

## MUNICIPAL VOTERS TO GO TO THE POLLS THIS SPRING



*By Melissa Mata, CML municipal research analyst*

NINE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WILL BE held in April to elect city councilmembers and town board trustees. Voters in Colorado Springs, Craig, Durango, Fort Collins, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction, and Ward will select their municipal leaders on April 2. Aspen will hold a runoff election the same day to decide between two finalists in the mayoral race, after holding its regular election on March 5. Larkspur will hold a special election two weeks later to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of its previous mayor.

Denver residents pick their mayor, councilmembers, and other elected officials including auditor and clerk and recorder in May, and Mountain Village voters go to the polls in June.

Georgetown and Ridgway canceled their elections due to no competitive races.

Voters also will decide the fate of several ballot questions:

### **Tax and Bond Issues**

Durango and Glenwood Springs voters are being asked to increase sales and use taxes for street maintenance and improvements.

Glenwood Springs has a second question that would increase debt up to \$16 million, also for roads.

Fort Collins is requesting an extension of the “Keep Fort Collins Great” sales and use tax to be split between general operations and public safety purposes.

Grand Junction has three sales and use tax questions on the ballot, which would fund road improvements, emergency services, and the construction of a new community center, respectively. The community center question also includes authorization for up to \$79 million in debt.

### **Charter Amendments**

Fort Collins voters will decide if their mayor and city councilmembers should receive an increase in compensation that would make their wages equal to the area median household income.

A city charter amendment is also being considered in Colorado Springs, which, if approved, will allow collective bargaining for firefighters.

Grand Junction voters will consider two charter amendments, the first concerning the process for cable television franchise renewal

and the second increasing the authorized terms for lease of public property.

### **Home Rule**

On May 14, Castle Pines voters will decide whether to approve the proposed home rule charter to become Colorado’s 102nd home rule municipality.

### **Broadband**

In June, Eaton will hold a special election to ask voters to opt out of Senate Bill 152 to have the right to engage in broadband services. If successful, it will join 102 municipalities that have already done so.

### **Other Issues**

At their March election, Aspen voters approved a question to rezone a portion of land and use public funds for ski- and tourism-related development projects.

Grand Junction voters will consider the sale of public property.

The two questions on the ballot in Denver’s May election include a measure that grants certain rights to people experiencing homelessness and the decriminalization of personal use and possession of psilocybin mushrooms.

## OPEN HOUSE TO HONOR SAM MAMET



AS A REMINDER, THE RETIREMENT open house for CML Executive Director Sam Mamet will be on **March 21**, from 4–7 p.m. Parking will be on a first-come, first-served basis. In lieu of gifts, Mamet has asked that consideration be given to a contribution to Scholars Unlimited ([scholarsunlimited.org](http://scholarsunlimited.org)), a nonprofit that works with economically disadvantaged kids to help them get ahead academically.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

THIS MAY, MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. Initiated in 1969 by International Institute of Municipal Clerks and endorsed by all of its members throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, the week is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the clerk's office.

The week, **May 5–11**, will feature a series of activities aimed at increasing the public's awareness of municipal clerks and the vital services they provide for local government and the community.

For a sample proclamation of the week, as well as other promotional materials, visit [bit.ly/2HkOIsZ](http://bit.ly/2HkOIsZ).

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## WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY'S CAPACITY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND THRIVE?

*By Doug Linkhart, National Civic League president*

WHAT MAKES SOME COMMUNITIES better able than others to solve the tough social, political, economic, or physical challenges they face? This was a question the National Civic League (NCL) set out to answer more than 30 years ago. On-the-ground research revealed a set of factors that NCL calls civic capital — the formal and informal relationships, networks, and capacities that communities use to make decisions collaboratively and solve problems.

Somewhat like social capital, but not to be confused with financial capital, civic capital can be found in all sorts of communities, not just the most affluent, educated, or advantaged. While myriad other factors contribute to community progress, civic capital is the core factor identified by the NCL as the primary explanation for long-term community success.

