

CCI 2025 Policy Statement

Overview of Staff's Proposed Changes

General Changes:

- Modernized / Streamlined language
- Moved sub-sections to other areas
- Re-Organized sub-sections

Legislative Principles:

- No Changes

Preamble:

- Removed reference to “The Real Colorado Initiative”
 - No longer applicable
- Moved statement on local autonomy & flexibility (from Intergovernmental Partnerships b-subsection)
- Added statement regarding pre-emption

Agriculture, Wildlife & Rural Affairs:

- Generally reordered sentences throughout to improve cohesion and made minor changes to grammar to improve readability.
- Agriculture subsection: Added language to support sustainability of agriculture as a viable industry into the future (not just supporting current profitability); reorganized into list for readability.
- Rural Affairs subsection: Added a sentence on the rural/urban divide.
- Removed subsection on Universal Access (moved to T&T).

General Government:

- Added statement regarding collaboration with Special Districts
- Moved “Economic Development” sub-section to Tourism, Resorts & Economic Development
- Combined multiple sub-sections to singular section on “Employment & Personnel”
- Incorporated statement on county commissioner control over employee compensation
- Moved “Law Enforcement & Crime” sub-section to Justice & Public Safety
- Added statement regarding the security of election workers
- Added statement regarding county ability to reduce their own salary
- Added sub-section regarding:
 - “Authority to Issue Business Licenses”
 - “Natural Medicine”
 - “Publishing Requirement”
 - “County Government Transparency & Accessibility”

Health & Human Services:

- Moved various existing language to introduction, since it applies to Human Services & Public Health program areas
- Behavioral Health sub-section
 - Added principles regarding the creation of a children's System of Care, based on those from our SB24-059
 - Added statement in support of the Memorandum Of Understanding from the Opioid Settlement agreement & the regional approach of the regional abatement councils
- Child Welfare sub-section
 - Added statement re-state funding of the Child Welfare funding model (SB21-277 results), allocation model meeting community need & the need to prioritize prevention funding
 - Added statement on Trails modernization project
 - Added statement on Collaborative Management Programs
 - Incorporated language on building the continuum of out of home placements
 - Removed “Child Support Enforcement” sub-section (due to changes at Federal level)
- “Early Childhood” sub-section
 - Added statement about additional funding to meet the actual need for the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) and minimizing administrative burdens
- “Juvenile Justice” sub-section
 - Added emphasis on a continuum of services for this population & programming that meets the available community resources/providers
 - Added statement about not diverting Juvenile Justice population to other systems
- “Public & Medical Assistance Programs” sub-section
 - Added statement on the comprehensive assessment & funding levels (SB22-235 results)
 - Added statement on CBMS improvements & transparent governance/accountability
 - Added statement on the utilization of TANF for local TANF programs
- “Public Health” sub-section
 - Streamlining of language
- “Senior Services & Adult Protection” sub-section
 - Added sub-section with reference to local Area Agencies on Aging & Adult Protection Services
- “Veterans Services” sub-section
 - Add sub-section with reference to sustainable funding

Justice & Public Safety:

- Moved “Law Enforcement & Crime” sub-section to later in section
- Combined “Prosecution” and “Court Facilities” sub-sections
- Added sub-section on “County Jail Facilities” with statement on funding to support the implementation of Jail Standards and the repeal of the federal Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy
- “Judicial Review” sub-section was moved to later in the section
- Added statement on the value of the Jail Based Behavioral Health Services program
- [El Paso County proposed the addition of language in “Immigration” sub-section]

Land Use & Natural Resources:

- Generally reordered sentences throughout to improve cohesion and made minor changes to grammar to improve readability.
- Land Use subsection: added sentence emphasizing the need for counties to have a seat at the table on any land use matters over which they do not have authority.
- Land Use Tools subsection: Added language supporting use of data and housing needs assessments in planning documents/decisions to reflect conversations over the last two years.
- Housing subsection: added emphasis and attainability of housing (in addition to affordability); added language encouraging Prop 123 engagement and efforts to increase funding/incentives available to local communities; added language recognizing significant of short-term rentals and support for providing local governments with permissive tools.
- Construction subsection: Added language acknowledging importance of preventing overly burdensome regulations (counties are not trying to get in the way).
- Added new Energy subsection with combined language from other sections.

Public Lands:

- Generally reordered sentences throughout to improve cohesion and made minor changes to grammar to improve readability.
- Added examples of experimentation initiatives that CCI would generally support.
- State Land Board subsection: added language emphasizing need to consider historical agricultural use of SLB land.
- Narrowed water language to that with a federal/public lands nexus. (Other water information still retained in Water subsection in LUNR Policy Statement.)

Taxation & Finance:

- Added language about the need to diversify county revenue and allow for more local options to raise revenue.
- Added language to restate the legislature's intent to no longer make changes to the property tax system following the changes made in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Tourism, Resorts & Economic Development:

- Generally reordered sentences throughout to improve cohesion and made minor changes to grammar to improve readability.
- Tourism & Recreation subsection: Reorganized into list for readability.
- Tourism, Housing, & Community Development subsection: added language emphasizing the various infrastructure and community impacts of tourism in resort communities.
- Added subsection on Financing Growth (moved from T&F).
- Added subsection on Severance Tax/Mineral Lease Funds (moved from LUNR).

Transportation & Telecommunications:

- Removed references to obsolete programs
- Added statement about ensuring funding sources evolve as energy sources diversify
- Added statement opposing efforts to limit local government's ability to conduct telecommunication infrastructure projects
- Added statement about fees which would hinder development