

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015

WORKSHOP, 5:00 P.M.
CITY AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

1. **Workforce Center:** Mr. Tracey Garchar, Executive Director of the Mesa County Department of Human Services, will present a brief explanation of the current structure of the Mesa County Workforce Center. He will also describe the opportunity that the Center has to be designated as its own standalone locally controlled Workforce Region. Mr. Garchar will be requesting support for this request via a Council vote. [Attachment](#)
2. **Mesa Land Trust Request:** Executive Director Rob Bleiberg will present a request for matching funds in anticipation of an application to Great Outdoors Colorado for a grant to obtain a conservation easement on an east valley property. [Supplemental Document](#)
3. **Urban Trails Committee:** Members of the Urban Trails Committee will brief City Council on their draft strategic plan and recommended Safe Routes to School priorities. [Attachment](#)
[Supplemental Document](#)
4. **City Property Inventory** [Supplemental Document](#)
5. **Update on North Star Visit** [Supplemental Document](#)
6. **Legislative Update** [Supplemental Document](#)
7. **Other Business** [Supplemental Document](#)
8. **Board Reports**

Workforce Region Designation
Grand Junction City Council Meeting
March 2, 2015

PURPOSE OF TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION:

- Explain current oversight of the Mesa County Workforce Center
- Explain the opportunity Mesa County has to be designated as a Federal Region as provided by the 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Request the formal vote of support by the Grand Junction City Council for Mesa County to be designated as a separate Federal Region.

KEY INFORMATION POINTS:

- In 2014, the Mesa County Workforce Center served the Grand Junction area by registering 11,797 residents and providing services to 1565 businesses which listed 5498 jobs.
- In 1998, the Mesa County Workforce Center opened its doors as a locally controlled Center; however, because of the population size we were not able to be our own stand alone Workforce Region and became a part of the 52 county Rural Consortium.
- With the exception of Mesa and Broomfield, the Workforce Centers in the Rural Consortium are state administered and supervised. This means both employees and decision making rest with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, not at the local level.
- **Opportunity:** New federal legislation – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act(WIOA) replaces the previous federal legislation – Workforce Investment Act(WIA)
 - This legislation allows for any local area to request, from the Governor, to be designated as a federally recognized Workforce Region.
 - There are multiple steps to complete for this designation and one of them is to educate and get support from municipal elected officials for this request to the Governor.

ADVANTAGES of being a Federally Recognized Region:

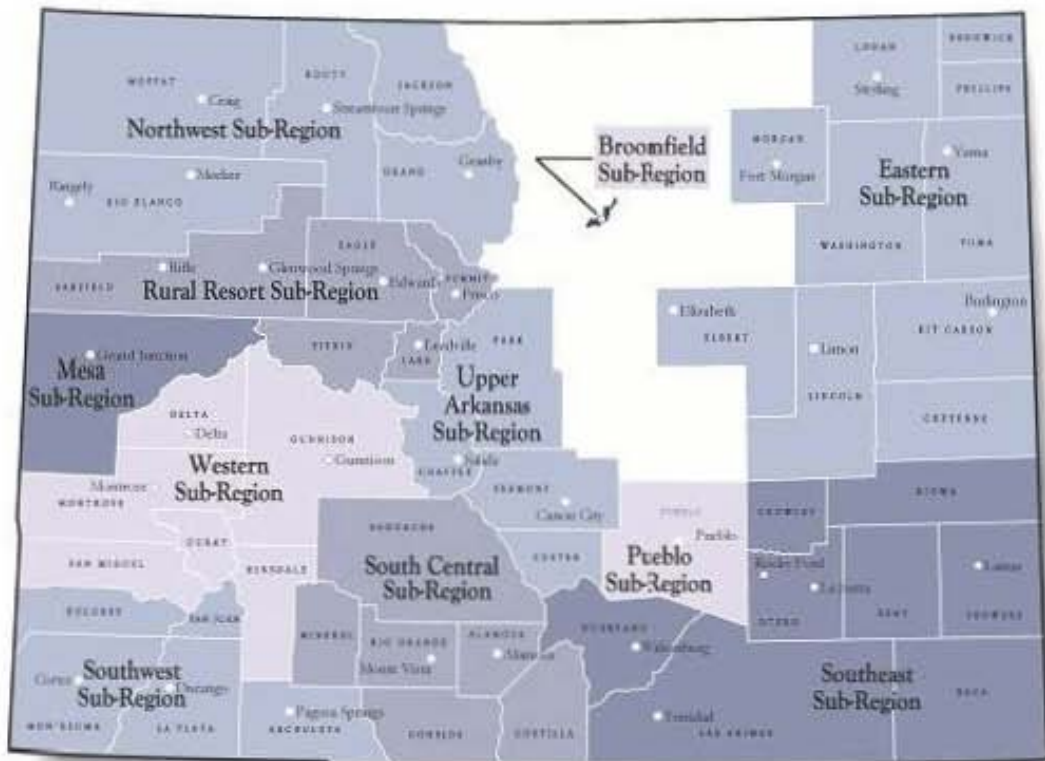
- Strong local control in the development of policies and practices specific to Mesa County vs. following policies developed specifically for the Rural Consortium.
- Local performance, which drives and determines funding, will stand on its own and be a part of the Consortium aggregate.
- More flexibility to quickly and effectively respond to local needs of job seekers and employers.
- Agreements with local partners, such as WCCC, will be easier to acquire and simpler to administer
- Fiscally, any grants or allocations will be available to the local area without the loss of administrative dollars
- The delivery of services will reflect the needs of the community and be able to change more quickly and more responsively than state controlled regions.
- It is imperative that local control and local program delivery remains the keystone of the Mesa County Workforce Center.
- **REQUEST:** We ask the Grand Junction City Council to vote in support of Mesa County applying for designation as a local Workforce Region

- QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your interest and especially for your support in this critical issue.

(attachments)

- Map of current Federally designated Workforce regions in Colorado
- Mesa County Workforce Investment Board's notice of intent and proclamation





COLORADO

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District 1 - John Justman 970-244-1605
District 2 - Scott McInnis 970-244-1604
District 3 - Rose Pugliese 970-244-1606

P.O. Box 20,000 544 Rood Avenue Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-5010 mcboecc@mesacounty.us Fax (970) 244-1639

February 5, 2015

Governor John Hickenlooper
136 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203

Colorado Workforce Development Council
Colorado Department of Labor & Employment
Attn: Toya Paynter
633 17th Street, Suite 1200
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Governor Hickenlooper and Chair Paynter,

As Chairperson for the Mesa County Workforce Investment Board and the Local Elected Official we represent the sentiments of all our fellow Board members, who speak for the major business sectors and industry in Mesa County, when we say local control and representation is and has been the key to the success of the Mesa County Workforce Center.

The purpose of this letter is to provide our official notice that our current local area, the Mesa County Workforce Development Area, will be requesting to be identified as a separately designated workforce region as set forth in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) sections 106(a)(1) and 106(b)(4).

Our ability to streamline the delivery of programs and services that are guided by local partnerships and oversight and that support both job seekers and employers is a direct result of making local decisions to address local needs within the prescribed State and Federal rules and regulations.

Depending on legislative interpretation, certain elements of the WIOA could potentially threaten the success of our workforce center model. We consider the biggest threat as the loss of local control. This possibility is of great concern to our Workforce Investment Board, our Chief Elected Officials, and our business community in general.

Mesa County did not meet the criteria established in the Workforce Investment Act of 1997 to be considered as a separate federally designated region. Because the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners deliberately chose to exercise the option for local control and responsibility, the Mesa County Workforce Center has operated as a County run local workforce development area within the Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium. WIOA now allows us to be designated as a separate workforce development region.

In the spirit of maintaining both local control and a strong regional and state partnership, Mesa County will continue to work with the State Department of Labor and other Workforce Regions in the development and review of rules, regulations and policies for the future of the Workforce System in Colorado. However, it was very important to the Mesa County Workforce Development Board that we express our request for designation as soon as possible as evidenced by the attached resolution. We are looking forward to working with the Governor's Office and the Colorado Workforce Development Council to further enhance Colorado's delivery of Workforce Programs.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very important matter.

Respectfully,



Rose Pugliese, Mesa County Commissioner, Chair
Mesa County WIB, LEO



Buzz Moore, Guild Mortgage
Mesa County WIB, Chair

(Attachment – MCWIB 14-01, Board Resolution Local Region Designation)



Workforce Development is Economic Development

512 29 ½ Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81504

Mesa County Workforce Investment Board Resolution 14-01

December 12, 2014

Whereas: Since inception in 1998, through the direct authority of the Mesa County Board of Commissioners and oversight of the Mesa County Workforce Investment Board, the Mesa County Workforce Center has operated as a County run sub-region (sometimes referred to as a local area) within the Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium.

Whereas: This local control has allowed the Mesa County Workforce Center to meet local needs through local partnerships and local collaboration and has been recognized as a critical component for the success of Mesa County's Workforce Center,

Now, therefore, be it resolved: The Mesa County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) contends that for the betterment and future of the Mesa County Workforce Center, local control must remain. To ensure this, the Mesa County WIB hereby directs staff to request from the Governor of Colorado, that Mesa County be designated as a sole and separate workforce development region under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.


Buzz Moore, MC WIB Chair


Rose Pugliese, Mesa County Commissioner, Chair
Mesa County WIB, LEO


Tim Fry, MC WIB Vice Chair

Mesa Land Trust

Promoting economic development & vitality
through wise investments in recreation &
agricultural land



Fruitlands Forever

- 3,000 acres in fruit production
- Economic driver in Valley (peaches, vineyards, tourism)
- Goal: Conserve 1,000 acres of fruit ground in Palisade area over 5 years to sustainable industry
- Currently conserved 755 acres of fruit lands

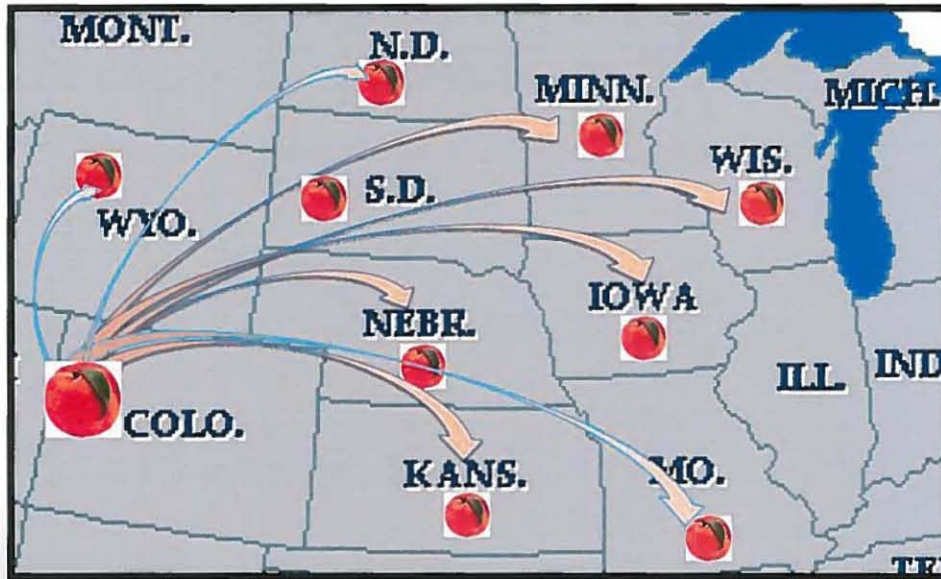


Economics: Peach Industry

- Mesa County raises **80% of peaches & 75% of grapes** in Colorado
- Mesa County in top **1/10 of 1%** of counties nationally for fruit production
- Annual gross profit of peach sales approx. **\$20M**
- **463 jobs** in orchards



Economics: Peach Exports



Economics: Wine Industry

- Economic effects of Wine Based Tourism and Sales in Colorado:
 - \$144,070,280
 - \$103,029,669 is travel/tourism alone
 - \$344 million in overnight travel in Mesa County (all)



Economics: Tourism

THE COLORADO LIFESTYLE
Experience Mesa County



Grande River Vineyards
Grande River Vineyards Winery (GRV), located at the fork in Colorado's Wine Country just west of Palisade, CO, enjoys long days of warm, cloudless summer sunshine and cool evenings. This climate produces healthy grape clusters, a hallmark of the Grand Valley. In 1983, Vignas planted grapes in the Palisade area in 1987 and started the winery with its focus on 1990, increasing the 100 percent women-owned GRV. Two award-winning others in starting wineries and producing some of the best wine in the world.



Fresh Picked

\$344 million in overnight travel in Mesa County

Sip and Stay
At Grande River Vineyards

Wine Country lives!
The August 2020 opening of the Wine Country Inn (WCI) in Mesa County's wine country was the fruition of a family dream that had commenced on the back lanes for a decade. Richard and Jean Yaffe owned properties in Colorado and France, gathering information before setting up their own winery. And then, to build the new Victorian-style 50 room property. Set in the middle of 21 acres of working vineyards, the boutique hotel is adjacent to two wineries and nearby a downtown. The family emphasis on superior guest service reflects the tradition of hospitality. The more restaurants serve local food to table fresh grown with Colorado, down the road and international wines. The profession registers serving the most private label wines, made from grapes grown on the property, and a country breakfast are complimentary. With a relaxing, authentic and a world-class feel, WCI is the perfect place to "sip and stay" in the Wine Country.



Colterris
Over the past 18 years, the business has grown to over 120 acres planted, 32,000 peach trees, 15,000 grape trees, and 1,000 cherry trees. The High on the Palisade is actually three of various Colorado, Calif. 10-year ages. The family produces world-class wines. The family produces world-class wines, including their award-winning Colterris Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and "Line" White Cabernet Sauvignon. All of these wines are produced from wine grapes grown in their state vineyards.



Economics: Business Planning



"Our conservation easements minimize uncertainty and give us predictability in long-term business planning. We use easement funds to invest in debt reduction, more land, worker housing and farm equipment." - Bruce Talbott



Economics: Business Planning



Economics: Business Planning

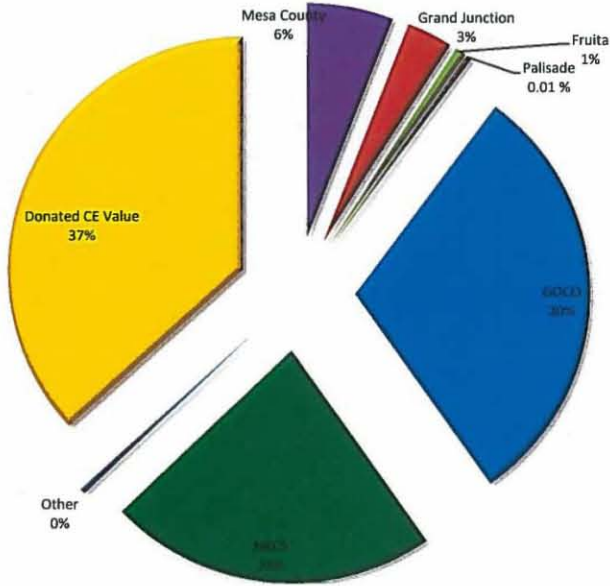


Leverage

- For every **\$1** invested by local Partners, MLT raised \$5.22 in outside funds (\$10.1 million)
 - Over \$4.3 million in Federal Funding
 - Over \$5.7 million of GOCO Funding
- For every **\$1** invested by local Partners, conserved over **\$9.83** of land

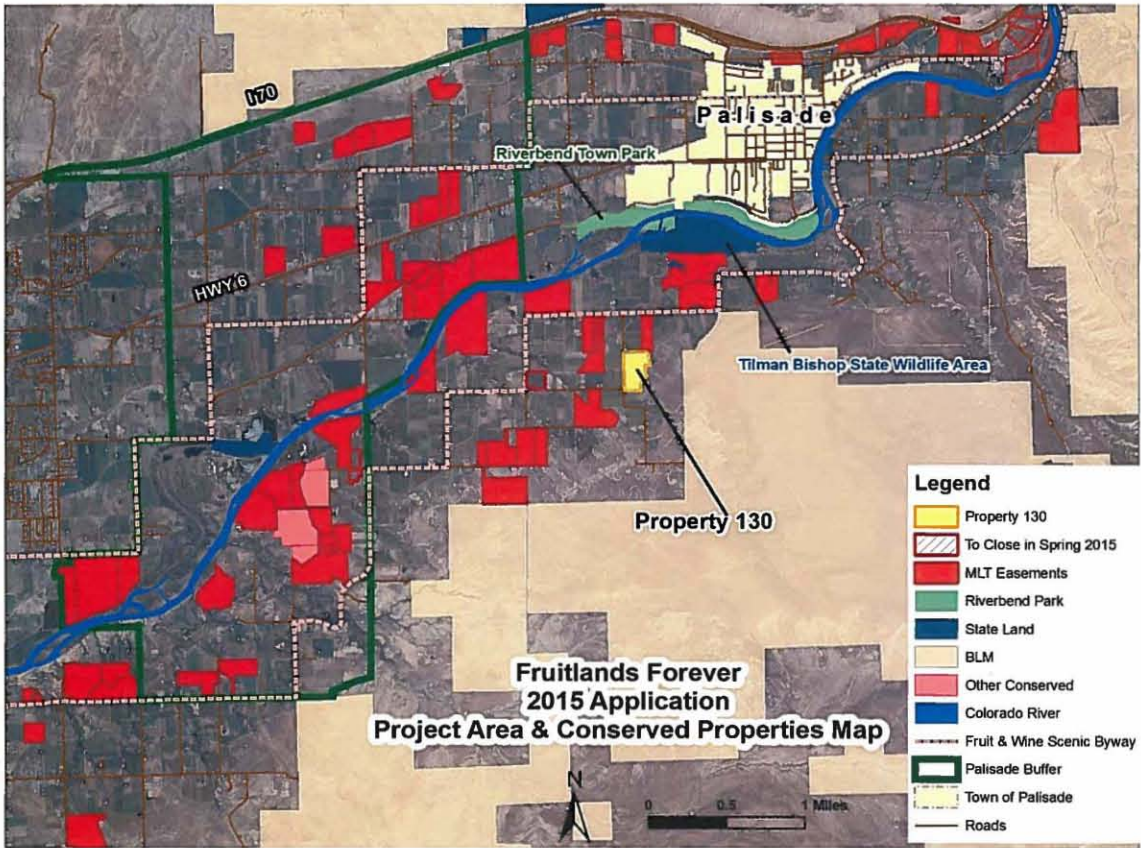


Buffer Partner Total Contributions 2000-2014



** Does not include Contract for FTE





Budget Request: capital request

- Capital for easement acquisition of working agricultural lands
 - \$25,000



Fruitlands Forever 2015 Projected Value & Partners

- **TOTAL Projected VALUE: \$379,840**
 - Donated Value
 - GOCO
 - NRCS
 - Grand Junction
 - Fruita
 - Palisade
 - Mesa County



Leverage for Project

- For every **\$1** invested by the City of Grand Junction:
 - MLT raised over **\$14** in other funds





Thank you





Community Stewardship on the Three Sisters

Build Trails

Help with restoration of native plants and landscapes

Pick up trash

Celebrate at a BeerBQ after in the Lunch Loop Parking Lot

We need volunteers of all ages, no experience required!

Saturday, April 11th

9-3pm Trail Building and Restoration

3:30—7:00pm, BeerBQ

(Free for volunteers, \$25 for non-volunteers, \$10 for kids)

To Register: go to www.copmoba.com

OR

For information: go to www.mesalandtrust.org

Call Mesa Land Trust, 263-5443

Thank you for sponsoring!

Junior Service League

Western Colorado Community Foundation





Date: February 19, 2015

Author: Kathy Portner

Title/ Phone Ext: Community

Services Manager/1420

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT WORKSHOP SESSION

Topic: Urban Trails Committee Update

Staff (Name & Title): Kathy Portner, Community Services Manager

Summary:

Members of the Urban Trails Committee will brief City Council on their draft strategic plan and recommended Safe Routes to School priorities.

Background, Analysis and Options:

The Urban Trails Committee was re-established as an official advisory board to the City Council and Bylaws adopted on December 17, 2014. Since then, the Committee has been working on a strategic plan and a prioritization of bicycle and pedestrian projects, with a special emphasis on Safe Routes to School.