NCL knows many communities with an abundant supply of civic capital. The All-America City program has recognized more than 500 of these communities during the past 69 years. All have varying degrees of civic engagement, collaboration, and leadership, and have been able to tackle tough issues in a sustainable manner — by bringing everyone to the table and creating equity.

Earlier this year, the NCL released the fourth edition of the Civic Index, a self-assessment tool consisting of a set of questions that provide a framework for discussing and measuring a community's civic capital. Since it was first developed in 1986, many communities have used the Civic Index to better understand their civic strengths and to identify gaps or areas in need of further attention, soliciting community input to create a baseline measure of their civic capital and monitor progress over time as they work to enhance their internal capacity.

### The Seven Components of Civic Capital

The Civic Index describes the seven components of civic capital, provides examples of each, lists the 32 questions that are used to gauge each component, and provides ideas on how to use the index.

- 1. Engaged Residents.**  
Residents play an active role in making decisions and civic affairs.
- 2. Inclusive Community Leadership.**  
The community actively cultivates

and supports leaders from diverse backgrounds and with diverse perspectives.

- 3. Collaborative Institutions.**  
Communities with good civic capital have regular collaboration among the government, business, nonprofit, and other sectors, as well as structures in place that facilitate such collaboration.
- 4. Embracing Diversity and Equity.**  
Communities with healthy civic capital recognize and celebrate their diversity. They strive for equity in services, support, and engagement.
- 5. Authentic Communication.**  
Healthy communities need credible, civic-minded sources of information presented in a way that residents can use.
- 6. Culture of Engagement.**  
Involvement by residents, businesses, nonprofits, and other stakeholders in every aspect of civic affairs should be part of local culture — an expectation, not an afterthought.
- 7. Shared Vision and Values.**  
Communities with shared values and civic pride have a common foundation for addressing public matters.

Nearly 100 years ago, Justice Louis Brandeis, a onetime member of NCL's executive committee, called states "laboratories of democracy." That mantle has now been passed to the local level, as cities, counties, towns, and other local communities create innovations and regional or national networks to tackle such issues as climate change, health, education, and economic prosperity.

At the same time, local governments cannot solve problems on their own. As Bruce Katz points out in *The New Localism*, community problem-solving depends on "multi-sectoral relationships," with government often serving as a convener or catalyst. What happens next depends on the civic capacity of the particular locality. It is the communities with civic capital — the full engagement and collaboration of their residents, businesses, nonprofits, and other stakeholders — that have the resources and persistence to successfully address difficult issues and build a sustainable future.

For a free copy of the National Civic League's Civic Index, visit [www.nationalcivicleague.org/resource-center](http://www.nationalcivicleague.org/resource-center).

# SAFE BANKING ACT INTRODUCED AS CONGRESS LOOKS TO ADDRESS CANNABIS BANKING ISSUE

ON THE HEELS OF THE FIRST-EVER congressional hearing on the issue of cannabis banking, the Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act of 2019 was introduced on March 7 as the leading bipartisan legislation tailored to specifically address the cannabis banking issue. Authored by Reps. Ed Perlmutter, D-Colo., and Denny Heck, D-Wash., and cosponsored by Reps. Warren Davidson, R-Ohio, and Steve Stivers, R-Ohio, the bill allows marijuana-related businesses in states with existing regulatory structures to access the banking system.

Today, 47 states plus the District of Columbia — representing 97.7 percent of the population — have legalized some form of adult recreational, medical, or limited-medical use of marijuana.

“The majority of American voters have spoken, and it is happening whether we act or not,” said Perlmutter. “The SAFE Banking Act is focused solely on taking cash off the streets and making our communities safer. Only Congress can provide the certainty financial institutions need to allow banking for legitimate marijuana businesses — just like any other legal business — and reduce risks for employees, businesses, and communities across the country.”

