



**CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, CITY HALL,
#1 CITY HALL PLACE, PUEBLO, COLORADO 81003.**

**MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024
5:30 PM**

Individuals Requiring Special Accommodations Should Notify the City's ADA Coordinator at (719) 553-2295 by Noon on the Friday Preceding the Meeting.

Executive Committee meetings are special meetings of the City Council and are informal Council meetings for the purpose of receiving information and discussion among Council Members; no official action is taken at such meetings. The public is invited to attend, but public comment is generally not received unless otherwise noted.

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENTATIONS

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| A. CITY UPDATE | 5:30 p.m. |
| Brian McCain, Chief of Staff | |
| 5 minute presentation | |
| B. NATURE & WILDLIFE DISCOVERY CENTER STRATEGIC PLAN | 5:35 p.m. |
| Taylor Driver - Executive Director | |
| Lisa Wachtel - Board Chair | |
| 15 minute presentation | |
| C. ENERGY ADVISORY COMMISSION UPDATE | 6:00 p.m. |
| Ken Danti - Chair | |
| 15 minute presentation | |

ADJOURNMENT



NATURE & WILDLIFE DISCOVERY CENTER

Presentation to city council

July 22nd, 2024

by

Taylor Driver, Executive Director & Lisa Wachtel, Board Chair



**NATURE
& WILDLIFE**
DISCOVERY
CENTER

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the City Council with a comprehensive understanding of the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center's (NWDC) operations, achievements, and future plans. We aim to:

- Introduce NWDC
- Showcase Recent Accomplishments
- Highlight Financial Efficiency
- Outline NWDC's Future Plans
- Discuss Key Challenges
- Answer Questions



Mission

To promote environmental stewardship and community health through nature education, wildlife rehabilitation, and outdoor recreation.

Vision

We envision thriving urban, rural, and natural ecosystems in Southern Colorado that foster a resilient connection between people and planet.

