


CML
 COLORADO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

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 Vail


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Disaster Recovery
 Lessons Learned From Natural Disasters

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2013 Flood...what happened

- ❖ In September 2013, Boulder County received 17 inches of rain in 5 days.
- ❖ All four mountain canyons flooded simultaneously, cutting off access to rescue vehicles and leaving whole towns isolated
- ❖ Over 1,100 people and 550 pets were airlifted to safety. This was the biggest airlift rescue effort since Hurricane Katrina.
- ❖ Recovery efforts will take **7+ years**. Cost of recovery for unincorporated Boulder County alone is estimated at **\$270 million**.




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2013 Flood...4.5 years later

Damages	Repairs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads – 150 miles • Trails – 111 miles • Open Space – 164 acres • Homes – 1289 damaged • 300+ completely destroyed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads – 105 miles of roads repaired, 36 culverts replaced • Trails – 40 miles • Open Space – 21 ponds and reservoirs • Homes – 100+ repaired or replaced via county programs

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Phases of a disaster

Preparation → Response
 Mitigation ← Recovery


Decrease Vulnerability & Increase Resilience

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Preparation

Everything you do to prepare before Day 1 makes everything after Day 1 so much easier!

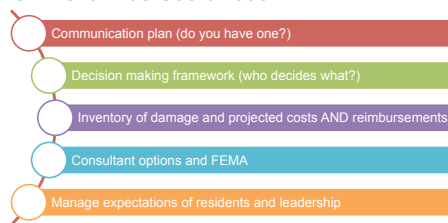


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Recovery

Government-wide Coordination



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Recovery

Role of the Recovery Manager



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Recovery Finance

Spending WILL exceed revenues



Strategies

- Reserves (how much?)
- Insurance options
- Partner with neighbors
- Advances from state/FEMA
- Taxing and borrowing options
- Build resiliently

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Recovery Finance

Maximize your revenues

- Work with your existing accounting staff
- Be consistent across departments
- Include equipment hours
- Document, procure, and spend like it will be audited
- Don't forget volunteer hours!

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Mitigation

- Federal level trends point to more responsibility being directed to the local and state levels.
- Current bills place greater emphasis on mitigation and resiliency work.
- Conduct Risk & Vulnerability Assessment: Identify hazards, risks and vulnerabilities.
- Ask the Climate Question: Considering if and how current weather and climate or projected future changes would affect the objectives of an agency or the resources it manages.
- Implement Adaptation Strategies: Integrate and implement strategies into local plans, policies and regulations (not a stand-alone plan).

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Lessons Learned

- Take charge of YOUR recovery
- Get it in writing and keep it forever
- Be patient - this is a sprint AND an ultramarathon
- Be flexible - the rules will change frequently
- Involve the right people at the right times
- Take care of yourself and your staff
- Be as prepared as possible BEFORE Day 1

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Q & A

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Local Government Guide to Recovery:

[https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/
coloradounited/landing-page/crrc](https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/coloradounited/landing-page/crrc)

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