

2024-2025



COLORADO
MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE

COLORADO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

ANNUAL REPORT



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COLORADO
CITIES
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A MESSAGE FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kevin Bommer".

Kevin Bommer,
CML Executive Director

Greetings,

Each year, the Colorado Municipal League compiles information and data into an Annual Report to show our progress. The Annual Report is a “report card” on our overall efforts. I am proud to say that CML is delivering results to you, and we know there is always more we can do.

Every day, CML works to implement our vision of “empowered cities and towns, united for a strong Colorado” by focusing on our core functions of advocacy, information, and training.

Thanks to the hard work of the CML Executive Board, which establishes the broad vision and goals of the organization, as well as CML staff, who find effective and innovative ways to implement them, CML delivers the highest quality service to our members. We continue to improve the CML Strategic Plan to provide a roadmap and vision to support Colorado’s municipalities.

With all 271 Colorado cities and towns as members of CML, the League’s mission has never been clearer. From the smallest town to Colorado’s capital city, all of Colorado is represented by CML. Each member is as important to us as any other.

On behalf of the CML Executive Board and staff, I would like to thank all municipal elected officials and staff who work tirelessly in service to their cities and towns. It is our honor to serve you.

ABOUT CML

Founded in 1923, CML is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization representing and serving Colorado's cities and towns. A total of 271 municipalities, representing more than 99% of the municipal population in the state, are currently members of CML. The League is an influential advocate of municipal interests at the state and federal levels. CML is also a reliable source of training and information for municipal staff and elected officials across Colorado. A 17-member staff carries out daily operations of the League. The CML Executive Board approves CML's policy focus areas, developed with input from membership.

CML is guided by a comprehensive strategic plan that informs key priorities and goals that support the League's mission, vision, and values.



MISSION

Advocacy, information, and training supporting exceptional municipal governance.



VISION

Empowered cities and towns, united for a strong Colorado.



VALUES

Commitment, service, collaboration.

MISSION

Advocacy, information,
and training supporting
exceptional municipal
governance

VISION

Empowered cities and towns,
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VALUES

Commitment, Service
and Collaboration

KEY PRIORITY — PROTECT

- Advance and defend municipal interests at the state and federal levels
- Provide expert municipal legal services to support CML members
- Empower members to be leaders on municipal issues and advocate for CML policies and positions
- Be the leading statewide information resource on municipal issues

KEY PRIORITY — ENGAGE

- Provide quality opportunities for meaningful member interactions with CML and each other
- Provide innovative and personalized training and outreach opportunities
- Implement a robust communications and training plan focused on increased engagement and improved content delivery
- Increase the resources available for municipal staff and elected officials
- Collaborate with organization partners to maximize resources and increase efficiency
- Provide effective and timely delivery of information and outreach opportunities
- Envision the future needs of CML and member municipalities

KEY PRIORITY — LEAD

- Support the development of leaders within municipalities
- Inspire participation in CML by elected officials and staff
- Promote principles of good governance and civic dialogue to advance individual and collective municipal interests

CML PUBLICATIONS

CML publications provide municipalities with information and guidance around common issues. CML produces a bi-weekly newsletter, quarterly magazine, books, Knowledge Now white papers, a weekly Statehouse Report during the legislative session, and other publications as needed to ensure municipalities have critical information at their fingertips. The most popular publications in the CML bookstore in 2024 were the ***Liquor & Beer Handbook***, ***Bob's Rules of Order for Colorado Local Governments***, and ***Open Meetings, Open Records***.

3 Books published

- 2024 Election Book
- Liquor & Beer Handbook
- Laws Enacted Affecting Local Governments

4 Editions of Colorado Municipalities Magazine

26 Editions of CML Newsletter

20 Editions of Statehouse Report

12 Editions of Municipal Law Update



MARKETING & ENGAGEMENT

Social Media



X followers

2,588



LinkedIn followers

2,200



Facebook followers

1,500



Email subscribers

23,341

Engagement

204

Engagement emails sent

(including CML Newsletter, Statehouse Report, legislative action alerts, municipal law updates, Lessons on Local Government outreach, Annual Conference outreach, district meetings, trainings, associate member news, and other miscellaneous promotions). A total of **324,795** engagement emails were delivered to recipients' inboxes.