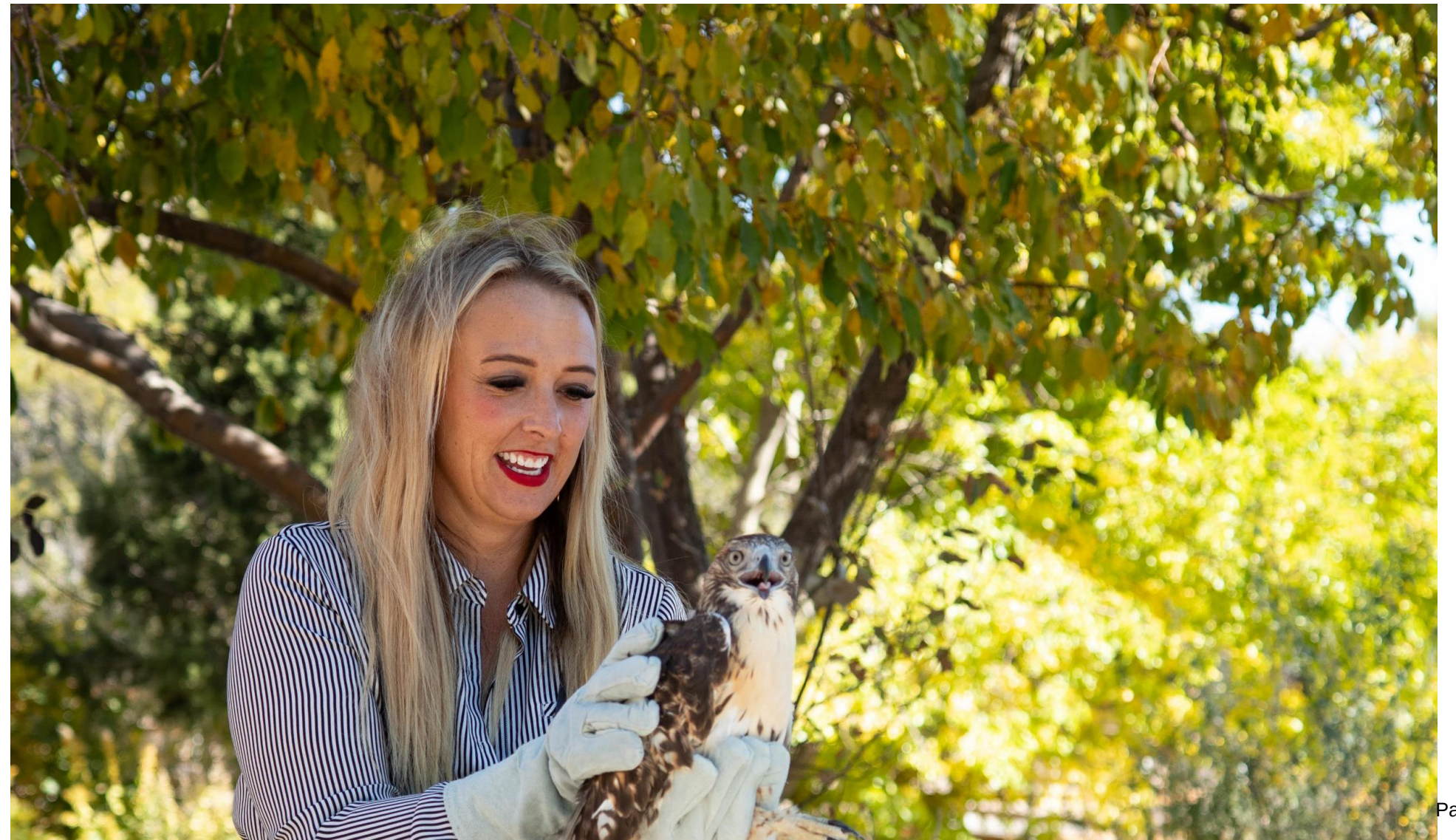
Core Values

- 🌿 Equitable Access to Nature Experiences
- 🌿 Connect with Community
- 🌿 Preserve and Restore

- 🌿 Collaborate with Partners
- 🌿 Inspire Future Generations
- 🌿 Encourage Learning







2023 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Raptor Rehabilitation

253

total wild animals cared for

84 BIRDS

released back into the wild

In 2023, 24 dedicated Raptor Center volunteers gave 5,360 hours of work, valued at

\$168,893.60*

7,322 people attended a Bird of Prey Program



"Coralee did a great job with the Raptor presentation! Highly recommend!"
- Pat Galvin

Public & Educational Programming

7

Transformative summer camps serving 54 youth

135

Outdoor Exploration Program days

2

Days out of 140 school days spent inside at Earthkeeper Nature School

In 2023, the Outdoor Explorations Program celebrated the start of its 3rd year!

2,031

District 60 and District 70 students received between 5-15 hours of environmental education as part of NWDC's school-based programs

2,628

community members attended

107

NWDC programs and events

\$9,035

provided via youth program scholarships



Photo: Eric Phillips

Land Management

Stewardship: It Takes a Team



~30 acres of fire mitigation



1,200 ft of trail corridor cleared



1.46 miles of riverbank cleaned during annual trash trip



3,370 feet of barbed wire fencing removed

>>> 2023 Project Partners



 MILE HIGH YOUTH CORPS



748 ft
of trails
maintained

211 ft
of treadwork



80 ft
of switchbacks

457 ft
of erosion control

Erosion control included:
19 drainages, 6 rock steps, and one 25-ft retaining wall



Stewardship Volunteers



129
total volunteers

In 2023, 129 total volunteers gave 599 hours of work, valued at

\$18,890*

NWDC'S MANAGEMENT OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS HAS RESULTED IN:

- An additional **\$77,728** in grant funding for trail improvements
- A strong partnership with the Beulah Fire Department
 - Resulting in NWDC and the Pueblo Mountain Park being written into a COSWAP and CPW Bear Aware Grant valued at: **\$612,992**
- Increased volunteer engagement on stewardship projects across both properties
 - Resulting in an in-kind labor value of **\$42,932**

