Mission Statement

“To provide effective, efficient services while fostering sustainable economic growth to enhance our mountain lifestyle.”
Message from the County Commissioners

2016 was a year that saw incredible tragedy, difficult challenges, amazing strength and true resiliency in and around our County. It saw the untimely passing of Chairman Tom Hayden (and the appointment of his replacement, Peter Monson), continued budget challenges, and an evolving County working to deal with the stresses of things like the I-70 road improvements, limited housing and no health care.

It was a year of both opportunity, and challenge. Your Board took on those challenges, sharpening our focus on economic development and diversity, improved transportation, healthcare opportunities, and more. It was a year that saw the continued progress of the Clear Creek Greenway Trail, several capital improvement projects, a primary care clinic, and establishing a County Housing Authority—all while ensuring we continued to take care of the basics like law enforcement, roads and bridges (Public Works), and services needed by every citizen in the County.

This was a year where we saw so many improvements, many challenges and a better future for our residents and visitors. We are proud of County Staff for implementing these projects, ideas and decisions while maintaining that top professionalism we admire and respect. And we sincerely appreciate the efforts of staff to successfully meet the first substantial budget cuts in years head-on, and establish a new tool for priority-based budgeting into the future. As we enter 2017 with a new Board, we envision new hope, new ideas and an even greater path ahead for Clear Creek County!
It is my honor to present the 2016 Clear Creek County Annual Report, and our second straight edition. I take great pride in the work done this past year, both by Staff and our Elected Officials. Clear Creek County touches the lives of every resident, every visitor and every person passing by—every single day, in some form or another. Our value is putting people first, and taking pride in the professional service we provide.

2016 was an amazing year in so many ways! While we began with a heavy heart from Tom Hayden’s loss, then tackled the budget challenges due to a possible Henderson Mine closure, in the end we made the tough decisions and changes needed to see a $2.1M budget reduction. I was very pleased to see the hard work from every department—reducing expenditures, revising fees or looking for increased revenue streams, to sharing our successes and best practices to make us better. Difficult decisions and sacrifices were made over the past year.

Different from 2015 and previous years, we changed “how we’d always done things” in so many ways. And, while change can be difficult for some, it was (and still is necessary) crucial to roll up our sleeves and take a hard look at the next 10 years---for this County, for its residents and for its future. And, we will continue to take a hard look at our service levels, at our expenses and at those challenges we’ll face over the next “hill” and, how we manage those.

We’ll continue to focus on economic development and diversification, asking ourselves about growth, quality and predictability for current and future generations. We’ll continue to focus on significant items like the budget, emergency services, healthcare, housing, broadband--programs that benefit the County as a whole. Most importantly, we’ll continue to serve this great County, help to solve its challenges, and continue to strive to improve this great place we live, work and play in.

Thank you for your trust in what we do.
Clear Creek County’s finances for calendar year 2016 declined overall, yet retained solid fund balance reserves and low long-term debt. For 2016, total revenues were $34.4 million, while expenditures were $39.1 million—mainly due to building improvements, some land purchases, and other major projects like the County-wide energy improvement initiative.

For more information on the County’s 2017 Budget:  
http://www.co.clear-creek.co.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1051

**General Fund**
This fund is the general operating fund of the County, and is used to account for all the financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Principal sources of revenue are property taxes, fees and permits, and state share revenues. Primary expenditures are for general administration, planning and zoning, and law enforcement.

**Special Revenue Funds**
These funds account for revenues derived from specific taxes or other earmarked revenue sources including state highway user’s tax, federal and state grants, and property taxes that are legally restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. Special Revenue Funds for 2016 are: Road and Bridge; Conservation Trust; Social Services; Emergency Telephone; Lodging Tax; Public Health; Open Space Trust; Road Projects; and, Emergency Services District.

**Capital Projects Type Funds**
These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays. For 2016, they are: Capital Improvement and Capital Projects.

2016 Budget Expenditures by Fund

2016 Budget Revenues by Fund

General Fund Expenditures
- General Government: $7,480,000
- Public Safety: $9,759,000
- Health & Welfare: $418,000
- Economic Development: $1,142,000
- Capital/Projects: $5,881,000
- Other: $343,000
- Total: $25,023,000

