

# 2022 STATE OF THE TRI-LAKES REGION





**TRI-LAKES**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
VISITOR CENTER

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**BBSI**



**BILL BASS**  
*Mayor*  
Town of  
Palmer Lake

Don Wilson  
*Mayor*  
Town of  
Monument

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Stan VanderWerf  
El Paso County  
Commissioner  
District 3

Holly Williams  
El Paso County  
Commissioner  
District 1

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# Tri-Lakes State of the Region

**Commissioners Stan VanderWerf & Holly Williams**

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A Look at the Successes and Opportunities  
Facing El Paso County



# Most Populous County

737,000 Residents

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Tri-Lakes State of the Region





# Most Populous County



**MORE PEOPLE  
THAN 3 STATES &  
DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA**



**LARGER LANDMASS  
THAN THE STATE OF  
RHODE ISLAND**



**MORE VETERANS  
THAN 53 CO  
COUNTIES HAVE  
POPULATION**

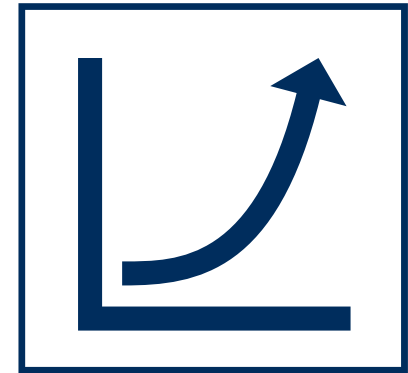
# Most Populous County



**4,400 LANE MILES  
OF ROAD IN  
UNINCORPORATED  
AREA**



**RECORD NUMBER OF  
NEW DEVELOPMENT  
APPLICATIONS**



**REGIONAL  
COLLABORATION  
REQUIRED TO  
SOLVE PROBLEMS**



**EL PASO  
COUNTY JAIL**  
PROTECTS CITIZENS



**HUMAN  
SERVICES**  
PROVIDES BASIC NEEDS



**COUNTY  
ASSESSOR**  
HELPS FUND SCHOOLS



**PUBLIC  
HEALTH**  
KEEPS OUR  
COMMUNITY HEALTHY



**PRETRIAL  
SERVICES**  
PROMOTES  
COMMUNITY SAFETY



**VETERAN  
SERVICES**  
ADVOCATES FOR  
LOCAL VETERANS



**COUNTY WIDE  
ELECTIONS**  
FOSTERS  
TRANSPARENCY & TRUST



**CLERK &  
RECORDER**  
MAINTAINS ACCURATE  
CITIZEN RECORDS



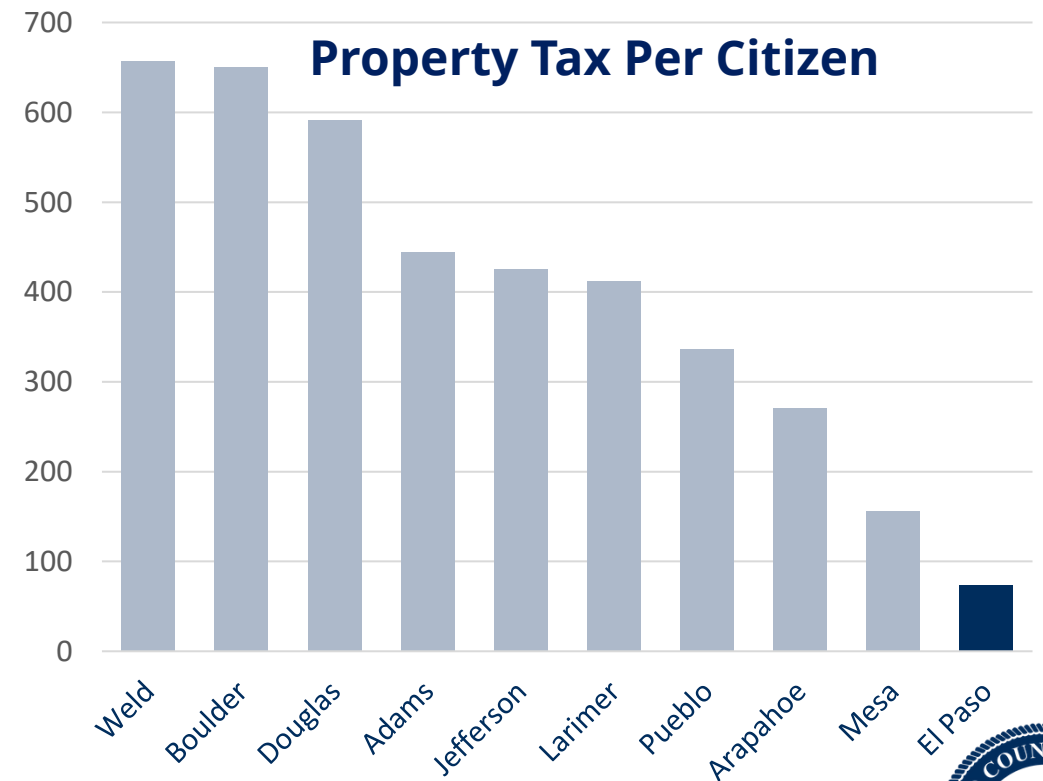
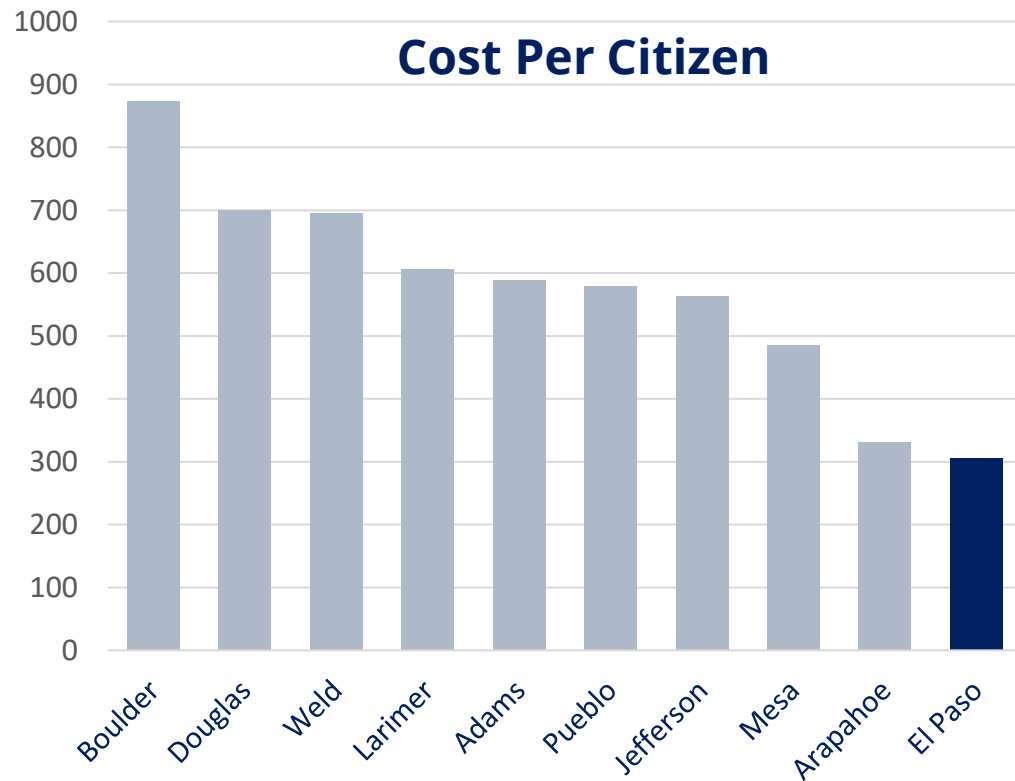
**DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY**  
PROTECTS VICTIMS



