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2014-15 COMMUNITY REPORT

A HIGH-LEVEL OVERVIEW OF
COUNTY **SERVICES, GOALS
AND PERFORMANCE**



LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Welcome to our second annual Community Report! One of our most important responsibilities as Commissioners is ensuring the most efficient use of the tax revenue the County receives through property and voter-approved sales taxes. In these pages you'll learn about the value you receive for your tax dollars through various performance measures and explanations of how we're implementing efficiencies in the services we provide. Our job is to make sure you get the best value and results. We believe you



(from left) Lew Gaiter III, District I; Steve Johnson, District II; Tom Donnelly, District III

deserve this information and hope it is useful. Contact us at bocc@larimer.org or visit us online at larimer.org/bcc.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision: Larimer County is a thriving, friendly place where people of all ages, cultures, and economic backgrounds live, work, play and most of all, call home.

- Goal 1: Safety and Well-Being
- Goal 2: Economic Development
- Goal 3: Emergency Management
- Goal 4: Transportation
- Goal 5: Collaborate
- Goal 6: Operations
- Goal 7: Customer Service

Learn more and check out our progress at Larimer.org/strategicplan.

ELECTED OFFICIALS



Steve Miller
Assessor



Angela Myers
Clerk & Recorder



James A. Wilkerson IV
M.D. Coroner



Cliff Riedel
District Attorney



Justin Smith
Sheriff



Chad Washburn
Surveyor



Irene Josey
Treasurer

THANKS VOTERS!



Issue 1-A: Help Preserve Open Space tax extension, .25 of one percent sales tax extended to 2043



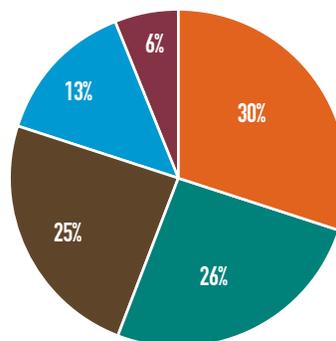
Issue 1-B: Extension of a .15 of one percent sales tax for the operation of the Larimer County Jail through 2039

LETTER FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Larimer County strives to provide excellent service to the 324,000 plus residents of the County. Whether you live in a city, town or unincorporated area, the County contributes to your quality of life by providing a wide variety of services we've categorized into five major areas. In this report you'll find a quick summary of those major areas, learn what we do and find some of the performance outcomes of that work. We hope the report will spark your interest and feedback to help us serve you better. Please let me know what you think at lhoffmann@larimer.org.



Linda Hoffmann
County Manager
(970) 498-7004 (direct)



2015 BUDGET SUMMARY

HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT

- Public Safety Services: 30%
- Human & Economic Services: 26%
- Community Resources, Infrastructure and Planning: 25%
- Strategic Leadership & Administration: 13%
- Public Records & Information Services: 6%
- Total Operating Budget: \$225M

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

- Internal Charges, Sale of Assets & Transfers: 32%
- Property Taxes: 24%
- Federal, State & Municipal Revenue: 20%
- Sales and Use Taxes: 11%
- Charges for Services (External): 9%
- Use of Fund Balance: 2%
- Licenses and Permits: 1%
- Interest Earnings and All Other: 1%

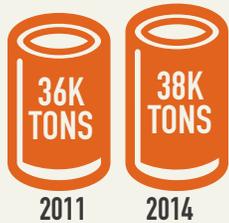
Total Revenue – All Sources*: \$390M
* Includes transfers between departments and non-operational government funds

The County keeps only **26%** of the total you pay in property taxes, the rest goes to schools, cities, and special districts.

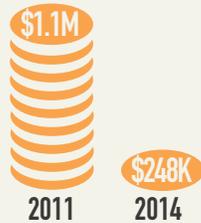
RETHINKING THE FINANCIALS OF RECYCLING

While the amount that Larimer County residents recycle has steadily increased, the revenue the County receives from selling recycled materials has declined significantly. The market for recycled materials like cardboard, plastic, newspaper and metal quickly dried up as the global economy slowed. Even with a rebounding economy, the County will likely have to re-evaluate landfill and recycling fees.