“Modern banking services and existing federal laws on financial disclosures allow law enforcement to keep records and track potential criminal activity,” said Heck. “We know based on U.S. Treasury guidance that the federal

government prioritizes keeping this product out of the hands of children and organized crime. The most effective way to do that is to not only allow but encourage these businesses to use traditional banking methods to track their sales, deposits, expenses, tax payments, and other business transactions. If Congress fails to act, we are discouraging responsible, regulated markets and allowing a serious public safety threat to go unaddressed.”

“The SAFE Banking Act is an answer to the very real problem facing these businesses, as they are forced to operate exclusively with cash. It makes them prime targets for violent robberies and money laundering schemes,” Stivers said. “This is not about condoning marijuana businesses; it is about creating an auditable trail and keeping our neighborhoods safe.”

“Government regulators have deemed cannabis business owners to have certain reputational risks. From a civil liberties standpoint, I believe this is something we need to move away from. There are reputational risks associated with any small business, and barring legally recognized small businesses from our financial institutions threatens the very pillars of liberty and freedom our country was founded on,” said Davidson.

Because cannabis is considered illegal under the federal Controlled Substances Act, financial institutions providing banking services to legitimate and licensed marijuana businesses are subject to criminal prosecution. Since state and federal laws are not aligned on the issue, legal and legitimate businesses are forced to

operate on a cash-only basis, creating a serious public safety risk for employees, businesses, and communities, as well as providing an opportunity for tax evasion, money laundering, and other white-collar crimes.

Compared to H.R. 2215 in the 115th Congress, the SAFE Banking Act of 2019 adds protection for ancillary businesses such as real estate owners, accountants, and other vendors from money laundering and other laws as well as adjusts the language and the definition of “cannabis-related legitimate business.” While other legislation has been introduced to address different problems faced by businesses in these states, the SAFE Banking Act is the only legislation that prohibits federal banking regulators from taking adverse actions against financial institutions, which protects banks and credit unions so these legitimate businesses can access the banking system. The Independent Community Bankers of America, Credit Union National Association, and 19 attorneys general endorsed the SAFE Banking Act in the last Congress.

Perlmutter and Heck have introduced similar bills in every Congress since 2013. A draft version of the SAFE Banking Act was discussed during a hearing about cannabis banking on Feb. 13, 2019.

The SAFE Banking Act of 2019 enjoys broad, bipartisan support with 106 cosponsors at the time of introduction.

# CHFA AWARDED \$6 MILLION IN CAPITAL MAGNET FUNDS TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING

COLORADO HOUSING AND FINANCE Authority (CHFA) has been awarded a \$6 million Capital Magnet Fund (CMF) grant to support the development and preservation of affordable rental housing across Colorado. CHFA was one of only three housing finance agencies in the nation to receive an award among 38 total recipients nationwide.

CHFA will use the award to enhance its existing statewide housing fund that was created with a \$7.1 million CMF grant awarded in 2018. This fund provides low-interest financing for developers building or preserving affordable housing, and leverages state and federal affordable housing tax credits by providing gap financing.

“In Colorado, low-income families are among the most housing cost-burdened in the nation, and our population is growing at about twice the national rate, demonstrating a great need for resources to support new construction and preservation of affordable rental housing. CHFA’s statewide fund created with the CMF grant awarded in 2018 is being well utilized, with \$5 million of the \$7.1 million fund expected to be committed by July 2019. CHFA is pleased to receive a second CMF award and will use these funds to continue to help meet the needs of Colorado communities,” said Cris White, executive director and CEO of CHFA.

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Colorado ranks fourth in the nation for the highest percentage of severely cost-burdened renters. In addition, there are only

26 affordable homes for every 100 extremely low-income renter households.

With the \$6 million CMF grant, a minimum of 75 percent will be invested in areas of economic distress and at least 66 percent of all affordable rental housing units supported will serve households at or below 50 percent of the area median income.