Board or Committee Recommendation:

None

Financial Impact/Budget:

None

Legal issues:

None

Other issues:

None

Previously presented or discussed:

No

Attachments:

None



Urban Trails Committee Update

City Council Workshop
March 2, 2015



Urban Trail Committee

- Bylaws adopted December 17, 2014
- Advisory board to the City Council on matters pertaining to safe, convenient and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities throughout the community, as well as other forms of transit.
- 7-9 members appointed by City Council

Urban Trails Committee Members

- Biz Collins (Co-Chair)—GV Bikes
- Julie Sabin (Co-Chair)—GV Bikes
- Dr. Kristin Heumann—CMU
- Dr. Scott McBrayer—Chiropractor
- Daniel Fitzgerald—Attorney
- Eric Marchese—St. Mary's Hospital
- Jeff Kuhr, Ph.D.—Mesa County Health Dept.
- Two vacant postions

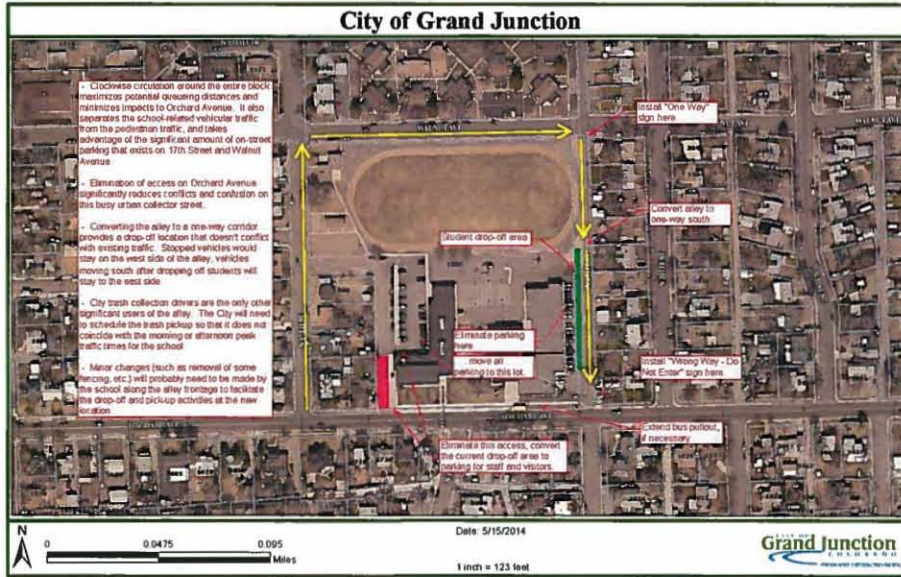
UTC Draft Strategic Plan

- Support Healthy Lifestyles by Improving the Built Environment and Active Transportation Options
- Interface with and Provide Connectivity to Recreational Trails on Public Lands
- Cultivate and Promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities
- Promote the Economic Benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community

UTC Current Activities

- 2015 Walking and Biking Summit
- Bike Month and Bike to Work Day
- Healthy Mesa County Built Environment & Leadership for Healthy Community Design Team
- Bicycle Friendly Community Designation
- Active Transportation Priorities/Safe Routes to School Program/Priorities
- Mayors' Challenge

Orchard Avenue Elementary



Thunder Mountain Elementary



CITY OF
Grand Junction
COLORADO

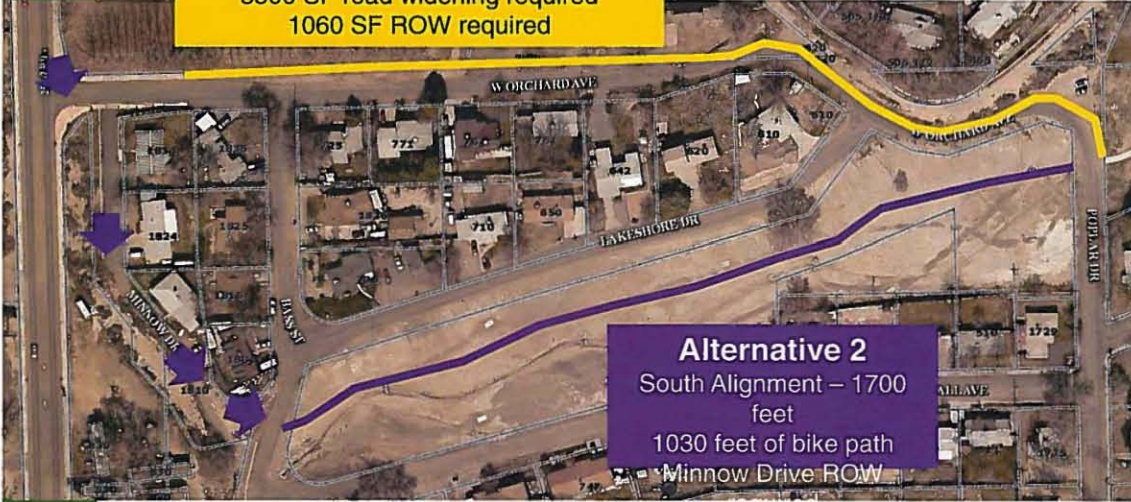
Pear Park Elementary



Pomona Elementary –West Middle School

Alternative 1

North Alignment – 1400 feet
1200 feet of sidewalk/bike path
3500 SF road widening required
1060 SF ROW required



Alternative 2

South Alignment – 1700
feet
1030 feet of bike path
Minnow Drive ROW





Friday, March 13, 2015
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Two Rivers Convention Center
Grand Junction, CO

Join us to visualize and work toward a more livable community through active transportation.

Keynote: Ralph Becker, Mayor of Salt Lake City | National League of Cities President

Panel Discussions:

Making the Business Case for Walkable & Bikeable Communities



Exercise is Medicine



There's More Than One Way to Get to School



Taking it to the Streets



Early registration \$10 adults / \$5 students (must bring student ID) / lunch & breakfast included

To register go to:

HealthyMesaCounty.org/wb-summit



Sponsors & Partners

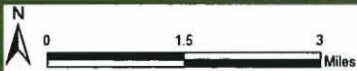
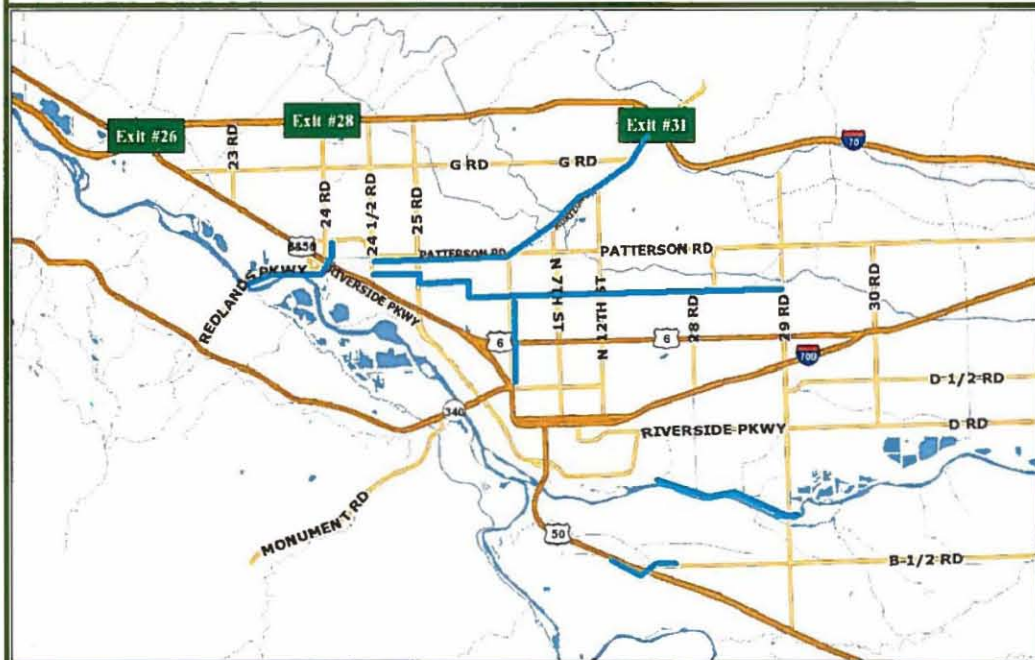


CITY OF Grand Junction
COLORADO

Tier 1 Priorities--complex projects/phased implementation dependent on opportunities

- 1st Street from Ouray to Orchard
- Orchard Ave from 29 Rd to Mesa Mall
- Horizon Dr/Horizon Dr Channel/Patterson Rd
- Redlands Pkwy from Riverfront Trail to Patterson Rd
- B1/2 Rd/HWY 50 crossing
- Riverfront Trail from 27 ½ Rd to 29 Rd

City of Grand Junction



Printed: 6/16/2014

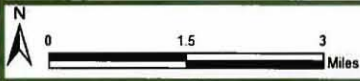
1 inch = 5,669 feet



Tier 2 Priorities--complex projects/phased implementation dependent on opportunities

- Monument Rd trail
- Redlands Pkwy/South Broadway
- Crosby Ave from ped bridge to 25 ½ Rd
- Black Bridge
- 20 ¾ Rd Colorado River crossing

City of Grand Junction



Printed: 6/16/2014

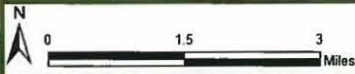
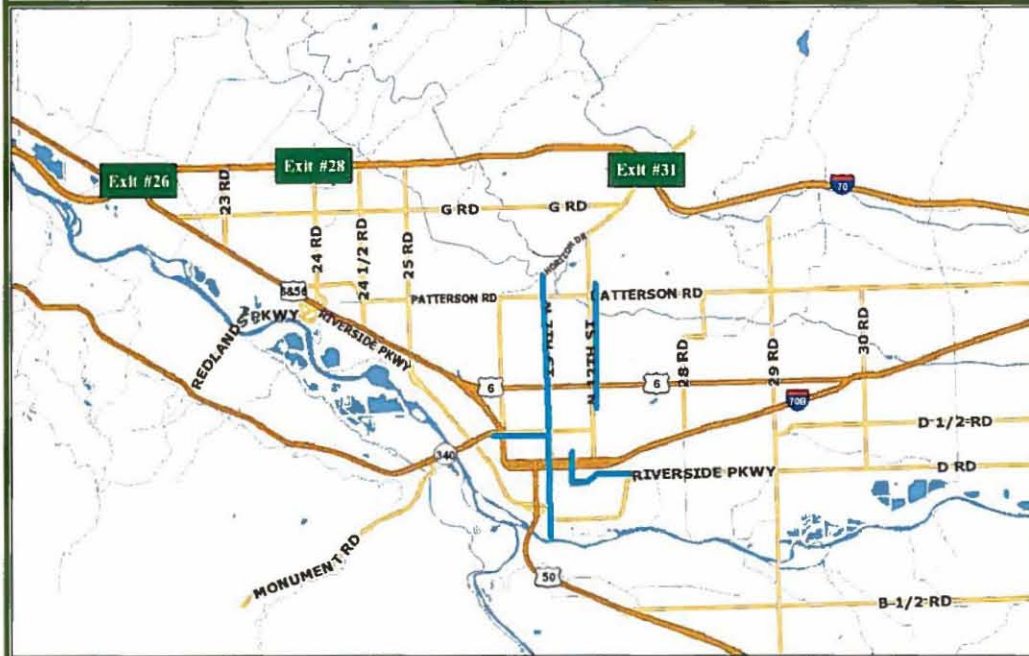
1 inch = 5,669 feet



Tier 3 Priorities--less complex projects utilizing striping and/or signage

- 12th St from Gunnison Ave to Bonita Ave
- 7th St from Grand Ave to Horizon Dr
- Grand Ave from Spruce St to 7th St
- S 7th St from Main St to Riverfront Trail
- D Rd from Riverside Pkwy to 9th St and 9th St
from D Rd to Main St

City of Grand Junction



Printed: 6/16/2014

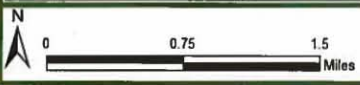
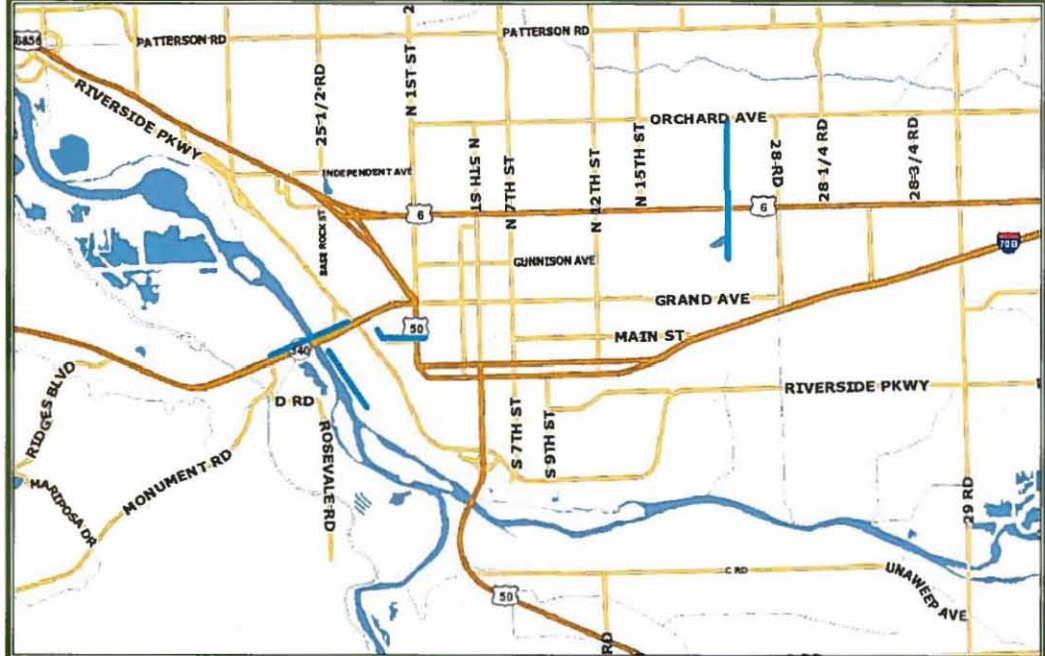
1 inch = 5,669 feet



Tier 3 Priorities--continued

- 340 Bridge and West Ave crossing
- 23rd/24th St from Gunnison Ave to Orchard Ave
- Riverside Park Dr
- Main St connection across 1st St to Riverfront Trail

City of Grand Junction



Printed: 6/16/2014

1 inch = 2,835 feet

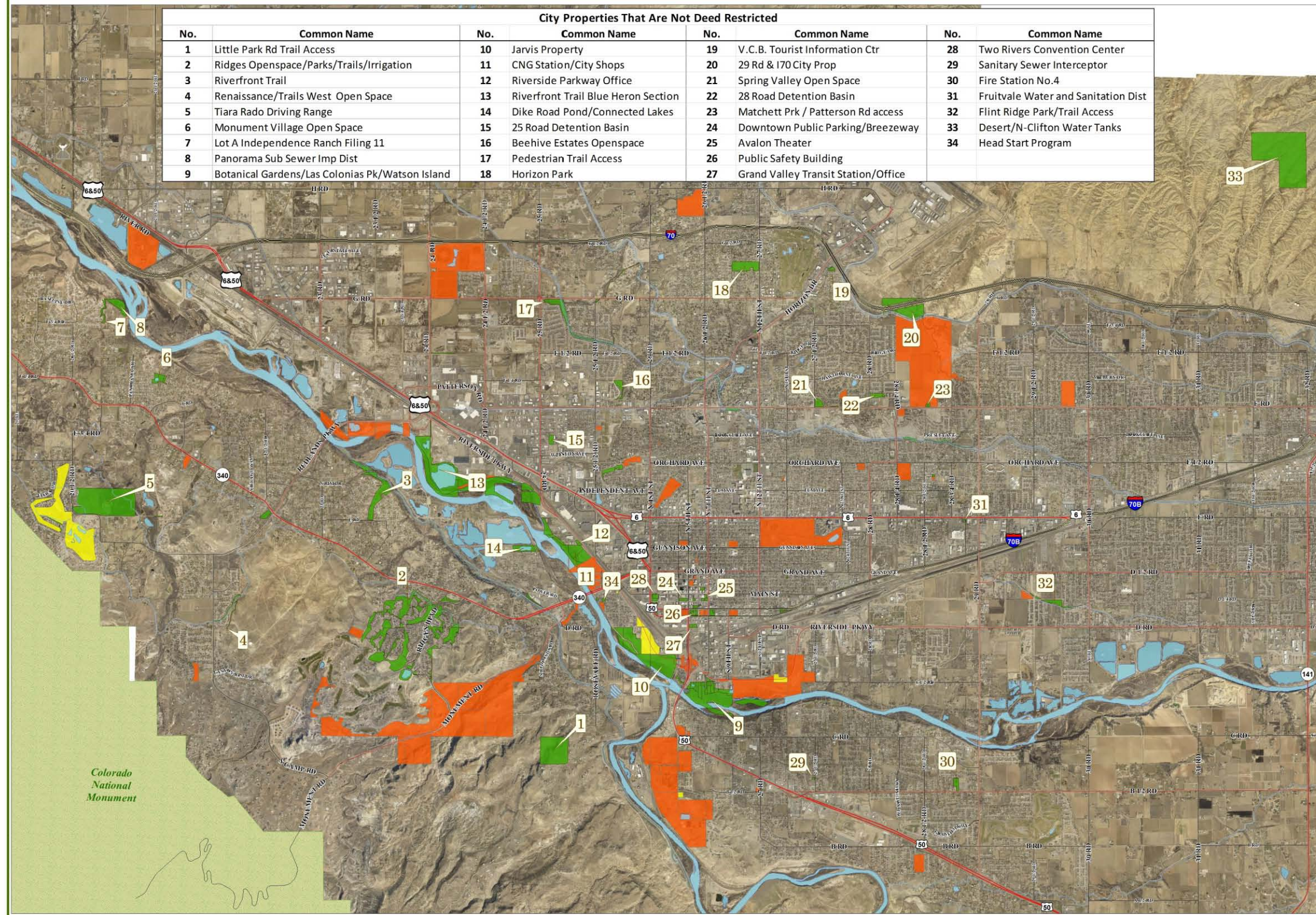


Safe Routes to School / Pomona –West Middle



City of Grand Junction - Property Map

City Properties That Are Not Deed Restricted					
No.	Common Name	No.	Common Name	No.	Common Name
1	Little Park Rd Trail Access	10	Jarvis Property	19	V.C.B. Tourist Information Ctr
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	11	CNG Station/City Shops	20	29 Rd & 170 City Prop
3	Riverfront Trail	12	Riverside Parkway Office	21	Spring Valley Open Space
4	Renaissance/Trails West Open Space	13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	22	28 Road Detention Basin
5	Tiara Rado Driving Range	14	Dike Road Pond/Connected Lakes	23	Matchett Prk / Patterson Rd access
6	Monument Village Open Space	15	25 Road Detention Basin	24	Downtown Public Parking/Breezeway
7	Lot A Independence Ranch Filing 11	16	Beehive Estates Openspace	25	Avalon Theater
8	Panorama Sub Sewer Imp Dist	17	Pedestrian Trail Access	26	Public Safety Building
9	Botanical Gardens/Las Colonias Pk/Watson Island	18	Horizon Park	27	Grand Valley Transit Station/Office
				28	Two Rivers Convention Center
				29	Sanitary Sewer Interceptor
				30	Fire Station No.4
				31	Fruitvale Water and Sanitation Dist
				32	Flint Ridge Park/Trail Access
				33	Desert/N-Clifton Water Tanks
				34	Head Start Program