General Fund Revenues
- General Government: $22,388,222
- Road Projects: $6,414,424
- Road & Bridge: $6,414,424
- Social Services: $3,336,614
- Other: $465,126
- Total: $25,023,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year &amp; Grant Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2016 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>Courts Wing Remodel Design Services</td>
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<td>2016 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$1.44 million</td>
<td>Energy Service upgrades to County facilities</td>
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<td>2016 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$249,770</td>
<td>Courts Wing Remodel Construction</td>
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<td>2015-16 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Connection of Station 1A to Central Clear Creek Sanitation District</td>
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<td>2016 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>New horizontal grinder at the Transfer Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Energy &amp; Mineral Impact Grant Award</td>
<td>$39,000</td>
<td>Center-for-Priority-Based-Budgeting software program for County financials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 DOT 5304 Grant</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>County Planning and Assessment for Clear Creek County and Gilpin County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade</td>
<td>County Assessment</td>
<td>Mini Blueprint 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Great Outdoors Colorado Open Space Grant Award</td>
<td>$555,000</td>
<td>Funds for the purchase of 109 acres on North Floyd Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Emergency Management Planning Grant Program (EMPG)</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>Funds to assist in the development of comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazard emergency management program and to improve emergency preparedness through integrated planning, training and exercising addressing prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG)</td>
<td>$212,100</td>
<td>Echo Hills Area Wildfire Mitigation Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Freeport-McMoRan Foundation</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Funded the predevelopment plan to construct 12 workforce housing units on the Georgetown Millsite property. The grant covered survey, engineering and legal professional costs</td>
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<td>CDOT Division of Transit and Rail</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
<td>Transit planning grant for Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CPDHE) from the retail marijuana tax cash fund</td>
<td>$99,025</td>
<td>Funding for the implementation of the Communities that Care (CTC) model in Clear Creek County. CTC is a community based prevention process that addresses youth substance use initiation and juvenile delinquency</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMTS Provider Grant (CDPHE – EMTS Section)</td>
<td>$89,485</td>
<td>Ambulance and radios</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foothills RETAC</td>
<td>$3,159</td>
<td>Avalanche rescue equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foothills RETAC</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Medical equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Local Affairs</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>Broadband Development Study with NEO Connect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Clerk’s office employees recorded 4,200 documents, processed 20,000 motor vehicle transactions, maintained 7,800 voter registration records, and were successful in conducting the Primary and General Elections with the County’s new voting equipment. Online motor vehicle registration renewal was set up for the convenience of County residents starting in March, 2016.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Assessor’s Office inspected and confirmed the inventory of over 1,000 sales of property this year in preparation for the 2017 reappraisal.
- Processing building permits for new construction and additions.
2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Carol Lee was elected Treasurer/Public Trustee November 8th to a two-year term and sworn into office on January 3, 2017.
- The Treasurer’s Office now has monthly reports on our website. [http://www.co.clear-creek.co.us/index.aspx?NID=193](http://www.co.clear-creek.co.us/index.aspx?NID=193)
- Foreclosures were down dramatically with the Public Trustee processing 14 files in 2016. Four of those have been withdrawn!
- Credit cards continue to be accepted in four County departments: Clerk & Recorder, Treasurer, Land Use and Transfer Station.
- The Treasurer’s Office held its 2nd on-line tax lien sale for Clear Creek County November 7, 2016. Success - Every lien sold. We offered 150 parcels, sold 150. The premium bid received was $5,353.41.
- Beginning in 2018 residents will be able to get their 2017 tax notice by email. The individual code (verification key) to sign up will appear on your 2016 Tax Notice sent in 2017.
The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office encompasses multiple service divisions: The Detentions and Communications Division, Special Operations and Administration Division, and the Patrol and Investigations Division. The office works closely with the community and other law enforcement agencies to help make Clear Creek County a safe and secure place to live and play.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Dispatch Center received 28,283 calls via 911 calls, non-emergency calls and officer initiated calls.
- The Patrol and Investigations Divisions handled 12,863 calls and generated 1,959 case reports, arresting 798 adults and 12 juveniles. (Traffic Citations and Summons’ and Complaints are tracked as arrests.)
- The Jail booked 801 arrestees, 604 males and 197 females. The average daily population was 66 inmates, 47 males and 19 females.
- The Jail Kitchen served 74,376 meals in 2016 with an average cost per meal of $2.99.
- The Court Security Deputies scanned 18,867 attorneys, defendants, plaintiffs and visitors to the courts and probation.
- Special Operations responded to 17 Wildland Fires, 84 Injured/Lost/Overdue Hiker Rescue Calls, 10 Rafting Accident/Swift Water Rescue Calls and 20 Snowcat Calls.
- 348 Civil Process documents were prepared for service. Records processed 1,959 case reports including 265 Penalty Assessments, 315 Summons and Complaints, and 12 Animal Control Citations. This office also issued 100 new Concealed Handgun Permits while renewing 30 Permits.
- The Transport team drove 54,652 miles, transporting 1,199 inmates to and from our jail to other jails and/or prisons.
- Nurses examined 1,212 inmates and 317 upon initial intake and the Doctors conducted 209 visits. 27 trips were made to the Emergency Department for inmates.

*More data can be located in the accomplishments section on page 28.
Sheriff Continued:
Animal Services
*includes Shelter & Animal Control

Quick Facts
2014 Staff: 6.5
2015 Staff: 6
2016 Staff: 6

2014 Actual: $387,914
2015 Actual: $382,240
2016 Budget: $416,225

Funded Through: General Fund, Shelter Fees, Fines and Penalties, Microchip Fees, Gilpin County Contract, Licenses, and Donations.

*These figures are combined for the Shelter and Animal Control, and are part of the Sheriff’s Office total budget.

The Clear Creek/Gilpin County Animal Shelter provides nourishment and a safe environment for abandoned, homeless, stray, and impounded dogs and cats. The shelter offers the public surrender and adoption services, low cost microchipping, spay/neuter vouchers for dogs and cats, and dog licenses. In addition, the shelter hosts monthly low cost vaccination clinics for dogs and cats, and offers regular dog training opportunities for staff, volunteers, and the public. The shelter staff is dedicated to educating the public about responsible pet ownership and is committed to finding appropriate placements for all shelter animals. Animal Control serves the residents of Clear Creek County by helping to ensure the safety and well-being of its residents and their pets through the enforcement of County Resolutions, State Statutes and education.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Impounded 317 dogs and 75 cats.
- 130 dogs and 61 cats were adopted, and 177 dogs and 6 cats were returned to their owners. Maintained an exceptionally low euthanasia rate (<1%) in a responsible manner.
- Partnered with non-profit Friends of Charlie’s Place to cover the costs of spaying and neutering over 125 shelter and resident-owned dogs and cats.
- Maintained a relationship with professional dog trainer, Ana Melara, who donates her time on a weekly basis to offer training advice to shelter staff, volunteers, and members of the public.
- Animal Control Officers responded to 599 calls.
**Coroner**

The Clear Creek County Coroner’s Office is an elected position mandated to establish the cause and manner of death in all coroner-reportable cases. The Coroner is a certified death investigator with the Colorado Coroner’s Association and a nationally certified medical investigator.

