



Colorado Communities for Climate Action

July 2018

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 coalition is comprised of 19 local governments, which 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 and do influence state and federal actions more than individual jurisdictions can alone. CC4CA works 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 also offers networking opportunities to members, and produces analyses and materials in support of coalition and member priorities and actions.

Current Policy Priorities

Colorado Communities for Climate Action works to shape state and federal climate policy.

By unanimous consent, coalition members have identified CC4CA’s 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 that are sufficient to meet the climate goals set by Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper in 2017, and also to meet a new, long-term goal that CC4CA urges the state to adopt, for at least an 80 percent reduction in state heat-trapping emissions by 2050.
- Representing local interests in state agency proceedings on climate protection, energy efficiency, and clean energy. CC4CA also advocates for continued and strengthened federal climate actions and against efforts to roll back federal policies and programs

Coalition Members

The coalition has already grown to include 19 local governments, with more expected to join. The current members are:

- Aspen
- Basalt
- Boulder County
- Boulder
- Carbondale
- Crested Butte
- Eagle County
- Fort Collins
- Frisco
- Golden
- Lafayette
- Louisville
- Mountain Village
- Pitkin County
- San Miguel County
- Summit County
- Telluride
- Westminster
- Vail

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 before state agencies. 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.

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

Beginning in 2019, dues amounts will be lower for jurisdictions with 5,000 or fewer residents.

Coalition Management

The coalition is guided by a steering committee comprised of representatives from member jurisdictions and an executive director, with other committees of member representatives making decisions on particular subjects. A unanimous vote of all members is required to set CC4CA policy priorities.

The coalition is assisted by Cedar Creek Strategies and the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization, which provide administrative and organizational support.

For more information:

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