



ADVOCACY



INFORMATION



TRAINING

ADVOCACY

In Colorado

- **684** bills introduced
- **257** tracked by CML
- Of the **41** bills CML supported, nearly **61%** passed*
- Of the **29** bills CML opposed, **93%** were defeated or amended*

CML **defeated** legislation that:

- impaired downtown development authorities against the will of the voters who establish them;
- placed the legislature ahead of city councils' and town boards' authority to ensure safety of public parks and open spaces;
- gave business personal property tax and property tax breaks without holding municipalities harmless;
- severely impacted financing of existing urban renewal projects; and
- created unnecessary and harmful restrictions on the use of business improvement districts.

CML helped to **pass** legislation that:

- creates certainty in applicability of hastily drafted 2015 legislation impacting urban renewal projects around the state, freeing up bond issuance and investment;
- establishes a step toward meaningful construction defects reform to kick-start owner-occupied attached and affordable housing;
- delays a 2016 state mandate on municipal courts until 2018 so that the General Assembly may find a way to fund the mandate it created;
- helps municipalities slow the illegal diversion of marijuana to the black and gray markets; and,
- ensures full funding of the Water Quality Control Division.

** presume action awaited by the governor*

In D.C.

National League of Cities Congressional Cities Conference

- **80+** Colorado municipal officials
- **20+** cities and towns from across the state
- including **4** youth commissions

At a meeting of the Western Municipal Association, discussion focused on **critical federal issues** facing western state and local governments with partners from the Bureau of Land Management.

Municipal leaders also received a special briefing on infrastructure policy.

The experience included a special breakfast with Sens. Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner.

In the Courts

CML participates as *amicus curiae*, or “friend of the court,” in significant cases before the appellate courts. These decisions can dramatically affect municipal governments by imposing new obligations or limitations statewide.

This past year, CML submitted *amicus curiae* briefs in **three noteworthy TABOR cases** pending before the Colorado Supreme Court. In *Colorado Union of Taxpayers v. City of Aspen Colorado*, the court will determine whether a charge imposed for the primary purpose of affecting consumer behavior qualifies as a tax subject to TABOR requirements, an issue that would impact municipal ability to set fees necessary for regulating the health and safety of local communities. The two other cases concern the considerations for tax policy changes and eligibility of electors who vote in TABOR elections. As *amicus curiae*, CML urges careful consideration of the impact courts have on municipal authority under TABOR.

INFORMATION

Publications

- **6** issues of *Colorado Municipalities* magazine featuring in-depth articles and best practices
- **26** issues of *CML Newsletter* with breaking news
- **19** Statehouse Reports sent via email
- **4** Knowledge Now white papers on
 - Short-Term Rentals
 - Broadband Utilities
 - Overtime Pay Rules
 - Citizens Academies
- **4** updated or new publications:
 - Home Rule Handbook*
 - Home Rule Cities & Towns: Matrix of Charters*
 - Laws Enacted Affecting Municipal Governments*
 - State of Our Cities & Towns* annual report and video
- **3** most popular publications:
 - Community Policing: An Overview and Guide for Elected Officials*
 - Handbook for Appointed Municipal Boards and Commissions*
 - TABOR: A Guide to the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights*

To provide members with the best information available, CML regularly updates its more than two dozen **reference guides and best practices publications**, as well as publishes new research. The complete catalog may be viewed by visiting the store on the CML website. An annual **research agenda** is developed by the CML Research Committee composed of member representatives.

Online

- **24,838** average monthly page views on *www.cml.org*
- **780** Facebook likes
- **829** LinkedIn followers
- **1,885** Twitter followers
- **7** listservs for municipal professionals
- **96** videos
- **2** apps
- **2** blogs:

Municipalities Matter by CML Executive Director Sam Mamet
Legislative Matters by the CML advocacy team

CML's mobile-friendly website allows members to find information quickly and easily by issue topic or resource type, as well as providing legislative pages and event listings. An online store makes it easy to purchase publications (including PDFs for immediate download) and register for events online.