Welcome Chris Hegmann as the new County Coroner
Sworn into office January 4, 2017

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**Surveyor**

The Clear Creek County Surveyor is an elected position and represents the County in boundary disputes. The Surveyor works as a contractor on an as-needed basis.

**2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Completed the last phase of the Clear Creek-Gilpin County line project.
- Working on enhancing the Geodetic Control project.
- Performed and ALTA survey on the old lumber yard property in Idaho Springs and established parts of the Guanella Pass ROW.

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**Quick Facts**

- **2014 Staff:** 1
- **2015 Staff:** 1
- **2016 Staff:** 1
- **2014 Actual:** $22,950
- **2015 Actual:** $24,450
- **2016 Budget:** $17,000
- **Funded Through:** General Fund

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**Quick Facts**

- **2014 Staff:** 1
- **2015 Staff:** 1
- **2016 Staff:** 1
- **2014 Actual:** $100,670
- **2015 Actual:** $109,035
- **2016 Budget:** $125,400
- **Funded Through:** General Fund

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Welcome Don Allan as the new County Coroner
Sworn into office January 4, 2017

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Welcome Greg Markle as the new County Surveyor
Sworn into office January 4, 2017

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Welcome Mile High Jeep Club in Empire
The Administration Department provides a variety of internal and external services to the County Manager, the County Commissioners, Division Directors, Elected Officials, and most importantly, the public. Administration includes the Communication Specialist and the Transportation Liaison.

### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A number of CDOT projects completed design, planning and/or construction during 2016:
- Berthoud Pass Sediment Control Action Plan (design).
- Design Speed Study (final report issued).
- Eastbound Acceleration Lane (construction).
- Eastbound Peak Period Shoulder Lane/Mountain Express Lane (construction).
- Empire Traffic Calming Medians (construction).
- Wetlands Mitigation Bank/Clear Creek Ecological Project (design).

### Attorney

The Clear Creek County Attorney is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The County Attorney’s Office provides legal advice to the Board as well as to other elected officials, County departments and advisory boards.

### Transportation Liaison

The Transportation Liaison represents Clear Creek County to federal, state, and local agencies and officials regarding transportation initiatives, policies programs and projects in Clear Creek County, and oversees the collaboration efforts with transportation agencies to ensure the County’s position, policy and philosophy is clearly communicated and appropriately implemented.

Welcome Aboard!! Clear Creek County Transit began December 5, 2016. Click the QR Code for the bus schedule or visit the County website at [www.co.clear-creek.co.us](http://www.co.clear-creek.co.us).

### Quick Facts

**2014 Staff:** 3  
**2015 Staff:** 5  
**2016 Staff:** 5  
**2014 Actual:** $305,633  
**2015 Actual:** $480,657  
**2016 Budget:** $628,302

Funded Through: General Fund
Environmental Health

Clear Creek Environmental Health inspects and permits On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems, investigates and obtains compliance with land use, environmental and building regulations, manages environmental crimes response, performs environmental site assessments, manages zoonotic disease response, and works closely with Public Health and Office of Emergency Management on assisting with emergency preparedness incidents and communicable disease issues.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Worked closely with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and our local Public Health Nurse.
- Successfully hosted the Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater Annual Education Conference at Shadows Ranch.
- Moved to the Annex Building to help make permit issuance more efficient on both the customer and for County Staff.
- Involved in the collection of potentially diseased bats, rabbits and skunks for testing to ensure community safety against rabies, tularemia and plague.
- Successfully launched a new Operating Permit program that regulates the regular and required maintenance of the higher level treatment On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems in our County.

Quick Facts

2014 Staff:  2.5  
2015 Staff:  1.5  
2016 Staff:  1.5  
2014 Actual:  $111,128  
2015 Actual:  $110,457  
2016 Budget: $104,347  
Funded Through: General Fund, State LPHA Contracts, Permit & License Fees.

Public Health

The Public Health Department works to control and prevent diseases, protect against environmental hazards, promote safety, respond to health emergencies, teach healthy behaviors, and ensure the quality and accessibility of health services for everyone. Preventing the outbreak and spread of disease, offering health screenings, establishing local health policies, and providing educational services are critical programs in a community-based health mission. Conducting disease investigations and providing public health nursing services ensures community-based health for County residents.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successfully completed all State/Federal mandated deliverables.
- Attended tabletop, virtual, full scale exercises, drills, workshops, multiple meetings and conferences for emergency preparedness.
- Developed plan for our participation in the 2017 statewide exercise and received $67,000 grant to offset expenses for emergency preparedness.
- Wrote and presented new plans for three Points of Distribution for emergency supplies pickup.
- Involved in the collection of potentially diseased bats, rabbits and skunks for testing to ensure community safety against rabies, tularemia and plague.
- Successfully launched a new Operating Permit program that regulates the regular and required maintenance of the higher level treatment On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems in our County.

Quick Facts

2014 Staff:  5.95  
2015 Staff:  5.35  
2016 Staff:  4  
2014 Actual:  $650,198  
2015 Actual:  $401,189  
2016 Budget: $381,228  
Funded Through: General Fund, Grants and Contracts.

