



PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Pueblo Area Council of Governments

FROM: Carmen Howard, PACOG Manager

DATE: March 17, 2020

SUBJECT: Resolution Supporting a Grant Application and Matching Funds for Comprehensive Plan Update

Pueblo County is seeking the services of a consultant to assist in developing a new Comprehensive Plan (Regional Development Plan) for the greater Pueblo Metropolitan Planning Area. In order to fund the project, grant funding is required. The Plan is to serve as a guide for the future by establishing goals and policies to direct responsible growth, solve problems and improve the quality of life for the region. The current Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2002 (with some minor amendments with the most recent being in 2014) and is now considered out of date.

One of the functions of the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) is to assist political subdivisions that are socially and/or economically impacted by the development, processing, or energy conversion of minerals and mineral fuels. DOLA provides grant funding to support its mission. Grants are meant to strengthen community governance through technical assistance planning and construction. Applicant projects can range from community strategic plans, comprehensive or master plans, and land use codes, to the construction of community capital assets. The Department of Local Affairs' DOLA Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund (EIAF) program was created to assist political subdivisions that are socially and/or economically impacted by the development, processing, or energy conversion of minerals and mineral fuels.

Pueblo County intends on applying for an EIAF grant to assist in funding the Comprehensive Plan Update and is asking for PACOG to support this application and provide grant match funds in the amount of \$50,000. Time is of the essence for this request as the grant application with supporting resolutions is due on April 1, 2020. In light of protective measures being implemented in response to COVID-19 and the cancellation of the March 24, 2020 PACOG meeting, Staff requests PACOG considers this request through a Resolution to meet critical deadlines that will assist in funding this high-priority project.