What’s New at DOLA

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Chantal Unfug, Director of Local Government
Rachel Harlow-Schalk, Deputy Director of Local Government

Colorado Department of Local Affairs

August 2020
Our Mission:

To Strengthen Colorado’s Local Communities.
**Statewide Work**

**THE BOLD FOUR**
Click to view key issues & performance

- **Tax Reform & Economic Development**
  Fiscal reform that serves hard-working Coloradans

- **Energy & Renewables**
  Set Colorado on a path to 100% renewable energy by 2040

- **Health**
  Reduce the cost of healthcare

- **Education & Workforce**
  Implement free full-day kindergarten for all and expand preschool

**DOLA’s Accomplishments**

- Renewables Challenge: $9.04 M Awarded
- Renewables at Fort Lyon
- Colorado Resiliency Office Leadership in Climate Work

- Location Neutral Employee Partnership OEDIT
- Expanded Next Step Program to 10 communities - housing and support for child care centers
- Over 20 Rural Roadshows
COVID-19 & Local Governments
Immediate Assistance

Financial Advice and Assistance
- $16M Severance Distribution Immediate - balance by July 30
- Main Street Programmatic Flexibility & Peer Exchange
- April 2020 Fiscal Impact Survey

Advice Continuity of Operations
- Budget Amendments
- Fiscal First Aid
- TABOR Emergency Reserves

Reduction of Administrative Burden
- Elections
- Taxes - Collection Extensions
- Virtual Meetings
- Budget Extension of Filing Deadlines
- Extension of Conservation Trust Fund Reporting

Department of Local Affairs
Fiscal Impact Survey

Coordinated Effort with CML, CCI, SDA

Greatest Concern: Revenue Loss

Most Anticipated Use of Reserves

Anticipated Expenses: Capital Projects, but also did not know what to expect.

Reductions in Discretionary Spending & Reductions in Operations were reported to slow losses
COVID-19

Funding to Local Governments vs Recovery Spending Focus (Millions)

- These funds are ONLY CARES Act dollars.
- Fund not included are:
  - H.R. 6074
  - H.R. 6201
  - H.S. 266
  - FEMA PA
  - Other State Funds

NOTE: Information on funding of Health Investments is lagging data. Investment totals will grow in the coming weeks based upon reports from those that received funds.

*Source: LG Funding Distributed - CDOT, CDPHE, DOLA
COVID-19 & Housing

Division of Housing (DOH)

● EO12: $3M State emergency funds for rental assistance.
● EO 70: $10M CARES Act funds for rental assistance
● CDBG-CV: $3.9M Federal funds for rental assistance and housing counselling
● $19.6 M CARES Act funds for rental and mortgage assistance and housing counselling
  ○ Property Owner Preservation Program
  ○ Landlords apply for rental assistance on behalf of tenants
  ○ In 2 weeks, 426 landlords registered and $2.1 million in assistance requests made
Housing - Legislative

Establishing a Strategic Housing Working Group

GOAL: Develop strategies to elevate, act on, and maintain momentum for the creation and preservation of affordable housing statewide

HB19-(UNCLAIMED ASSETS) - was deferred no longer receive transfer this year, maybe in FY21-22

HB19-1245 - Vendor fee bill is delayed implementation until FY21-22
And in other news....

Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund
Reductions due to fuel markets in the Spring

FY 19-20 Outcomes: 2/3 West Slope

FY 20-21: $30M Reduced Match for Health & Child Care

Local Government Limited Gaming Program
Reductions due to COVID-19 closures
FY19-20: $5.1M  FY20-21: $1.7M

HB20-1019 - Prison Population Management Interim Study
And in other news....

- Just Transitions Task Force Recommendations Pending

- Colorado Resiliency Office
  - DOLA’s Lead on Resilient Recovery from COVID
    - Hosting Rural Adaptations
    - Revising Resiliency Framework
    - Webinar Series

Visit: [https://www.coresiliency.com/](https://www.coresiliency.com/)
And in other news....

- Census Update
  - Census Grants: $6 million state funding towards census promotion in hard to count communities (93% spending rate of $6m award).
Q & A
## COVID-19 Funding

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**Notes:**
1. Can not duplicate other federal programs unless funds available were fully expended
2. Very limited circumstances

**Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)**
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THANK YOU