**COUNTY  
CORONER**  
INVESTIGATES &  
CERTIFIES DEATHS

**Top ten services provided by El Paso County  
that no other entity provides to the region.**

# Fiscal Restraint



# Fiscal Restraint

- **El Paso County offers local government services to the population and landmass of a small state**
- **Those services protect and support our communities**
- **The Colorado General Assembly mandates many services, but the funding level is directed by our local voters**



# El Paso County

# SUCCESSSES

Tri-Lakes State of the Region 2022



# El Paso County Successes



**\$13 MILLION**

Added to roads as one-time funding in 2022

**\$13.1 MILLION**

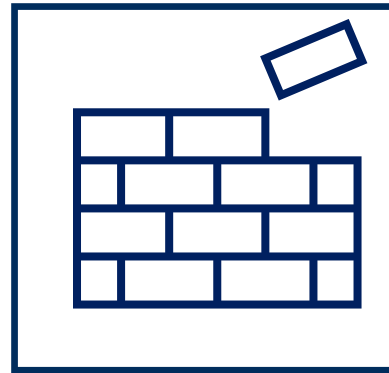
Added as on-going funding to roads since 2016



# El Paso County Successes



**COMPLETED:  
MONUMENT HILL  
SMART WORK  
ADA WORK**



**NEARLY COMPLETE:  
I-25 NORTH**



**IN PROGRESS:  
HWY 105  
BEACON LITE RD.**





# El Paso County Successes

## TABOR Ballot Issue 1A

- Refund \$7 million in funds collected above the 2020 county TABOR cap
- Put the decision to reset the county's TABOR base and to use \$15 million above the county Tabor cap for backlogged road infrastructure and park projects in the hands of voters
- Ballot Issue 1A voted down
- All revenue collected above county's TABOR cap will be refunded

**We respect the decision of our citizens**



# El Paso County Successes

## Increased Legislative Engagement at Federal and State Level

### Federal Legislative Initiatives

- Preserve funding for the Pikes Peak Workforce Center
- Qualified Immunity for law enforcement
- Support the agriculture industry
- Increased ARPA flexibility allows us to use \$10 million for roads
- Improve National Forest Service and local government collaboration to reduce fire risk



# El Paso County Successes

## El Paso County Parks

- Santa Fe Open Space
- The Pineries
- Kane Ranch
- Future improvements
  - Hanson Trailhead
  - Falcon Regional Park
  - Paint Mines



# El Paso County Successes

## Community Investment Program

- **Improve the quality of life of El Paso County citizens by supporting the activities and initiatives of many valuable organizations in the community.**
  - **Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Program \$10,000**
  - **Tri-Lakes Cares – Crossfire Ministries \$20,000**



# CARES Act Funding Successes

- **\$41 million shared with local cities and towns**
  - **\$555,033 was allocated to the Town of Monument**
- **\$14 million to Economic Development**
- **\$8.3 million to Public Health Department**
- **\$4.6 million to keep citizens safe in our buildings**