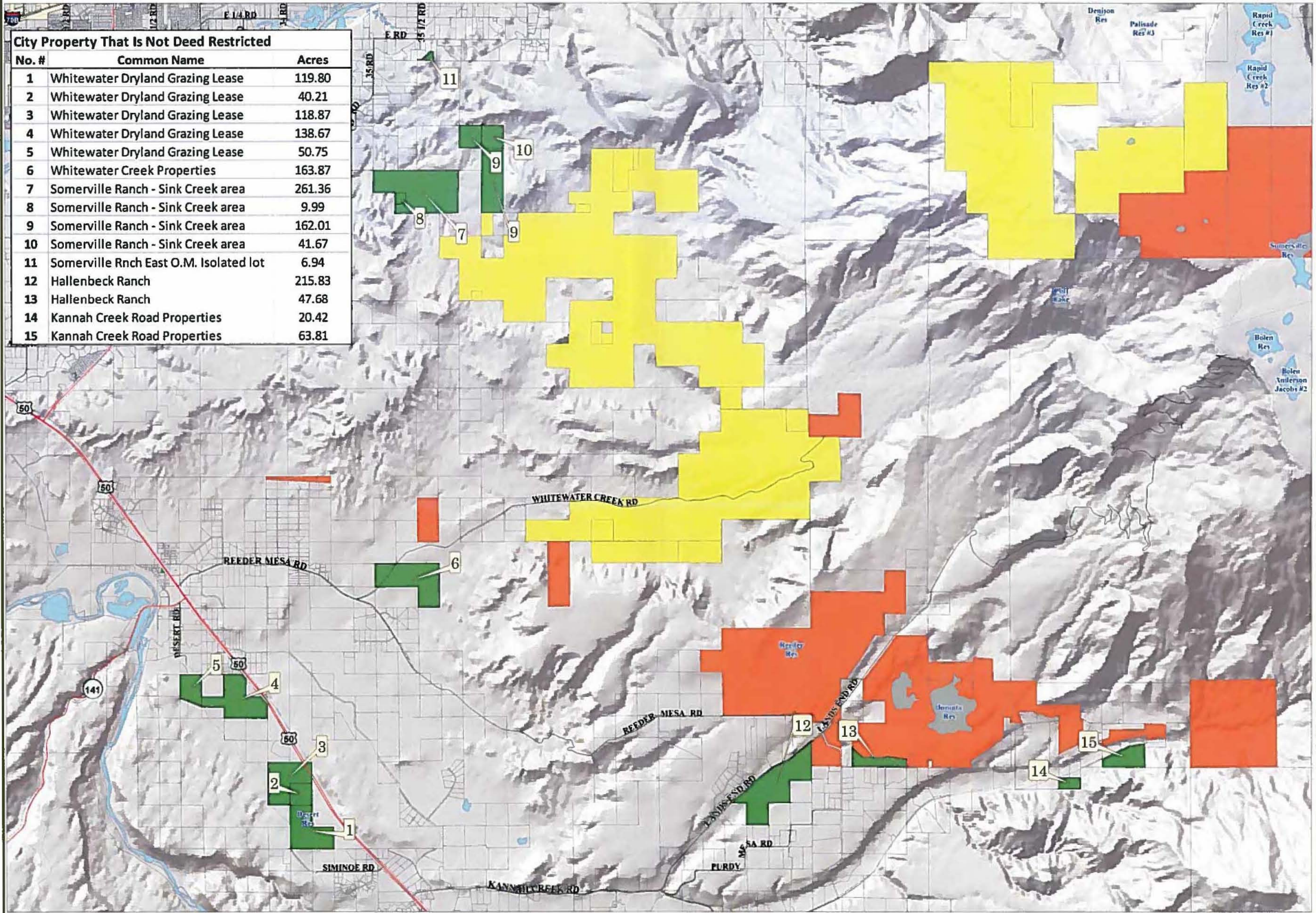


City Owned Total Acres = 17,376

■ Not Deed Restricted
 ■ Sale Restrictions
 ■ Deed Restricted

City of Grand Junction - Property Map - Grand Mesa

City Property That Is Not Deed Restricted		
No. #	Common Name	Acres
1	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	119.80
2	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	40.21
3	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	118.87
4	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	138.67
5	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	50.75
6	Whitewater Creek Properties	163.87
7	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	261.36
8	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	9.99
9	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	162.01
10	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	41.67
11	Somerville Rnch East O.M. Isolated lot	6.94
12	Hallenbeck Ranch	215.83
13	Hallenbeck Ranch	47.68
14	Kannah Creek Road Properties	20.42
15	Kannah Creek Road Properties	63.81



City Owned Total Acres = 17,376

■ Not Deed Restricted
 ■ Sale Restrictions
 ■ Deed Restricted

No.	Common Name	Acres	Year Obtained	City Property In The Grand Valley That is Not Deed Resticted		Status	Parcel #	Leased	Expiration Date
				Reason Obtained					
1	Little Park Rd Trail Access	39.02	1945	purchased for dump site, never used, neighborhood objection		Undeveloped	2945-272-00-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.16	1981	Created by parcel split City Res. No. 101-05		Developed	2945-201-10-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	5.76	1999	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Developed	2945-201-00-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	9.95	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-13-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	5.77	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-04-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.36	1981	Created by parcel split City Res. No. 101-05		Undeveloped	2945-201-10-948	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.11		Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-212-17-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	7.03	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-212-14-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.63	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-163-23-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.42	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-163-24-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.05		Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-38-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	2.83	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-163-22-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.28	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-34-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.10	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-14-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	3.13	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-30-945	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.05		Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-36-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	5.00	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-202-17-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.04	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-06-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.01		Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-163-00-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	2.94	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-163-26-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.92	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-24-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	28.05	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-29-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.81	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-30-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.00		Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-174-41-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.09	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-01-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.15	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-01-945	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	6.37	1997	School District Exchange for Land Adjacent to Appleton School		Undeveloped	2945-202-16-941	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.17	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-08-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	1.79	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-07-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	0.18	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-202-06-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	6.82	1992	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-202-06-945	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	3.20	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-212-13-944	No	
2	Ridges Openspace/Parks/Trails/Irrigation	3.23	1981	Conveyed to City pursuant to Ridges Metropolitan District Plan & Agreement for Annexation		Undeveloped	2945-201-09-945	No	
3	Bluff Trail Riverfront Trail	17.92	1997	Donated/Public Open Space-Use=OS/PkgLot/Trailhead		Developed	2945-084-00-945	No	
3	Promontory Ct Riverfront Trail	0.11	1999	Pedestrian Trail		Developed	2945-084-26-945	No	
3	Riverfront Trail	3.45	1997	Donated/Public Open Space-Use=OS/PkgLot/Trailhead		Developed	2945-084-00-945	No	
4	Renaissance Open Space	0.58	1999	Dedicated to City for Public Use		Undeveloped	2945-183-08-941	No	
4	Renaissance Open Space	0.22	1999	Dedicated to City for Public Use		Undeveloped	2945-183-09-941	No	
4	Trails West Open Space	0.48		Dedicated to City for Public Use--Recreational Trails/Open Space		Undeveloped	2945-183-04-941	No	
4	Trails West Open Space	0.23		Dedicated to City for Public Use--Recreational Trails/Open Space		Undeveloped	2945-183-04-941	No	
4	Trails West Open Space	1.41		Dedicated to City for Public Use		Undeveloped	2945-183-05-941	No	
5	Tiara Rado Driving Range	81.87	1993	Reso #57-93: ""for a 9-hole expansion of existing TRGC.""		Developed	2947-224-00-945	No	
6	Monument Village Open Space	4.44	2002	Conveyed with transfer of assets from Panorama Imp Dist		Developed	2947-143-24-944	No	
6	Monument Village Open Space	0.81		part of Panorama Acquisition		Developed	2947-143-24-945	No	
7	Lot A Independence Ranch Filing 11	2.30	2004	Public use of Arroyo		Undeveloped	2947-151-53-000	No	
8	Panorama Sub Sewer Imp Dist	7.53	2002	Conveyed with transfer of assets from Panorama Imp Dist		Developed	2947-151-45-944	No	
9	Botanical Gardens Las Colonias Pk	0.79	2013	Botanical Gardens-Las Colonias Park		Undeveloped	2945-234-00-008	No	
9	Botanical Grdn	0.27	1989	Leased to Botanical Society		Developed	2945-233-00-945	No	7/1/2014

No.	Common Name	Acres	Year Obtained	City Property In The Grand Valley That is Not Deed Restricted		Status	Parcel #	Leased	Expiration Date
				Reason Obtained					
9	Botanical Grdn Arcieri Sub	0.46	2005	Riverside Pkwy/misc.		Developed	2945-234-11-941	No	
9	Botanical Grdn Arcieri Sub	0.27	2006	protective purchase, not used in end for parkway		Developed	2945-234-00-930	No	
9	Botanical Grdn Dunn Property	1.42	1989	Not Stated--Portions leased--Rest=Staging area for CSEP		Developed	2945-233-00-944	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Dunn Property	0.93	1989	Leased to Botanical Society, open space and trail		Developed	2945-233-00-943	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Dunn Property	1.01	1989	Leased to Botanical Society, open space and trail		Developed	2945-233-00-942	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Dunn Property	2.80	1989	Not Stated--Portions leased--Rest=Staging area for CSEP		Developed	2945-233-00-941	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	1.74	1988	Not Stated--Leased to Botanical Society-Rest is Open Space & Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-234-00-947	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	0.73	1988	Leased to Botanical Society, open space and trail		Developed	2945-234-00-945	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	0.33	1988	Not Stated--Leased to Botanical Society-Rest is Open Space & Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-234-00-944	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	0.33	1988	Not Stated--Leased to Botanical Society-Rest is Open Space & Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-234-00-943	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	0.61	1988	Not Stated--Leased to Botanical Society-Rest is Open Space & Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-234-00-941	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Lewis Property	0.31	1994	property acquisition from Botanical Gardens		Developed	2945-233-00-948	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Riverfront Trl	1.53	1988	Leased to Botanical Society, open space and trail		Developed	2945-234-00-948	No	7/1/2014
9	Botanical Grdn Riverfront Trl	0.51	1994	Flood Control Levee		Developed	2945-233-00-946	No	
9	Botanical Grdn Watson Island Lewis Prop	28.79	1988	Not Stated--Leased to Botanical Society-Rest is Open Space & Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-233-00-940	No	7/1/2014
9	Las Colonias Haller Property	3.08	1994	Flood Control Levee		Undeveloped	2945-234-00-942	No	7/1/2014
9	Riverfront Dike	0.18		bought for flood levee		Developed	2945-232-00-940	No	
9	Riverfront Property	4.22	1990	Part of riverfront property, island in the river		Developed	2945-234-00-949	No	
9	Riverfront Property Kayak Prk	8.17		part of riverfront property, island in the river		Developed	2945-234-16-945	No	
9	Riverfront Trail	0.85	1994	bought for flood control levee		Developed	2945-232-00-946	No	
10	Jarvis Property	4.75	1990	Riverfront Trail/Open Space/Redevelopment		Undeveloped	2945-221-00-944	No	
10	Jarvis Property	6.98	1990	Riverfront Trail/Open Space/Redevelopment		Undeveloped	2945-221-00-945	No	
10	Jarvis Property	23.74	1990	Riverfront Trail/Open Space/Redevelopment, parkway right of way to be cut out of parcel		Undeveloped	2945-232-00-945	No	
10	Jarvis Property	2.58	2008	vacant land along Riverfront		Undeveloped	2945-221-00-942	No	
10	Jarvis Property	12.78	1990	Riverfront Trail/Open Space/Redevelopment		Undeveloped	2945-221-00-944	No	
10	Jarvis/Knoch/Hotchkiss Property	2.65	1988	Riverfront property can change by Resolution		Undeveloped	2945-221-00-941	No	
11	CNG Station Oda Property	6.91	2004	Future expansion of City's Municipal Operations Center		Developed	2945-152-38-941	No	
11	City Shops Oda Property	7.05	2004	Future expansion of City's Municipal Operations Center		Developed	2945-152-38-942	No	
12	Riverside Parkway Office	1.07	2004	Riverside Parkway Offices		Developed	2945-152-05-941	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	0.69	1993	Blue Heron Section Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-094-12-949	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	9.03	2004	dedicated by plat for use of public forever, Blue Heron Trail		Undeveloped	2945-092-12-943	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	1.98	2004	Blue Heron Trail, dedicated for public use		Undeveloped	2945-092-24-946	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	0.54	2005	Drainage along Leach Creek		Undeveloped	2945-092-00-941	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	46.52	1980	trails, use dawn to midnight		Developed	2945-093-00-945	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	14.97	1980	trails, access dawn to midnight		Developed	2945-093-00-948	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	1.66	2000	Blue Heron Section/Riverfront Trail		Undeveloped	2945-094-19-941	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	25.55	1989	Donated for Public Trail & Open Space Purposes		Developed	2945-094-00-947	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	3.36	1993	Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-094-00-943	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	11.11	1993	Riverfront Trail		Developed	2945-094-00-943	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	4.38	1994	trails		Developed	2945-152-04-941	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	1.30	1993	trails		Developed	2945-152-05-945	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Blue Heron Section	8.03	1993	trails		Developed	2945-152-00-945	No	
13	Riverfront Trail Riverside Section	0.24	1985	Not Stated--Used for Public Parking Lot & Riverfront Trailhead		Developed	2945-154-18-945	No	
14	Dike Road Pond/Connected Lakes	7.28	1917	Gravel Extraction		Developed	2945-161-00-941	Yes	9/30/2007
14	Dike Road Pond/Connected Lakes	0.67	1917	Gravel Extraction		Developed	2945-161-00-941	Yes	9/30/2007
15	25 Road Detention Basin	2.29	1998	Detention Basin		Developed	2945-102-01-945	No	
16	Tract A Beehive Estates Openspace	0.04	2005	pedestrian Access		Undeveloped	2945-034-70-946	No	
16	Tract B Beehive Estates Openspace	0.06	2005	dedicated to use of public		Undeveloped	2945-034-70-944	No	

No.	Common Name	Acres	Year Obtained	City Property In The Grand Valley That is Not Deed Restricted		Status	Parcel #	Leased	Expiration Date
				Reason Obtained					
16	Tract C Beehive Estates Openspace	3.54	2005	open space, drainage and utility tract dedicated for use of public		Undeveloped	2945-034-70-945	No	
16	West Lake Park Expansion	3.52	1960	undeveloped part of westlake park area		Developed	2945-104-04-941	No	
16	West Lake Park Expansion	0.31	1973	undeveloped part of westlake park area		Developed	2945-104-04-945	No	
16	West Lake Park Expansion	0.27	1960	outlot hillside, westlake park area		Developed	2945-104-04-949	No	
16	West Lake Park Expansion	0.06	1971	Undeveloped portion of park		Undeveloped	2945-101-00-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail	0.59	2002	Public Trail		Developed	2701-344-25-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail	0.91	2002	Public Trail		Developed	2701-344-24-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	1.03	1996	Plat Dedication for public use		Undeveloped	2945-031-40-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	7.67	2003	Plat Dedication for pedestrian use along canal		Undeveloped	2945-032-92-940	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	1.57		pedestrian trail along canal		Undeveloped	2945-032-63-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	0.04		pedestrian trail		Developed	2945-032-56-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	1.72		pedestrian trail along canal		Undeveloped	2945-032-77-941	No	
17	Pedestrian Trail Access	0.04	1989	Plat dedication for pedestrian use along canal		Undeveloped	2945-032-92-941	No	
17	ROW	0.32	1998	Plat Dedication no set use, in a lowland area		Undeveloped	2945-031-26-941	No	
18	Horizon Park	12.65	1993	Neighborhood Park site not set aside for specific use		Developed	2701-354-00-949	No	
19	V.C.B. Tourist Information Ctr	0.76	1997	Tourist Information Center		Developed	2701-364-40-949	No	
19	V.C.B. Tourist Information Ctr	0.25	1997	Dedicated as a Public Site		Developed	2701-364-40-948	No	
20	29 Rd & I70 City Prop	0.88	1934	for airport clear space		Undeveloped	2943-062-00-940	No	
20	29 Rd & I70 City Prop	14.59	1934	for airport clear space		Undeveloped	2943-062-00-940	No	
20	29 Rd & I70 City Prop	9.20	1934	for airport clear space		Undeveloped	2943-062-00-940	No	
21	Spring Valley 1 Park	3.08	1975	dedicated public site		Developed	2945-014-13-945	No	
21	Spring Valley Public Site	0.22	1975	dedicated public site		Developed	2945-014-12-945	No	
22	28 Road Detention Basin	2.50	1995	Regional Detention Basin		Developed	2943-063-00-945	No	
22	28 Road Detention Basin	0.27		for regional detention basin		Developed	2943-063-44-941	No	
23	Matchett Prk / Patterson Rd access	0.36	2006	to secure land around Matchett property		Developed	2943-064-00-941	No	
23	Matchett Prk / Patterson Rd access	0.51	2008	to secure land around Matchett property		Developed	2943-064-00-945	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.50	1994	Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-29-941	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.22	1998	Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-29-940	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.58	1989	Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-18-948	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	1.15	1989	Public Parking Lot & Restroom		Developed	2945-143-21-941	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.43	2013	Land Exchange w/DDA White Hall Prop for Avalon Prk Lot		Developed	2945-143-19-948	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.31	2013	Land Exchange w/DDA White Hall Prop for Avalon Prk Lot		Developed	2945-144-19-948	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.08	2013	Land Exchange w/DDA White Hall Prop for Avalon Prk Lot		Developed	2945-144-19-945	No	
24	Downtown Public Parking Lot	0.36	1989	Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-20-941	No	
24	Main Street Breezeway	0.07	1989	Pedestrian Access/Main Street to Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-18-949	No	
24	Main Street Breezeway	0.07	1986	Pedestrian Access/Main Street to Public Parking Lot		Developed	2945-143-20-948	No	
25	Avalon Theater	0.24	1994	Performing Arts Theater		Developed	2945-144-19-949	Yes	6/7/2005
25	Avalon Theater	0.14	1989	Performing Arts Theater		Developed	2945-144-19-941	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.29	1993	Evidence Storage Facility		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-946	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.18	1983	Parking Lot for Police/Fire Employees		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-941	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.29	2008	New Police Station		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-948	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.22	2008	New Police Station		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-949	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.54	2007	New Police Station		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-947	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.15	2007	police station		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-942	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.36	2008	Protective services building		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-944	No	
26	Public Safety Building	0.29	2008	Protective Services Building		Undeveloped	2945-143-32-943	No	
27	Grand Valley Transit Station/Office	1.17	1989	To accommodate expansion of Mesa County Justice Ctr		Developed	2945-143-43-941	No	
28	Two Rivers Conv Ctr Pkg Lot	0.69	2001	Parking Lot Expansion/Two Rivers Convention Center		Developed	2945-143-25-948	No	

No.	Common Name	Acres	Year Obtained	City Property In The Grand Valley That is Not Deed Resticted		Status	Parcel #	Leased	Expiration Date
				Reason Obtained					
28	Two Rivers Conv Ctr Pkg Lot	0.14	2003	Parking Lot Expansion/Two Rivers Convention Center		Developed	2945-143-25-949	No	
28	Two Rivers Convention Center	1.13	1973	Multi-Purpose Community Center		Developed	2945-143-24-941	No	
28	Two Rivers Convention Center	0.93	2001	Multi-Purpose Community Center		Developed	2945-143-24-942	No	
28	Two Rivers Convention Center	0.28	1978	Multi-Purpose Community Center		Developed	2945-143-24-948	No	
29	Sanitary Sewer Interceptor	0.22	1974	Sanitary Sewer Interceptor splits lot		Undeveloped	2945-252-20-941	No	
30	Fire Station No.4	2.70	2014	Location aquired to move OM Fire Station #4 to new location		<Null>	2943-301-42-944	No	
31	Flint Ridge Park	3.38	2001	plat dedication, near canal, no stated purpose for dedication		Undeveloped	2943-174-20-941	No	
31	Flint Ridge Park Trail Access	0.87	2002	Dedicated to City for Public Use--Recreational Trail		Undeveloped	2943-174-22-941	No	
31	Fruitvale Water and Sanitation Dist	0.31	2008			Developed	2943-181-00-944	No	
32	Flint Ridge Park	0.11	2001	plat dedication, near canal, no stated purpose for dedication		Undeveloped	2943-174-20-941	No	
32	Flint Ridge Park Trail Access	0.22	2011	Canal - Trail access Wexford Estates plat		Undeveloped	2943-173-55-941	No	
32	Flint Ridge Park Trail Access	0.45	2011	Canal - Trail access Wexford Estates plat		Undeveloped	2943-174-55-946	No	
33	Desert/N-Clifton Water Tanks	120.01		Unknown		Undeveloped	2705-274-00-941	No	
34	Head Start Program	0.54	1928	Not Stated		Developed	2945-154-19-945	Yes	1/31/2011

City Property On The Grand Mesa That Is Not Deed Restricted							
No. #	Common Name	Acres	Year Obtained	Reason Obtained	Parcel No.	Leased	Lease Expiration
1	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	119.80	1954	for water rights	2969-303-00-942	Yes	4/30/2015
2	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	40.21	1954	for water rights	2969-303-00-949	Yes	4/30/2015
3	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	118.87	1954	for water rights	2969-303-00-942	Yes	4/30/2015
4	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	138.67	1990	for water rights	2967-243-00-944	Yes	4/30/2015
5	Whitewater Dryland Grazing Lease	50.75	1954	for water rights	2967-231-00-944	Yes	4/30/2015
6	Whitewater Creek Properties	163.87	1990	for water rights	2969-172-00-947	No	
7	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	261.36	1990	for water rights	2941-203-00-942	Yes	4/30/2020
8	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	9.99	1990	for water rights	2941-203-00-941	Yes	4/30/2020
9	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	162.01	1990	for water rights	2941-212-00-943	Yes	4/30/2020
10	Somerville Ranch - Sink Creek area	41.67	1990	for water rights	2941-212-00-944	Yes	4/30/2020
11	Somerville Rnch East O.M. Isolated lot	6.94	0	for water rights	2941-171-00-941	No	
12	Hallenbeck Ranch	215.83	1971	for water rights	2969-251-00-944	Yes	5/21/2015
13	Hallenbeck Ranch	47.68	1971	for water rights	2971-363-00-941	Yes	5/21/2015
14	Kannah Creek Road Properties	20.42	0	for water rights	3199-051-00-944	No	
15	Kannah Creek Road Properties	63.81	1954	for water rights	2973-333-00-944	No	



