



Progress Report

Board of County Commissioners Strategic Priorities





Strategic Priorities Progress Report

Boulder County is committed to meeting the needs of our community through clear goals and priorities. Set by the Board of County Commissioners, Strategic Priorities guide our work, strengthen partnerships, and build public trust. Strategic Priorities are set every three years to meet the evolving needs of our community. This report provides an update on the progress we've made in 2024 toward the 2024-2026 Strategic Priorities.

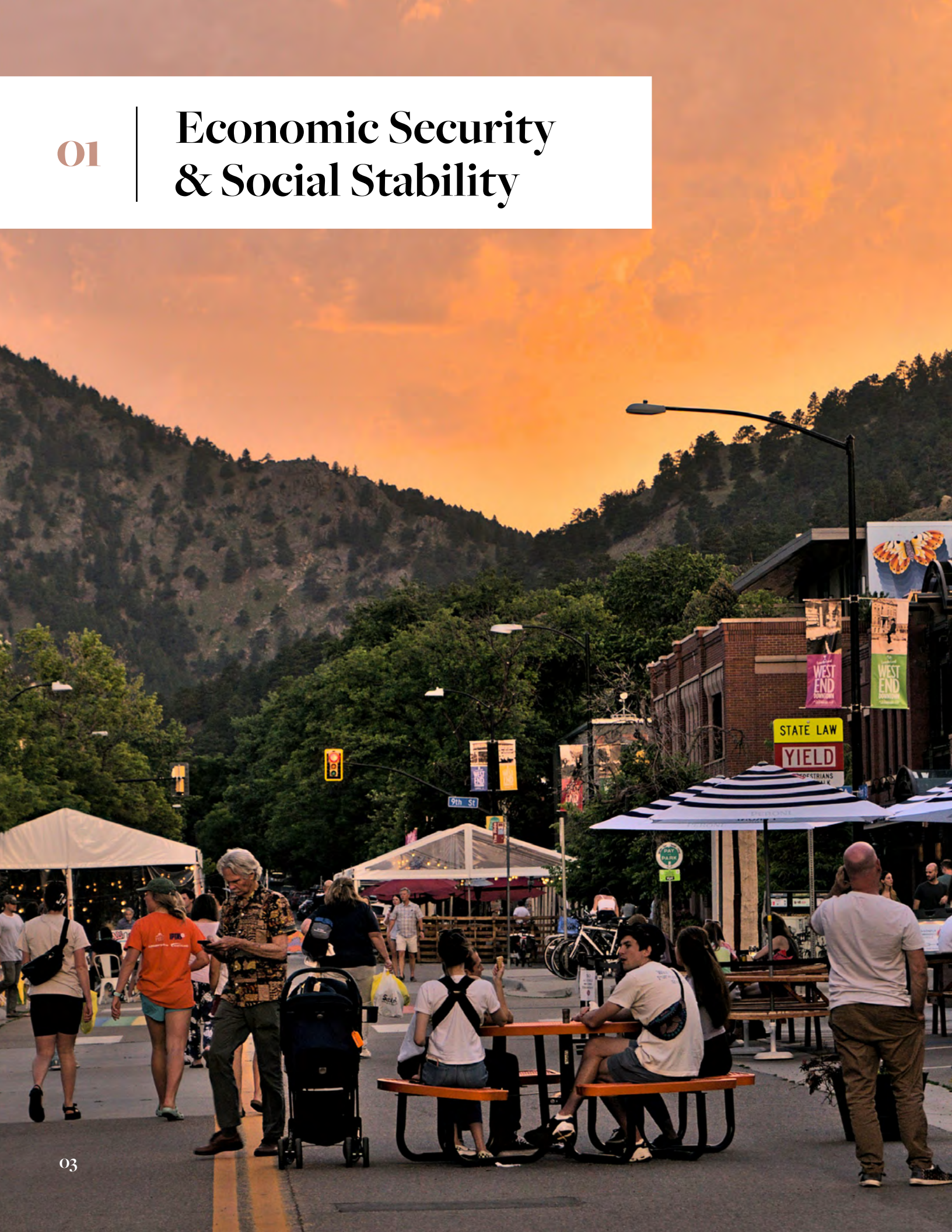
The county continues to face challenges, including economic changes, climate events, and the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and Marshall Fire. To address these, and other current issues, we are focusing on three main priorities:

- **Economic Security and Social Stability** – Helping residents access stable jobs, housing, and essential services.
- **Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship** – Protecting our environment and preparing for climate change.
- **Good Governance** – Providing transparent, efficient, and responsive county services.

This progress report highlights key achievements and ongoing efforts as we continue working toward a stronger, more resilient community.



Economic Security & Social Stability



Housing Access & Affordability

According to a six to 12 month survey...

- ✓ **95%** of Housing Stabilization Program participants have maintained stable housing at 12 months post exit.
- ✓ **90%** of **Continuum of Care Rapid Rehousing** clients have maintained their housing as well.




Housing Stabilization Program

Through September 2024...

