



Colorado Communities for Climate Action

May 2017

Colorado communities with climate-protection goals are grappling with the reality that local actions alone will not achieve them. Local governments also need a better framework of state and federal climate policies to enable them to be more effective in their local climate actions.

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is a new coalition advocating for state and federal actions to complement local climate-protection actions and protect Colorado's climate for current and future generations. The 14 local governments listed on page two are the initial members of CC4CA, and together represent more than one-eighth of all Coloradans.

Benefits of the Coalition

Collaboration

Working together through Colorado Communities for Climate Action, local governments can influence state and federal actions more than individual jurisdictions can alone.

Also, CC4CA will work for strong collaboration between state and local governments, maximizing the return on local efforts.

Cost-Effectiveness

One obstacle for local governments wanting to influence state and federal policies is the expense of advocacy. Pooling resources to secure professional representation is the most cost-effective way to get the professional services local governments need to be effective on climate matters at the state and federal levels.

Local Support

The coalition will offer information on grants and other assistance, provide networking opportunities, and produce messaging materials in support of coalition priorities and climate action.

Current Policy Priorities

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is now working to establish an influential presence in shaping climate policy and set the stage for coalition initiatives in 2017 and beyond.

By unanimous consent, coalition members have identified CC4CA's initial policy priorities, which include:

- Supporting in the General Assembly pro-climate bills and opposing bills undercutting state or local climate authority. The coalition has retained Frontline Public Affairs as its lobbyist before the state government.
- Advocating for specific state actions to flesh out and implement the Colorado Climate Plan released by Governor John Hickenlooper in 2015, and otherwise communicating with the Governor's administration to urge more aggressive state climate actions.
- Representing local interests in state agency proceedings on climate protection, energy efficiency, and clean energy.

CC4CA also will push for continued federal climate actions and against efforts to roll back existing actions.

Initial Coalition Members

In its first year, the coalition has grown to include 14 local governments, with more expected to join. The current members are:

- Boulder County
- City of Fort Collins
- City of Westminster
- City of Boulder
- Eagle County
- Summit County
- City of Lafayette
- City of Golden
- Pitkin County
- San Miguel County
- City of Aspen
- Town of Vail
- Town of Telluride
- Town of Mountain Village

Budget and Dues

CC4CA members pay annual dues to provide the resources for effective coalition operations, including representation by professional advocacy consultants in the General Assembly and potentially before the Public Utilities Commission. For determining dues amounts, local governments are divided into categories based on population size. Within each category, local governments have a choice of two dues amounts, reflecting their abilities to contribute to maximizing the coalition's effectiveness.

Initial CC4CA Annual Dues

Population of Jurisdiction	Type of Membership	
	Core	Base
Over 100,000	\$30,000	\$15,000
50,000 to 100,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
2,000 to 49,999	\$10,000	\$5,000
Under 2,000	\$2,500	\$1,000

Coalition Management

A unanimous vote of all members is required to set CC4CA policy priorities.

The coalition is guided by a steering committee comprised of representatives from member jurisdictions, with other committees of member representatives making decisions on particular subjects.

The Rocky Mountain Climate Organization, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a 13-year track record of working for and with local governments, administers the coalition for its members. RMCO coordinates meetings of and supports decision-making by coalition members, manages contracts for legislative and regulatory representation, provides policy research, and develops messaging materials.

For more information:

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