenities such as pavilions, turf play fields, restrooms, playgrounds and open space. The regional trail system is a multi-purpose, non-motorized, recreational and transportation system that links regional parks and open space areas with towns and communities throughout the County. The Division coordinates 2,200 facility reservations annually involving over 150,000 participants. The Division also provides grounds maintenance for County-owned property, regional parks and open space areas with towns and communities throughout the County. The Division coordinates 2,200 facility reservations annually involving over 150,000 participants. The Division also provides grounds maintenance for County-owned property.

El Paso County Parks has 8,000 acres of park land and open space, including 105 miles of trails.
Recreation and Cultural Services Division
Phone: 520-6399

The Recreation and Cultural Services Division offers more than 1,000 natural and cultural history programs at the Bear Creek and Fountain Creek Nature Centers and coordinates concerts, sports and community education events in County Parks. The Division also manages programming at the El Paso County Fairgrounds including the annual County Fair and more than 200 community and recreation programs and activities.

El Paso County Fair
July 15 to July 22, 2017
www.ElPasoCountyFair.com

The County Fair has it all: Carnival Rides, Rodeo, Auto Races, Concerts, 4-H Projects, Demolition Derby, Animals, Special Entertainers, Food and Fun!
Veterans Services Division
Phone: 520-7750

The Veterans Services Division advises and assists veterans, their dependents, and their survivors concerning any Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) benefits which such person may be, or may have been, entitled to receive under the laws of the United States or the State of Colorado. The office is not a part of the VA, which is a Federal government agency. It serves as a liaison between the claimant and the VA. Our office assists approximately 8,500 veterans per year.

Community Outreach Division
Phone: 520-6996

The Community Outreach Division is responsible for Community Outreach Services, Grant Services, and Justice Services.

Community Outreach Services provides awareness, activities, actions, sponsorship, fundraising, and volunteer opportunities to benefit the community in an effort to improve the quality of life for county residents.

Grant Services is dedicated to assisting County staff through advocating, seeking, developing, securing and managing grants.

Justice Services supports a Pretrial Services program, Community Corrections program, and manages a Useful Public Services contract. Pretrial Services supports community safety efforts by providing accurate information to the judicial system for release decisions and structured supervision of defendants while on pretrial status. Community Corrections provides a cost effective alternative to prison for appropriate offenders. Staff supports a local Community Corrections Board which determines the safe placement of offenders within approved community correction facilities. Useful Public Service manages a contract with Front Range Community Service to provide sentenced offenders the opportunity to complete court ordered public service work.
The Planning and Community Development Department provides a full range of planning and land use review services, as well as construction inspections and enforcement of the land use code and County ordinances.

This department also serves as staff support to the Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Board of County Commissioners and various committees. Planning and Community Development provides engineering review of development projects and is co-located with the Regional Building Department for easier and more efficient coordination of projects under County jurisdiction.

Planning and Community Development has a team-based, project management approach, bringing together planners, engineers and other industry specialists to ensure effective, convenient and comprehensive customer service.
Protecting children, youth and at-risk adults, and promoting self-sufficiency are the overarching goals of the El Paso County Department of Human Services (DHS).

DHS received 15,665 reports of child abuse or neglect in 2016, and fielded more than 27,000 calls to the child abuse/neglect hotline. Employees work with doctors, hospitals, law enforcement officials, schools and others to identify maltreatment, abuse and/or neglect. Services are focused on alleviating danger in order to protect children and at-risk adults and keeping the family intact. The Department of Human Services also focuses on child abuse prevention and coordinates the Not One More Child Coalition, led by District Attorney Dan May and former Commissioner Sallie Clark, with the goal of not seeing one more child in El Paso County die as a result of abuse or neglect. For more information, visit www.NotOneMoreChild.net.

Adult Services, including Adult Protective Services, is also part of DHS. In 206, there were 2,541 Reports of elder abuse or neglect. The El Paso County Pikes Peak Elder Abuse Coalition was created to empower and educate the community, older adults and caregivers. For more information, visit www.StopandPreventElderAbuse.org.
There are also assistance programs specifically for the elderly.

DHS is responsible for the administration of state and federal funding for low income families in El Paso County. During 2016, a monthly average of 63,368 people in El Paso County received food assistance. Financial resources local families receive through DHS come from the federal government and translate to additional dollars invested in our community. According to the State Food and Nutrition Program, every $5 in food assistance benefits generates about $9 in total community spending. There are a wide variety of programs at DHS that guide those receiving assistance toward self-sufficiency.