HOW MUCH WE RECYCLE



REVENUE FROM RECYCLING



RECYCLING COST TO COUNTY




KEEP IT CLEAN AND SORTED

The markets will not purchase materials with high contamination rates, which are caused by items such as greasy pizza boxes, unrinsed bottles, and including materials not suitable for recycling. What can you recycle? larimer.org/solidwaste/recycling.htm

SERVICES

- Building Inspections
- Community Planning and Development
- County Parks and Trails
- Engineering
- Landfill and Solid Waste Management
- Open Spaces
- Road and Bridge Maintenance and Repair
- Rural Lands
- The Ranch

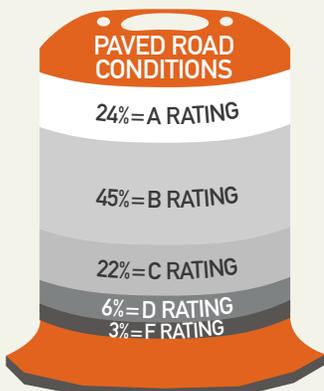
DO YOU KNOW?

Home building has rebounded in the unincorporated areas of Larimer County. In the first quarter of 2015, the County issued more building permits than in any first quarter in the last 10 years.



THE RANCH: MORE THAN HOCKEY & HORSES!

The Ranch hosted the start of Stage 6 of the 2013 and 2015 USA Pro Challenge, a 7-day cycling stage race and one of Colorado's premier international events. As a coordinating member of the NoCo partnership, the Ranch welcomes 130 of the finest athletes in the world and the opportunity to showcase northern Colorado to the world.



TRANSPORTATION REPORT CARD 2014

Road condition grades reflect how well pavement surfaces are maintained. Safety grades are based on crash rates for a particular segment of road.

For more information on roadway performance measures check out the Transportation Report Card at larimer.org/roads.



318,348 HOT DOGS

Number sold at The Ranch since the doors opened in 2003. If you lined them up end to end, they would stretch all the way from The Ranch complex to Denver!

PUBLIC RECORDS AND INFORMATION SERVICES

OPEN DATA, TRANSPARENT PROCESSES

VEHICLE TITLES & LICENSING

The Vehicle Licensing Division of the Clerk and Recorder's office handles everything from titling motor vehicles, manufactured homes and ATVs, to issuing Persons With Disabilities Placards, completing title changes/updates and license plate replacements and renewals. Nearly every adult citizen in the county will interact with this department at least once if not multiple times each year. With population growth and an improving economy comes an increase in transactions. **Compared to 2011, Motor Vehicles assisted approximately 130 more people each day in 2014.**

TOTAL TRANSACTIONS:

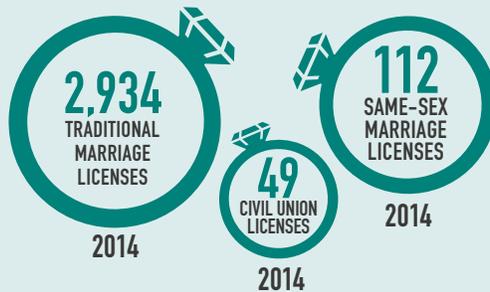


SERVICES

- Birth and Death Certificates
- Elections and Voter Registration
- Marriage Licenses
- Property Value Assessment and Tax Collection
- Public Records
- Vehicle Registration

CIVIL UNIONS & MARRIAGE LICENSES

Larimer County began issuing Civil Union licenses on May 1, 2013, and issued 143 that year. The County began issuing same-sex marriage licenses on October 6, 2014.



DO YOU KNOW?

The most used County communication source by participants in the 2015 citizen survey is larimer.org; over 75% had used the site and 90% found it useful.