Quarterly Economic Update

Fourth Quarter 2014

Issued March 2, 2015

CONTENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Employment & Wages

- The number of employed persons in Grand Junction continues to rise while workforce continues to contract slightly. **Employment, workforce and unemployment rate on PAGES 1-2.**
- Third quarter wage data was recently released. Total wages increased 6% and average weekly wage increased 3% over prior year. **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages on PAGES 3-4.**

Sales Tax Revenue Analysis

- Strong sales tax growth continues in motor vehicles, construction and restaurants and bars. **Quarterly Sales Tax Revenue by Zone and Category on PAGES 5-6.**

Energy Industry

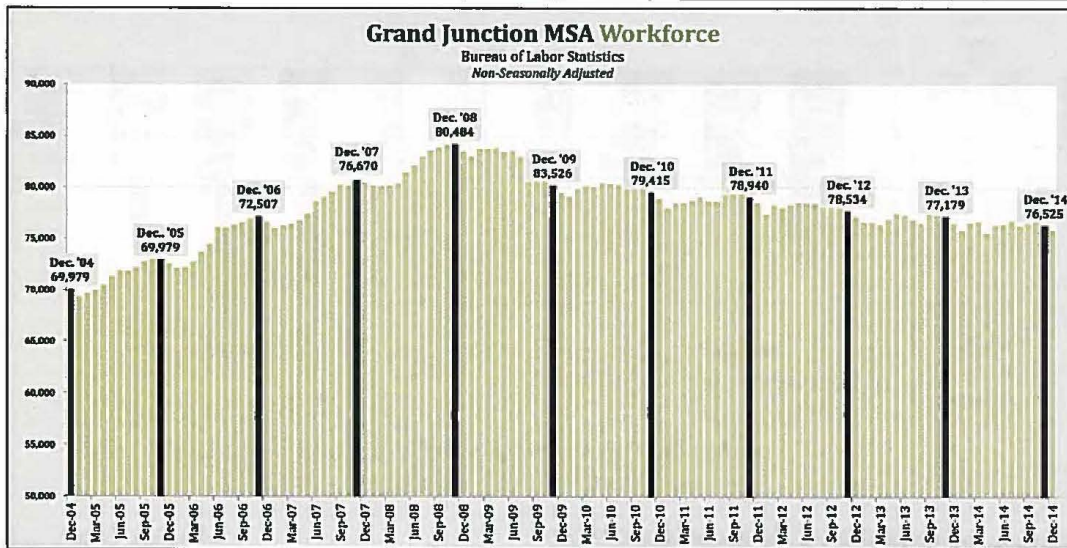
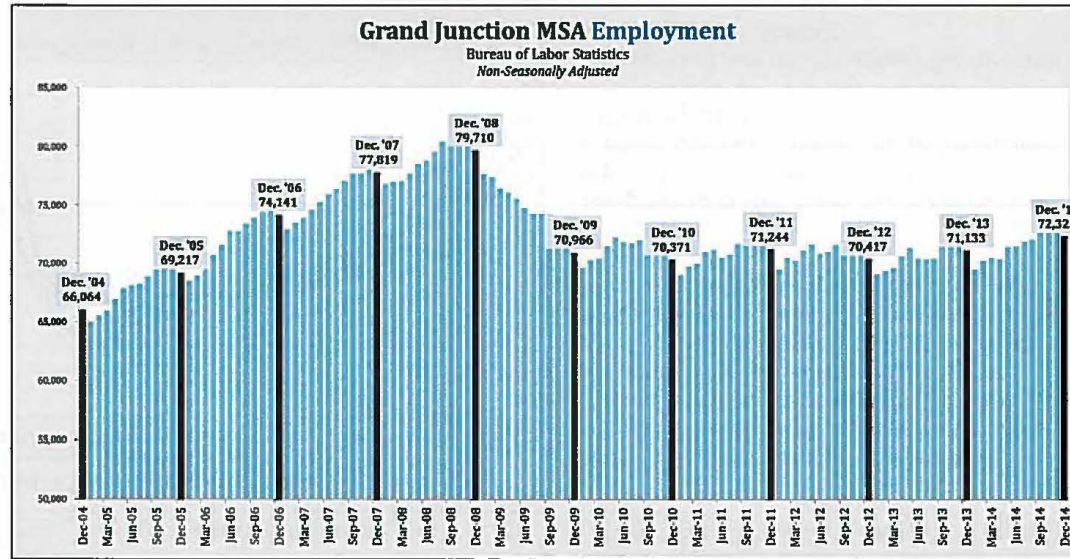
- Despite low gas prices, drilling activity picked up slightly in 2014. **Natural Gas and Crude Oil Prices and Drilling Permits Issued on PAGE 7-8.**
- Manufacturing growth continues at the national level, but the pace slows. **PMI on PAGE 9.**

Real Estate and Construction

- Real estate industry continues to show recovery with increases in transactions and prices and declines in foreclosure activity. **Real Estate Transactions, Median Home Price and Foreclosure Sales and Filings on PAGE 10.**
- **Building Permit Valuation on PAGES 11-12.**

Changes in Employment and Workforce

	Employed Persons	Workforce
Annual	1,192	(654)
5-Year	1,359	(3,544)
10-Year	6,261	5,892
Annual %	1.7%	-0.9%
5-Year %	1.9%	-4.5%
10-Year %	9.5%	8.4%

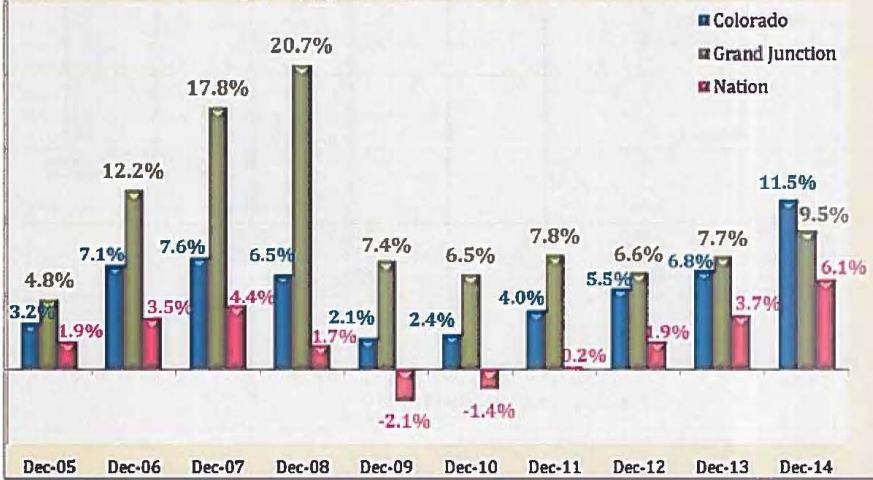


Employed Persons- includes all paid employees, people who worked in their own business, and unpaid people who worked in a family business for at least 15 hours a week.

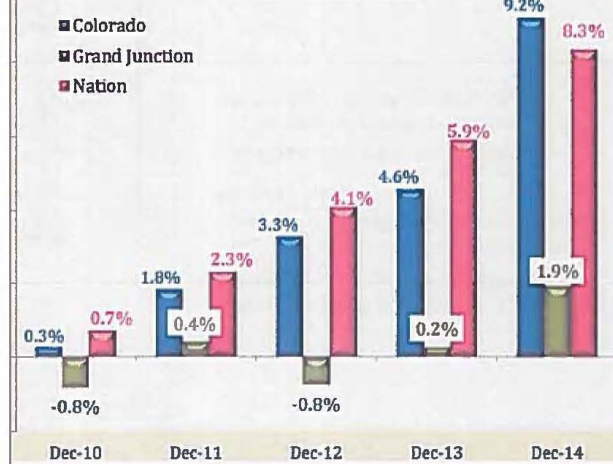
Civilian Labor Force- includes all employed people and people who are available and looking for work.

Benchmarked Employment and Employment Rate

10-Year Benchmark Employment Levels
Monthly Employed Persons Compared to December 2004

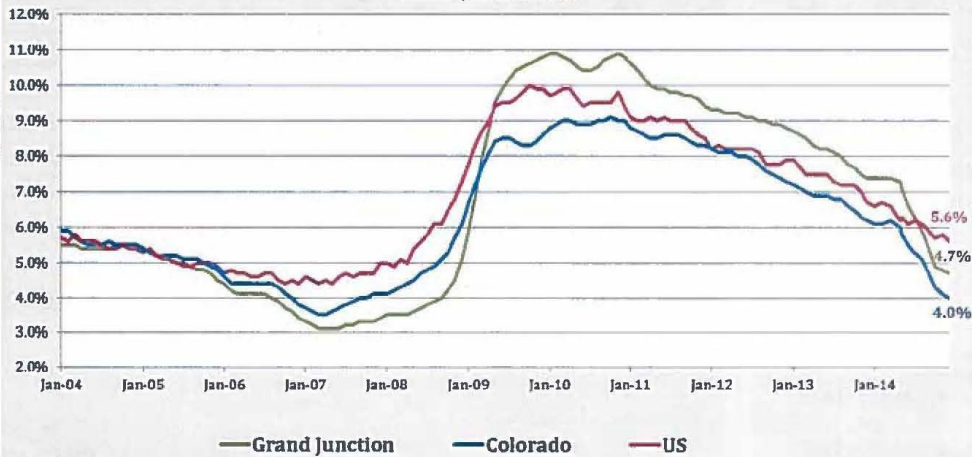


5-Year Benchmark Employment Levels
Monthly Employed Persons Compared to December 2009



City, State and National Unemployment Rate

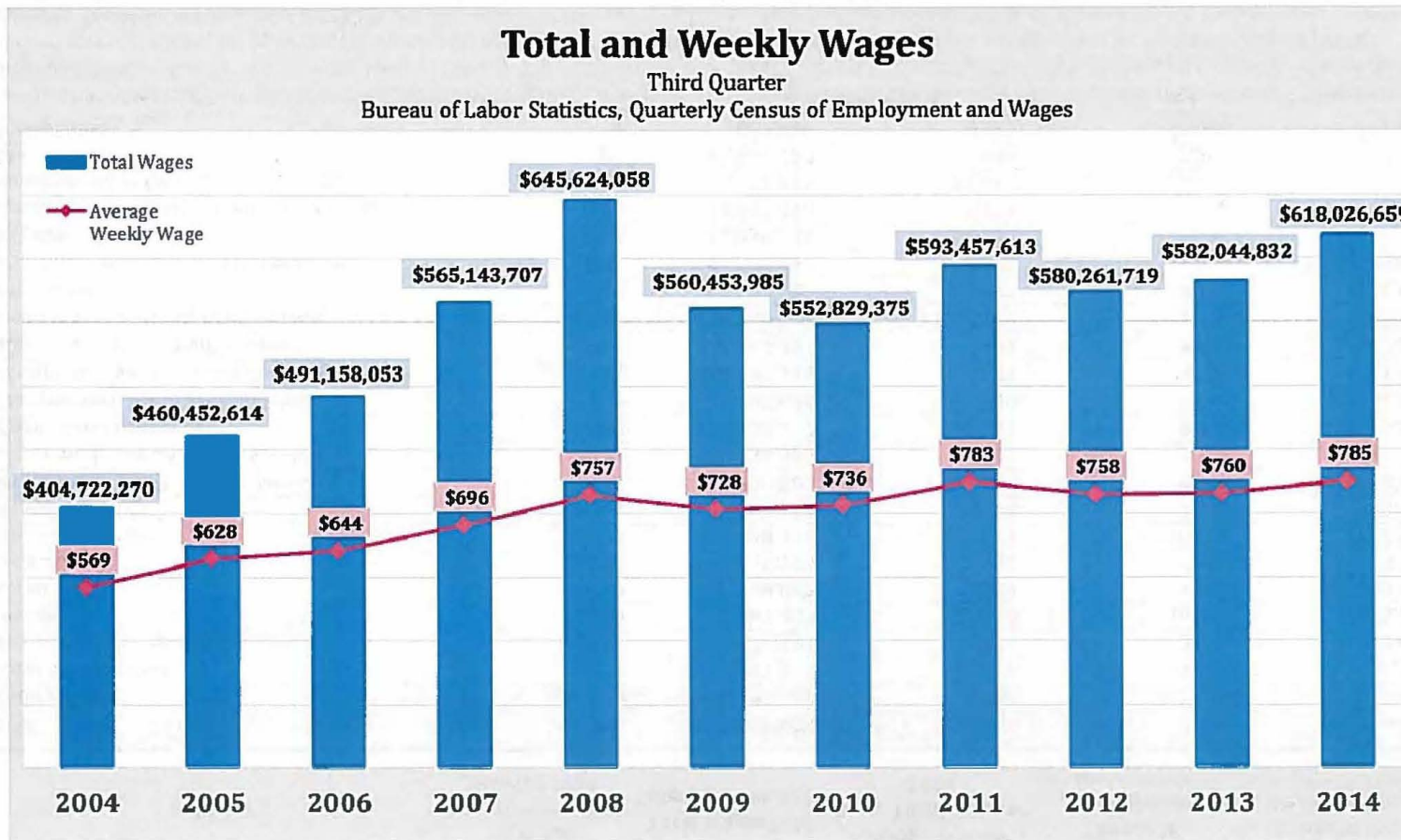
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED to remove seasonal patterns in employment
Bureau of Labor Statistics



The graphs above compare unseasonally adjusted December employment levels at the national, state and local level to a 10-year benchmark (graph on left) and a 5-year benchmark (graph on right). Grand Junction MSA employment is up 1.9% compared to five years prior, and 9.5% compared to ten years prior.

The graph to the left compares the seasonally adjusted unemployment rates of Grand Junction, Colorado, and the United States over a 10-year period.

Seasonally and unseasonally adjusted data provided by Bureau of Labor Statistics.



The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program is a cooperative program involving the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor and the State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs). The QCEW program produces a comprehensive tabulation of employment and wage information for workers covered by State unemployment insurance (UI) laws and Federal workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program. Employment data under the QCEW program represents the number of covered workers who worked during, or received pay for, the pay period including the 12th of the month. Excluded are members of the armed forces, the self-employed, proprietors, domestic workers, unpaid family workers, and railroad workers covered by the railroad unemployment insurance system. However, these individuals are considered employed for the unemployment rate calculation.



3rd Quarter Wages and Employment by Industry

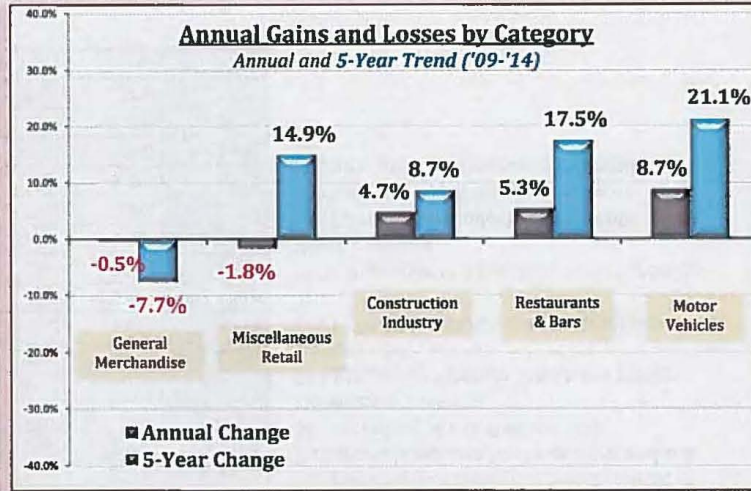
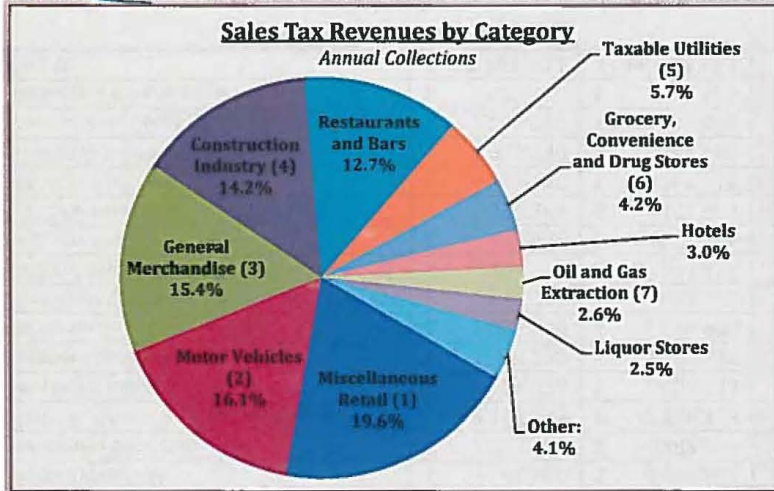
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Industry	Average Employment Third Quarter 2014	Total Wages Paid Third Quarter 2014	Average Weekly Wage Third Quarter 2014	Annual Percent Change in Employment <small>(Compared to Third Quarter 2013)</small>	Annual Percent Change in Avg. Weekly Wages <small>(Compared to Third Quarter 2013)</small>
Total	60,538	\$618,026,659	\$785	2.8%	3.3%
Total Private	51,579	\$499,195,580	\$744	3.0%	1.9%
Total Government	8,959	\$118,831,079	\$1,020	1.9%	9.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	9,201	\$93,079,191	\$778	2.5%	-3.5%
Mining	3,150	\$62,987,433	\$1,538	16.3%	5.9%
Retail Trade	7,773	\$52,909,862	\$524	1.0%	0.8%
Construction	3,909	\$47,315,196	\$931	5.6%	-0.1%
Wholesale Trade	2,574	\$34,838,318	\$1,041	10.6%	7.9%
Manufacturing	2,864	\$29,502,159	\$792	2.3%	2.2%
Professional and Technical Services	2,195	\$28,896,503	\$1,013	-0.3%	4.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	6,721	\$27,554,355	\$315	1.7%	-0.9%
Finance and Insurance	1,897	\$26,938,517	\$1,092	0.9%	5.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	2,155	\$25,782,636	\$920	-4.2%	-1.8%
Administrative and Waste Services	3,413	\$24,583,118	\$554	5.5%	-1.9%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	1,748	\$12,996,381	\$572	1.6%	-0.5%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,104	\$10,790,532	\$752	4.6%	5.3%
Information	728	\$7,353,023	\$777	-8.2%	1.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	993	\$3,527,745	\$273	-1.4%	14.7%
Utilities	202	\$3,239,137	\$1,233	3.6%	-2.2%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	518	\$3,057,540	\$454	7.5%	2.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	119	\$2,172,355	\$1,404	-14.4%	-27.1%
Educational Services	307	\$1,601,750	\$401	5.5%	9.3%
Unclassified	6	\$69,829	\$895	-80.0%	201.3%

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program is a cooperative program involving the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor and the State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs). The QCEW program produces a comprehensive tabulation of employment and wage information for workers covered by State unemployment insurance (UI) laws and Federal workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program. Employment data under the QCEW program represent the number of covered workers who worked during, or received pay for, the pay period including the 12th of the month. Excluded are members of the armed forces, the self-employed, proprietors, domestic workers, unpaid family workers, and railroad workers covered by the railroad unemployment insurance system.