The Department of Human Services is located in the Citizens Service Center at 1675 West Garden of the Gods Road.
I.T. MISSION: The Information Technology Department is an internal service organization chartered to provide foundational technology services and support to El Paso County Offices and Departments.

I.T. VISION: Provide cooperative and responsive technology services through a qualified and engaged professional workforce, exceptional customer experience, sustainable software products, and a secure and modern operating infrastructure.

I.T. PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS:

1. Customer Service is responsible for delivering quality technology services to employees, Elected Officials, and citizens. The call center responds to internal requests for IT services and support including new technology purchases, troubleshooting, breakages, outages, password resets and related technology service interruptions. The field support operation provides on-site troubleshooting across a wide range of technology hardware and software including computers, monitors, peripherals, email, Microsoft Office products, printers and scanners.

2. Product Management delivers centralized software systems to County Department and Office operations. The enterprise resource planning system is used countywide for financial, human resource, and asset management functions. Other widely used systems include document management, geographic information system, web content management, workflow / business process management, and the Employee portal. The software development team creates and maintains custom software including the primary operational systems for the Offices of the Assessor, Treasurer, and County Attorney.

3. General Infrastructure includes the foundation elements of IT product and service delivery. Two County data centers enable centralized compute, storage, database, and operational continuity functions. A unified network connects County operations through a redundant fiber optic network. Telephones, voicemail, email, high speed Internet access, and Wi-Fi are delivered to County Offices, Departments, and employees by the IT Infrastructure program. Telephones, voicemail, email, high speed Internet access, and Wi-Fi are delivered to County Offices, Departments, and employees by the IT Infrastructure program.
The Economic Development Department provides assistance and coordinates a number of state and federal incentives for businesses, non-profits, developers and home buyers to encourage and stimulate economic growth.

Enterprise Zone Program
The Enterprise Zone Program, created by state statute, provides incentives for existing businesses to expand and new businesses to locate in economically distressed areas. Businesses making capital investments, hiring new employees, conducting employee training, rehabilitating old buildings, or engaging in research and development in the Enterprise Zone may qualify for tax credits on their annual Colorado income tax filings. More than $15 million in business tax credits were certified in 2016.

There are almost sixty non-profit organizations that have been approved as qualified Enterprise Zone contribution projects to encourage redevelopment and create job opportunities. Private contributions for any of these projects qualify for State income tax credits equal to 25% of monetary and 12.5% of approved in-kind contributions. In 2016, more than $9.39 million was contributed to support local non-profits.

El Paso County Housing Authority
The El Paso County Housing Authority was formed by the County Commissioners in 1993 to address housing needs for those of low- and moderate-income. The Authority manages the Housing Trust Fund to assist non-profits and developers that provide housing or housing-related opportunities. In 2016, over $56,000 was utilized by four agencies to provide emergency rental and housing rehabilitation assistance. Additionally, the Authority supported both Springs Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army with $300,000 to shelter the homeless.

To encourage homeownership, the Authority provides grants equal to 3% or 4% of a first mortgage to assist with down payment or closing costs. In 2016, more than $3.8 million in grants were made to 515 home purchasers. As a complement to that program, El Paso County is making available federal Mortgage Credit Certificates for first-time homebuyers with almost $8 million in loans originated in 2016.
Private Activity Bond Issuance
El Paso County is able to support the important missions of non-profits that contribute greatly to our economic vitality and quality of life with the issuance of tax-exempt bonds, for which the County has no obligation. These bonds facilitate the purchase and/or renovation of facilities which are critical to the success of these non-profit organizations. In 2016, El Paso County issued such conduit bonds for YMCA. Additionally, private activity bonds can be issued by the County to support affordable multifamily housing. In 2016, the 240-unit Copper Range Apartments were financed in this manner. Again, El Paso County has no obligation for the repayment of these private activity bonds.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
Funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the CDBG Program offers qualified local governments and their citizens the opportunity to address a wide range of unique community development needs focused in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

In 2016, CDBG funds were awarded for twelve projects including Manitou Springs’ improvements along Canon Avenue which will provide safe, accessible and ADA-compliant pedestrian ways and Calhan’s water and sewer line replacement on 7th Street. The program also helped to support a variety of public service projects including crisis support and extended follow-up support to children who are victims of physical and sexual abuse and those who have witnessed domestic violence, homicides and other violent crimes.