The CMF is administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. The CMF was established by Congress in 2008, and offers competitively awarded grants to finance affordable housing solutions and community revitalization efforts. For more information about the CMF, visit [www.cdfifund.gov](http://www.cdfifund.gov).

# SECURE YOUR CONFERENCE SEAT TODAY

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS IN full swing!

CML members should have received this year's conference flyer in the mail this month. It provides a snapshot of the topics and schedules, registration information, lodging fees,\* and more.

More than 600 municipal officials and other key stakeholders have already taken advantage of the early registration discount, and some of the ticketed events are filling up quickly! The deadline for discounted registration is Friday, **May 10**. The fastest and most secure way to register is by going online at [www.cml.org/annual-conference](http://www.cml.org/annual-conference).

Need to view the sessions and their details? An up-to-date schedule of the program is available to view and download from [www.cml.org/annual-conference](http://www.cml.org/annual-conference), plus you can download Attendify from your app store. Once you have Attendify on your device, search for "97th CML" to have all the conference information at your fingertips.

Want to sponsor the conference? There is still time; however, exhibit space is almost full! For more information, visit [bit.ly/2H8LrZ6](http://bit.ly/2H8LrZ6) or contact CML Communications Coordinator



Christine Taniguchi at [ctaniguchi@cml.org](mailto:ctaniguchi@cml.org) or 303-831-6411.

*\*As of March 8, a limited number of limited rooms is still available at DoubleTree; Beaver Run is currently full, but keeping a*

*waitlist. CML is working to secure additional lodging at nearby properties and will update the website when details are confirmed.*

## MEMBER NEWS

### New Associate Members

#### AARP Colorado

Bob Murphy, state director  
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AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with 38 million members nationwide and nearly 700,000 living in every town and city in Colorado. Its mission is to empower people to choose how they live as they age. AARP is known for its advocacy at the federal and state levels, but is increasingly engaged at the local level as well, where issues such as housing, transportation, civic engagement, and community wellness are vital to its members. Colorado is a national leader in the Livable Community network, with AARP providing the tools and framework for cities and towns to begin planning for their future through an age-friendly lens.

#### HdL Companies Inc.

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HdL Companies has been providing public agency revenue management services to local governments for 35 years. The firm currently serves more than 500 local government agencies in nine states and has recovered more than \$2 billion in revenue for its clients. The HdL Companies team has extensive finance, economic development, and local government experience. It uses this expertise to analyze, administer, and audit tax data and provide relevant, useful and timely information to support the financial strategies and business retention/expansion programs for local governments.

#### Magellan Strategies

David Flaherty, CEO  
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Magellan Strategies is a quantitative and qualitative research firm based in Louisville, specializing in measuring and understanding voter opinion. For the past 12 years, it has conducted voter opinion research projects in Colorado covering a wide array of policy issues at both the state and local level. Magellan has extensive experience in community surveys and conducting research measuring voter opinion of local funding or policy questions for municipalities and special districts.

#### Souder, Miller & Associates

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Souder, Miller & Associates (SMA) is an employee-owned engineering, environmental, and surveying firm that serves private and public clients throughout the Southwest and Rocky Mountain region and now the Colorado Front Range and Eastern Plains. With more than 225 staff members, 13 offices, and more than 30 years of service, SMA has provided technical expertise for a wide range of consulting services, including civil, planning, environmental, and surveying. SMA's civil and structural engineering services include commercial and municipal site planning and development, concrete foundation and earthen structures, streets, roads and bridges, hydrological studies and hydraulic structures, water distribution and sewer systems, water and wastewater treatment systems, and preparation of construction documents. SMA provides construction support services and its environmental science and engineering division provides complete investigative, analytical, and remediation services.