Public Health continues offering Immunizations, WIC, Child Fatality Review, Health Screenings, Baby Me Tobacco Free, health education, referrals, and communicable disease education.
Emergency Management

The Office of Emergency Management establishes and facilitates a process and structure for the systematic coordination and effective delivery of public safety services that address the consequences of the destructive forces of natural and man-made disasters. This is done through a comprehensive program of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed, completed and approved with the cooperation and coordination of local government, public, and private stakeholders.
- The Echo Hills Wildfire Mitigation Project contract was awarded and completed in October, 2016.
- The Wildfire Protection Task Force, created by the County Commissioners, provides coordination for community efforts to mitigate wildfires.

Quick Facts

2014 Staff: 2.5
2015 Staff: 2.5
2016 Staff: 2.25

(Grant Funding)
2014 Actual: $213,963 ($70,000)
2015 Actual: $205,795 ($70,000)
2016 Budget: $160,743 ($70,000)

Funded Through: General Fund, Grants.

- Supported Project Senior Support Emergency Action Plan implementation.

The CodeRed system allows emergency dispatchers to deliver public safety messages to the entire County.
If you are a resident of Clear Creek County and would like your contact information added to the CodeRed database, please use the following link:

https://public.coderedweb.com/

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services is dedicated to the health and safety of Clear Creek County and provides medical services and community outreach programs to Empire, Georgetown, Idaho Springs, Silver Plume and the many rural areas around the County. In addition, CCEMS provides emergency care and transport for outdoor enthusiasts and visitors, 24/7.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2016 was the busiest year on record for EMS.
- Had 122% of the average call volume with 8 out of 12 months setting records for highest call volume.
- 27,753 miles transporting patients (that’s more than the circumference of the Earth.)
- $110,000 more collected in revenue than last year.
Veterans Services/Adult Protection

Serves 1600+ Veterans in the County to address the statutory requirements for a Veterans Service Officer. Acts as the Adult Protection Caseworker to promote the humane, thorough, efficient and uniform investigations of allegations of abuse, self-neglect, neglect, mistreatment and/or financial exploitation of at-risk-adults.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Co-Sponsored ‘Vet Connect’ program that helps County veterans navigate the judicial process and receive Veterans Administration services.
- Led “Wreaths Across America” tribute where 113 graves were decorated with County-wide representatives.
- Created Blue Star Memorial Highway project where 23 U.S. flags are flown on major holidays, in Idaho Springs.

Quick Facts

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<tr>
<th>Veterans Services</th>
<th>Adult Protection</th>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>$13,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds</td>
<td>General Fund, Federal, State, County Funding.</td>
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Children/Family Services

The Division of Child Welfare primarily focuses on the needs of Colorado’s at-risk, abused and neglected children and youth, and their families. Child Care authorizes care based on the needs of the children and promotes consistency for the child and the participants.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Preparations to become a DR (Differential Response) County were put in place to improve child protection services.
- Implemented prevention programs in the schools through the “School-based Counselor”.
- One successful child adoption.

Quick Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Welfare</th>
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<td>2014 Staff: 6</td>
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<td>2016 Staff: 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$893,540</td>
<td>$61,373</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Funds</td>
<td>General Fund, Federal, State, County Funding.</td>
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Road & Bridge

In 2016, the Public Works administered a $6.4 million budget including public infrastructure operations and maintenance (snow plowing, dust control, road grading, ditch and culvert maintenance, etc.), fleet maintenance, solid waste/recycling, noxious weed management, engineering, surveying, construction management and inspection. The Division is responsible for approximately 192 miles of streets/roadways - 6 state certified bridges - 3 bike path bridges - Right-of-Way Culverts - County's regulatory signs - 172 vehicles/equipment - 6 miles of dedicated bike paths - 1 State certified transfer and recycling facility - 1 public works service and operations center & 2 satellite service and operations yards.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Responded to approximately 400 requests from residents.
- Approximately 6,000 hours of snow plowing.
- County-wide roadway maintenance including dust control, road grading, ditch and culvert maintenance.
- Administered permits on public right-of-way.

Solid Waste

Solid Waste & Recycling maintains an environmentally safe containment area for all acceptable refuse. They collect and ship most recyclables, diverting them from roadsides and landfills. And, they provide for the safe disposal of household hazardous waste, supporting a healthy watershed for residents, visitors and downstream neighbors, while ensuring compliance with Federal, State and County regulations.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Residents recycled 871,520 pounds of metals, glass, plastic, cardboard, paper and electronics. This is a 4.7% increase from 2015. 23,244 paying customers used the facility. (This number does not include residents that only recycled which a prudent estimate would be an additional 15% or 3,486 additional customers.)

*More data can be located in the accomplishments section on page 28.
HIKE A TRAIL in Clear Creek County

Begin your tour by clicking on this bar code

www.co.clear-creek.co.us

HIKE A TRAIL will be updated with new adventures as additional sites become available. Check our website often!

Come bike/hike a trail with us! Embracing the County’s unique cultural heritage and natural environment while providing an outstanding resource for families, visitors and outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy.

7:30 Mine Trail

The miners who made their way to the Rocky Mountains in 1859 came in search of gold. They found silver as well, but pushed these claims aside as they focused on gold. In the fall of 1864, rich silver ore was found at the summit of Mt. McClellan, about 4 miles southwest of here as the crow flies. While they hadn’t been interested in just “any old” silver mine, the high grade ore was valuable enough to start a new rush to the Rockies.

As you might guess from the name of the town, Silver Plume became part of that second rush. The mines north of the town would produce great quantities of silver ore. The hillsides above you are riddled with tunnels, shafts and underground workings. A report done by the United States Geological Survey in 1908 noted 13 miles of underground workings related to the Pelican mine and related claims alone.