Copper Creek Apartments was supported by private activity bonds.
The mission of **El Paso County Public Health** (EPCPH) is to promote and protect public health and environmental quality across El Paso County through people, prevention and partnerships. Our public health agency serves all residents and visitors of El Paso County, which includes the cities of Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, the towns of Calhan, Fountain, Monument, Palmer Lake, Ramah and Green Mountain Falls.

The County provides 21% of the EPCPH’s $15.4 million budget. The majority of Public Health funding comes from state and federal grants and contracts for services. In addition, Public Health collects fees for various services, licenses and permits, including those associated with state-mandated inspections of retail food establishments.

El Paso County Public Health is organized into three major divisions: Disease Prevention and Control, Health Services, and Environmental Health. EPCPH’s programs are targeted toward the general population, as well as specific populations with higher health risks. EPCPH aims to provide opportunities for people to be healthy, by using evidence-based interventions to prevent the spread of disease and reduce chronic health conditions.

The members of the Board of Health govern EPCPH through the establishment of policy, approval of budgets, and appointment of the Public Health Director. The nine members of the Board of Health are volunteers and are appointed by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners.

The Public Health Accreditation Board awarded EPCPH five-year accreditation status in August 2013, making EPCPH the first in Colorado to be accredited.
The Pikes Peak Regional Building Department is a County affiliated agency and is responsible for the plan review, permitting, and inspection of all construction activity within the unincorporated areas of El Paso County as well as the participating incorporated municipalities within the county. These currently include the cities of Colorado Springs, Fountain and Manitou Springs and the towns of Green Mountain Falls, Monument and Palmer Lake. The department was formed by an intergovernmental agreement between the City Council of Colorado Springs and the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners in 1966 to provide uniform service. It expanded in 1982 to provide services to the suburban communities of Fountain, Green Mountain Falls, Manitou Springs, Monument and Palmer Lake. Woodland Park contracted for services in 2013.

The PPRBD is responsible for the issuance of building permits and monitoring construction activity throughout El Paso County to ensure the safety of buildings.

The department is governed by the Regional Building Commission, a three-member governing body consisting of an El Paso County Commissioner, a Colorado Springs Councilperson and a representative from one of the five suburban jurisdictions. The Building Commission is also responsible for approval of the department budget. The department is self-funded by plan review, permit, and licensing fees. Fee adjustments are proposed when the Building Commission determines them to be necessary to maintain the department’s operation.

A five member Regional Board of Review proposes rules, regulations and standards necessary to accomplish the safety objectives of the building codes. The Board of Review is also the authorized contractor licensing body.

The department also licenses and registers contractors who perform work within the jurisdictions served by the department.
Formed under Colorado law, the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) is a voluntary organization of municipal and county governments serving this region. For 40 years PPACG has assured that all communities—big and small—have a forum to collaborate on issues that cross political boundaries and to reach solutions that benefit the entire region.

Participating members include the general purpose governments of El Paso County, Park County, Teller County, Alma, Calhan, Colorado Springs, Cripple Creek, Fairplay, Fountain, Green Mountain Falls, Manitou Springs, Monument, Palmer Lake, Ramah, Victor, and Woodland Park.

PPACG’s primary focus is regional planning in transportation, aging issues, military cooperation, and air and water quality.

PPACG also allocates transportation and aging services funding; provides technical assistance to member local governments; and evaluates the impact of laws and regulations on local governments.

Various citizen and technical advisory committees are an integral part of PPACG programs and make recommendations to PPACG’s Board of Directors on an ongoing basis.
In 2004, the voters of El Paso County approved a one-percent sales tax to address the backlog of road, bridge and transportation needs County-wide. These revenues help pay for transportation needs in unincorporated El Paso County, Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls and Ramah. In 2012 the voters overwhelmingly approved a 10-year renewal of the PPRTA capital program which will take it to 2024.

The Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA) was formed as a result of the vote. The PPRTA Board includes three County Commissioners and two City Council Members representing Colorado Springs as well as representatives from Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Ramah and Calhan.

A 17-member citizens council reviews all planned projects. Together they ensure the one-percent sales tax is being spent in accordance with the approved ballot language specifications.

In addition to capital improvements, PPRTA maintenance funds are used for asphalt overlays, chip seal, slurry seal, curb and gutter.