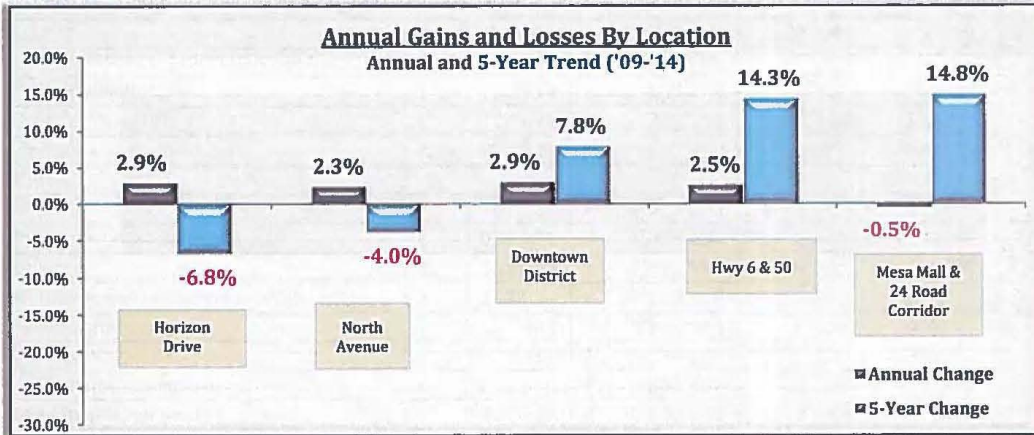
2014 ANNUAL SALES TAX REVENUE BY CATEGORY



Annual Revenues by CATEGORY	2013	2014	% of Total	Annual Change	5-Year Change
Miscellaneous Retail (1)	\$ 8,250,934	\$ 8,102,035	19.6%	-1.8%	14.9%
Motor Vehicles (2)	\$ 6,121,254	\$ 6,656,514	16.1%	8.7%	21.1%
General Merchandise (3)	\$ 6,426,579	\$ 6,397,423	15.4%	-0.5%	-7.7%
Construction Industry (4)	\$ 5,631,972	\$ 5,899,406	14.2%	4.7%	8.7%
Restaurants and Bars	\$ 4,973,716	\$ 5,239,706	12.7%	5.3%	17.5%
Taxable Utilities (5)	\$ 2,337,994	\$ 2,352,094	5.7%	0.6%	0.2%
Grocery, Convenience and Drug Stores (6)	\$ 1,727,834	\$ 1,739,316	4.2%	0.7%	19.1%
Hotels	\$ 1,203,085	\$ 1,243,284	3.0%	3.3%	5.3%
Oil and Gas Extraction (7)	\$ 1,030,960	\$ 1,078,780	2.6%	4.6%	-3.9%
Liquor Stores	\$ 1,004,201	\$ 1,032,177	2.5%	2.8%	12.8%
Other:					
Business to Business (8)	\$ 851,344	\$ 952,026	2.3%	11.8%	10.3%
Aviation Industry	\$ 314,968	\$ 355,137	0.9%	12.8%	-15.4%
Miscellaneous Other	\$ 174,544	\$ 203,108	0.5%	16.4%	-4.4%
Miscellaneous Leasing Companies	\$ 105,046	\$ 167,467	0.4%	59.4%	37.2%
TOTAL	\$ 40,154,431	\$ 41,418,473	100.0%	3.1%	9.0%

- Category Descriptions**
- (1) **Miscellaneous Retail**- furniture, electronics & appliances, sporting goods, clothing & accessories and other specialty retail stores.
 - (2) **Motor Vehicles**- new and used auto dealerships, auto parts and accessories, tire distributors and repair shops.
 - (3) **General Merchandise**- department stores, warehouse clubs and superstores.
 - (4) **Construction Industry**- building materials, contractors and construction equipment.
 - (5) **Taxable Utilities**- telecommunication, cable and commercial utilities. Residential utilities are exempt from sales tax.
 - (6) **Grocery, Convenience and Drug Stores**- does not include food for home consumption, prescription medications and gasoline (all exempt from sales tax).
 - (7) **Oil and Gas Extraction Industries**- SALES TAX ONLY remitted by support companies and suppliers of the oil and gas extraction industry. *Use tax remitted by this industry is not included in this amount.*
 - (8) **Business to Business**- companies that sell directly to businesses (software, equipment, supplies, furniture).

2014 ANNUAL SALES TAX REVENUE BY LOCATION

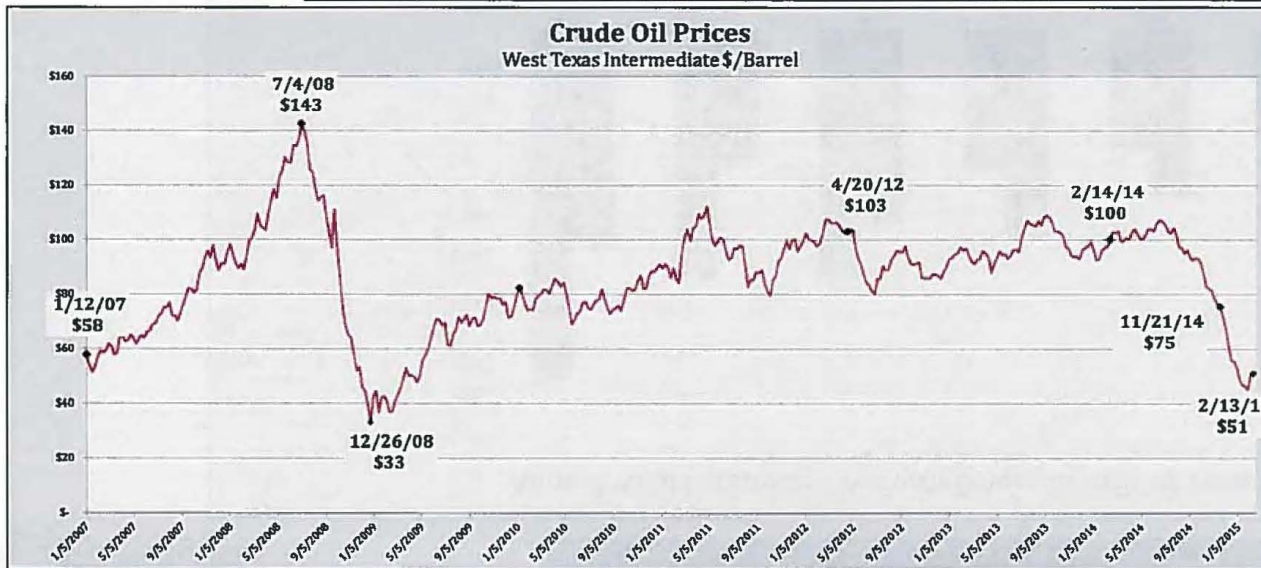
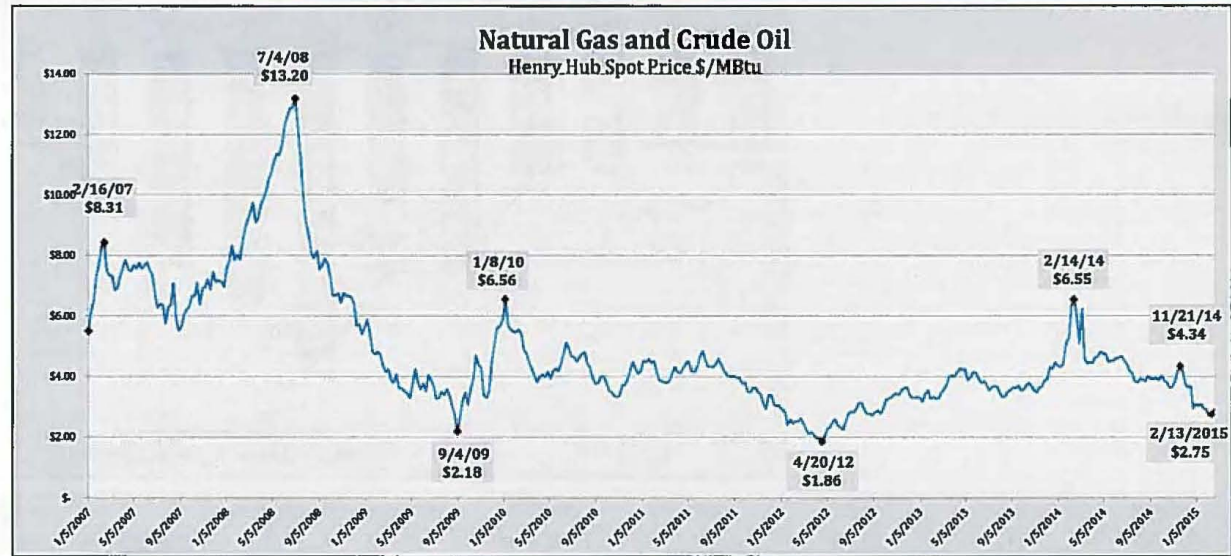


Annual Revenues by LOCATION	2013	2014	% of Total	Annual Change	5-Year Change
Highway 6 & 50 (1)	\$ 8,593,705	\$ 8,812,078	21%	2.5%	14.3%
Mesa Mall & 24 Road Corridor (2)	\$ 8,766,054	\$ 8,720,143	21%	-0.5%	14.8%
North Avenue (3)	\$ 4,541,400	\$ 4,647,802	11%	2.3%	-4.0%
Downtown District (4)	\$ 2,314,262	\$ 2,382,283	6%	2.9%	7.8%
Horizon, Airport, & Northern Industrial (5)	\$ 2,165,715	\$ 2,228,483	5%	2.9%	-6.8%
Northwest Industrial (6)	\$ 1,524,976	\$ 1,602,534	4%	5.1%	9.7%
Southern Industrial & Riverside Parkway (7)	\$ 1,304,208	\$ 1,353,122	3%	3.8%	35.3%
Patterson Road Corridor (8)	\$ 1,095,049	\$ 1,076,988	3%	-1.6%	4.3%
Northwest Commercial & Business Park (9)	\$ 847,919	\$ 1,003,652	2%	18.4%	4.4%
Orchard Avenue Mixed Use, Metro Area (10)	\$ 794,399	\$ 804,459	2%	1.3%	15.2%
Highway 50 (11)	\$ 743,507	\$ 772,936	2%	4.0%	28.5%
I-70B Corridor (12)	\$ 426,284	\$ 451,609	1%	5.9%	-24.3%
Highway 340 Corridor (13)	\$ 244,335	\$ 257,515	1%	5.4%	-1.1%
Area Wide Collections (14)	\$ 3,921,780	\$ 4,144,160	10%	5.7%	9.5%
Outside Mesa County	\$ 2,246,922	\$ 2,518,525	6%	12.1%	12.3%
Residential & Unincorporated Mesa County	\$ 623,916	\$ 642,184	2%	2.9%	2.3%
TOTAL	\$ 40,154,431	\$ 41,418,473	100%	3.1%	9.0%

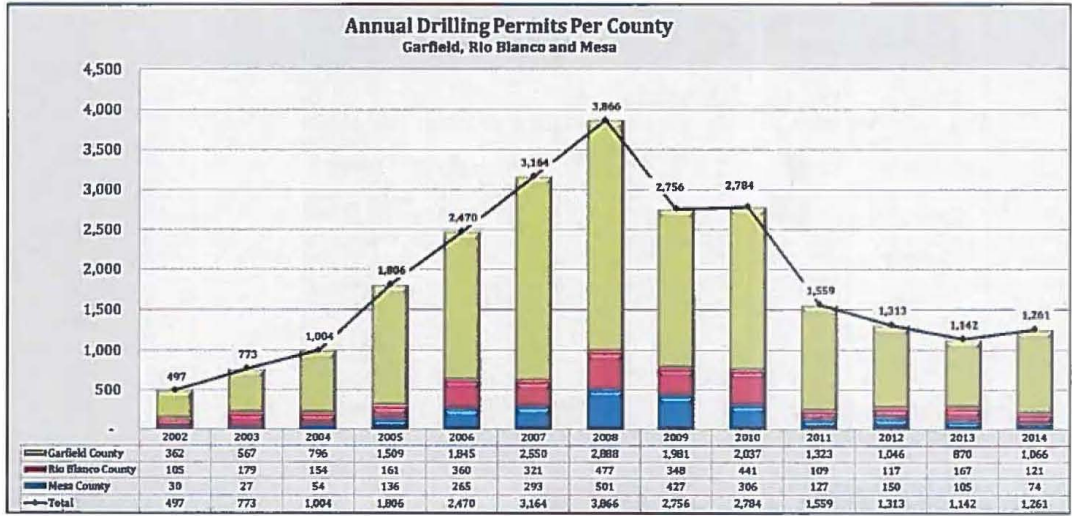
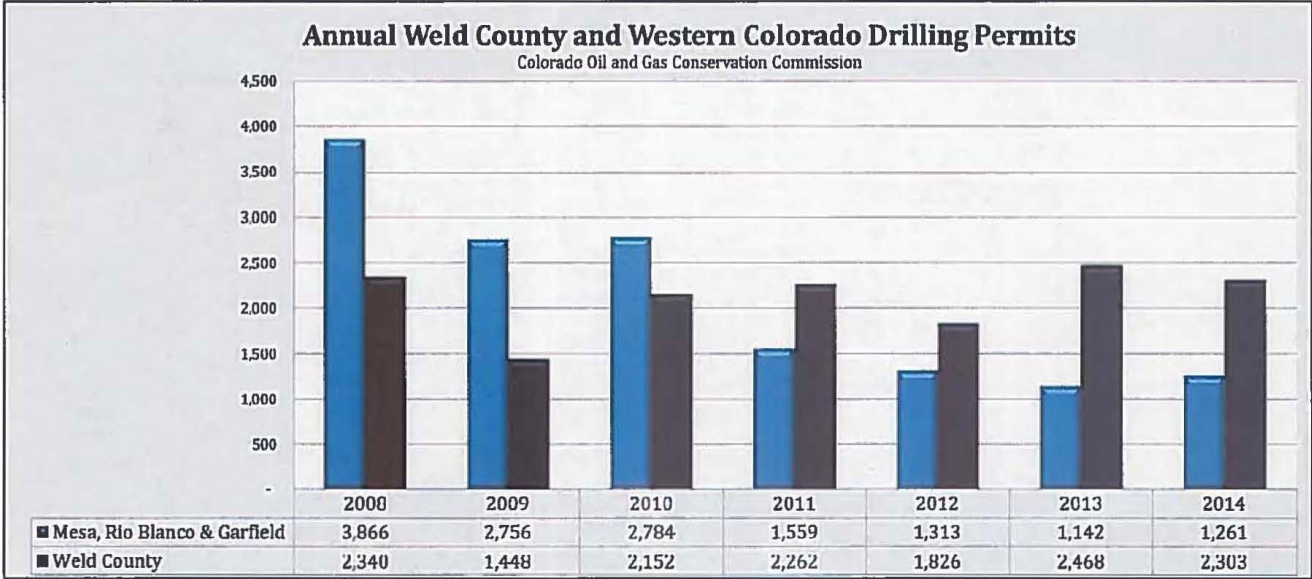
Sales Tax Districts

- (1) Highway 6 & 50 from 1st and Grand to Fruita.
- (2) Mesa Mall and 24 Road Corridor North to I-70 Business Loop.
- (3) North Avenue from 1st Street to I70B.
- (4) Downtown District: 1st Street to 7th Street and Belford Avenue South to Pitkin.
- (5) Horizon Drive, Airport and Northern Industrial.
- (6) Northwest Industrial: North of Highway 6 & 50, West of the 24 Road Corridor.
- (7) Southern Industrial and Riverside Parkway: South of Highway 6 & 50, Downtown District and I70B to the Colorado River.
- (8) Patterson Road from 24 Road to I70B.
- (9) Northwest Commercial and Business Park: North of Highway 6 & 50, East of 24 Road Corridor and West of 1st Street.
- (10) Orchard Avenue and Metro: South of Patterson Road and North of I70B and 6 & 50, excluding North Avenue and Downtown District.
- (11) Highway 50 from 5th Street Bridge East.
- (12) I70B from Downtown to Interstate 70.
- (13) Highway 340 Corridor from Colorado River to Fruita.
- (14) Area Wide Collections: taxable transactions not limited to one area (taxable utilities, financing companies, etc).

Natural Gas and Crude Oil Prices

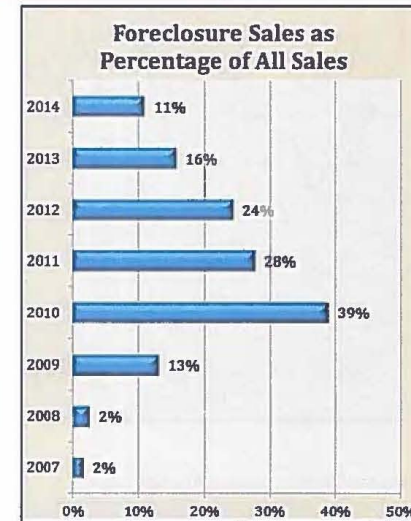
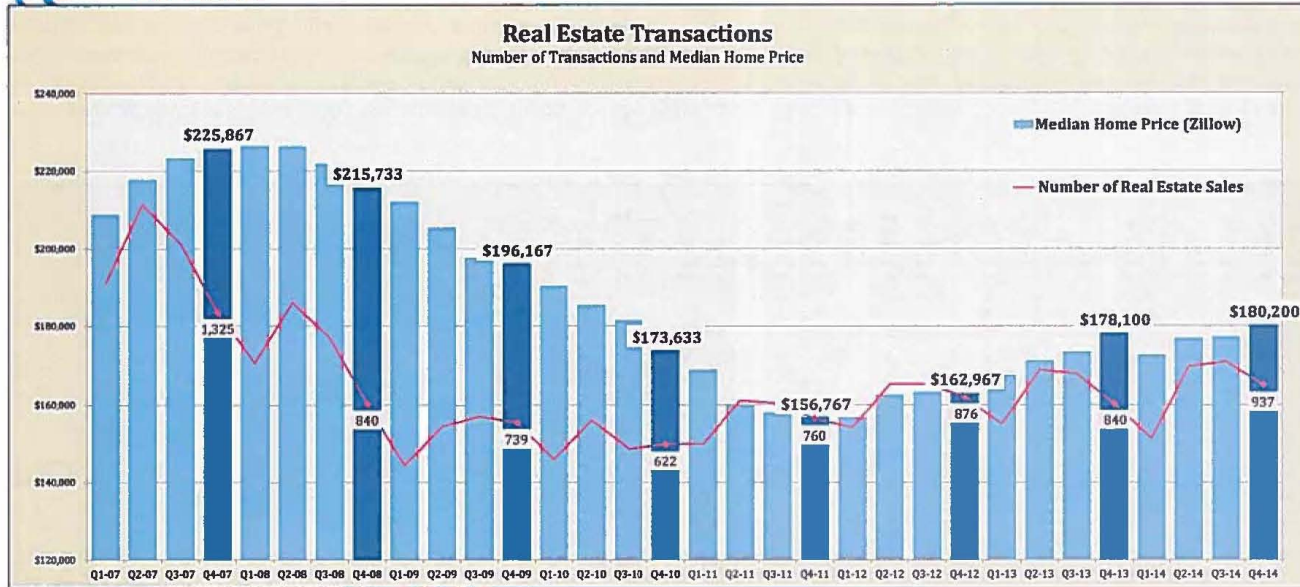