 **92** Community Resource Housing Panel referrals were supported per month.




Provided rental assistance, housing navigation, resource coordination, and case management.

\$1.5M secured in funding for Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grants, Next Steps, and Family Bridge Housing programs.

 **59** households with children experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness will be provided with monthly rental assistance and case-management support.

30+ community partners engaged in quarterly events with education, self-care resources, and networking to support family homelessness prevention.

Housing Helpline

-  Continued support of the county's extended eviction prevention network with timely updates on tenant eligibility for known rental assistance funding.
-  Provided light touch navigation and resource coordination for an average of 198 households per week.
-  Digitalized the county's rental list, improving access for partner agencies and the community.



Regional Housing Partnership

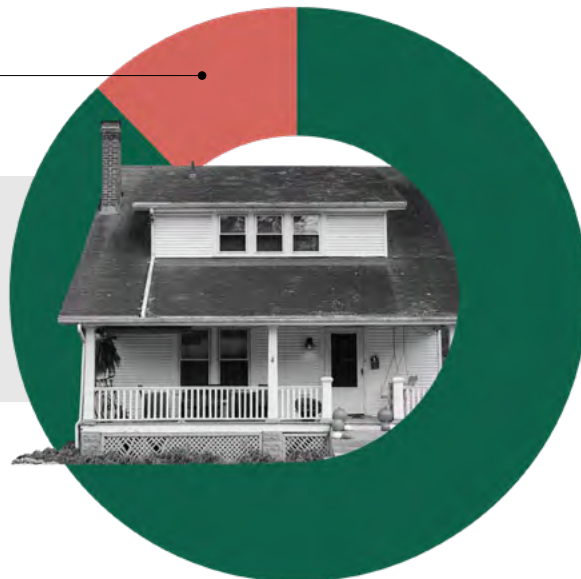
The county and municipalities recommitted to the **12% county-wide** affordable housing goal.



Secured **Prop 123 Local Capacity Grant**

To review and update affordable housing fast track approval processes in the county and municipalities to prepare for new requirements in 2027.

Finalized **Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)** between the City of Boulder, Boulder County Housing Authority (BCHA), and municipalities to expand rental and homeownership compliance, updating policy manuals for county-wide alignment.



Mobile Home Communities



40+

mobile homes have been repaired, rehabilitated or reconstructed.

\$2M for wind repair damage

Finalized **Department of Local Affairs Community Development Block Grant** – Disaster Recovery Funding

La Luna Cooperative:

\$1.055M

to assist with the creation of a resident owned community

\$1.7M under contract

- 224 Seward St., Lyons, CO
- 14 affordable units



Mobile Home Communities

- Received **Temporary Certificates of Occupancy** and began leasing for six buildings.
- Secured a **Diminishing Need Waiver** approval from **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**.
- **Casa Lease-Up**: Eight units to be occupied end of December.



Supportive Housing Initiatives

17 new vouchers received for the **Foster Youth to Independence Initiative**.

Selected as a **Moving To Work** designation, which only 14 agencies across the nation have received.

Division of Homelessness Systems & Coordinated Responses



Launched the [Public Facing Data Dashboard](#)



Co-facilitated a successful **Housing and Homelessness Summit** highlighting the intersection between lack of affordable housing and rates of homelessness.



Successfully leveraged data to expand the **United States Interagency Council on Homelessness All Inside Cohort** to include Boulder County.



Launched two new **Permanent Supportive Housing Developments**

- This brings the total to 95 units of Permanent Supportive Housing to the housing portfolio



Resident Self-Sufficiency



Fruit and Veg Program

Boulder County Public Health's (BCPH) Fruit and Veg Program is an innovative nutrition security program that serves 550 Boulder County families unable to qualify for federal food benefits.

At a six-month follow-up survey,

61% of Fruit and Veg participants reported being able to afford enough food each month.

This shows a 50% improvement (compared to the 41% at the time of enrollment) to food insecurity after receiving the Fruit and Veg coupons.

89% of participants reported a reduction in unhealthy food consumption at follow-up.

97% report an increase in fruit and vegetable consumption.

“This program has been a great help to me and my entire family. Especially when resources are very low. Thanks for everything.”

Fruit and Veg Longmont Program Participant
Translated from Spanish

“Thank you very much. Without these coupons we would not eat what we eat. Thank you.”

Fruit and Veg Boulder Program Participant
Translated from Spanish



SNAP: The goal was to raise food assistance (SNAP) awareness and increase enrollment by 8%.

23 people (plus children) attended the **Family Voice Ambassadors Cafecito** in October, part of BCPH's Family Connect program.

- Featured a Human Services guest speaker on SNAP and county benefits for Spanish-speaking parents.
- Monthly cafecitos provide a welcoming space for parents to learn about BCPH and county programs from trusted experts.



Employment First Navigator Program

The goal was to implement and navigate an Employment First Navigator Program.

40 hours dedicated to staff time to the **Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE)** program by the **Workforce of Boulder County**.

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) have collaborated to develop and fund the **Paving Access to Careers and Employment (PACE)** Program utilizing Supplemental Employment Support Funds (ESF) and Colorado's Employment First funding.