7

CML listservs

(attorneys, clerks, finance, managers/administrators, human resources, public information officers, public works)

2

Sam Mamet Good Governance Award recipients





CML

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

928

Individuals participated
in CML trainings
(not including conference)

9

Webinars

7

In-person training opportunities
(including conference)

14

Spring district meetings

462

Individuals participated
in spring meetings

14

Fall district meetings

469

Individuals participated
in fall meetings

MUNiversity

MUNiversity is CML's
program to recognize
municipal elected
officials for increasing
their knowledge of
municipal government.

**MUNiversity
diploma recipients**

84

Graduate-level

7

Leadership-level

14

Fundamental-level

63

**MUNiversity
credits awarded**

4,753

CML ADVOCACY

CML's legislative advocacy team works directly with members of the Colorado General Assembly and other organizations to advocate on behalf of Colorado municipalities. The following numbers are from the 2025 legislative session.

657 Bills introduced in the
2025 Legislative Session

245 Bills tracked
by CML

85 Bills CML took
positions on

29 Bills supported by CML

23 CML-supported bills
passed (79%)

56 Bills opposed (or opposed
unless amended) by CML

36 CML-opposed bills died
or were amended to
remove opposition (64%)



CML ADVOCACY

CML supported **29** bills throughout the 2025 legislative session. Of these, **23** were passed and enacted. Below are some of the priority bills CML supported in the Colorado General Assembly.

HB25-1029

Municipal Authority over Certain Lands — ENACTED

HB25-1039

Commercial Vehicle Muffler Requirements — ENACTED

HB25-1112

Local Authorities Enforce Vehicle Registration — ENACTED

HB25-1152

Tech Accessibility Liability Contractor — ENACTED

SB25-007

Increase Prescribed Burns — ENACTED

SB25-023

Local Government Audit Exemption Thresholds — ENACTED

SB25-040

Future of Severance Taxes & Water Funding Task Force — ENACTED

SB25-162

Railroad Safety Requirements — ENACTED

SB25-305

Water Quality Permitting Efficiency — ENACTED

SB25-310

Proposition 130 Implementation — ENACTED

CML ADVOCACY

CML successfully defeated **18** bills that the League opposed. CML secured amendments to another **18** bills, which allowed the League to remove opposition. Below are some priority bills that CML was able to defeat or amend.



HB25-1067

Criminal Asset Forfeiture Act
— **DEFEATED**

HB25-1096

Automated Permits for Clean
Energy Technology
— **AMENDED TO REMOVE
CML OPPOSITION**

HB25-1169

Housing Developments on Faith
and Educational Land — **DEFEATED**

HB25-1232

Liability When Means of
Self-Defense Prohibited — **DEFEATED**

HB25-1234

Utility Consumer Protection — **AMENDED
TO REMOVE CML OPPOSITION**

HB25-1295

Food Truck Operations
— **AMENDED TO REMOVE
CML OPPOSITION**

SB235-132

Spirituos Liquor Manufacturer Tastings
Conducted — **DEFEATED**

CML LEGAL

CML provides legal services, including legal and operational education programs and conferences, throughout the year. Our legal team consults with CML members who have legal questions and prepares amicus, “friend of the court,” briefs in court cases with significant municipal impact.

6 Amicus curiae briefs

19 Continuing Legal Education sessions

169 Annual Seminar on Municipal Law attendees

24 Legal Corner newsletter articles





CML CONFERENCES

CML 2024 Annual Conference

1,149

CML 2024 Annual
Conference attendees
(sponsors and guests)

58

Sessions at the
Annual Conference

Attendees at the National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional Cities Conference

131

Municipal officials

26

Colorado
municipalities
represented

12

Youth
commissioners

Attendees at the NLC City Summit

88

Municipal officials

33

Colorado
municipalities
represented



**2024 ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**
LOVELAND • COLORADO

LESSONS ON

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CML partners with the Special District Association of Colorado to present Lessons on Local Government. This resource provides teachers with free local government resources and curriculum materials that meet state social studies standards, preparing students to be informed residents. More information is available at lessonsonlocalgovernment.org.

3

Lessons on Local
Government newsletters

8

Curriculum
lessons updated

150

Teacher Librarian
Day attendees

220

State social studies
conference attendance

9

Workshops and
presentations



PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wynetta Massey".