Drilling Permits

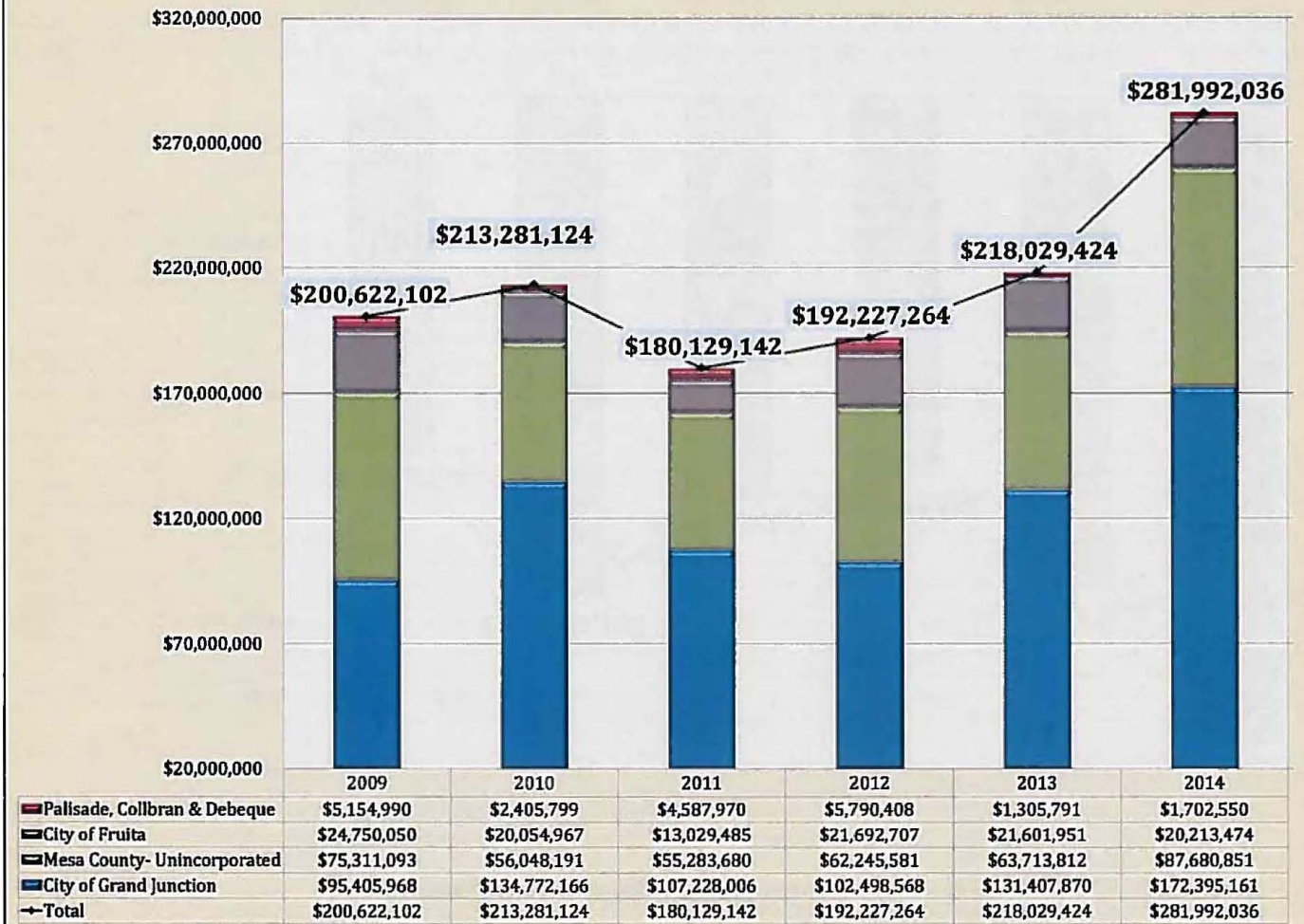




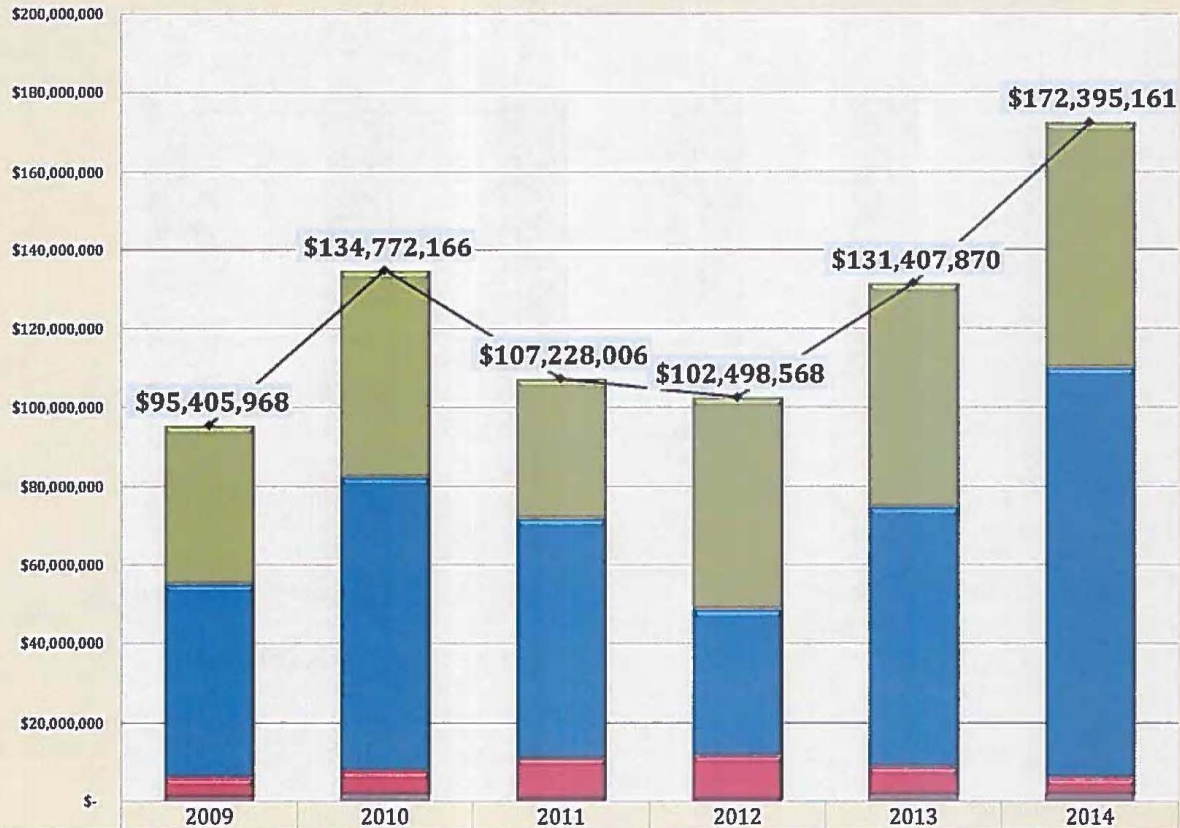
The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is a composite, leading economic indicator. There are three types of economic indicators: lagging, coincident and leading. The type of indicator is dependent on when the indicator changes relative to overall economic growth. Leading indicators will change before overall economic change, coincident indicators change at the same time, and lagging indicators occur after the shift in the economy. The PMI is a composite index of five major indicators: new orders, production, employment, deliveries and inventory. The Institute of Supply Management (ISM) surveys Purchasing Managers in various industries from across the Nation regarding the monthly change in the five indicator areas. Respondents indicate if the month was better, worse or the same as the previous month. PMI is also known as the ISM because it is the major indicator that is published by the Institute of Supply Management.



Annual Building Permit Valuation by Location



Grand Junction Building Permit Valuation by Type



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Residential	\$40,366,507	\$52,560,728	\$35,367,144	\$53,856,896	\$56,628,810	\$62,328,679
Commercial, Industrial, Public Works	\$48,780,442	\$74,294,035	\$60,532,302	\$36,748,925	\$65,881,542	\$103,885,546
EMP (1)	\$5,202,120	\$6,215,832	\$10,729,250	\$11,477,315	\$7,240,871	\$4,366,436
Other	\$1,056,900	\$1,701,571	\$599,310	\$415,431	\$1,656,648	\$1,814,500
Total	\$95,405,968	\$134,772,166	\$107,228,006	\$102,498,568	\$131,407,870	\$172,395,161

1) EMP permits include electrical, mechanical and plumbing permits. The largest contributor to this category is solar panel installation. Solar panels are exempt from sales tax.

Modifications to Economic Gardening Pilot Project**HB 15-1002****Sponsors:** Lee

This bill modifies the Economic Gardening Pilot Project and extends its termination date to June 30, 2018. The bill repeals statutory deadlines and time limits and allows each company to negotiate terms of engagement with the Office of Economic Development and International Trade. A participating company is allowed to use between 40 and 100 hours of pilot project services before renegotiating its terms of engagement. The bill increases the one-time participation fee from \$750 to \$1,500 and appropriates \$200,000 for the additional fiscal years of 16-17 and 17-18.

EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Appropriations

Repeals Merchant Licensing**HB 15-1028****Sponsors:** Kyser; Jahn

The bill repeals a requirement that auctioneers, corporations, and other persons obtain a license from the board of county commissioners before selling, vending, or retailing any goods, wares, or merchandise. The bill also repeals standards for the licensing process and penalties for operating without a license.

AGNC- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/25/2015 Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Refer Unamended - Consent Calendar to Senate Committee of the Whole

Internet Sweepstakes Café Simulated Gaming**HB 15-1047****Sponsors:** Lawrence

The bill declares that internet sweepstakes cafés and similar establishments in which simulated gambling devices are used to award prizes to customers do not comply with existing constitutional and statutory requirements for the conduct of licensed gambling activity in Colorado and, creates the new class 3 misdemeanor crime of unlawful offering of a simulated gambling device.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/26/2015 Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Life Insurance Principle-Based Reserve Requirement**HB 15-1048****Sponsors:** Williams; Nordberg

Reserve requirements for life insurance companies are currently based on regulatory requirements put into effect in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. The bill authorizes the commissioner of insurance to adopt more modern, principle-based reserving requirements for life insurance companies. The bill grants the commissioner of insurance authority to adopt a valuation manual and standard ordinary mortality table adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners for use in determining the minimum non-forfeiture standard for life insurance policies.

Status: 02/20/2015 House Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Regulatory Reform Act of 2015**HB 15-1065****Sponsors:** Szabo; Neville

This bill requires state agencies to issue a written warning and engage in educational outreach when businesses 100 or fewer employees commit minor violations of new rules.

EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/09/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Appropriations**Cottage Food Act Expansion****HB 15-1102****Sponsors:** Hamner; Donovan

The "Colorado Cottage Foods Act" exempts sellers of certain foods from state inspection standards. The bill expands the permitted foods to include fruit empanadas, tortillas, and pickled vegetables that have an equilibrium pH value of 4.6 or lower. In addition to the disclaimer required on the products sold, a producer must also display a placard, sign, or card at the point of sale indicating that the product was produced in a home kitchen that is not subject to state licensure or inspection. The bill deletes language limiting a "producer" to natural persons. The Colorado Cottage Foods Act allows producers of nonpotentially hazardous foods to use their home, commercial, or public kitchens to produce foods to sell directly to the ultimate consumers without a retail food license.

ED

Status: 01/15/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Public Health Care & Human Services**Electronic Transactions by Domestic Entities****HB 15-1117****Sponsors:** Windholz; Guzman

The bill amends the "Colorado Corporations and Associations Act" by specifying that, unless otherwise provided in a domestic entity's constituent document, a "signature" includes an "electronic signature" and a "writing" includes an "electronic record", as those terms are defined in the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act".

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology**Prohibit Plastic Microbeads in Personal Care Products****HB 15-1144****Sponsors:** Primavera; Todd

The bill prohibits the production, sale, manufacturing, or promotion of personal care products or over-the-counter drugs that contain synthetic plastic microbeads. The bill phases in the prohibition between January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2020.

Status: 02/25/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Health & Human Services

No Credit Card Fee on Tax Portion of Sale**HB 15-1154****Sponsors:** Becker, **Coram**; Hill, **Scott**

The bill prohibits the collection of an interchange fee, defined as a fee established by a payment card network for the purpose of compensating the issuer of a credit or debit card for its involvement in an electronic payment transaction, on the portion of the total price that represents taxes imposed by the state or a local government. A 2-year grace period allows for the continuation of existing contracts and software that do not separately account for taxes, but the bill applies to all transactions on and after July 1, 2017.

Status: 01/28/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Working Group for Economic Development in Distressed Regions**HB 15-1157****Sponsors:** **Willett** and Pabon; Heath and Merrifield

This bill creates the Economic Development Working Group for highly distressed rural and urban regions of the state. The bill requires the group to establish regions; discuss and evaluate economic development efforts in the region and their best practices; discuss and evaluate the possibility of creating tax-free zones or other economic development tools for their regions; and make detailed legislative recommendations to the general assembly in order to quickly improve the economic vitality of those regions. The group consists of 4 members of the general assembly, the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development and International trade and four non-voting members appointed by the legislative members.

**CML, AGNC- SUPPORT**

Status: 02/24/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Appropriations

Rural Economic Development Initiative Grant Program**HB 15-1177****Sponsors:** **Willett** and Becker; Donovan

This bill creates the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Grant Program for the purpose of creating resiliency in and growing the economies of highly distressed rural counties and appropriates \$3 million from the general fund. Counties with populations of less than 175,000 are considered distressed if they meet two of the following three criteria: annual percent change in employment less than the statewide change; annual percent change in assessed value of all property less than the statewide change; county-wide percentage of pupils eligible for free lunch higher than the state's average.



The bill allows 30 distressed rural counties to be classified as Highly Distressed rural counties based upon population, employment, weekly wage and the number of businesses. **Mesa County would qualify as distressed under this bill and would therefore be eligible for REDI Grants.** The REDI program would provide grants for projects that attract new jobs or encourage private capital investment in any of the highly distressed rural counties. Applications are approved based upon ability to create diversity and resiliency in the economy; create new jobs, benefits a key industry in the region by encouraging capital investment; increases average wages; encourages growth that benefits more than one community; shows compatibility with relevant communities and economic development plans; or evidences strong support from local governments. Grants may be awarded to local government for infrastructure or facility investments that are needed to attract new jobs or will encourage private investment; local governments for training grants for affected workers; private employers to support business expansion projects; private employers for employee training programs.

CML, AGNC- SUPPORT

Status: 02/17/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Appropriations

Business Affairs, Banking and Economic Development

Innovative Industry Workforce Development Program

HB 15-1230

Sponsors: Lee and Foote; Heath



This bill creates the Innovative Industries Workforce Development Program within the Department of Labor and Employment to reimburse businesses for ½ of its expenses related to qualifying internships. In order to qualify, the internship must be in an innovative industry; lasts for at least 130 hours and lasts up to 6 months; allow students to gain valuable work experience in at least 2 specified occupational areas; pay the intern at least \$10 per hour; provide a mentor or supervisor that will work closely with the intern; not be for the purpose of meeting required residency or clinical hours for the intern; be with an innovative-industry business that has a physical operation facility in the state; be for a high school or college student, a resident who is a student at an out-of-state college, or a recent graduate of either; and along with all other internships, constitute less than 50% of the business's workforce located in the state. A business may be reimbursed for up to 5 interns per location and up to 10 at all locations, but the maximum amount that a business may be reimbursed for each internship is \$5,000.



Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor

Crowdfunding Interstate Securities On-Line

HB 15-1246

Sponsors: Lee, Rankin, Willett



Current securities law restricts businesses' ability to raise capital through crowdfunding, which is the raising of money on-line through small contributions from a large number of investors. The bill enacts the "Colorado Crowdfunding Act" to facilitate crowdfunding by authorizing on-line intermediaries to match a Colorado investor with a Colorado business that wishes to sell securities. The legislation sets certain limitations and requires the Securities Commissioner to adopt rules implementing the act.



Status: 02/24/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor

County Workforce Development Property Tax Incentives

SB 15-082

Sponsors: Marble and Hodge; Moreno and Lawrence



The bill authorizes a county to establish a workforce development program to provide financial assistance to high school graduates in the county who pursue post-secondary education or training from an accredited institution of higher education or certified training program. Any county that establishes a workforce development program may also establish a workforce development fund to accept contributions for the purpose of the program. The bill also authorizes a county that has established a workforce development program to offer an incentive, in the form of a county property tax credit or rebate, to a residential or commercial property owner in the county who contributes to a county workforce development fund.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Small Business Cottage Foods Act
Sponsors: Martinez Humenik

SB 15-085

The bill increases the amount of net revenue a producer selling under the "Colorado Cottage Foods Act" may earn per eligible product from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each calendar year. The bill also allows a producer to sell directly to a small business with fewer than 100 employees. The Colorado Cottage Foods Act allows producers of non-potentially hazardous foods to use their home, commercial, or public kitchens to produce foods to sell directly to the ultimate consumers without a retail food license.



Status: 02/27/2015 Senate Considered House Amendments - Result was to Laid Over Daily

Regulatory Reform Act of 2015
Sponsors: Neville; Neville

SB 15-180

This bill would require a state agency to first issue a written warning for a first-time minor violation and perform outreach that informs the offending business how to comply with the new rule. Minor violations are defined as minor infractions of new administrative rules (in place less than one year) that are committed by businesses with less than 150 employees.



Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

Yoga Teacher Training
Sponsors: Woods; Dore

SB 15-186

The bill exempts yoga teacher training courses, program, and schools from the provisions of the Private Occupational Education Act of 1981. Statewide, only 16 Yoga Teacher Training Schools are licensed out of 80 known locations. The initial fee for a license application is \$2,000 and site and curriculum inspection is required for ongoing maintenance of license. State law provides several exemptions from DPOS oversight, including an exemption for schools offering education that is vocational. DPOS' regulations define vocational education as "any education to facilitate the personal development of individual persons which is distinguishable from one's recognized occupation and is not conducted as part of a program or course designed with the primary objective to prepare individuals for gainful employment in a recognized occupation."



Status: 02/25/2015 Senate Committee on Education Refer Unamended to Appropriations

The Statewide Initiative Process**HB 15-1057****Sponsors:** Court, DelGrosso, Rankin; Sonnenberg, Hodge

This bill requires the Legislative Council of the General Assembly to prepare an initial fiscal impact statement for each initiative submitted to the title board. The abstract must be printed at the beginning of each page of an initiative petition section that is circulated for signatures. The impact statement will also be included in the Blue Book.

CML, EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Overseas Citizens Municipal Election Voting Access**HB 15-1130****Sponsors:** Nordberg; Garcia

The bill extends certain deadlines that govern the conduct of municipal elections to ensure that such military personnel and civilians have similar ability to vote in municipal elections as they do in federal, state, and county elections.

CML, AGNC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/20/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Rights of Watchers in Elections**HB 15-1193****Sponsors:** Windholz

The bill clarifies that watchers may witness and verify all activities in the conduct of the election from the registration of electors and the printing and issuance of ballots through the completion of canvassing, certification of results, recounts, challenges to ineligible electors, and decisions of election judges and authorizes watchers to inspect and review all election records used by any official in the conduct of the election; except that watchers are prohibited from retaining copies of partial or interim election results prior to 7 p.m. on election day.

Status: 01/30/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Prepaid Postage for Mail Ballots**HB 15-1237****Sponsors:** Ryden

This bill requires all return envelopes sent to electors for any mail ballot election in the state to be postage prepaid. The Secretary of State will reimburse the local election officials for the costs of providing prepaid postage.

Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs + Appropriations

**Preventing Multiple Voter Registrations****SB 15-060****Sponsors:** Holbert, Everett

The bill allows the Secretary of State (SOS) to forward any information obtained from the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Revenue (DOR) to the appropriate county clerk for the purpose of updating an elector's voter registration.

Status: 01/28/2015 Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer to Senate Committee of the Whole

Disclosure Requirements for Small Issue Committees
Sponsors: Holbert

SB 15-061

The bill specifies that campaign finance disclosure and reporting requirements do not apply to issue committees until an issue committee has raised or spent in excess of \$5,000. Currently, the Fair Campaign Practices Act in the state constitution imposes a \$200 threshold for issue committees; however, recent court rulings have found that this limit violates an issue committee's freedom of speech and association.

Status: 01/28/2015 Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer to Senate Committee of the Whole

Invasive Phreatophyte Grant Program**HB 15-1006****Sponsors:** Coram; Sonnenberg

HB 14-1006 creates an Invasive Phreatophyte Management Grant Program. The program is to be funded with annual transfers of \$5 million for 5 years beginning in the next fiscal year. The grant program will fund projects that manage and remove invasive phreatophytes, including Russian-olive, within riparian areas of the state (river fronts and flood plains). Grants are to be made available to public entities, private entities and private individuals that can demonstrate best practices for management of invasive phreatophytes to decrease water consumption. The bill is a Water Resource Review Committee sponsored bill and has bipartisan support.

Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce; AGNC- SUPPORT

Status: 02/02/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer to Appropriations

Wind Energy Development Agreement**HB 15-1121****Sponsors:** Becker, Sonnenberg

This bill modifies statute concerning wind energy agreements between surface estate owners and wind energy developers. This bill establishes that until an agreement is recorded with the office of the county clerk and recorder, the agreement is not binding on anyone other than the parties to the agreement and those with notice of the agreement. The agreement as well as any associated releases must be recorded in both the grantor and grantee indices and under the names of all parties. The bill defines a wind energy developer of record as the developer named in an agreement recorded in county land records. Rights under a recorded agreement executed on or after July 1, 2012, expire after 15 years unless the agreement provides otherwise or unless wind-powered energy generation has occurred on the subject property.

Status: 02/26/2015 Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Implement Federal Radioactive Materials Audit**HB 15-1145****Sponsors:** Rankin, Coram; Hodge

Last year, the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) audited Colorado's radiation regulatory program. The audit report listed numerous amendments to Colorado's radiation control statute that are necessary to maintain the delegated authority. The bill implements the requirements and recommendations of the audit report and updates the radiation control statutes.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Electric Renewable Energy Standard Reduction**SB 15-044****Sponsors:** Scott; Thurlow

This bill reduces the renewable energy standard for Investor-Owned Utilities (IOW) and Cooperative Electric Associations (CEA) from 20% to 15% In 2015 for IOUs and 2020 for CEAs.

AGNC- SUPPORT

Status: 01/29/2015 Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Refer Unamended to Senate Committee of the Whole

Renewable Energy Standards for Distributed Generation
Sponsors: Grantham

SB 15-046

The bill allows utility companies to count each kilowatt-hour of electricity obtained through retail distributed generation as 3 kilowatt-hours for purposes of meeting the 2020 standard. In addition, the bill allows cooperative electric associations to use purchases from community solar gardens to meet the retail distributed generation component of the renewable energy standard.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

Dispose of Cathode Ray Tubes at Hazardous Waste Sites
Sponsors: Grantham

SB 15-076

Current law generally prohibits the land disposal of electronic devices, including those that contain cathode ray tubes. The bill allows the disposal of cathode ray tubes, including electronic devices that contain them, at hazardous waste disposal sites.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

Multi-Agency Review of State Carbon Emission Plan
Sponsors: Cooke, Sonnenberg

SB 15-092

The bill requires that, before the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) adopts a state plan for the reduction of carbon emissions by Colorado electric utilities in accordance with pending federal regulations, the proposed plan be:

- Reviewed by the PUC in an evidentiary hearing to determine, among other things, its likely impact on the rates paid for electricity by consumers;
- Limited in its impact on rates to a 2% or less average annual increase;
- Approved by the PUC in an order that is accompanied by a report, jointly signed by the PUC and the department, summarizing the effects of the plan on rates, reliability, and Colorado's economy;
- Adopted by both houses of the general assembly in a resolution approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote; and
- Subject to annual review by utilities with regard to its effects on reliability.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Compensate Owners of Mineral Interests for Extraction Regulations
Sponsors: Sonnenberg

SB 15-093

This bill states that when a local government adopts or implements an ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation, or other form of official policy concerning mineral extraction operations that has the effect of reducing the fair market value of the owner's mineral interest by at least 60%, the owner's interest is deemed to have been taken for a public use and allows owner to obtain compensation from the local government for the full diminution in the fair market value of the owner's interest caused by the regulatory impairment of the local government.