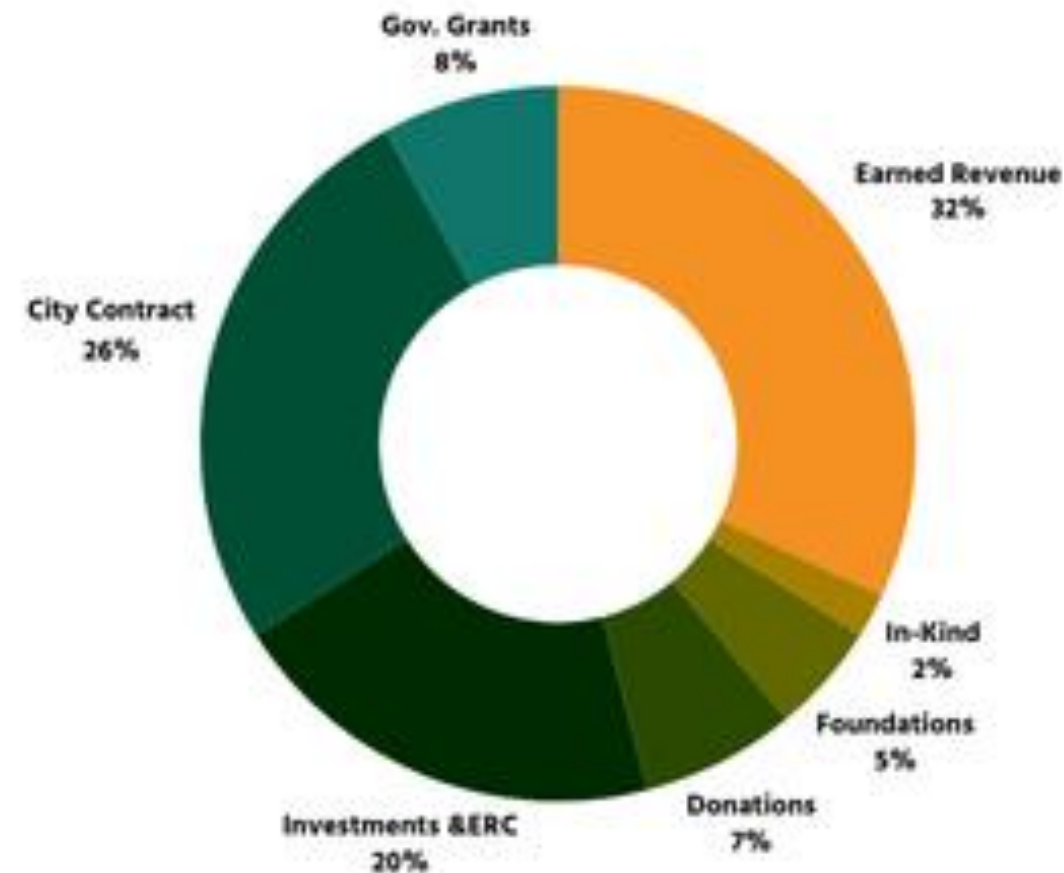


VALUE & COST-EFFECTIVENESS

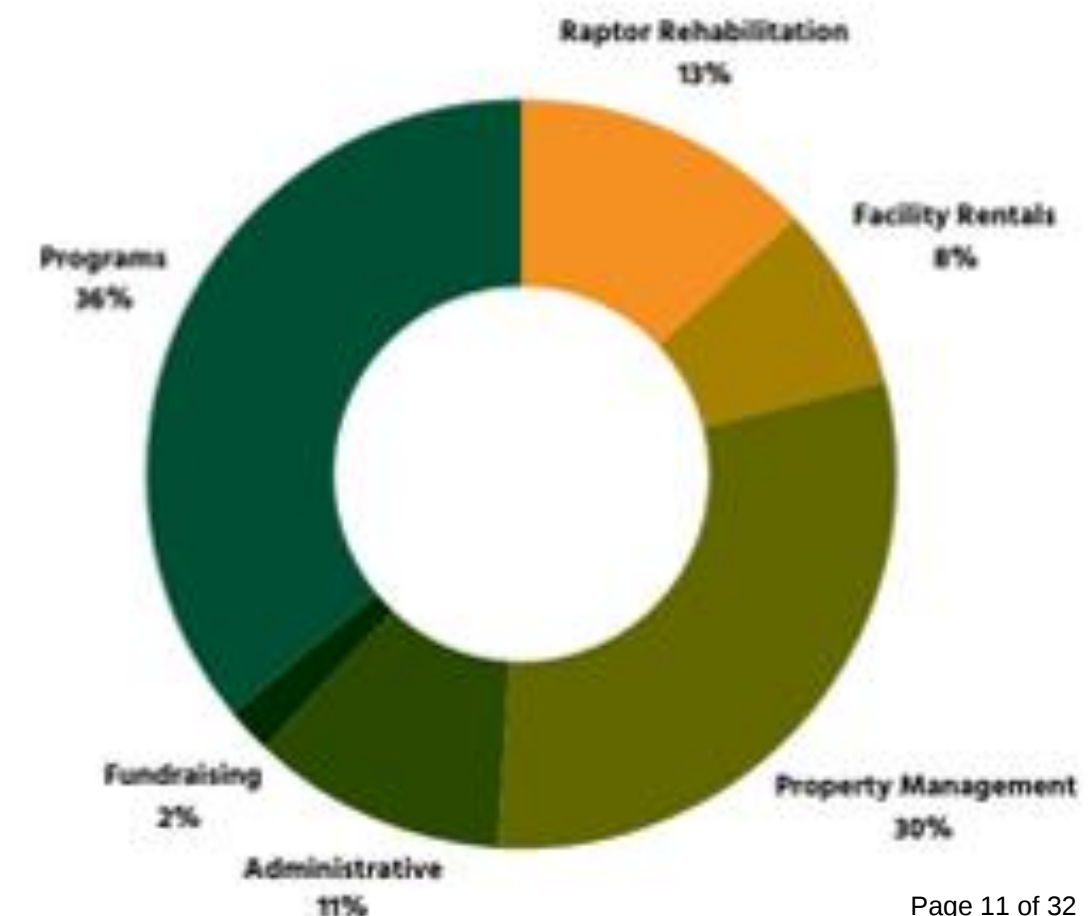
- Industry standards for managing public spaces: \$500 - \$1,500 per acre annually*.
- Breakdown of costs for NWDC:
 - Mountain Campus: 611 acres x \$500 = \$305,500 per year
 - River Campus: 40 acres x \$500 = \$20,000 per year
- Total cost at the lower end of industry standard: \$325,500 per year.
- The City of Pueblo currently funds NWDC at \$300,000 per year

*National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), which provides data on the cost of managing park and recreation spaces across the United States.

OPERATING REVENUES



OPERATING EXPENDITURES



NWDC's FUTURE PLANS

NWDC recently introduced our first 5-year strategic plan since the merger of the Mountain Park Environmental Center and the Nature and Raptor Center in 2018. The Plan focuses on four key areas:

- Land and Facilities Management
- Programs
- Organizational Health
- Communication

NWDC aspires to deepen our partnership with the City, particularly in the areas of Land and Facilities Management, to create even greater impacts together.



NWDC's MOST PRESSING LAND AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT ISSUES

RIVER CAMPUS

- **Reoccurring flooding** poses a significant challenge, threatening infrastructure and disrupting activities.
 - We seek the City's assistance for feasibility study for effective flood control measures.

MOUNTAIN CAMPUS

- **The historic Fire Tower** has been deemed unsafe and needs to be rebuilt.
 - Possible grant funding available through the State Historical Fund
- **Park Bridges and Culverts**, require repair to ensure continued safe and reliable access.
 - This project has been listed on the City of Pueblo's Capital Improvement Plan Since 2017.