Wynetta Massey,
CML Executive Board
President

Each year, the CML Executive Board president selects a President's Initiative. This empowers board presidents to lend their perspective and expertise to a single issue that is important to them. CML's mission of "advocacy, information, and training supporting exceptional municipal governance" is brought to life by each president's initiative and the insight they offer. The 2024-2025 CML Executive Board President, Wynetta Massey chose to go "**Back to Basics**" for her President's Initiative.

The **Back to Basics** campaign aims to remind local governments of their foundational purpose and to encourage them to keep the bigger picture in their sights. The applications of **Back to Basics** include empowering elected officials, preparing future leaders, supporting municipal staff, and promoting civility in governance. **Back to Basics** is a call for leaders to not only remember who they serve but why they serve and how to do so effectively. Municipal leaders are closest to the people, and by embracing ethical governance that prioritizes transparency and accountability, they will ensure that their community's needs are met. Most importantly, **Back to Basics** seeks to invigorate local leaders by inspiring deeper connections between government and the people they serve.

CML FINANCES

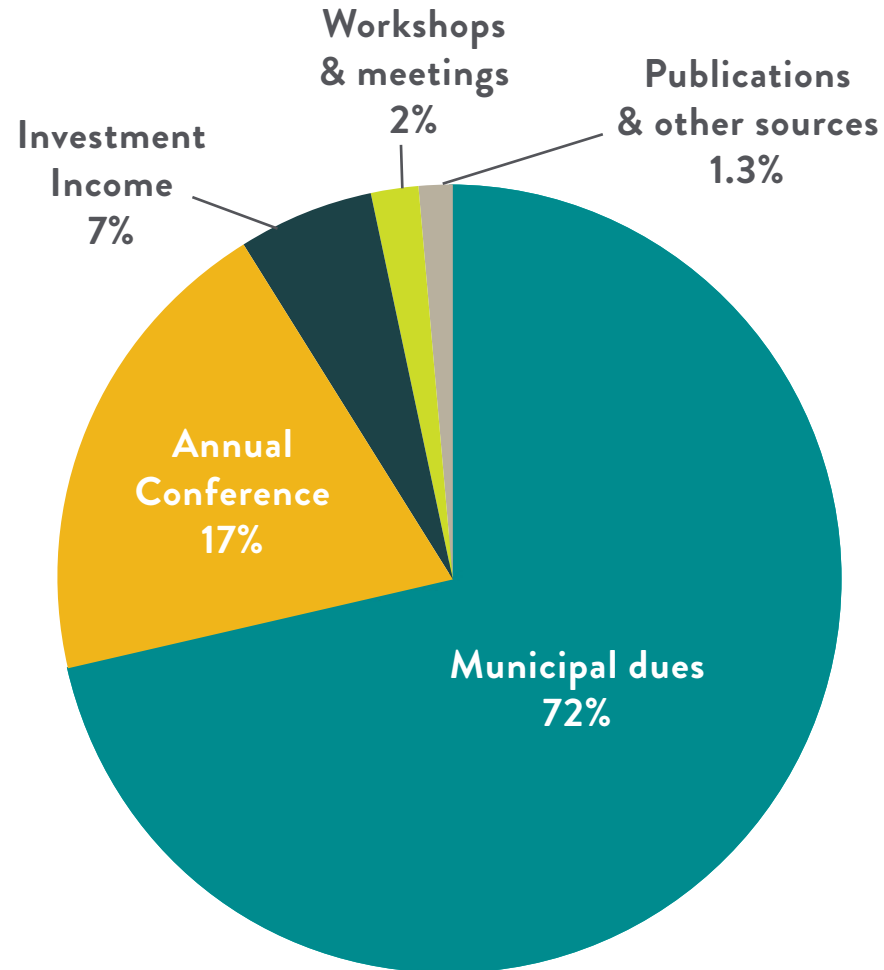
2024 REVENUE

for year ended 12-31-24

\$3,375,979
REVENUE

72%
Percentage of revenue
received through dues

SOURCES OF CML REVENUE



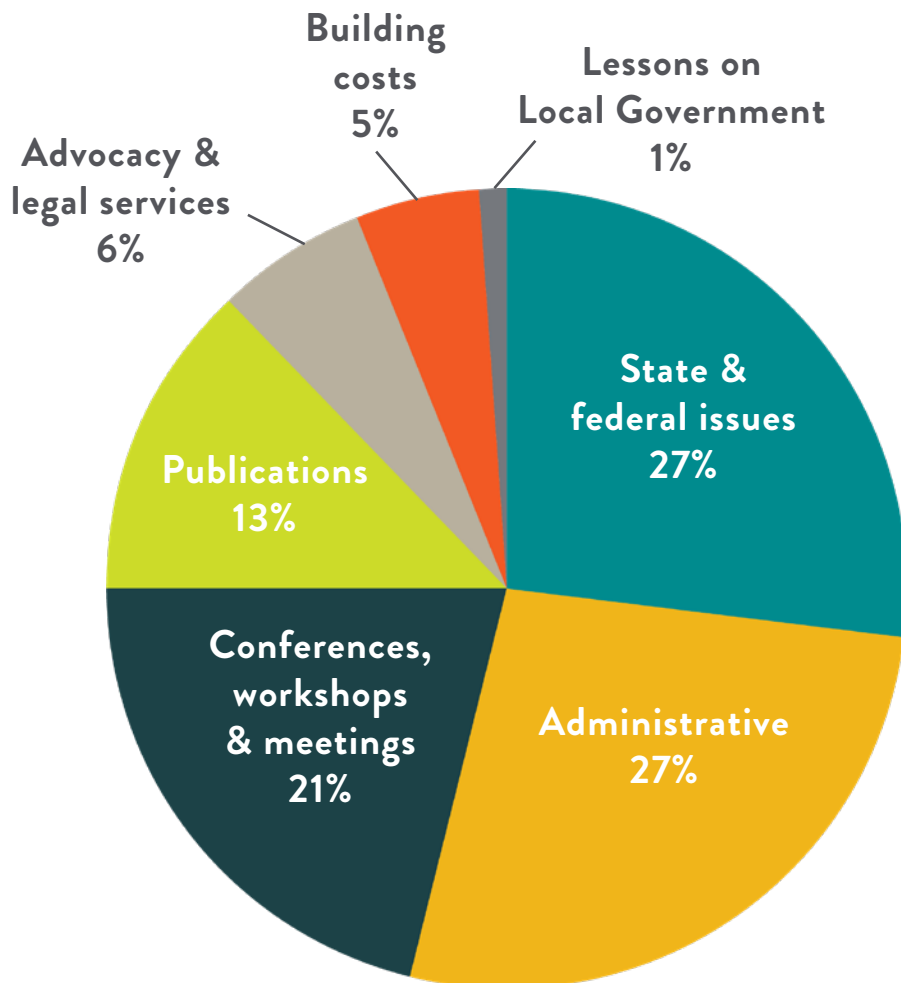
CML FINANCES

2024 EXPENSES

for year ended 12-31-24

CML EXPENSES BY CATEGORY