# COURSE NOTEBOOK

## WaterNow

Engage with public officials from across the nation to jump-start local, sustainable water solutions and create more resilient communities at the WaterNow Alliance Fourth Annual Summit in Austin, Texas, **March 27–28**. Learn how to eliminate barriers and advance sustainable water programs using innovative infrastructure and financing solutions, and take home tools to enable success in your community. Visit WaterNow at [waternowsummit.org](http://waternowsummit.org) to learn more and register.

## Energy Transition

The 21st Century Energy Transition Symposium, **April 1–2** in Denver, looks at innovations and solutions surrounding the full spectrum of energy sources. For more information, visit [cercsymposium.org/symposium-2019](http://cercsymposium.org/symposium-2019).

## SOCO Tourism Summit

Find a mentor or be one, travel to three different destinations, hear what others are doing to attract visitors to their destinations, and find opportunities to collaborate at this three-day tourism summit, **April 3–5**, from La Junta to Trinidad. For more information, visit [socotourismsummit.com](http://socotourismsummit.com).

## Sustainable Infrastructure

The Symposium for Sustainable Infrastructure, SSI-3, takes place **April 5–6**, in Denver. The focus is on “The City We Have, the City We Want.” This is very appropriate considering Colorado’s growth is projected to increase by 39 percent to 7.8 million in 2040. To register, visit [www.sustainabilitysymposium.org](http://www.sustainabilitysymposium.org).

## Downtowns

Downtown Colorado Inc.’s IN THE GAME, a Vibrant Downtowns Event, takes place **April 9–12**, in Aspen. To register for this interactive educational experience for rural downtown champions, visit [www.downtowncoloradoinc.org](http://www.downtowncoloradoinc.org).

## Fleet Electrification

This workshop, **April 16** in Denver, will provide extensive information, tools, and resources to realistically assess the possibility of electrifying an organization’s fleet. Topics covered include questions to ask, calculating realistic usable range, seasonal variability, fleet transition planning, and more. For more information and to register, visit [bit.ly/2XhBQnA](http://bit.ly/2XhBQnA).

## Energy and Environment

The 7th Annual Energy & Environment Symposium, **April 17–18** in Rifle, helps local leaders navigate energy industry issues. Topics include mineral revenue projections, oil and gas development issues in the urban environment, emergency preparedness, air



quality, economic impacts, and more. For more information, visit [conta.cc/2SjWJe7](http://conta.cc/2SjWJe7).

## Road Maintenance

The West Slope branch of American Public Works Association Colorado and the Colorado Association for Roadway Maintenance will present the 32nd Annual Spring Street Conference, **April 17–18** in Grand Junction. Visit [colorado.apwa.net/EventDetails/17485](http://colorado.apwa.net/EventDetails/17485) to learn more about fiber-reinforced asphalt, innovations in traffic control, pavement evaluation scoring, concrete pavement rehabilitation, sidewalk maintenance and ownership issues, welding safety, and more.

## Water

The water future of the Arkansas River Basin depends on education, dialogue, and a deeper understanding of all sides of water issues. The Arkansas River Basin Water Forum, **April 24–25** in Pueblo, has been at the forefront of this conversation for 25 years. To learn more and register, visit [www.arbwf.org](http://www.arbwf.org).

## Women Leading Government

Register now for the first-ever Colorado Women Leading Government (CWLG) Conference, **April 29**, in Arvada. CWLG is committed to advancing the role of women and helping them succeed in the public sector through professional development, networking, and career building opportunities. Sessions include Own Your Expertise, Lead Authentically, and Communicate with Confidence. The conference will help improve your skill set and grow your network to take your career on any trail you would like! Visit [bit.ly/2SVbOD2](http://bit.ly/2SVbOD2).

## Snow Conference

The American Public Works Association will host more than 2,000 snow fighters and other public works officials to share the latest and greatest from the world of winter maintenance in Salt Lake City, **May 19–22**. For details, visit [snow.apwa.net](http://snow.apwa.net).