Each year, the CML *State of Our Cities & Towns* survey results are published in print and video. The 2017 report, in addition to the annual look at municipal finances, focused on the public amenities municipalities provide to **make life better**.

CML launched the **goCML** app to provide municipal officials the latest news, events, social media feeds, and more through the convenience of their smart phones. CML also provides a **conference app** (available separately and embedded in goCML) to enhance the annual event for attendees.

The online **compensation survey system** (CSS) is a free online service for member municipalities. In partnership with Technology Net LLC, this system provides an innovative web-based compensation survey that includes salaries, benefits, and total compensation value for hundreds of municipal positions.

TRAINING

Learning Opportunities

- **1,145** municipal officials participated in CML training
- **1,240** municipal officials and other key decision makers and stakeholders attended the 94th CML Annual Conference
- **7** in-person training opportunities included
 - CML Annual Conference
 - CML Annual Legislative Workshop
 - CML Annual Fall Seminar on Municipal Law
 - Mayors' Summit
 - Small Communities Workshop*
 - City Summit on Affordable Housing
 - Police Legal Advisor Seminar
- **11** webinars (free to municipal members) addressed
 - drones
 - social impact bonds
 - bike sharing
 - municipal courts
 - leadership
 - transportation funding
 - legislative preview
 - compensation survey system
 - design-build
 - fraud and embezzlement
 - livestreaming and video archives

CML offers training on a variety of cutting-edge topics in several formats.

Training materials, including recorded workshops and webinars, can be found at www.cml.org/training-materials.

** in partnership with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Colorado Counties Inc., and Special District Association of Colorado*

MUNiversity

- **4** Graduate recognitions
- **14** Leadership recognitions
- **48** Fundamental recognitions

MUNiversity recognizes municipal elected officials who invest time and resources to increase their knowledge of municipal government and enhance their capacity to lead.

All elected officials from member municipalities are automatically enrolled in MUNiversity, with credits accumulated for each training attended. Officials are recognized at three different levels of achievement: Fundamental (30 credits), Leadership (60 credits), and Graduate (100 credits).

Outreach

- **6** Spring Outreach Meetings
- **13** Fall District Meetings
- **720** participants

CML Spring Outreach Meetings and Fall District Meetings provide the opportunity to meet CML staff, contribute to CML policy, and network with colleagues from **neighboring communities**.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Colorado Cities & Towns Week

- **3rd** annual Colorado Cities & Towns Week in 2016
- **50** municipalities participated
- The next celebration takes place **Sept. 11-17, 2017**

Municipal Heroes Award

- **4** heroes recognized

Engaging Youth

- **12** new civics lessons on www.lessonsonlocalgovernment.org
- **50** participants in “Local Governments in Action” poster contest

Colorado Cities & Towns Week provides a unified statewide opportunity for municipalities to **educate their residents about the vital services provided** by their city or town and to recognize the hardworking men and women who make it all happen. To assist municipal leaders in connecting with youth in their communities, CML offers tips for speaking with students in the Colorado Cities & Towns Week Toolkit at www.cml.org/cities-and-towns.

CML’s annual Municipal Hero Awards recognizes **individuals who build strong communities**, whether municipal employee, volunteer, or community difference maker. This program specifically acknowledges those who made significant, positive impacts in communities in the past year.

In partnership with the Special District Association of Colorado, CML continues to offer Lessons on Local Government, www.lessonsonlocalgovernment.org, a **free online resource providing K–12 teachers materials** that meet Colorado’s social studies and civics standards.

The “Local Governments in Action” poster contest, sponsored by COLOTRUST, encourages elementary school students to **think about how important local government services are**.

NEW SERVICE

Colorado Municipal Clerk Advisor Program

CML constantly strives to provide municipal members with innovative and valuable services.

With that goal in mind, in partnership with the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA) and Colorado Municipal Clerks Association (CMCA), CML launched the Colorado Municipal Clerk Advisor Program, **a free service to assist municipal clerks with specific job-related questions or challenges** by connecting them with a former Aurora deputy clerk who has more than 20 years of experience. While not intended to provide interim or long-term work, this arrangement offers clerks a “helping hand” when needed.