Silver Creek Trail

In 1887 the merchants of Georgetown, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Georgetown, and the Clear Creek County Commissioners decided to pay for construction of a wagon road, 10 feet in width and almost 5 miles long, between Georgetown and the small mining community of Silver Creek south of Lawson. Frank Maxwell of Georgetown was paid $3,000 for the project. Remnants of this road are now used as a non-motorized trail.

In 1905 J. J. White built a dam at the north end of the lake for the creation of hydro-electric power. The resulting reservoir was much larger than it is today. The railroad grade ran along a raised grade right through the reservoir area approximately 2 blocks to the east of today’s front-age road (Argentine St.) which was flooded by the lake at this time.

7:30 Mine Trail

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Silver Creek Trail

In 1887 the merchants of Georgetown, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Georgetown, and the Clear Creek County Commissioners decided to pay for construction of a wagon road, 10 feet in width and almost 5 miles long, between Georgetown and the small mining community of Silver Creek south of Lawson. Frank Maxwell of Georgetown was paid $3,000 for the project. Remnants of this road are now used as a non-motorized trail.

In 1905 J. J. White built a dam at the north end of the lake for the creation of hydro-electric power. The resulting reservoir was much larger than it is today. The railroad grade ran along a raised grade right through the reservoir area approximately 2 blocks to the east of today’s front-age road (Argentine St.) which was flooded by the lake at this time.

Rutherford Trail

Rutherford Trail was once a wagon road from Georgetown to the mines near Silver Dale and the Argentine Mining District. The road and its bridges were nearly obliterated by flood of 1965 and the road fell to dis-use. It was reopened as a trail with the rebuilding of the lower bridge in 2012.

The Rutherford family freight hauling business used the historic road through the 1920s and 30s to haul freight to Silver Dale’s mines and ore back to Georgetown’s mills. They cut ice at the reservoir above town, brought it down to the freight depot (11th and Rose), and stored it in sawdust to be use in the ice boxes of the day.

The donkeys were loaded at the head of 3rd street to haul the loads up the hill. At the top they were set free. The donkeys always returned on their own to Georgetown and fed in the vacant lots until they were loaded up for another haul.
**Finance and Budget**

The Finance Department maintains the County accounting system. This includes financial reporting, budget preparation, processing payables, processing payroll, and coordination with all County Departments for management decisions regarding financial records and budgetary controls.

### Quick Facts

- **2014 Staff:** 3.5
- **2015 Staff:** 3.5
- **2016 Staff:** 3.5

- **2014 Actual:** $343,464
- **2015 Actual:** $354,623
- **2016 Budget:** $359,170

**Funded Through:** General Fund

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**2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The 2017 County General Fund budget was reduced by $2.1 Million from the 2016 budget.
- Garnered 10%+ cost savings across County Offices, while increasing revenues in certain areas to match rising costs.
Human Resources
Human Resources works to ensure the County’s workforce, goals and business strategies are met through strategic human resources.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Clear Creek County went to online electronic applications for any job opening related to the County, excluding the Sheriff’s Office. The Sheriff’s Office will move to online applications in early 2017.
- The overall employees for the County as of December 31, 2016 was a total headcount of 215 employees. The full time employee status was 204.

Information Technology
The Information Technology Department is responsible for I.T. network administration and support, personal computer support, server administration and support, systems security, technology procurement, and web and application development.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Partnering with Gilpin County, forming the Regional Broadband Development Committee.
- $78,000 DOLA grant to fund Broadband Development Study with Neo Connect.
- 85% of all physical servers virtualized.
- Wide area network now linking 15 sites.

- Reduced Elected Officials Offices’ Information Technology expense by 57%.
Archives
The County Archives is an internal service department which provides storage, records management and research support for County offices. As time permits, the staff also assists people interested in local history, genealogy and other research projects that relate to County history in a broad sense.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Worked with County Clerk and Recorder’s Office to have scanned documents of historic records available for public use.
- Provided information and photographs on historic trails throughout the County as part of the Hike a Trail Project.
- Started working with the County Library District to develop a local history archive within the library system.

Quick Facts
2014 Staff: 2
2015 Staff: 2
2016 Staff: 2
2014 Actual: $119,857
2015 Actual: $125,886
2016 Budget: $123,270
Funded Through: General Fund

- Worked to update County retention schedules to assure the County keeps important records while providing for the destruction of unnecessary materials in accordance with state statutes.
- Presented talks for historical groups in both Clear Creek and Jefferson Counties.
- Focused on research related to historic properties which might be impacted by pending projects along the I-70 corridor.

Building Maintenance (Facilities)
The purpose of the Maintenance Department is to provide a safe, clean, environment for County employees and customers. This is accomplished by failure prevention practices that maximize the performance and extend the useful life of equipment and systems throughout the County’s facilities, as well as maintaining the aesthetic qualities of facility interiors and landscapes.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- County Administration and Maintenance are working together with Iconergy and have begun the implementation of the Energy Performance Contract (EPC).
- Energy efficient lighting has been installed at the animal shelter, “Charlie’s Place” and the mechanical designs are complete to replace the outdated HVAC system.

Quick Facts
2014 Staff: 5
2015 Staff: 5
2016 Staff: 4.5
2014 Actual: $627,364
2015 Actual: $582,366
2016 Budget: $601,600
Funded Through: General Fund

- The EPC project is still on-going and will continue though 2017.
Community Development

Community Development Administration provides supervision, support, and coordination for departments included in Community Development – Building, Planning, Mapping, and Special Projects, and represents these interests in coordination with the state.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Support Staff provides customer service to property owners and their agents who are seeking land use permits, plus members of the public and several County Departments who are seeking information on individual parcels.

- Support Staff is engaged in the ongoing process of converting the extensive collection of older records from paper to electronic format.