CML-OPPOSE

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

Employment Services for Veterans Pilot Program**HB 15-1030****Sponsors:** Landgraf

This bill creates the Employment Services for Veterans Pilot Program (program) in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE). The program includes veterans services related to job retention, mediation with employers, mentoring, and career counseling. The program is available for up to 20 veterans who have not been dishonorably discharged.

Status: 01/26/2015 House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Participation in State Employee Assistance Program**HB 15-1055****Sponsors:** Esgar; Grantham

The bill permits dependents of a state employee to participate in the state employee assistance program if the dependent's participation is to the benefit of the state employee. Under current law, state employees may participate in assistance programs to address conflict resolution, crisis intervention, anger management, employer and employee mediation, consultations regarding problem employees, violence in the workplace training, sexual harassment training, and any other facilitated groups and workshops deemed necessary to address workplace challenges.

Status: 01/28/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

Continue Colorado Pay Equity Commission**HB 15-1133****Sponsors:** Danielson

House Bill 10-1417 created the Pay Equity Commission, set to repeal on July 1, 2015. This bill continues the 11-member Pay Equity Commission in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE). Under the bill, the commission is:

- authorized to solicit gifts, grants, or donations directly;
- allowed to employ or contract up to 1.0 FTE employee or contractor for purposes of performing its duties if it receives sufficient funds through gifts, grants or donations; and
- required to monitor the status of pay inequity in Colorado and provide updates in its annual reports.

Status: 01/29/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Appropriations

Employee Leave to Attend Child's Academic Activities**HB 15-1221****Sponsors:** Buckner, Kerr

House Bill 09-1057 created the Parental Involvement in K-12 Education Act (Act) which allows a non-supervisory employee who works for an employer with at least 50 employees to take unpaid leave for the purpose of attending parent-teacher conferences or other specific academic activities. This bill expands the definition of academic activities and makes the school activities of preschoolers eligible for parent leave. HB09-1057 included a September 1, 2015, repeal date. This bill eliminates the repeal date.



Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Education

Enhanced Unemployment Compensation Benefits**HB 15-1231****Sponsors:** Esgar and Kraft-Tharp

The bill reenacts the implementation of enhanced unemployment insurance compensation benefits for eligible unemployment insurance claimants that expired in 2014. Enhanced unemployment insurance compensation benefits are available to claimants who are enrolled and making satisfactory progress in an approved training program that will train them for a high-demand occupation, a more stable occupation, or a long-term occupation.

Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor + Appropriations

Colorado Retirement Security Task Force**HB 15-1235****Sponsors:** Buckner and Pettersen; Steadman and Todd

The bill creates the Colorado Retirement Security Task Force to study, assess, and report on the factors that affect Coloradans' ability to save for a financially secure retirement and on the feasibility of creating a retirement savings plan for private sector employees. The task force is required to submit 2 reports to the general assembly regarding the factors that affect Coloradans' ability to save for a financially secure retirement and on the feasibility of creating a retirement savings plan for private sector employees.

Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Business Affairs and Labor

Repeal Job Protection Civil Rights Enforcement Act**SB 15-069****Sponsors:** Woods; Szabo, **Thurlow, Willett**

In 2013, the general assembly enacted HB13-1136, the "Job Protection and Civil Rights Enforcement Act of 2013" (act), which established compensatory and punitive damage remedies, as well as front pay, for a person who proves that an employer engaged in a discriminatory or unfair employment practice under state law. With the exception of the expansion of age-based discrimination claims to individuals who are 70 years of age or older, the bill repeals all components of the act and restores the equitable relief remedies that were available to employment discrimination victims making claims under state law prior to the passage of the act.

Status: 02/09/2015 Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Electronic Wage Payment**SB 15-101****Sponsors:** Balmer; Pabon

The bill allows employers, at their discretion, to pay wages by electronic credit transfer to an employee's account in a financial institution or to deposit wages on a paycard if the following conditions apply. The employee has the option of electronic credit transfer to a financial institution account in lieu of credit to a paycard. The employee has 7 days after receiving notice of the option to designate an account for electronic credit transfer. The employer provides the employee with a written or electronic explanation of any fees associated with both electronic credit transfer and paycard. The employer provides the employee with one withdrawal either by check, automated teller machine withdrawal, or electronic transfer per pay period with no fees. The employer offers a program to the employee that does not charge a monthly maintenance fee to use the prepaid paycard. The employer allows the employee to always have the option to be paid by electronic credit transfer in lieu of credit to a paycard.

Status: 02/27/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Labor

Classification of Independent Contractors**SB 15-107**

Sponsors: Heath

Pursuant to the "Colorado Employment Security Act", service performed by an individual for another is deemed to be employment unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Division of Labor that the individual is free from control and direction in the performance of the service. The bill removes the requirement that freedom from control and direction must be shown "to the satisfaction of the division".

Status: 01/23/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

Labor

Expanded Licensed Premises Types for Entertainment Districts**HB 15-1192****Sponsors:** Becker; Neville

Under current law, premises licensed under the "Colorado Liquor Code" as a tavern, hotel and restaurant, brew pub, retail gaming tavern, or vintner's restaurant may attach to a common consumption area within an entertainment district established by a local government. The bill expands the types of licensed premises that may be included in an entertainment district, allowing beer and wine licensees, manufacturers that operate sales rooms, and limited wineries to attach to a common consumption area within an entertainment district.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/25/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Local Government**Alcohol Beverage License Reissuance****HB 15-1202****Sponsors:** Singer

Under current law, any liquor licensee whose license has expired for more than 90 days must apply for a new license and the licensee cannot sell alcohol until the new license is issued. This bill allows the local and/or state liquor licensing authority to reissue a liquor license after it has been expired more than 90 days but less than 180 days.

Status: 02/26/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer to House Committee of the Whole**Distillery Pub Alcohol Beverage License****HB 15-1204****Sponsors:** Pabon; Kerr

This bill creates the distillery pub license, which is a new alcohol license that will allow a spirituous liquor producer to operate a pub that serves alcoholic beverages, including spirituous liquors that the producer ferments and distills, for consumption on the licensed premises.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/25/2015 House Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole**Local Government Input Liquor Sales Room Applications****HB 15-1217****Sponsors:** Singer

This bill gives a local alcohol licensing authority (local authority) the ability to provide input to the Liquor Enforcement Division (division) in the Department of Revenue (DOR) concerning the establishment of sales rooms for licensed wineries, limited wineries, distilleries, and malt liquor wholesalers (licensees) in the local authority's jurisdiction. Under current law, only distilleries must seek input from the local licensing authority where they operate in order to open a sales room.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Appropriations

Concerning Liability of Individual Members of BOCCs**HB 15-1074**

Sponsors: Vigil

The bill prohibits a judgment against a board of county commissioners arising solely from an act of the board from being enforced against an individual member of the board.

AGNC- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Considered Senate Amendments - Result was to Laid Over Daily**Transparency of Title 32, Special Districts****HB 15-1092**

Sponsors: Lesbock, Singer

This bill makes several changes to law regarding special districts. Specifically, the bill requires a special district to include a copy of certain resolutions in its annual budget filing with the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA);

- changes the responsibility for electronically posting special district election results from the Secretary of State (SOS) to DOLA, eliminating statutory direction for the General Assembly to make appropriations to the SOS for this service;
- requires a court order of a special district name change to be filed with the county clerk for the name change to be effective;
- requires the governing board of a special district to call for nominations for a special election when the sitting board was appointed by the board of county commissioners due to vacancies;
- requires the special district to include its name within the name of any special improvement district it establishes as a sub-entity; and
- reorganizes provisions concerning the public disclosure of contact information, board members, meeting times, tax rates, and elections.

Status: 02/25/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Local Government**Indemnity in Public Construction Contracts****HB 15-1197**

Sponsors: Tate; Jahn

Currently, public entities in construction-related contracts are prohibited from being indemnified for the public entity's own negligence. The bill clarifies this provision by specifying that:



- It also applies to a design contract and to an obligation to pay for the defense of the public entity;
- The contractor's obligation is limited to the amount of negligence attributable to the contractor and its agents, representatives, subcontractors, and suppliers; and
- The obligation only arises when the amount of its liability for the losses of the third party are adjudicated.

CML- OPPOSE**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Committee on Judiciary Refer Amended to House Committee of the Whole

Coordination in Federal Land Management Response**HB 15-1225**

Sponsors: Rankin; Roberts

The bill authorizes the use of the Local Government Mineral Impact Fund for planning, analysis, public engagement, collaboration with federal land managers, and other local government activity related to federal land management. For five years, grant funding of \$1 million per year will be available to counties for these activities or for similar or related activities by local governments. This bill requires certain officers and agencies of the executive branch in Colorado to provide technical and financial support to local governments that are affected by federal land management.

NEW**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Committee on Local Government Refer Amended to Appropriations

Shifting Fiscal Responsibility of County Courts to State**SB 15-089**

Sponsors: Garcia; Vigil

Currently, the board of county commissioners in each county is fiscally responsible for providing and maintaining adequate courtrooms and other court facilities in their counties. The bill shifts that fiscal responsibility to the state over time by requiring the state to pay a specified amount of rent to each county based on the fair market value of the courtrooms and other facilities used by the judicial department in that county.

AGNC- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/09/2015 Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer U to Appropriations

Modifications to Urban Renewal**SB 15-135**

Sponsors: Martinez Humenik and Jahn, Hodge, Holbert, Todd

This bill increases the maximum number of Urban Renewal Commissioners on an Urban Renewal Authority from 11 to 13 and specifies that one County Commissioner may be appointed to the Authority. The bill also requires all funds remaining from TIF not otherwise used for the project to be refunded to the tax bodies based upon percentage contribution.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/27/2015 Senate Second Reading Laid Over Daily

Interstate Compact EMS Providers**HB 15-1015**

Sponsors: Winter

The bill authorizes the Governor to enter into an interstate compact with other states or jurisdictions to recognize and allow emergency medical services (EMS) providers licensed in a compact member state to provide EMS in Colorado. EMS providers include emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, and paramedics.

Status: 01/27/2015 House Committee on Public Health Care & Human Services Refer Amended to Appropriations

Driver May Challenge Initial Police Contact**HB 15-1073**

Sponsors: Salazar

A provision of current law allows a driver to challenge the validity of a law enforcement officer's initial contact with the driver and the driver's subsequent arrest for a DUI offense. The bill states that this provision applies retroactively to administrative hearings performed before the provision's enactment.

Status: 01/12/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary

Red Light Camera**HB 15-1098**

Sponsors: Humphrey, Thurlow; Neville

This bill prohibits the use of an automated vehicle identification system, including photo radar and red light cameras, by state and local governments for the purposes of enforcing traffic laws or issuing citations for the violation of traffic laws. Governmental entities may still use automated vehicle identification systems to assess tolls and civil penalties and to issue violations related to high occupancy vehicle lanes.

CML-OPPOSE

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on Transportation & Energy Refer Amended to Appropriations

Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**HB 15-1115**

Sponsors: Lawrence

This bill expands the definition of first degree criminal trespass to include the intentional use of an unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) to observe, record, transmit, or capture images of another person when that person has a reasonable expectation of privacy. The definition of harassment is also expanded to include using a drone to track a person's movements with the intent to harass, annoy, or alarm that person.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on Transportation & Energy Refer Amended to Appropriations

Disaster Prediction**HB 15-1129**

Sponsors: Kraft-Tharp; Roberts

The bill requires the Division of Fire Prevention and Control to establish, support, customize, and maintain a Colorado Wildland Fire Prediction and Decision Support System. The bill also requires the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to establish, support, customize, and maintain a Colorado flood prediction and decision support system.

Status: 02/09/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Retaliation against a Prosecutor

Sponsors: McCann; Martinez Humenik

HB 15-1229NEW

This bill creates a new crime of retaliation against a prosecutor for an individual who makes a credible threat or commits an act of harassment or an act of harm or injury upon a person or property when the threat or act is retaliation or retribution for a prosecutor's role in the prosecution of any individual or a prosecutor's performance of any duty within the scope of the prosecutor's employment

Status: 02/09/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Extend Report Date Statewide Radio Communication

Sponsors: Roberts; Brown

SB 15-002

The bill extends the date by which the Department of Public Safety must report its findings regarding statewide radio communications to the Joint Budget Committee from December 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015. The report is required pursuant to Senate Bill 14-127, which directed the department to undertake a needs assessment of and formulate a business plan for the Digital Trunked Radio System.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/22/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary

Wildfire Risk Reduction Grand Program

Sponsors: Roberts

SB 15-022

Senate Bill 13-169 created the Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant Program funded through the Wildfire Risk Reduction Cash Fund which included an initial \$9,800,000 in funding. A portion of the grants are available for capacity-building efforts to provide local governments, community groups, and collaborative forestry groups with the resources necessary to provide site-based hazardous fuel reduction treatments. This bill transfers an additional \$9.8 million and expands the definitions of hazardous fuels.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/15/2015 Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Refer to Appropriations

Eyewitness Identifications Policies and Procedures

Sponsors: Guzman; Kagan

SB 15-058

The bill requires all Colorado law enforcement agencies to adopt, on or before July 1, 2016, written policies and procedures (policies) relating to eyewitness identifications. The policies must include protocols related to the use of photo arrays, live lineups, and show up identification procedures; instructions for an eyewitness that clearly state that the perpetrator might not be in the lineup; instructions regarding the use of live or photo fillers in a lineup or array; instructions for eyewitnesses that advise the eyewitness that the perpetrator may or may not be in the photo array or live lineup and that the investigation will continue whether or not the eyewitness identifies an alleged perpetrator; and instructions for obtaining a statement from the eyewitness concerning the eyewitness' confidence in his or her identification.

Status: 01/12/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Judiciary

Second Degree Assault for Injury to Emergency Responders**SB 15-067**

Sponsors: Cooke; Joshi

This bill raises the classification from assault in the third degree to assault in the second degree for the following criminal actions:

- Intentionally causing bodily injury (assault) to an emergency medical care provider in order to prevent that provider from performing a lawful duty; or
- Causing a peace officer, firefighter, emergency medical care or service provider, while engaged in his or her professional duties, to come into contact with bodily fluids with the intent to infect, injure, harm, harass, annoy, threaten or cause alarm.

CML- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/28/2015 Senate Committee on Judiciary Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Needle-Stick Prevention**SB 15-116**

Sponsors: Steadman; Garnett

The bill creates an exception to arrest and filing charges for the crime of possession of drug paraphernalia if the person prior to being searched by a peace officer informs the peace officer that he or she has a needle, syringe, or other sharp object on his or her person or in his or her vehicle or home that is subject to a search.

Status: 02/24/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Public Health Care & Human Services

Sunset Massage Parlor Regulation**SB 15-122**

Sponsors: Newell; Moreno

The bill repeals the ability of certain local governments to regulate massage parlors.

Status: 02/13/2015 Senate Second Reading Laid Over Daily - No Amendments

Medical Tests for All Assault Victims**SB 15-126**

Sponsors: Cooke, Johnston; Foote

Under current law, testing for communicable diseases is required for persons charged with or convicted of assault in either the second or third degree when bodily fluids come into contact with a peace officer, firefighter, emergency medical care provider, or emergency medical service provider. This bill expands the requirement if the person's body fluids come into contact with the victim.

Status: 02/04/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary

Data Collections and Community Policing Best Practices**SB 15-185**

Sponsors: Cooke, Johnston; Foote

This bill requires local law enforcement agencies and the Department of Corrections to report specific data to the Division of Criminal Justice. Each agency must report the number of stops and arrests, including race, ethnicity, gender, and incident report number. After officer involved shootings, the agency is required to report demographic information on the officer and individual involved. The bill also requires the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice to create an advisory committee to study community policing practices and report on best practices.

CML- OPPOSE**Status:** 02/04/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Judiciary

Public Safety

Common Interest Exempt Small Limited Expense Community**HB 15-1095**

Sponsors: Carver

The bill allows a common interest community (commonly referred to as a homeowners' association, or HOA) created before the 1992 enactment of the Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act (CCIOA) to be exempt from certain provisions of CCIOA if the HOA's annual assessments do not exceed a statutory threshold of \$300. To qualify for the new exemption, the \$300 limit must be established in the HOA's recorded declaration or bylaws.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Public Trustee Conduct Electronic Foreclosure Sale**HB 15-1142**

Sponsors: McCann, Coram; Guzman

The bill authorizes the public trustee of a county to conduct foreclosure sales through the internet or another electronic means, and allows for the collection of a specific fee for sales that are conducted electronically.

Status: 02/24/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Finance

Home Service Contracts**HB 15-1223**

Sponsors: Williams; Balmer

The Colorado Consumer Protection Act (CCPA) authorizes a homeowner to seek legal relief in a dispute with home warranty service companies. The bill extends the regulation of home warranty service contracts currently in place for pre-owned homes to also include new homes. The bill defines "home warranty service contracts" and excludes from the definition public utility contracts and a builder's warranty against construction defects provided in connection with a new home sale. A builder's warranty against construction defects is also specifically excluded from the standards related to consumer goods service contracts.

NEW

Status: 02/24/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Finance

Real Estate Title Vest in Entity Once Formed**SB 15-049**

Sponsors: Martinez Humenik; Keyser

Under current law, when a grantee of a real estate title is a corporation whose incorporation papers have not yet been filed, the title vests upon incorporation. The bill requires only that the corporate entity be formed before the title vests, and expands the law to apply to all entities recognized in Colorado statute, which can include a domestic or foreign company, partnership, cooperative, nonprofit association, or other types of allowable organizations.

Status: 01/28/2015 Senate Committee on Business, Labor, & Technology Refer Unamended to Senate Committee of the Whole

Doc Recording Fee To Fund Affordable Housing**SB 15-079**

Sponsors: Ulibarri

The bill requires county clerk and recorder offices to collect an additional \$1 surcharge for each document the county receives for recording or filing beginning on July 1, 2015. The new \$1 surcharge is deposited into the newly-created Statewide Affordable Housing Investment Fund to be administered by the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) for the purposes of developing and preserving affordable housing statewide.

CML, EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Reduce Statute Of Limitations Construction Defects**SB 15-091**

Sponsors: Scott

The bill reduces from 8 years to 4 years the statute of repose for construction professionals in Colorado. The statute of repose is the maximum period for a legal action against any construction professional (architect, contractor, builder, builder vendor, engineer, or inspector) performing or furnishing the design, planning, supervision, inspection, construction, or observation of construction of any improvement to real property.

Status: 01/14/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Construction Defects Lawsuits**SB 15-177**

Sponsors: Scheffel; DelGrosso

The bill reduces from 8 years to 4 years the statute of repose for construction professionals in Colorado. The statute of repose is the maximum period for a legal action against any construction professional (architect, contractor, builder, builder vendor, engineer, or inspector) performing or furnishing the design, planning, supervision, inspection, construction, or observation of construction of any improvement to real property.

Status: 02/10/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology

Allowing Counties to Implement Specified Taxes on Retail Marijuana
Sponsors: Singer

HB 15-1007

This bill, recommended by the Marijuana Revenues Interim Committee clarifies that counties and statutory cities have the authority to levy a voter approved special sales tax on retail marijuana and gives them authority to levy a voter approved excise tax. In 2013, voters passed Proposition AA, which allowed the state to levy a 10 percent sales tax and a 15 percent excise tax on retail marijuana. Home-rule cities also have the authority to levy voter approved taxes on retail and medical marijuana. Proposition AA was silent on the authority of counties and statutory cities to levy sales or excise taxes on retail marijuana.

Voters have approved taxes on marijuana in four counties:

- 3% sales tax on retail marijuana in Adams County;
- 3.5% tax on retail marijuana in Pueblo County;
- 5% excise tax on retail marijuana in Huerfano County; and
- 4% sales tax on medical marijuana and medical marijuana paraphernalia in Park County.

In addition, several statutory cities collect taxes on retail marijuana.

AGNC- SUPPORT

CML-OPPOSE

Status: 02/17/2015 House Second Reading Laid Over to 03/16/2015

Agricultural Land Destroyed by Natural Causes
Sponsors: Hamner, Roberts

HB 15-1008

This bill, allows agricultural land destroyed by a natural cause on or after January 1, 2012 to retain its agricultural classification for a rehabilitation period consisting of the year of destruction and the next four property tax years. During the rehabilitation period, the bill specifies that the owner must make progress toward restoring agricultural use or, in the case of forest land, must comply with an approved forest management plan. Undeveloped land that is not suitable for agricultural production is generally classified as vacant. Colorado's method for valuing agricultural land is based on agricultural production, whereas vacant land is valued based on the property as a whole and bears a relatively greater tax burden for a property otherwise similar to an agricultural parcel.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Dyed Diesel
Sponsors: Becker; Sonnenberg

HB 15-1012

This bill expands the sales and use tax exemption for dyed diesel fuel. It also exempts dyed diesel from sales taxes levied by counties and cities. Dyed diesel fuel is fuel used for off-road use only and is not subject to the state's special fuels taxes. Dyed diesel can only be used in equipment that is not used on public roads. This includes farm equipment, heavy construction equipment, and generator use.