\$3,453,024
EXPENSES



COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS

BY THE NUMBERS

5,876,293

Colorado
population

4,386,412

Residents who live in
cities and towns, **about
75% of state population**

108

Home rule municipalities,
all are CML members

4,109,643

Residents living in
home rule municipalities

164

Statutory municipalities,
162 are CML members

243,468

Residents living in
statutory municipalities

1

Territorial charter town,
population 1,212

Denver

Largest city,
population 715,636

Lakeside

Smallest CML
member town,
population 16

1,813

Municipal mayors,
councilmembers
and trustees

Source: Colorado State Demography Office



COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS

MUNICIPAL TAXATION

Sources: Colorado Department of Revenue, Colorado Department of Local Affairs

\$119 billion

Assessed valuation of property in municipalities. This is **65.5%** of the total Colorado property tax assessment

7%

Highest sales tax rate (Winter Park)

1%

Lowest sales tax rate, among municipalities with a sales tax (Cokedale, Grover, Manassa, Ovid, Sedgwick, and Silverton)

229

Municipalities with a local sales tax

66

Municipalities self-collect sales tax

4

Revenue retention ballot questions in municipal elections. All of them passed

5

Debt and obligation ballot questions in municipal elections. All of them passed

55

Tax ballot questions in municipal elections. Of them, 36 (**65%**) passed





COLORADO
MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE

EMPOWERED CITIES AND TOWNS, UNITED FOR A STRONG COLORADO

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