PROPERTY APPRAISALS

Property in Larimer County is assessed every two years based on changes in the real estate market, and new valuations were released in 2015. While values didn't change much during the 2013 assessment, this time property values increased noticeably for payments in 2016.

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

ENGAGED SERVICE, EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT

SERVICES

- Budgeting
- Human Resources
- Finance
- County Attorney
- Performance Measurement
- Strategic Planning

CONFIDENCE IN LARIMER COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Any county resident can take the Larimer County 101 program to learn about county services and their benefits. Participants are asked to rate their level of confidence in Larimer County government at the beginning and end of the LC 101 series of classes. On average, confidence levels increase by .90 points.

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

	BEFORE	AFTER	INCREASE
2012	3.8	4.5	(.70 INCREASE)
2013	4.0	4.6	(.60 INCREASE)
2014	3.5	4.9	(1.40 INCREASE)
2015	3.8	4.7	(.90 INCREASE)

1=LOW CONFIDENCE, 5=HIGH CONFIDENCE

EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The County's annual financial report has won a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 31 consecutive years and counting! The certificate goes to local governments who publish comprehensive, easily readable, and efficiently organized annual reports. The annual report includes an audit of the County's financial statements by a private firm of Certified Public Accountants. See these reports at larimer.org/finance.



NEW COUNTY BUILDING

The County is collaborating to consolidate its Loveland offices into a new building that will bring together human services, health, motor vehicle, and the workforce center with the potential for including court related offices. The new County building in Loveland is expected to be open in 2017.

PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

SAFE COMMUNITIES. IMPARTIAL JUSTICE

SERVICES

- Alternative Sentencing
- Community Corrections
- Crime Statistics & Reporting
- District Attorney
- Emergency Management
- Investigations
- Coroner
- Jail
- Rural Patrol
- Wildland Fire Management
- Disaster Recovery

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING

Criminal Justice Services Division's alternative sentencing options focus on public safety, mental health and substance abuse treatment and decreasing criminal behavior, which reduces dependence on the County Jail and State prisons. The daily, per-offender cost of Alternative Sentencing programs is about one-third of the cost of incarceration in the County Jail. In 2014, Criminal Justice Services options diverted an average of 604 jail and prison incarcerations per day.



Community Corrections clients grow and sell produce to benefit nonprofits.

JAIL & PRISON BEDS
SAVED PER DAY

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING:
250

- Alternative Sentencing Programs (Work Release, Electronic Home Detention, Workenders/Midweeks)
- Pretrial Services

REDUCING REPEAT OFFENDERS: WELLNESS COURT

Community Corrections Programs such as Alternatives to Incarceration for Individuals with Mental Health Needs (AIIM) and Wellness Court, help to reduce jail time for repeat offenders with mental health issues. The AIIM Program provides offenders with intensive supervision, mental health treatment and assistance with basic needs. Wellness Court (initiated in 2014) works to reduce the rate of re-offending by supporting long-term mental health recovery.

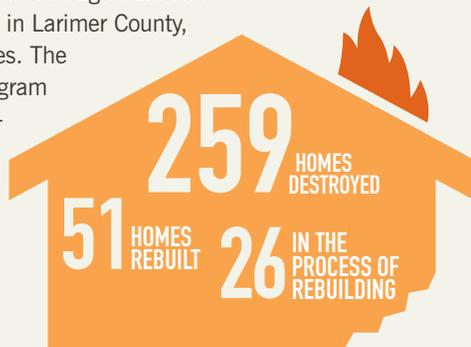
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:
354

- Residential, Treatment, and Community Supervision Programs
- AIIM/Wellness Court

ONGOING FIRE & FLOOD RECOVERY

HIGH PARK FIRE

Nearly three years after the High Park Fire burned 87,200 acres in Larimer County, recovery still continues. The County's Rebuild Program extended reduced development fees and clean-up deadlines through July 30, 2017. For details call 970-498-7692.



2013 FLOODING

Larimer County continues to fix roads and assess floodplain rules as part of the ongoing recovery efforts.



DO YOU KNOW?