Quick Facts

2014 Staff: 3.5
2015 Staff: 4
2016 Staff: 2.5
2014 Actual: $249,340
2015 Actual: $203,356
2016 Budget: $172,640

Funded Through: General Fund with some donation offsets from the Henderson Mine
Planning/Site Development

The Planning/Site Development Department ensures all new development is in compliance with applicable development regulations. We also provide effective comprehensive planning, and code enforcement services to the County Commissioners and citizens.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Contracted with an Engineering Consultant to review site development permit applications.
- Site Development issued 118 permits; an 11% increase over 2015.
- Streamlined Regulations to allow Mobile Food Vehicles through the issuance of a Permit.
- Clarified amendment procedures for Special Use Permits.
- Streamlined Regulations to permit temporary structures on property during construction.

Quick Facts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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Funded Through: General Fund and Permit/Application Fees.

Building

The Building Department provides the citizens of Clear Creek County protection for health, welfare and safety through the enforcement of the Adopted Building, Plumbing, Mechanical and Energy Codes.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Processed and issued 324 permits.

Quick Facts

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>$248,050</td>
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Funded Through: General Fund and Fees from Permitting.

- Performed 140 Commercial and Residential Plan Reviews.
- Developed 41 Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Plans.
- Completed 2,034 inspections for over 30 types of inspections.
Mapping/GIS
The Mapping/GIS Department generates and maintains spatial information which is essential in the creation of maps and data analysis. Mapping/GIS provides support to all County departments while offering data distribution, map production and property information to the public via the online GIS viewers, and in person.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Produced 4 kiosk trail maps to promote certain recreation trails in Clear Creek County.
- Spatially restructured 1,165 property boundaries and 12 subdivisions in the parcels database.
- Created Story Map to promote potential developable properties for the Clear Creek Economic Development Corporation.
- Our interactive maps had 19,678 sessions (up 49% from last year), 6,079 of those were new users.

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<td>2016 Budget:</td>
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Funded Through: General Fund and Service Charges.

- Provided maps for Planning department Master Plan update.
- Automated several re-occurring processes including database maintenance and data preparation.
- Worked with US Census to modify 2020 Census blocks, provide permit and occupancy data, provided updated municipal boundaries.
- Worked with CPW to provide Trails data to Colorado Trail System which is part of Governor Hickenlooper’s Colorado the Beautiful Initiative.

Special Projects
The Special Projects Manager assisted with multiple projects that involved County property planning and redevelopment projects, land management, real estate transactions, recreational program planning, housing issues and water program management.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Special Project’s staff represented Clear Creek County on the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association, the Historic District Public Lands Commission, and the Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byways Committee.
- On June 24th, a Grand Re-Opening Celebration of the Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byway was held.

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<td>2016 Budget:</td>
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Funded Through: General Fund

Grand Re-Opening Celebration
Open Space

Open Space preserves and maintains the County’s unique character and natural environment by protecting our streams, woodlands, meadows, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, prominent vistas, geologic features, and cultural resources to enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Canyon Segment portion of the Clear Creek Greenway was opened to the public in July 2016. The one mile of trail in Clear Creek County joins two miles in Jefferson County to provide a 6 mile loop. A 13 car parking lot was constructed at the Oxbow, just west of Tunnel 5.
- Design for the next upstream segment in Clear Creek Canyon, from Tunnel 5 up and around Tunnel 6, is underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2017.
- Dilapidated buildings located on the Ohio Gulch Parcel’s purchased in 2015 were demolished and the sites revegetated. Public access to Clear Creek will be developed.
- In cooperation with HGI, Town of Georgetown and HDPLC, Open Space contracted with ERO to develop potential recreational management plans for the Upper Silver Dale area along Guanella Pass Road.

Water Resources

The purpose of the Water Resources Department is to develop and manage the County’s water rights in order to provide a legal water supply for County government uses, provide a legal water supply for economic development, and to place County water resources to beneficial use through implementation of a Strategic Water Plan. Water Resources in both the Clear Creek Basin and the Bear Creek Basin are managed by this Department.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Water court decrees were secured.
- A Strategic Water Plan for Clear Creek County was implemented.
- County water rights were placed to beneficial use, thereby enabling economic development.
- County participation in and compliance with Clean Water Act/CDPHE requirements occurred via participation in the Upper Clear Creek and Bear Creek Watershed Associations.
- Clear Creek County's High Altitude Water Storage Project was entered into the State Water Plan and South Platte Basin Implementation Plan.
CSU Extension

The Clear Creek County Extension Office has provided informal educational programming and leadership in the areas of 4-H Youth Development, Mountain Horticulture/Master Gardening, and Consumer Energy. Partnerships, Volunteers and Advisory Committee input are key components for meaningful programming and assist the Director/Agent in providing opportunities and education to the community.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Robotics Club has 5 leaders/mentors, 6 members and 2 junior members.
- Over the Clover Club has 10 leaders and 25 members.
- The Master Gardener Program has 7 master gardeners.
- The Master Gardener Program works with the Heritage Center and has additional landscaping/garden expansion in Georgetown.
- Provides responses and consults to numerous horticultural inquiries.

Quick Facts
2014 Staff: 1.5
2015 Staff: 1.5
2016 Staff: 1
2014 Actual: $46,500
2015 Actual: $54,660
2016 Budget: $42,800

Funded Through: General Fund and funding from CSU.
*in 2016 $3,700 received in fees/grants/contributions.

- The General Horticulture program is the tree consults for the County Open Space Property, the Game Check Station, and does ongoing native plant and grass research for the County’s Community Development Department.