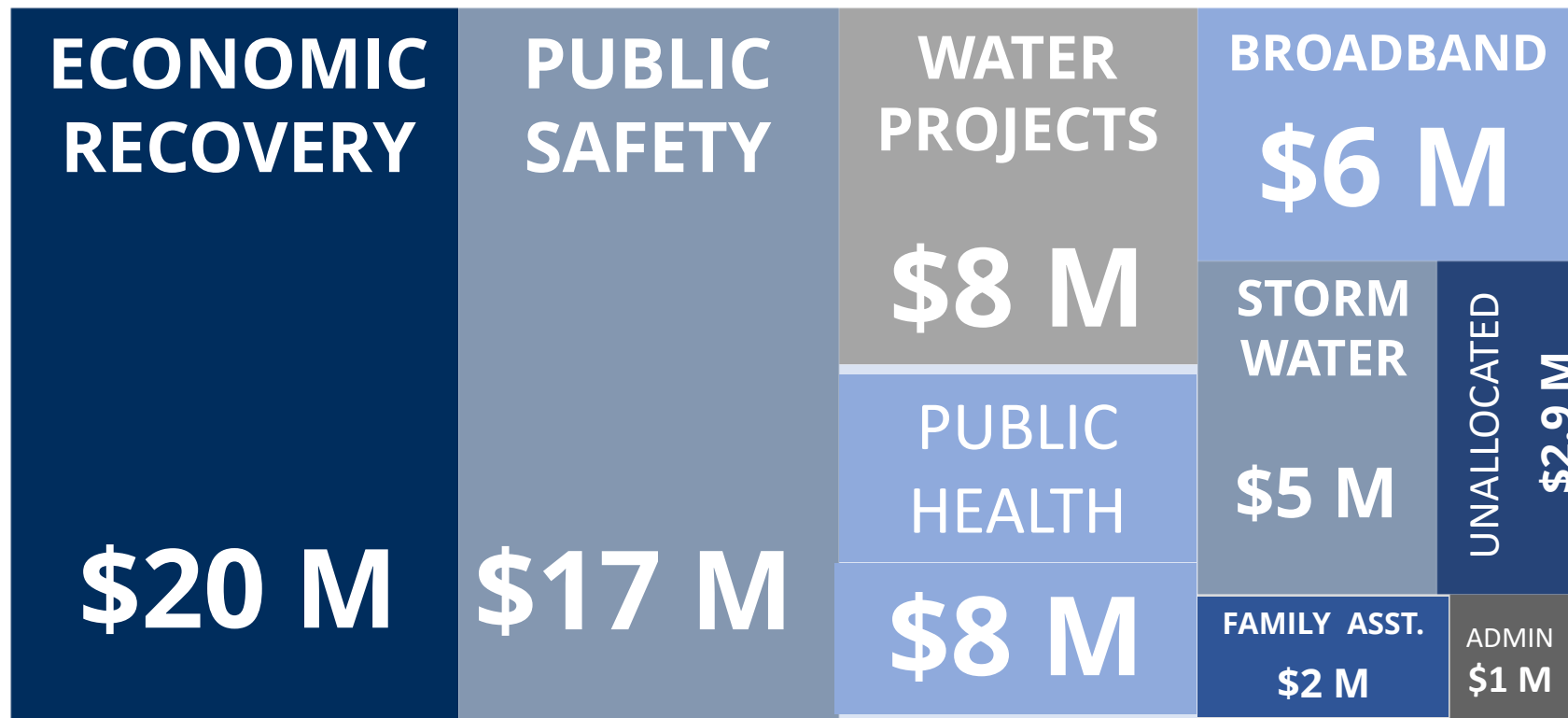
# El Paso County Successes

## **\$13.5 million CARES ACT funding for jail facility upgrades**

- Jail security cameras, door control and door lock replacements
- Telemedicine Equipment
- Visitation Booth remodel for privacy and security of professional visits



# 2021 ARPA Funding



# 2022 ARPA Funding

## Community Impact Grant

- Nearly 9 million to 50 programs that will have an exponential impact in the community

## Potential Future Projects

- High-impact Water Infrastructure
- Road Infrastructure
- Stormwater Infrastructure





# El Paso County

# Challenges



# El Paso County Challenges

- **Legislative Unfunded Mandates and Local Control**
- **Paved Road Maintenance Backlog**
  - **At current funding rate (including PPRTA fund) 1,101 lanes miles will not meet minimum PQI requirements by 2028**
- **Long-term Capital Transportation Needs**



# El Paso County Challenges

- **Growth while keeping the essential characteristics of our community**
- **Any increase to dedicated road funds is required to be shared with local municipalities**
  - **Example: Out of \$1.00 collected, El Paso County only receives 35 cents**
- **Material prices increasing / availability decreasing**





# Commissioner Stan VanderWerf

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# EL PASO COUNTY

SERVING CITIZENS WITH PURPOSE & EXCELLENCE



# EL PASO COUNTY

SERVING CITIZENS WITH PURPOSE & EXCELLENCE



Terri Hayes  
*President and CEO*  
Tri-Lakes Chamber of  
Commerce, Economic  
Development  
Corporation & Visitor  
Center



Thank You  
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