**NATURE
& WILDLIFE**
DISCOVERY
CENTER

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Economic Impact:

- Outdoor Recreation significantly boosts the local economy
- NWDC annual attracts ~15,000 program participants, plus thousands of additional visitors to our two locations
- Enhancing NWDC increases Pueblo's appeal as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts

Community Well-Being:

- Access to parks and recreational spaces promotes health, and well being
- NWDC's programs connect community members with nature and foster environmental stewardship
- Improved spaces ensure future generations benefit from our natural resources

City's Commitment:

- Formation of the Pueblo Office of Outdoor Recreation demonstrates dedication to outdoor recreational opportunities
- Continued investment in NWDC aligns with the City's vision for a thriving outdoor recreation sector



Questions?

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

City Work Session 7.22.24

Ken Danti

Chair, Energy Advisory Commission

George Andrews, MBA

Energy Efficiency Coordinator

City of Pueblo - Public Works



COMMISSION'S MISSION

This Commission is enacted to provide an entity through which the City may officially encourage and bring about better and more effective use of energy in all its forms within the City, to enable the City to reach its goal of 100% renewable energy by 2035 and to monitor franchise agreements and Public Utility Commission proceedings with respect to energy, insofar as they impact the City.

The 2017 City passed resolution 13612 commits to 100% renewable energy power by 2035. Goals include reducing the City's emissions footprint, lower energy bills, and grow the local economy.