District Attorney Cliff Riedel utilizes a Community Perspectives Committee, which meets quarterly to discuss law enforcement and prosecution issues. The committee has a diverse group of participants geographically representing the entire county.

BEING PREPARED: THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

In 2015, the County adopted a new Emergency Management Plan to better prepare our community for disastrous events.

Sign up for community alerts and incidents at leta911.org. Download the new Emergency Preparedness Guide at larimer.org/emergency.

FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT



The District Attorney prosecutes cases brought by all Larimer County law enforcement agencies.

276 Identity Theft cases prosecuted

801 All types of fraud cases prosecuted

SHERIFF'S VOLUNTEERS

The Sheriff's Office volunteer programs uses 415 volunteers who logged about 48,000 hours in 2014. That means they provided over \$1.2 million in services at no cost to taxpayers.



HUMAN AND ECONOMIC SERVICES

HEALTHY PEOPLE, THRIVING ECONOMY

SERVICES

- Adult Protective Services
- Air Quality Monitoring and Education
- Child Care Assistance
- Child Protection and Foster Care
- Child Support
- Communicable Disease Control
- Extension Office
- Food Stamps/Food Assistance
- Health Education
- Immunizations
- Medicaid
- Resources for Seniors
- Restaurant Inspections
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Water Quality Regulation and Inspection
- Workforce Training and Counseling

SUPPORTING SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The Larimer County Workforce Center and the Department of Human Services collaboratively serve families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. A central component of transitioning to self-sufficiency is the Workforce Center Works Program. Works participants receive the message that they can take charge of their future and discover their path to employment and a career. In 2014, nearly 35% of participants obtained employment through assistance from the Works Program.



DID YOU KNOW?

Larimer County helped approximately 1,300 low-income families by subsidizing childcare making it possible for parents to work outside the home and contribute to the overall wellbeing of our local economy.

1,300

DEVELOPING YOUTH

The Larimer County Conservation Corps (LCCC) promotes individual development through service for the benefit of the environment and community. Through conservation-based projects and environmental education, the LCCC empowers participants (youth ages 14–24) to become environmental stewards, while developing self-sufficiency and skills to help them become productive members of the community.

2014 SPOTLIGHT: WATER & ENERGY PROGRAM

Corps members assisted 850 Fort Collins and Loveland households in reducing their water and energy use through home assessments and providing recommendations.

HELP SENIORS STAY IN THEIR HOMES

The Senior Tax Work-Off Program allows seniors to reduce the burden of their property tax bill by temporarily working for Larimer County. The program allows people age 60 and over the opportunity to work off up to \$400 of the Larimer County portion of their property tax bill.

larimer.org/seniors



DID YOU KNOW?

With 1,100 individuals, Larimer County has the most 4-H club members of any county across the state. In recent years, more than 4,800 4-H exhibits were entered annually at the County Fair.

\$22,500 TOTAL CREDIT EARNED BY SENIORS IN THE 2014 PROGRAM

2014-15 AWARDS

Ginny Riley, Human Services, Northern CO Women of Distinction Gov. Category and Live United Community Collaboration Award, United Way

Sharon Winfree, Criminal Justice, 37th Annual Judge Conrad L Ball Award

Avie Strand, Community Health & Environment, McKee Community Health Award

Deni LaRue, Community at Work radio show, 1st Place CO Broadcasters Awards of Excellence

Community Report, 'Superior' Award of Excellence, National Assoc. of County Information Officers

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Government Finance Officers Association

Earl Fawcett, Sheriff's Deputy, Sally Henze Memorial Award

Debbie Pierson, Veterans Services, Outstanding Work for Veterans award, 101st Airborne Division Association

Department of Human Services, C-Stat Distinguished Performance, CO Department of Human Services

STAY ENGAGED

LARIMER.ORG/BOCC

- Monthly Informal Commissioner Citizen Meetings
- Boards and Commissions
- LC 101 - Citizen Academy
- Public Meetings
- Subscriptions