Status: 02/25/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Finance

State Income Tax Deduction for Educator Expense**HB 15-1104****Sponsors:** Navarro

This bill creates a Colorado educator expense deduction, which would allow educators to deduct unreimbursed education expenses from Colorado income beginning in tax year 2016 through tax year 2018. Each eligible educator would be allowed to deduct up to \$250 per taxpayer, per tax year 2016 through tax year 2018.

Status: 01/29/2015 House Committee on Finance Refer Amended to Appropriations

Overseas Federal Civilian Employee Tax Filing**HB 15-1126****Sponsors:** Rosenthal

State law allows an individual who is domiciled in Colorado to elect treatment as a nonresident individual for state income tax filing purposes if the individual is absent from the state for at least 305 days for active military service. The bill extends the treatment to civilian employees of the United States and accompanying spouse.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer Unamended to Finance

Residential Energy Efficient Tax Credit**HB 15-1132****Sponsors:** Coram

The bill creates a residential energy reduction income tax credit for the income tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2020, for any resident individual who makes qualified improvements to their home that result in improved energy efficiency, measured in millions of British thermal units (MMBTU). The Governor's Energy Office must certify the improvements and the homeowner must obtain a pre-improvement residential energy efficiency audit from a certified home energy rater. A post-improvement inspection must be conducted after improvements are made. The tax credit is equal to:

- \$1,000 for a residential energy reduction of 30 or more but less than 45 MMBTU;
- \$1,500 for a residential energy reduction of 45 or more but less than 60 MMBTU; or
- \$2,000 for a residential energy reduction of 60 or more MMBTU.

Status: 02/26/2015 House Committee on Finance Refer Amended to Appropriations

Tax Incentive for Home Health Care**HB 15-1143****Sponsors:** Conti; Crowder

This bill creates a five-year income tax credit for a percentage of the costs incurred by a qualifying senior for durable medical equipment, telehealth equipment, home modifications, or home health care services in each income tax year, subject to a maximum amount, in order to assist the qualifying senior with seeking health care in his or her home.

Status: 02/26/2015 House Committee on Health, Insurance, & Environment Refer Amended to Finance

Sales and Use Tax Refund for Data Centers**HB 15-1158****Sponsors:** DelGrosso; Holbert

Beginning January 1, 2016, the bill allows a sales and use tax refund to the owner, operator, or tenant of a facility that is a qualified data center or a qualified refurbished data center for the state sales or use tax paid on information technology equipment (IT equipment) that is used and maintained in the qualified data center or qualified refurbished data center for at least one year. The refund also applies to IT equipment that is purchased to replace or upgrade IT equipment and IT equipment that is relocated to the state. The refund must be claimed between January 1 and April 1 in the year following the year when the sales taxes were paid. The maximum refund is \$3 million per year, per taxpayer.

ED

EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Finance**Instream Flow Incentive Tax Credit****HB 15-1159****Sponsors:** Arndt, Donovan

In 2009, the general assembly enacted the instream flow incentive tax credit for water rights holders for 6 years. When enacted, the tax credit included a trigger that made the credit unavailable if total general fund revenues for a particular fiscal year would not be sufficient to grow the total state general fund appropriations by 6% over the previous fiscal year's appropriations. The bill extends the instream flow incentive tax credit for water rights holders for an additional 5 income tax years.

Status: 01/29/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources + Finance + Appropriations

Sales and Use Tax Refund for Medical and Clean Technology**HB 15-1180****Sponsors:** Kraft-Tharp; Heath

The bill recreates and reenacts, with amendments, a refund for state sales and use tax paid by a qualified medical technology or clean technology taxpayer (qualified taxpayer). A qualified taxpayer is a business entity that:

- Employs 35 or fewer full-time employees in Colorado;
- Is headquartered in Colorado or has more than 50% of its employees in Colorado; and
- Conducts research and development of medical technology or clean technology.

From 2015 through 2019, a qualified taxpayer may claim a refund for state sales and use tax paid on tangible personal property used in Colorado directly and predominately in research and development of medical technology or clean technology. The maximum annual refund is \$50,000.

ED

EDCC- SUPPORT**Status:** 02/26/2015 House Committee on Finance Refer Amended to Appropriations**Colorado is Honoring our Military Tax Exemption****HB 15-1181****Sponsors:** Keyser; Crowder

The bill exempts all military income of a resident service person from Colorado state income tax for 5 tax years commencing with the 2016 income tax year.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Refer to Finance

Creation of a Tax Expenditure Evaluation Committee**HB 15-1205****Sponsors:** BeckerNEW

This bill creates the Tax Expenditure Evaluation Committee (committee), a year-round joint committee of the General Assembly. The committee is responsible for reviewing evaluations of state tax expenditures to be prepared by the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) or its contractor, and for making recommendations or authoring legislation regarding improvements to the state's administration of tax expenditures.

EDCC- OPPOSE**Status:** 02/03/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance**Sales and Use Tax Refund for Recycling Equipment****HB 15-1206****Sponsors:** SingerNEW

This bill creates a refund for sales and use taxes paid on machinery and equipment used for recycling or reprocessing of waste products. The refund is available for sales and use taxes paid between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2019. Taxpayers must claim the refund between January 1 and April 1 in the year following the year when the sales taxes were paid.

ED**Status:** 02/19/2015 House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor Refer Amended to Finance**EZ Investment Tax Credit for Renewable Energy****HB 15-1219****Sponsors:** McCann and Becker; Hodge and SonnenbergNEW

Current law allows for an investment tax credit if a taxpayer makes a qualified investment in an enterprise zone. The tax credit can be carried forward by a taxpayer and it is not refundable. The credit is allowed to the extent of the first \$5,000 in tax liability plus 50% of the liability in excess of \$5,000. The bill allows a taxpayer who places a new renewable energy investment in service on or after January 1, 2015, that results in an investment tax credit to elect to receive a refund of 80% of the amount of the credit and forego the remaining 20% as a cost of the election. If 80% of the credit is \$750,000 or less, the taxpayer receives the full refund in the first year. If 80% of the credit is more than \$750,000, the taxpayer annually receives a refund not to exceed \$750,000 per income tax year until 80% of the credit is completely refunded to the taxpayer.

ED**EDCC- SUPPORT****Status:** 02/10/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy | Finance | Appropriations

Tax Credits for Employers that Pay Student Loans
Sponsors: Becker; Heath

HB 15-1227

This bill creates an income tax credit for employers doing business in Colorado who hire and retain new employees for a 12-month period and make payments directly to a lender on behalf of each new employee for the new employee's student loan that he or she incurred while earning an approved degree. The bill requires the approved degree to be an associate or bachelor's degree that represents the completion of a course of study in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics, or a vocational certificate related to industry, manufacturing, or information technology from a Colorado institution of higher education. Each employee must be a Colorado resident, work full-time and have a base salary or hourly wage of less than \$60,000 per year. The amount of credit is 50% of direct payments. The credit applies for years 2016 through 2020 and each employer's maximum annual credit is \$200,000. Credits must be pre-certified through the OEDIT.



Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Finance + Appropriations

Income Tax Deduction for Leasing Ag Asset
Sponsors: Mitch Bush

HB 15-1234

This bill creates an income tax deduction for taxpayers equal to 20% of the leave revenue received from an eligible farmer or rancher. The tax credit is authorized for years 2016-2014. Eligible farmers and ranchers are residents with less than \$1 million in net worth who provide the majority of the daily physical labor and management of agricultural asset.



Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources + Finance

Tax Credit for Improving Energy Efficiency
Sponsors: Winter

HB 15-1236

This bill creates income tax credits for existing multi-family home owners who make energy efficiency improvements to the multi-family home that result in at least 20% reduction in energy consumption; owners of new and renovated multi-family homes and commercial buildings that reach LEED certification; and owners affordable housing projects.



Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy + Finance

Tax Credit Health Professional Shortage Areas
Sponsors: Buck, Cooke

HB 15-1238

For income tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2022, the bill grants a preceptor, or a non-compensated health care professional in one of a number of specialized fields of health care practice, who personally provides a mentoring experience of personalized instruction, training, and supervision representing a full clinical rotation to an advanced graduate student seeking a professional degree in one of these fields, a credit against the state income tax in amounts specified in the bill for a tax year in which the preceptor undertakes such work in a health professional shortage area.



Status: 02/19/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Health, Insurance, & Environment + Finance

Tax Credits for Nonpublic Education

SB 15-045

Sponsors: Lundberg

This bill creates an income tax credit for individuals who enroll their dependent child in a home-based or private school offer a scholarship to a child who enrolls in a private school. In order to qualify, the child must have attended a public school full-time the year before enrolling in a private school and must have attended public school as of the enactment date of the bill and prior to enrolling in a home-based school. Taxpayers continue to qualify for the credit each year until their child graduates or returns to public school. For fulltime, home-based students, the credit is \$1,000; \$500 for half-time students. For parents enrolling their children in private school, the credit is ½ of the prior years' per pupil funding for full time-students; ¼ per pupil funding for half-time students.

Status: 02/10/2015 Senate Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Modified Qualified State Tuition Program Tax Deductions

SB 15-118

Sponsors: Merrifield

Current state law allows for a state income tax deduction to any taxpayer in amounts equal to the full amounts of both contributions made by a taxpayer to the qualified state tuition program CollegInvest and distributions of investment earnings taken from the plan. This bill would allow taxpayers to subtract 200% of the contributions or distributions for incomes under \$75,000; 150% of contributions and distributions for incomes between \$75,000 and \$200,000; and 100% of contributions and distributions for incomes between \$200,000 and \$250,000.

Status: 01/26/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Finance

Tax Incentives for Agritourism-Related Activities

SB 15-127

Sponsors Garcia; Dore

This bill creates a state income tax credit for private advertising or marketing agencies that donate advertising or marketing services of a local government with fewer than 120,000 residents for the purpose of marketing or promoting an Agritourism activity. The agency may deduct 50% of the costs that were donated, up to \$10,000 in any year. The bill also creates an income tax credit for taxpayers who purchase equipment to be used for Agritourism purposes. The credit is equal to the purchase price of the equipment and capped at \$500 annually with a 5-year carry forward.



CML- Support

Status: 02/19/2015 Senate Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Income Tax Credit for Property Taxes Paid Eligibility

SB 15-141

Sponsors Sheffel; Thurlow

Last year, legislation passed that created an income tax credit to reimburse taxpayers for personal property taxes paid. In order to qualify, the person must have less than \$15,000 in personal property subject to business personal property tax. This bill increases the property can from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for 2015 and grows the cap for the next 4 years by an amount equal to inflation.



CML SUPPORT

Status: 02/12/2015 Senate Committee on Finance Refer Unamended to Appropriations

Taxation

Fund Safe Routes to School Program**HB 15-1003****Sponsors:** Tyler; Todd

This bill directs the Colorado Department of Transportation to make at least \$3 million in state money available for Safe Routes to School grants for fiscal year 2015-2016. Safe Routes to School initiated as a federally funded program but funding has since decreased.

CML, AGNC- SUPPORT**Status:** 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy

Additional SB 09-228 Transfers to HUTF and CCF**HB 15-1109****Sponsors:** DelGrosso

Senate Bill 09-228 requires a five-year block of transfers from the General Fund to the HUTF and the CCF beginning after state personal income grows 5.0 percent or more during a single calendar year. Current estimates in state personal income growth indicate that the transfers will begin in FY 2015-16 and continue through FY 2019-20. Under current state statute, these transfers are decreased in the event of a TABOR refund. This bill would extend the transfers until 5 full years (may not be consecutive) of transfers have taken place.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy

New Diesel Motor Vehicle Emissions Testing**HB 15-1109****Sponsors:** DelGrosso

Senate Bill 09-228 requires a five-year block of transfers from the General Fund to the HUTF and the CCF beginning after state personal income grows 5.0 percent or more during a single calendar year. Current estimates in state personal income growth indicate that the transfers will begin in FY 2015-16 and continue through FY 2019-20. Under current state statute, these transfers are decreased in the event of a TABOR refund. This bill would extend the transfers until 5 full years (may not be consecutive) of transfers have taken place.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy

Winter Driving I-70 Tread Depth and Tire Chains**HB 15-1173****Sponsors:** Mitch Bush; Rankin

This bill would require noncommercial motor vehicles driving on I-70 between Dotsero and Morrison between November 1 through May 15th to have tires with any form of the mountain-snowflake symbol and a tread depth of 1/8 of an inch or carry tire chains or an equivalent traction control device.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy + Finance

Transportation

Special Fuel Tax on Liquefied Petroleum Gas**HB 15-1173****Sponsors:** Mitch Bush, Coram, Rankin; **Scott**

This bill makes several changes to the collection, imposition and administration of fuel excise tax on LPG including the following:

- Adds a private commercial fleet operator that uses LPG to the definition of "distributor";
- Changes the definition of "gallons" for LPG from a gross gallon to a net gallon, which accounts for temperature differences that affect LPG measurements;
- Limits the imposition of the tax so that in most instances it is only levied when LPG is placed in a motor vehicle's fuel tank, which is currently defined as a "use", instead of when the fuel is acquired, sold, offered for sale, or used for any purpose whatsoever;
- Requires a distributor that uses LPG from a cargo tank to propel a cargo tank motor vehicle to pay the tax on the gallons of LPG used to propel the motor vehicle, based on the vehicle's miles traveled;
- Requires a distributor that places the LPG in a fuel tank to pay the tax or, if none, for a non-distributor user to pay it;
- Eliminates the 2% allowance for LPG lost in transit or in handling;
- Prohibits the department of revenue from collecting any penalties or interest related to the LPG excise tax that is due from January 1, 2014, until January 1, 2016;
- Eliminates the minimum \$25,000 bond amount for LPG distributors;
- Eliminates the requirement that a LPG distributor preprint the serially numbered invoices for each sale or transfer of LPG.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy

Winter Driving I-70 Tread Depth and Tire Chains**HB 15-1173****Sponsors:** Mitch Bush; Rankin

This bill would require noncommercial motor vehicles driving on I-70 between Dotsero and Morrison between November 1 through May 15th to have tires with any form of the mountain-snowflake symbol and a tread depth of 1/8 of an inch or carry tire chains or an equivalent traction control device.

Status: 01/07/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Energy

Transportation

Promote Precipitation Harvesting Pilot Projects**HB 15-1016****Sponsor:** Coram; Sonnenberg

House Bill 09-1129 established a 10-year pilot program for the collection of precipitation from rooftops for non-potable uses. The program can include up to 10 new residential or mixed-use developments. This bill, recommended by the Water Resources Review Committee, changes the requirements for the program to encourage more applicants.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations

Flexible Water Markets**HB 15-1038****Sponsor:** Arndt; Hodge

Colorado water law prohibits speculation in water rights. Under the anti-speculation doctrine, an applicant who wishes to change the beneficial use of an irrigation water right must identify for the water court the specific use for which the water will actually be used. This bill excludes flex use from the anti-speculation doctrine and describes the procedures for approval or reconsideration of a flex use change-in-use decree and a flex use substitute water supply plan. It allows a holder of an irrigation water right to change the beneficial use to any beneficial use, including a compact obligation, within the geographic area of historical use. This holder can then implement fallowing, regulated deficit irrigation, reduced consumptive use cropping, or other alternative cessation of agricultural irrigation on the property that is served by the water right.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations

Water Efficiency Savings Instream Use Pilot Program**HB 15-1222****Sponsor:** Becker

The bill authorizes the Colorado water conservation board to select the sponsors of up to 12 pilot projects for the board's acquisition of water efficiency savings for instream flow use without the need for a water court-decreed change of water right. In order to be able to collect sufficient data, each project should operate for at least 10 years.

Status: 02/25/2015 House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Refer Amended to Appropriations

Promote Water Conservation in Land Use Planning**SB 15-008****Sponsor:** Roberts; Vigil, Coram

The bill requires the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in consultation with the Division of Planning in the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), to develop training programs for local government water and land use planners on best management practices for water demand management and conservation. The CWCB will provide the training on a recurring basis free of charge and make recommendations on how to better integrate water demand management and conservation into land use planning.

Status: 02/27/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources + Appropriations

Return on Water from Tail Ditch**SB 15-055****Sponsor:** Hodge; Arndt & Becker

This bill allows a person using an irrigation ditch system to use a tailwater ditch to return water to a stream in variable amounts to facilitate efficient operation of the ditch and delivery of water to persons served by the ditch system. The state engineer shall not require the delivery of any minimum amount of water unless required by a court decree. Tailwater ditches are used to collect and conserve excess surface water draining from an irrigated field. Current law requires the installation of tailwater ditches by ditch owners to return water with as little waste as possible back to the stream from which the water was taken.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In House - Assigned to Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

Application of State Water Law to Federal Agencies**SB 15-064****Sponsor:** Sonnenberg

This bill prohibits the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) from placing conditions on special use permits, or for rights-of-way on federal land, that:

- demand that the owner of a water right or conditional water right assign partial or joint ownership of the water right to the USFS or the BLM;
- impose limitations on a water right that restrict the water right owner's ability to receive fair market value for the water right;
- impose limitations on the alienation of a water right; or
- impose restrictions that give the USFS or BLM full or partial control over the use of a water right.

Further, the bill prohibits the State Engineer and division engineers in the Department of Natural Resources from cooperating with the USFS or the BLM in administering or enforcing the conditions identified above on special use permits, or for rights-of-way on federal land.

AGNC- SUPPORT

Status: 02/19/2015 Senate Third Reading Passed - No Amendments

Quantify Water Rights Historical Consumptive Use**SB 15-183****Sponsor:** Hodge

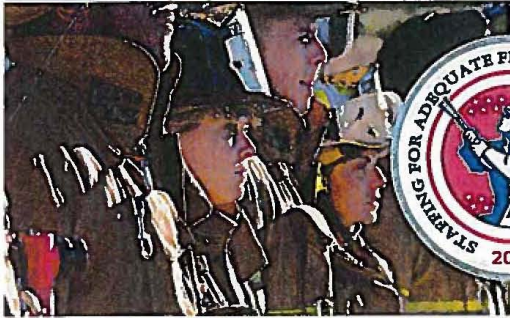
When a water judge decrees a change in water right, this bill requires that the measurement of the historical use of the water be based on the actual historical use of the water right for its designated purpose, over a representative study period. Under the bill, the study period:

- includes wet years, dry years, and average years;
- excludes years when the water right was not used for its decreed purposes; and
- need not include every historical year of the use of the subject water, or periods of nonuse of the water right.

A water judge cannot reconsider or re-quantify the historical consumptive use of a water right if it has been quantified in a previous change decree. However, to limit future consumptive use to the previously quantified historical consumptive use, the water judge may impose terms and conditions on the future use of the portion of the water right that is subject to the change.

Status: 02/17/2015 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)



FY 2014 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the purpose of SAFER?

The purpose of SAFER Grants is to provide funding directly to fire departments and national, state, local, or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer firefighters to assist them in increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate protection from fire and fire related hazards, and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments.

SAFER Grants achieve this purpose by funding: (1) the hiring of new firefighters, (2) the rehiring of firefighters that have been laid off, (3) the retention of firefighters facing imminent layoffs, or (4) the filling of positions that were vacated through attrition. Additionally, SAFER Grants fund fire departments and national, state, local, or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer firefighters to assist with the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters.

Are there any funding limits for SAFER?

There are no annual salary limits, and there are no cost-sharing requirements for funds under the FY 2014 appropriations.

Which categories of activities are eligible for funding under SAFER?

SAFER is a competitive/discretionary grant program comprised of two categories:

- 1. Hiring of Firefighters** Grants provide financial assistance to help fire departments rehire firefighters that have been laid off, retain firefighters facing imminent layoffs, fill positions that were vacated through attrition, or hire new firefighters. The goal is to assist departments to improve or restore staffing levels to ensure they have adequate personnel to respond and safely perform at incident scenes, providing protection from fire and fire-related hazards for their communities. **This category provides two-year grants to assist fire departments by paying the salaries and benefits of the SAFER-funded positions.**
- 2. Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters** Grants are to assist fire departments and national, state, local, or tribal organizations with the recruitment and/or retention of volunteer firefighters that are involved with, or trained in, the operations of firefighting and emergency response. The goal is to create a net increase in the number of trained, certified, and competent firefighters capable of safely responding to emergencies likely to occur within the fire department's geographic response area. **Recruitment and Retention category grants can have a period of performance of up to four years.**