- Program Ambassadors will offer Supportive Services to help more SNAP applicants and recipients enroll in employment and training programs.
- PACE will use existing workforce expertise and partnerships to assist SNAP clients, especially those hardest to serve, in achieving economic independence.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Launched in November 2023, **WellMind Connection** provides crisis response, resource referrals, and access to bilingual navigators specializing in mental health support.

- In Spring 2024, WellMind Connection and **Crisis Assistance and Therapy (CAT)** merged into a bilingual team, enabling seamless access through a shared call center, with only CAT members handling in-person responses.
- The shared WellMind/CAT call center streamlines behavioral health support, offering a single contact point for in-person crisis response, mental health resources, and coordinated care triage.

850 cases were received by WellMind and CAT across 577 client households.

27 calls have been responded by in-person CAT team members.

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Climate Action & Environmental Stewardship



GHG Emissions Reduction

Accelerate electrification in the county fleet and increase access to EV charging locations at county public buildings.



Pilot 2025 low-carbon cement utilization project using results to inform future capital project efforts on public roads and trails.



Recommended reducing underutilized assets and outlined funding needs for transitioning to electric vehicles where feasible.



Completed a fleet utilization study of 542 total assets, including 271 vehicles, to evaluate usage and efficiency.

Community Environmental & Climate Action

Decarbonize DRCOG

The \$199 million federal grant will help **Denver Regional Council of Government** (DRCOG) cut climate pollution and promote sustainability by transforming Denver's building sector, with a focus on underserved communities.

Justice40 Policy

The **Office of Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience** (OSCAR) department has codified a J40 Policy where we will periodically measure our work based on budget allocations targeting J40 populations.

EnergySmart

The **EnergySmart** program provided guidance to over 950 residents, resulting in the replacement of more than



230+

gas appliances with electric alternatives.

\$400,000

in rebates were distributed to support these upgrades.



With approximately \$200,000 specifically benefiting income-qualified residents.






Support nature-based solutions to draw down carbon emissions including maintenance of

106,000+ acres

of agricultural space utilizing five soil health principles and exploring native principles in agricultural operations.

The Agricultural Resources Division invested

\$600,000+ 

in 2024 to improve soil health on 24 Open Space agricultural properties.



Farmers applied compost and left crop stubs in the fields rather than pulling them all out. This prevented erosion and provided an opportunity for cattle grazing. This was possible because six miles of new fencing was installed on many of these agricultural properties.

\$1M

dedicated to fencing to be used for potential reintroduction of buffalo on county open space agricultural land. Buffalo would be used for cultural purposes and grassland management. This effort would be in collaboration with members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. This effort would help with carbon sequestration, maintain grasslands, and return buffalo for cultural purposes by the tribes.



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Good Governance

Racial Equity & Inclusive Community Engagement

Family Voice Ambassadors, launched in April 2023, are parent representatives shaping BCPH's Family Connects program. Now in its second cohort, they meet monthly in bilingual (English-Spanish) sessions and operate alongside the **Community Advisory Board**.

Disparity Study to determine inequity in procurement



Completed study of procurement practices to address opportunity disparities.



Digital Accessibility



Colorado House Bill 21-1110 requires that all technology solutions be fully compliant with accessibility standards by July 1, 2025. The purpose of this project is to focus on all web-based assets to ensure that Boulder County is in compliance.



Continue to lead the region in language access and website accessibility, achieving 79.9% compliance and progressing toward the industry goal of 85.3%, with a target of **90%**.

Open Space Multi-Cultural Engagement

Boulder County Parks & Open Space cultivates approachable, meaningful, and sustainable community engagement opportunities and programs co-created with the community. BCPOS focuses on historically marginalized communities that leverage the community's assets, build upon trusted partnerships, and make people feel they are a part of Parks & Open Space.

This is our fourth year of co-creating an outdoor program with the **San Lazaro community**. With archery, naturalist led bilingual hikes, family camping, outdoor rock climbing, and volunteer projects, this program has been a success.

31+ collaborative events



with 16 different partners were completed in 2024 to help us continue to bridge with these important community connections.



Balanced Budget to Available Resources



Worked with colleagues across the county to secure nearly **\$20M** in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements arising out of the 2013 flood and the 2021 Marshall Fire and Severe Wind Event.

Maintained and/or Repurposed Assets



Completed space optimization study resulting in identification and purchase of future Boulder Community hub. This creates an opportunity to reconsider the future use of the North Broadway Complex.

Engaged & Empowered Workforce

Set local example of responsible employment practices by ensuring staff is paid a living wage and investing in employee development and engagement.



Increased living wage for January 2025 to **\$50,000** annually.



Placed a cap on salaries so that no position can earn more than **6x** the living wage.



Amended bilingual pay policy, adding consistent and equitable policy application and compensation.



Applied the countywide compensation philosophy in 2023 to enhance talent retention and service excellence, incorporating it into the 2024 and 2025 budget decisions.



Launched a new online system for ADA accommodation requests.





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