Housing Program

The County Housing Program works in partnership with the Summit Combined Housing Authority. The groundwork is being established to provide and develop quality attainable housing opportunities, while promoting economic independence and self-sufficiency to help improve the overall quality of life for our residents through programs and education.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Offered classes in home buying, home ownership, financial fitness and landlord/tenant issues.
- Provided Rehabilitation Loans to homeowners needing home improvements for health and safety issues and provided information on other weatherization programs available.

Quick Facts
2015 Staff: 1 (as partners SCHA)
2016 Staff: 1
2015 Actual: $50,000
2016 Budget: $65,000

Funded Through: General Fund

*Clear Creek County created its very own Housing Authority in 2017.

- Provided “Down Payment Assistance Loans” for homebuyers.
- Completed the Clear Creek County 2016 Housing Inventory and the Occupied Households Study, and made presentations to the municipalities and the Board of County Commissioners.
- Formed a partnership with the Town of Georgetown and received a grant to complete a predevelopment plan on Town property.
Clear Creek County Tourism Bureau

As the Clear Creek County Tourism Bureau (a nonprofit organization), it is our goal to increase awareness of the County within the Front Range, national and international markets, increase overall County visitation, promote tourism related businesses, events, and activities happening within the County, and to grow partnerships and strategic alliances with stakeholders and business entities. (This is not a County Staff function)

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Website: ClearCreekCounty.org reported 190,238 page views, and 92,711 users.
- Social Media: 3,897 Facebook followers, and 1,264 Twitter followers.
- Visitor Guides: 50,000 guides were physically distributed, and the virtual guide reported 15,448 impressions and was read 2,935 times.
- Visitor Centers: Idaho Springs reported 50,946 visitors, and Georgetown reported 441,380 visitors.

Quick Facts

2014 Staff: 1
2015 Staff: 1
2016 Staff: 1

2014 Actual: $185,000
2015 Actual: $170,000
2016 Budget: $130,000

Funded Through: Lodging tax and a small portion of sales tax revenues.

- Attractions: There were 153,369 passengers aboard the Georgetown Loop Railroad, with an additional 45,000 who just visit the property.
- Adventure: The rafting industry brought more than 72,000 visitors to the County, making Clear Creek the second busiest river in Colorado. A total of 26 rafting permits were purchased.
Clear Creek Greenway Authority
The Clear Creek County Greenway Authority (CCGA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that guides the greenway development along one of Colorado’s scenic river corridors. Its purpose is to lead the development of the Clear Creek Greenway by organizing, implementing and overseeing greenway strategies and projects, partnering with public and private entities to fundraise and build excitement among local and regional communities.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Helped get the Clear Creek Greenway recognized as one of the state's top 16 trail projects as part of Governor Hickenlooper's Colorado the Beautiful Initiative.
- Completed 30% design and engineering on 14-miles of the Clear Creek Greenway between Empire and Hidden Valley.
- Completed NEPA clearance for 14-miles of the Clear Creek Greenway between Empire and Hidden Valley.

Quick Facts
2016 Staff: 1
2016 Budget: $130,000
Funded Through: Grants

- Secured $295,000 in grants for the City of Idaho Springs from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for design of the Clear Creek Greenway and Courtney-Ryley-Cooper Park.
Accomplishments, Recognitions & Awards

**Accomplishments**

**Sheriff’s Office**

**Patrol/Investigations**

Responded to 54 Assaults/Cold, 52 Assaults in Progress, 9 Menacing, 23 Fights in Progress, 99 Harassments, 0 Stabbing, 205 Disturbances, 9 Suicidal Parties, 9 Unresponsive Parties, 13 Death Investigations, 553 Suspicious Activities, 27 Burglaries, 108 Thefts, 53 Trespass, 14 Drunk Drivers, 17 Drunk Parties, 3 Indecent Exposures, 1 Homicide, 0 Attempted Homicides, 5 Adult Sex Assaults and 2 Juvenile Sex Assaults. Our Patrol staff also made 1,619 Traffic Stops, 342 Motorist Assist contacts, 221 Public Relation contacts and 215 Gaming contacts Relations.

There were 525 attempts to serve Civil Process papers and executed 8 Writs of Restitution/Evictions.

Registered 18 sex offenders, reported 71 response to resistance, 17 physical force, 1 taser aimed, 0 taser drive stun, 2 taser probes, 0 restraint chair, 36 sidearm pointed, 8 rifle pointed, 7 wildlife destroyed and zero suspects required medical attention.

**Sheriff’s Office-Continued**

**Animal Services**

Received support from a number of community groups who volunteered their time at the shelter, including: Clear Creek Metropolitan Recreation District; Neiman Marcus Employee Group; Easter Seals Urban Trekkers; Mount Evans Qualifying House; 4H; Girl Scouts.

Utilized traditional media (Clear Creek Courant, weekly KGOAT radio spot) and social media (Facebook) to create awareness of shelter activities, locate owners of found pets, and promote pets available for adoption. Have over 2,300 followers on Facebook.

**Mapping**

Marian Thomas: Going Places with Spatial Analysis course.

Kim Steele: Python Basics for ArcGIS course.

Matt Taylor: Earth Imagery at Work & do it Yourself GEO Apps courses.

**Open Space**

Great Outdoors Colorado granted $555,000 for the purchase of 109 acres on North Floyd Hill which provides access to the Floyd Hill ridge and connects to over 12,000 acres in Clear Creek and Jefferson Counties; Clear Creek County is purchasing the parcel in cooperation with Jefferson County with assistance from Trust for Public Lands and Mountain Area Land Trust.

