#### **Larimer County and CC4CA**



## Climate Policy: from County to Capitol

August 27, 2025







### Climate Policy: from County to Capitol

#### Agenda:

- > Introductions
- ➤ Climate Smart Future Ready Overview
- **>> 2025 Session Wrap-up**
- ➤ 2026 Lay of the Land
- **➤ Questions?**

# CLIMATE SMART FUTURE Ready

#### **FOCUS AREAS**



Built Environment, Circular Economy, and Business and Jobs

Connection
Between
Focus Areas

Natural
Environment,
Water, and
Agriculture

Mobility of People, Goods, and Services

#### THE APPROACH



## What is the County's Approach and Role?

- Zoom out and look beyond local government boundaries to what is happening in our County and region
- Consider sustainable (environmental, economic, and social) needs and impacts
- Discover gaps and overlaps
- Nurture and enhance partnerships
- Align priorities as much as possible

# Partners Making It Happen!!





























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Heidi Pruess
Manager, Office of Sustainability and Climate
<a href="mailto:pruesshb@co.larimer.co.us">pruesshb@co.larimer.co.us</a>
970-498-7138



#### 2025 Session Wrap-up

#### **General tone?**

- Budget and fiscal uncertainty= Unhappy Legislators
- Some tension among Dems- TABOR/Fees/UPTF
- Hot button social bills (federal pushback?)



#### 2025 Session Wrap-up

#### By the Numbers:

- **♦** Total bills introduced this session- 657
  - **➤** Passed- 486
  - Pl'd/Killed- 171
- Bills identified with LC Nexus= 108 (w/o Human Services)
- ♦ Official Positions Registered= 38 (meaning 70 were "monitor")
  - **>** BCC "Support" = 20
    - 13 passed- 65%
  - ➤ BCC "Amend" = 13
    - 8 bills successfully amended (moved to monitor or support)
  - ➤ BCC "Oppose"= 5
    - 4 killed-80%



#### 2025 Climate Nexus Legislation

#### By the Numbers:

- Total climate related bills this session- 49 (according to CC4CA)
  - CC4CA Support- 28
    - Passed- 19 (68%)
  - ➤ CC4CA Oppose- 10
    - Failed- 8 (80%)

Nutshell- Most impactful bills didn't cross the finish line; But some important victories



#### 2025 Climate Nexus Legislation

#### **Highlights-**

- HB25-1247- County Lodging Tax- Passed
- **♦ SB25-280- Data Centers- Killed** 
  - This would have had devastating impacts on Larimer County and the state
- SB25-163- Battery Stewardship- Passed
- HB25-1051- Repeal Recycled Bag Fee- Killed
- HB25-1096- Automated Permits for Solar- Successful Amend efforts
- SB25-030- Increase Transportation Mode Choice-Passed
- ALSO– 1182- Risk Modeling Property Insurance



#### 2025 Climate Nexus Legislation

### Lowlights-

- HB25-1268- On-Bill Repayment for Energy Efficiency Upgrades- Killed
  - Quite possibly the most impactful climate bill in YEARS
- HB25-1099- Water Quality Data Standards— Killed
- HB25-1302- Increase Access Homeowners Insurance-Killed
- HB25-1044 and 1303- Vulnerable Road Users- Both Killed
- HB25-1078- Forestry and Firefighter Workforce and Education- Killed



# Legislative Update and Prep for the 2026 Session

#### **CC4CA - 46 Colorado Communities Strong**

- Adams County
- Aspen
- Avon
- Basalt
- Boulder
- Boulder County
- Breckenridge
- Broomfield
- Carbondale
- Clear CreekCounty
- Crested Butte
- Dillon
- Durango
- Eagle County
- Edgewater
- Erie

- Fort Collins
- Frisco
- Gilpin County
- Glenwood Springs
- Golden
- Lafayette
- Lake County
- Larimer County
- Littleton
- Longmont
- Louisville
- Lyons
- Mountain Village
- Nederland
- Northglenn
- Ouray County

- Pitkin County
- Ridgway
- Routt County
- Saguache
  - County

- Salida
- San Miguel County
- Snowmass Village
- Summit County
- Superior

- Telluride
- Vail
- Westminster
- Wheat Ridge
- Winter Park





#### 2026 Lay of the Land

#### **Looking Ahead to 2026**

- Budget shortfall estimates of up to \$700M in 2026-2027
  - Implication anything with a "fiscal note" is extremely unlikely to move forward
  - Federal budget bill loss of \$1.2B in revenue to the state
- Governor's last year in Office
- Election year
- **♦** Fee & Affordability sensitivity



#### 2026 Lay of the Land - Climate

#### What we are already hearing about

#### Energy

- Clean Energy Planning
- Data Centers
- > PUC Sunset
- On-bill financing

#### Resilience

- Wildfire codes
- Career pathways
- > Wildfire grants
- Transportation
- **♦** Defense, defense



#### 2026 Lay of the Land - Climate

# Beyond the legislature - many opportunities to act on climate!

#### State Agencies

- Public Utilities Commission high impact opportunities
- > Air Quality Control Commission ensure the state takes strong action
- Energy and Carbon Management Commission

#### Federal Defense

- Maintain and strengthen what we have (oh the challenges)
- Prepare for the political pivot when it happens



#### **Questions and Concerns**

Please contact Shane Atkinson or Lindsay Ex with any feedback, questions or concerns.

atkinsrs@co.larimer.co.us 970-498-7141

lex@cc4ca.org 970-222-2912