



GET THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

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NEWS RELEASE

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COLORADO'S CITIES AND TOWNS PROVIDE RESIDENTS WITH HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE

January 9, 2017- Denver, CO— Municipal governments in Colorado provide more than just basic services such as public safety and utilities. They also provide amenities that have created the quality of life residents enjoy in cities and towns, making livability the focus of the 2017 Colorado Municipal League's State of Our Cities & Towns report. This annual report is derived from the results of a survey of Colorado municipalities.

Large numbers of municipalities provide residents with amenities either solely or in partnership:

Facilities

- Parks 98%
- Playgrounds 96%
- Athletic Fields 73%
- Trails 72%
- Open Space 68%
- Libraries 61%

Programs

- Youth recreation 66%
- Youth sports 61%
- Adult recreation 55%
- Seniors programs 55%
- Community gardens 48%

Events

- Community celebrations 85%
- Running events 57%
- Concerts 55%
- Auto shows 52%
- Bicycle events 49%
- Farmer's markets 46%

The national recognition Colorado's cities and towns have received in recent years for best places to live, start a business, and raise a family is due in large part to municipal amenities.

Acres of municipally owned open space and extensive bike and hiking trail systems are found throughout the state, much of it acquired with revenue from dedicated sales or property taxes approved by voters.

Employers across the country have also taken notice of the high quality of life in Colorado. The lifestyle found in cities and towns is attracting new business, and providing better job opportunities for residents. 72 percent of all cities and towns report that quality of life amenities are cited in economic development efforts - a percentage that rises to 100 percent in municipalities with more than 25,000 residents.

Complete survey results and videos can be found at <http://www.cml.org/state-of/>

CML is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 269 cities and towns. For more information on the Colorado Municipal League, please visit www.cml.org or call 303-831-6411.