The one percent sales tax is allocated as follows:
- 55% — Capital Road and Bridge Projects (as listed on the ballot)
- 35% — Maintenance of Roads and Bridges
- 10% — Transit Services

Thirty-five percent of sales tax received for maintenance is allocated annually among four government entities, based on population:
- 75.4 % — City of Colorado Springs
- 23.4 % — El Paso County
- 1.0 % — City of Manitou Springs
- 0.2 % — Town of Green Mountain Falls
The Pikes Peak Workforce Center is an American Job Center serving El Paso and Teller counties that connects vital businesses with work-ready job seekers and employer-driven services. We provide no-cost jobseeker, career and business services. Last year, we served over 39,000 job seekers.

In support of regional employers, we host tailored recruitment, candidate sourcing, group and individual pre-employment assessments, provide a database of searchable candidate profiles and more. Historically low regional unemployment continues to force employers to work harder to recruit top talent from a smaller job seeker pool. The Workforce Center is ideally suited to help employers find talent in our market.

The PPWFC hosts the region’s largest job fairs, weekly hiring events and provides services and resources to recruit, hire and retain work-ready employees to include customized training for incumbent workers and supervisors, on-the-job training, work experiences, internships, immersions and registered apprenticeships.

We work closely with the Colorado Springs Chamber & Economic Development Corporation to bring new employers to the region and partner with existing employers in growing the regional workforce. Additionally, our Rapid Response services assist with a timely rehire effort in the event of a staff reduction. PPWFC is federally funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 and receives additional state funding and special grants.

Job Seeker Services include short-term training in in-demand occupations, jobseeker workshops and career assistance. Clients range from entry-level to professional; include youth (ages 16 to 24), adults, people returning to the workforce, the underemployed, and emphasis on underserved populations. All services are at no cost.

PPWFC delivers priority of service to veterans in all programs and has an additional team that provides career and employment assistance to veterans with disabilities and barriers to employment.

Learn more at www.ppwfc.org.
The Pikes Peak Small Business Development Center is hosted by El Paso County and is located at the Catalyst Campus. It is sponsored by the Small Business Administration, City of Colorado Springs, Minority Business Office and Connect2Dot.

The SBDC offers business consulting and training to maximize the economic potential of Colorado entrepreneurs. Our mission is to help existing and new businesses start and grow in El Paso, Park, and Teller counties. The SBDC is number one statewide business resource for small to medium sized businesses in Colorado.

The Pikes Peak SBDC is part of a national and state wide program and is one of 14 main offices serving businesses. SBDC services include a variety of resources – free consulting, special programs, workshops, seminars, and collaborative events. Registration for consulting, workshops and events can be accessed through www.pikespeaksbdc.org.

The Pikes Peak SBDC integrates a number of state-wide programs to assist businesses in the Pikes Peak Region including SBDC TechSource, Leading Edge Strategic Business Planning, Veterans Small Business Program, Connect2Dot, SBDC Advanced, Courses for Creatives, Small Manufactures’ AdvantEDGE and the Minority Business Office.

For more information the Pikes Peak SBDC, visit us at www.pikespeaksbdc.org, find us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

The Pikes Peak SBDC participates in the annual Small Business Week which consists of forums, speakers and the food truck cook-off.
The purpose of the Colorado PTAC is to generate employment and improve the general economic condition of the state by assisting Colorado companies including those eligible for preferential consideration in obtaining and performing under local, state and federal government contracts.

Colorado PTAC provides procurement technical assistance to help businesses sell their products or services to the appropriate government agency by offering confidential counseling at no cost. The core of the procurement assistance program is counseling and education.

The Colorado PTAC is staffed with counselors experienced in government contracting and provide a wide range of services. PTAC counselors have backgrounds in government acquisitions and all receive ongoing training to keep pace with continually evolving acquisition procedures and policies.

The Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) was authorized by Congress in 1985 in an effort to expand the number of businesses capable of participating in the Government Marketplace. Administered by the Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), the program provides matching funds through cooperative agreements with state and local governments and non-profit organizations for the establishment of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs) to provide procurement assistance.

Ninety-two Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs) – with over 300 local offices – form a nationwide network of dedicated procurement professionals working to help local businesses compete successfully in the government marketplace. PTACs are the bridge between buyer and supplier, bringing to bear their knowledge of both government contracting and the capabilities of contractors to maximize fast, reliable service to our government with better quality and at lower costs.

Colorado PTAC is a Public, Private, Partnership operating as a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation funded by federal, state and local grant money and in-kind support. The PTAC partners with universities, community colleges, local economic development corporations, small business development centers and other business programs or local institutions delivering services statewide.
Providing resources and opportunities that change individual lives and build community.