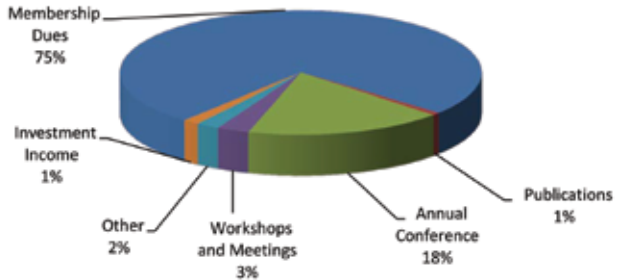
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2016 Revenue

In 2015, CML received 75 percent of revenue in dues from municipal and associate memberships, with municipal dues increasing by 1.9 percent.

All municipal members who paid their dues by January 31 received a 3 percent rebate, and more than 99 percent of CML members received this reduction.

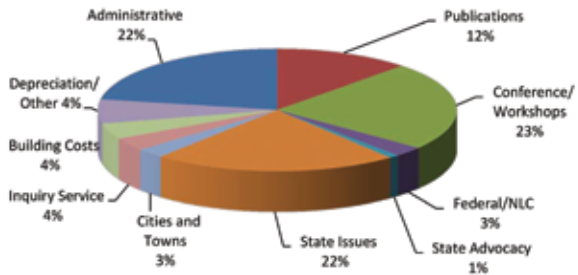
The remaining annual revenue was generated from annual conference sponsorships, workshops, publications, and interest income.



2016 Expenses

CML is the primary source for municipal advocacy, information, and training.

CML services provide members with innovative training opportunities, informative research and publications, and effective attorneys and lobbyists who advocate successfully for the collective interests of all Colorado municipalities. The expenses in 2016 reflect our commitment to excellent customer service, our strategic plan goals, and the development of new services and programs for our members.



STRATEGIC PLAN



ADVOCACY

CML will give a voice to Colorado municipalities in legislative, regulatory, and legal venues, as well as statewide ballot initiatives.

CML will improve the value of the CML Policy Committee and the CML Policy Statement in the advocacy process.



MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

CML will increase quality opportunities for meaningful member interactions with CML and each other.

CML will refine ways for municipalities to educate and engage residents on the importance of municipal services.



TRAINING

CML will provide a diverse range of training opportunities to meet the needs of CML members.



RESEARCH & INFORMATION

CML will be the leading statewide information resource for municipalities.

CML will keep internal metrics to improve information and service delivery to members.



LEADERSHIP

The CML Executive Board will be active leaders that will interact and inspire participation in CML and develop future leaders.

COLORADO MUNICIPAL FACTS

269 of Colorado's 272 incorporated municipalities are CML members.

180 municipalities have a city/town manager/administrator.

There are **1,820** mayors, councilmembers and trustees. **35%** are women.

POPULATION

Per 2015 estimates, **4,035,604** of Colorado's 5,456,584 residents live in cities and towns. That is **74%** of the state's residents.

*The smallest town (Lakeside) has **8** residents.*

*The largest city (Denver) has **683,096**.*

101 home rule municipalities have a total **3,742,330** residents.

170 statutory municipalities are home to **292,230** residents.

1 territorial charter town has **1,044** residents.

REVENUE SOURCES

Total municipal tax revenue is **\$3,648,480,234**

which accounts for **65.8%** of total municipal revenue.

69.3% comes from **sales and use taxes**.

222 municipalities levy a local sales tax.

70 cities and towns self-collect tax.

The lowest is **1%**; the highest is **7%**.

18.6% comes from **property taxes**.

Assessed valuation of property in municipalities is **\$65.15 billion**.

That's **62%** of the Colorado's total property assessment.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

On **TABOR revenue and spending changes**, voters passed **482** of the 558 ballot questions, an approval rate of **86%**.

On **municipal tax or tax rates**, voters passed **546** of the 918 ballot question, an approval rate of **60%**.

On **municipal debt and obligation**, voters passed **294** of 425 ballot questions, an approval rate of **69%**.

On **term limits**, voters passed **121** of 210 ballot questions, an approval rate of **58%**.