**Transfer Station**

Number of customer visits: 23,244
Tons of municipal solid waste transferred: 1,845.9
Tons of mixed metal recycled: 146.46
Tons of Aluminum recycled: 6.03
Tons of Glass recycled: 82.04
Tons of cardboard recycled: 91.77
Tons of paper: 62.1
Tons of plastics recycled: 30.73
Gallons of Motor Oil recycled: 4,523
Gallons of Cooking Oil recycled: 400
Tons of Electronics: 16.63
Pounds of Batteries: 4,821
Number of Tires: 512
Accomplishments, Recognitions & Awards

Accomplishments
Administration
Transportation Liaison
Local I-70 Visioning process for I-70 west of Idaho Springs to Empire Junction, for the City of Idaho Springs and for Empire Junction to Eisenhower-Johnson Memorial Tunnels.

Planning and implementation of the Clear Creek County Prospector bus service.

Planning/Site Development

Cyndie Ruschmyer: Code Enforcement Officer Advanced Certification from the Colorado ACEO.

Environmental Health
Charlotte Hampson: NAWT Designer Certification.


Recognitions
Building Department
Inspectors and Plan Reviewers received certifications from the International Code Council for commercial and residential inspection and plan review, County Representative for Colorado Chapter of the International Code Council and County Representation for Division of Oil and Public Safety.

Office of Emergency Management
Kathleen Krebs: County Representative on the Front Range Fuel’s Treatment Roundtable Partnership, Chair of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and County Representative on the North Central Homeland Security Region Board of Directors.

Jane Thomas: Citizen’s Emergency Response Team Coordinator, Red Cross Liaison, County Alternate Representative on the North Central Homeland Security Region Board of Directors, and County Representative to the NCR Homeland Security Regional Grant Development Committee.

Planning/Site Development
Adam Springer: County Wellness Committee.

Public Works
Karl Schell: Promoted to Public Works Director

Recognitions
Mapping
Kim Steele: County Wellness & Citizen Advisory (for County Master Plan Update) Committees.

Matt Taylor: GIS Professional Certification, North Central Region GIS Sub Committee and Northern Front Range Recreational Sport Shooting Management Partnership.

Open Space
Peaks to Plains Trail: Clear Creek Canyon Segment was recognized by the American Council of Engineering Consultants with the 2017 Honor Award.

CSU Extension
Colorado Association of Extension Agents, Outstanding Contribution to 4-H, Excellence in Teamwork Award for Mountain to Metro Summer Camp.

The Robotics Club received Motivate Award at 2016 FTC State Championships.

Administration
Transportation Liaison
JoAnn Sorensen: Represented local government on the Colorado Inactive Mine Reclamation Program Advisory Council, appointed as the local government representative on the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission, and represented Clear Creek County on the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association.
Accomplishments, Recognitions & Awards

Recognitions

Environmental Health
Charlotte Hampson: Secretary of the Board of Directors for the Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater, Secretary of the Colorado Water Quality Program Managers Group, County Representative for Northern Central Environmental Crimes Task Force, County Representative for Western Regional Air Quality Collaboration Group, County Representative for Colorado Environmental Health Directors, and County Representative for Colorado Environmental Health Association.

Emergency Medical Services
Chief Johnson and Deputy Chief Peters were selected to speak at the joint International Association of EMS Chiefs and National Health Care Coalition Conference in Washington D.C.

Finance

Awards

Board of County Commissioners
Beth Luther was awarded the County Employee Merit Award.

Maintenance Department
Matt Smidt was awarded the County Employee Merit Award.

Emergency Medical Services
Marilyn Lunbery was awarded the County Employee Volunteer of the Year Award.

Community Development
Denise Tennant was awarded honorable mention for the County Merit Award.

Information Services
Louis Poplin was awarded honorable mention for the County Merit Award.
POLICY FRAMEWORK

- Seek a greater diversity of economic activity within the County.
- Enable and encourage communities within Clear Creek County to actively participate in planning for their future.
- Ensure suitability and compatibility with environmental characteristics and community character of Clear Creek County when considering land use change and development.
- Identify and protect lands of high ecological value, scenic quality, or historic importance.
- Promote the concentration of residential and commercial development into established municipalities and activity centers in order to preserve rural lands and to efficiently use County resources.
- Recognize and support endeavors in the arts, culture, recreation and tourism.
- Consider recreation as an important contributor to residents’ quality of life and a part of a balanced regional economy.
- Continue to preserve and protect mineral resources for the benefit of future generations.
- Explore how local and regional initiatives within the County can improve access to health care services.
- Endorse transportation infrastructure that is multi-modal in nature and enhances existing communities as well as their access to the rest of the region.
- Identify and implement strategies to strengthen and increase resiliency among residents of the County.

The Vision:

“Improve upon the existing quality of life in Clear Creek County by supporting the development of a diverse economy, protecting natural and cultural resources, becoming a more resilient community, encouraging recreation, and recognizing the County’s distinct areas.”

This 2016 Master Plan will serve to chart the path forward for the County, enable its residents to undertake thoughtful discussion, keeping the Vision in mind, as the County makes decisions about its future.
Connect with Clear Creek County

Visit www.co.clear-creek.co.us to view the latest County information, find services and programs, and to do business with us.

Share and collaborate with us through Facebook and Twitter at Facebook.com/Clear-Creek-County-Colorado and Twitter.com/ClearCreekCounty

“Ask the County Manager” We want to hear from you. Let us know your concerns by emailing them to: kmontag@co.clear-creek.co.us

Thanks to all offices and departments for their contributions to the 2016 Clear Creek County Annual Report.

Address:
P.O. Box 2000
405 Argentine Street
Georgetown, CO  80444
Phone: 303-679-2300

“Honoring Our Past While Designing Our Future”