## Records Management

Learn how to develop a records management program, including how to determine what a record is, how to conduct and create record inventories, how to develop a records management plan, and write a records management manual for staff. This program by the Colorado Municipal Clerks Association takes place **May 10** in Gunnison. To register, visit [bit.ly/2Un5d68](http://bit.ly/2Un5d68).

## Colorado Capital Conference

U.S. Sens. Cory Gardner and Michael Bennet, along with Colorado Mesa University, University of Colorado, and Colorado State University, invite you to join them in Washington, D.C., **June 5–7**, to interact with our nation’s leaders and gain an enhanced understanding of the federal legislative process. One hundred Colorado residents will be selected to attend. For more information and to register, visit [www.coloradomesa.edu/capital-conference/index.html](http://www.coloradomesa.edu/capital-conference/index.html). Registration closes on **March 22**.

## Women in Government

Join Women in Government at its 2019 National Legislative Conference in Chicago, **June 13–15**. The event brings together women state legislators and policy experts to engage across a variety of top issues and network. Visit [www.womeningovernment.org/attend/upcoming-events](http://www.womeningovernment.org/attend/upcoming-events) for more information.

## NEXTGEN PRACTICES: RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE POLICIES

INVESTIGATIONS LAW GROUP (ILG), a CML associate member, has a new white paper: *A Transformational Approach to Municipal Workplace Culture*. The time is now to execute a deliberate plan to transform the municipal workplace culture.

ILG's recommendations are informed by its 2018 work for the Colorado General Assembly assessing its policies and culture. Hundreds of hours have been spent researching how other institutions have addressed harassment in their workplaces, identifying best practices, hosting a summit of experts, and surveying and interviewing

hundreds of legislative employees about their experience in the workplace. The recent work rested on ILG's many years of experience conducting workplace investigations and training employees. As addressed in greater detail in the paper, ILG emphasizes that, although workplace leaders and managers must be prepared to appropriately respond to disrespectful, disruptive, and discriminatory behavior, it will be imperative to first invest in formalizing a culture of respect, collegiality, and inclusion.

This takes work and requires a strategic approach including a strong structure,

commitment to culture, informal remediation, formal, serious process to address more severe misconduct, transparency for constituents, and an eye to the future. These elements can be reflected in a holistic, state-of-the-art "Respectful Workplace Policy."

You can read the full white paper at [bit.ly/2J6siJ9](http://bit.ly/2J6siJ9). To learn more, contact ILG at 720-506-1956 or one of its principals, Liz Rita ([liz@ilgdenver.com](mailto:liz@ilgdenver.com)) or Anne Rooney McCord ([anne@ilgdenver.com](mailto:anne@ilgdenver.com)).

## EARN YOUR MASTERS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FROM ADAMS STATE

ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY IS NOW taking applications for a new cohort of students in its master of arts in public administration program. This is a online master's program that is designed for people who are working full time in state or local government or nonprofit agencies. It is a 36-credit-hour program that can be completed in two years. The curriculum provides a mix of academic courses addressing the fundamental principles in the discipline as well as a series of practicum experiences to give you hand-on

experience in the application of those principles to real world situations.

The application process is very straightforward and does not require the submission of any standardized test scores. Simply complete the online application ([www.adams.edu/admissions/apply-online](http://www.adams.edu/admissions/apply-online)), and submit your undergraduate transcript, two letters of recommendation, a resume, and a letter of interest in the program.

The program is the most affordable master's program in public administration in Colorado.

At a cost of \$400 per credit hour, one can complete the 36-credit-hour program for \$14,400. The program qualifies students for federal loans to cover those costs.

The master's program begins with a summer orientation course that introduces students to the discipline of public administration as well as to online education.

This course begins on **May 27**. If you are interested in the program, or have questions about it, contact the program director, Michael Mumper, PhD, at [mmumper@adams.edu](mailto:mmumper@adams.edu) or 719-588-9137.