**The Pikes Peak Library District** has 14 locations in El Paso County including three bookmobiles, as well as online services and downloadable books and music. More than eight million items are borrowed annually by more than three million visitors.

The history of public libraries in the region began in October 1885 when the Colorado Springs Social Union established a library on the corner of Tejon and Cucharras Streets in downtown Colorado Springs. In 1905, a new library opened at 21 West Kiowa Street with funds donated by Andrew Carnegie and land granted by General William Jackson Palmer.

In 1903 the Free Public Library of Colorado Springs was established. In 1962 voters approved a regional library district. In 2006 the PPLD launched the eBranch, a collection of electronic books and audios that can be downloaded to personal devices, and expanded self check out throughout the District.

In 2016 the Pikes Peak Library District received Star Library designation from the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service. The LJ Index rates U.S. public libraries based on selected per capita output measures. In 2016, 7,349 U.S. public libraries qualified to be rated in the LJ Index of Public Library Service and of those qualified, 260 libraries received Star Library designations.
El Paso County was established by the Territorial Legislature in 1861 as one of the original Colorado counties. That was fifteen years before Colorado became a state. Its name highlights its location as an open door or “pass” between the eastern plains regions of Colorado and the picturesque, gold-bearing mountains to the west.

In 1806 Zebulon Pike was commissioned to map the region just east of the Rockies. In Pike’s time inhabitants included the mountain Indians (Ute) and plains Indians (Cheyenne, Arapahoe and Kiowa).

Initially, the County’s economy relied on farming and ranching but in 1890 as the railroads connected more of the west, El Paso County changed forever with the discovery of gold in Cripple Creek and Victor.

In the midst of war in 1942, the Army designated a site south of Colorado Springs as Camp Carson, in honor of legendary army scout Kit Carson. Fort Carson is now a 137,391-acre Army Post. Fort Carson is Colorado’s second largest employer.

Commissioners on the Court House steps.
In 1948, the Air Force selected El Paso County as the location for an air base that eventually became the Peterson Air Force Base Complex. The Peterson complex includes Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, NORAD, and Air Force Space Command.

In 1954, a site in El Paso County north of Colorado Springs was chosen as a home for the United States Air Force Academy.

Collectively, these mission critical military installations support a combined military force of more than 43,000. There are also nearly 80,000 military family members, retirees and veterans who call El Paso County their home.
El Paso County encompasses more than 2,158 square miles (slightly more than twice the size of Rhode Island). The County is bordered on the north by Douglas and Elbert counties, on the west by Teller and Fremont counties, on the south by Pueblo County and on the east by Elbert and Lincoln counties. El Paso County’s largest municipality is the City of Colorado Springs. Other municipalities within El Paso County include Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Fountain, Calhan, Ramah, Monument and Palmer Lake.

The western portion of El Paso County is mountainous, while the east is prairie land where horses and cattle are important economic drivers. The altitude ranges from about 5,052 feet on the south central border with Pueblo County at Chico Creek to 14,115 feet on the summit of Pikes Peak.

The natural beauty of the County’s landscape, situated at the base of Pikes Peak, includes an uninterrupted view of the Front Range. This magnificent scenery inspired Katherine Lee Bates to compose “America the Beautiful.”

El Paso County’s mild climate averages 300 days of sunshine, 16 inches of rain and 41 inches of snow annually with very low humidity. Average high temperatures average from 42 degrees in January to 85 degrees in July. Low temperatures average from 16 degrees in January to 57 degrees in July.

With over 150,000 acres (230 square miles) of open space, El Paso County is a year-round sports and recreation paradise. Hunting, fishing, camping, Nordic and Alpine skiing, mountain biking, climbing, hiking and sailplane soaring are local favorites. County residents and visitors enjoy rodeo, scenic golf courses, the United States Olympic Training Center, the Broadmoor World Arena, Minor League Baseball, NCAA Division I Hockey, the world-famous Pikes Peak International Hill Climb and much more.
In 2012, El Paso County voters approved Public Safety Initiative 1-A to provide additional dedicated funding to address specific critical public safety needs. The importance of the additional funding generated by this initiative cannot be overstated.

As of April 2017, revenues from the 0.23% Public Safety Sales Tax funded 192 employees within the various bureaus of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. Better staffing has translated into improved safety and security inside the county jail even as the inmate population continues to grow. A new Rural Enforcement Unit is now focusing on crimes in rural areas of the county. Patrol deputies are now staffing a new sector response unit to provide quicker response and better service for residents in the Falcon area. The increased use of multijurisdictional task forces helps to counter the alarming growth seen in human trafficking and illegal drugs and the with local school districts to support more school resource officers.

In addition, funding from this voter-approved initiative has allowed the county to address a backlog of urgently needed public safety related facilities and equipment. A new combined Office of Emergency Management and Wildland Fire base provides indoor parking for fire and emergency equipment as well as training facilities and a fully equipped ready to work Emergency Operations Center. New remote locks and surveillance cameras have replaced failing equipment at the county jail and the replacement of obsolete and worn-out radios and mobile computers are making it possible for patrol deputies to respond more quickly and safely when they are needed.

The 2012 1A public safety funding approved for El Paso County Public Safety improvements and Sheriff’s Office operations is not the same 2014 1A parks funding.
In November 2014, 70 percent of voters approved ballot measure 1A which allowed El Paso County to retain excess tax revenue of $2,044,758 in revenues that were collected above the 2013 revenue limit established under the TABOR formula. The ballot measure specified that those revenues should be used strictly to fund improvements, restoration and acquisitions for El Paso County trails, nature centers, regional parks and open spaces.

“One of the things we promised the community, if they passed 1A is that we would utilize the $2 million as base funding and try to grow it from there,” said Tim Wolken, Executive Director of El Paso County Community Services. “If we are successful with grants coupled with regional parks fees we’ll be in that $4.7 million range which will be an incredible investment to our County Parks system.”

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>1A Funds</th>
<th>Matching Funds</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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See the county web page, www.ELPasoCo.com, for Parks 1A project details and updates.

The 2014 1A parks funding is not the same 1A public safety funding approved for El Paso County Public Safety improvements and Sheriff’s Office operations in 2012.
El Paso County Offices and Numbers

El Paso County.......................................................... (719) 520-7276, 520-PASO
Assessor, Steve Schleiker................................................... 520-6627
Board of County Commissioners ........................................ 520-7276
Commissioner, Dist. 1, Darryl Glenn............................... 520-6411
Commissioner, Dist. 2, Mark Waller................................. 520-6412
Commissioner, Dist. 3, Stan VanderWerf......................... 520-6413
Commissioner, Dist. 4, Longinos Gonzalez, Jr.................. 520-6414
Commissioner, Dist. 5, Peggy Littleton............................. 520-6415

Administration & Financial Services................................. 520-6400
Building Security & Parking............................................ 520-6507
Clerk & Recorder, Chuck Broerman................................. 520-6202
  Elections ...................................................................... 575-8683
  Motor Vehicle.............................................................. 520-6240
  Records ........................................................................ 520-6200
Code Enforcement........................................................... 520-6748
Contracts & Procurement................................................. 520-6390
County Administrator, Henry Yankowski......................... 520-6555
County Attorney, Amy Folsom......................................... 520-6454
Coroner, Dr. Robert C. Bux.............................................. 390-2450
District Attorney, Dan May.............................................. 520-6000
Economic Development................................................... 520-6481
Environmental Division................................................... 520-7879
  Environmental Compliance .......................................... 520-7806
  Forestry & Noxious Weeds........................................... 520-7846
  Household Recycling................................................... 520-7878
  Natural Resources......................................................... 520-7845
Fair Grounds and Event Complex..................................... 520-7880
Fire Marshall................................................................. 520-7880
  Fire Emergency............................................................ 911
Human Services............................................................ 636-0000
  Child Protection.......................................................... 444-5700
  Adult Protection.......................................................... 444-5755
  Food Stamps/Family Medical........................................ 444-5124
Parks & Leisure Services (General and Reservations)........ 520-7529
  Bear Creak Nature Center............................................ 520-6387
  Fountain Creek Nature Center..................................... 520-6745
Planning & Community Development............................ 520-6300
Public Health Department............................................... 578-3199
Public Information Office............................................... 520-6540
Public Works/Transportation........................................... 520-6460
  Service Request/Road Issues....................................... 520-6891
Public Trustee, Thomas Mowle........................................ 520-6780
Regional Building Department........................................ 327-2880
Sheriff, Bill Elder........................................................... 520-7204
  Sheriff’s Office, Non-Emergency................................... 520-7100
  Sheriff’s Office, Emergency.......................................... 911
Surveyor, Lawrence Burnett............................................ 520-7201
Treasurer, Mark Lowderman........................................... 520-7900
Veterans Services........................................................... 520-7750

Most El Paso County offices are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except holidays.