## EARTH DAY 2019: PROTECT OUR SPECIES



2019 MARKS THE 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF Earth Day (April 22). This year's theme is Protect Our Species ([www.earthday.org/campaigns/green-cities/protectourspeciescities](http://www.earthday.org/campaigns/green-cities/protectourspeciescities)). Working in partnership with thousands of organizations, Earth Day Network, the organization that leads Earth Day worldwide, has launched a campaign to advance and protect laws, policies, regulations, and international cooperation agreements that protect species.

The world is facing the greatest rate of extinction since the disappearance of the dinosaurs more than 60 million years ago. The unprecedented global destruction and rapid reduction of plant and wildlife populations are linked directly to causes driven by human activity: climate change,

deforestation, habitat loss, unsustainable agriculture, trafficking and poaching, pollution, and pesticides, to name a few.

Studies estimate that we are now losing species at 1,000 to 10,000 times the normal rate. Insect populations have decreased by more than 45 percent worldwide, 40 percent of the world's bird species are in decline, beekeepers report annual hive losses of 30 percent or higher, and the list goes on.

These challenges offer an opportunity to change our approach to urban living, to embrace the biodiversity that is an essential part of our daily life so that communities and species can thrive in unity. Municipalities around the world are leading the way and developing

innovative plans to expand and protect urban ecosystems. Local governments have a wide array of options available to implement species and biodiversity protection plans ([bit.ly/2EWna7A](http://bit.ly/2EWna7A)). These include ordinances, citywide strategies, public outreach, and education campaigns.

In 2019, Earth Day will be a platform for local officials around the world to highlight successes, launch initiatives, and host discussions about the challenges and opportunities for protecting species and supporting biodiversity. Earth Day Network invites all local leaders to join the Earth Day 2019 campaign to respond to the threats that are affecting the survival of all species, including our own, and inspire action in the community.

Earth Day Network has created Cities and Local Leaders Toolkit ([www.earthday.org/campaigns/green-cities/protectourspeciescities](http://www.earthday.org/campaigns/green-cities/protectourspeciescities)) to help municipalities participate in Earth Day 2019's Protect Our Species campaign. The tool kit contains ideas for actions, examples of successful initiatives, media tools, and other resources. Local officials interested in participating in or learning more about the campaign can contact Sebastian Rosemont, Green Cities coordinator, at [cities@earthday.org](mailto:cities@earthday.org) or 202-518-0044.

## RESEARCH CORNER: COUNTING FOR DOLLARS ESTIMATES

By Melissa Mata, CML municipal research analyst

THE COUNTING FOR DOLLARS 2020 Project, a program of George Washington University, has updated its estimates of the federal dollars each state receives through programs that are guided directly by the Census count.

In 2017, the project released its first analysis of 16 federal programs, and calculated that Colorado received more than \$8 billion in federal funds annually, or \$1,481 per person per year. Using these numbers, an undercount

of 1 percent of the state's population could cost Colorado more than \$83 million a year in federal funding in areas such as healthcare, food assistance, early childhood education, and transportation.

In 2019, the project expanded its analysis to include 55 federal programs, and the new calculations total more than \$13 billion in annual federal assistance to Colorado, or approximately \$2,300 per person. Using the new numbers, the same

miscount as calculated above — a 1 percent undercount — would instead result in lost funds of \$130 million each year, which comes to more than \$1 billion for the 10-year period until the next Census.

Visit [bit.ly/2TGDHDe](http://bit.ly/2TGDHDe) to view a breakdown of the \$13 billion Colorado received in 2016 and the programs that would be most impacted by an inaccurate Census count.

## CML SCRAPBOOK



Attendees of the Colorado Association of Ski Towns meeting at the CML offices.



CML Executive Director Sam Mamet (left) and Gov. Jared Polis.



Gov. Jared Polis speaks to attendees at the Colorado Association of Ski Towns meeting.



Thanks to the Colorado Association of Ski Towns for ensuring that the retiring "captain" of CML, Sam Mamet, will be able to move on to command pontoon boats, golf courses, and ski slopes for many months to come!



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