NET-ZERO FIRE STATIONS

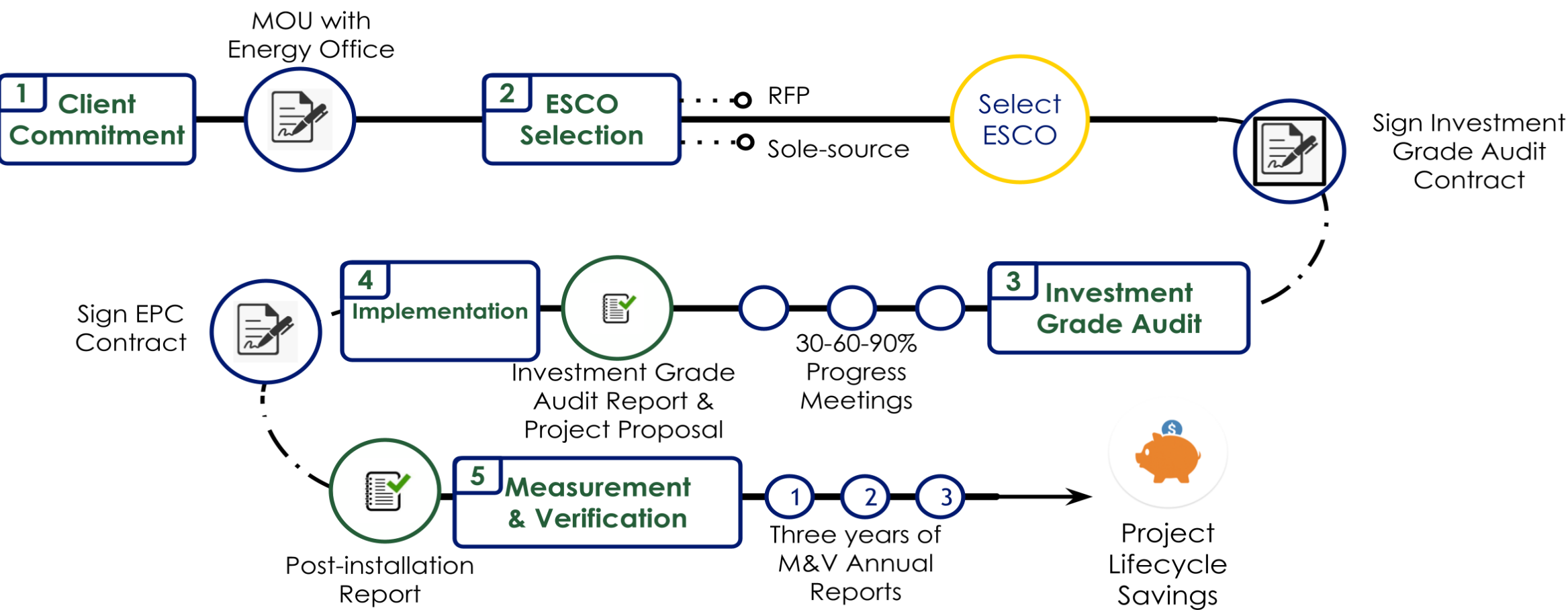


PUEBLO FIRE DEPARTMENT
STATION #11

- ▶ Design/build energy efficiency
- ▶ All electric
 - ▶ Geothermal heat/cooling
 - ▶ Gas backup generator to ensure 24x7 operation.
- ❓ Solar powered
 - ❓ Net-metered

Project CI2423 - Energy Performance Contract Audit Budgeting and Appropriating \$125,000 to conduct investment-grade energy audit

EPC: 5-Step Process



INVESTMENT GRADE AUDIT

After choosing an ESCO, the client will thoroughly assess its facilities. The investment grade audit will identify:

1. *Facility improvement measures*
2. *Utility and operational savings*
3. *Fleet conversion & fuel savings*
4. *Eligible grants and incentives*
5. *Capital and financing solutions*

Energy Performance Contracting Services

RESPONSE DEADLINE: June 20, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Building Title	Sq Footage	Original	kWh	\$kWh	Therm	\$therm	gal	\$gal	\$ per building
Pueblo Municipal Justice Center (PMJC), 200 S Main St	105,512	2015	2,559,744	\$ 340,545.14	54,149	\$ 40,922.10	504,000	\$ 5,891.04	\$ 387,358.28
City Hall, 1 City Hall Place	85,848	1917	769,800	\$ 131,262.23	26,995	\$ 21,140.29	291,000	\$ 14,031.60	\$ 166,434.12
Fleet Garage, 300 E D St	46,835	1995	196,500	\$ 35,889.78	21,161	\$ 16,837.47	573,000	\$ 5,818.44	\$ 58,545.69
Ice Skating Rink, 100 N Grand Ave	33,485	1975	81,000		City working with lessee to obtain utility data				-
Transportation Offices, 315 Richmond Ave	32,242	1979	194,800	\$ 33,792.97	28,445	\$ 22,195.77	1,226	\$ 8,166.00	\$ 64,154.74
Airport Terminal, 31201 Bryan Cir	22,722	1958	27,038	\$ 4,825.09	5,353	\$ 4,679.99	31,000	*228,695.52	\$ 238,200.60
Stormwater Maintenance Offices, 310 East D St	18,442	1995	35,890	\$ 196,500.00	Shared with fleet garage		12,000	\$ -	\$ 196,500.00
Engineering Annex, 210 S Mechanic St	14,775	1950	39,157	\$ 6,934.14	3,953	\$ 3,675.75	719,000	\$ 3,216.00	\$ 13,825.89
Fire Station #1, 710 Greenwood St.	13,628	1975	38,406	\$ 6,798.47	6,715	\$ 5,678.57	410,000	\$ 450.96	\$ 12,928.00
El Centro Youth Recreation Center, 609 E 6th St	13,248	1934	30,554	\$ 5,436.75	8,525	\$ 7,391.75	3,296,000	\$ -	\$ 12,828.50
Fleet Utility Storage, 300 E D St	12,542	1995	196,500	\$ 35,889.78	18,529	\$ 14,683.01	573,000	\$ 5,818.44	\$ 56,391.23
Walking Stick Golf Course Clubhouse, 4301 Walking Stick Blvd	8,577	1995	124,800	\$ 21,707.81	10,730	\$ 9,573.32	275,000	\$ 4,871.76	\$ 36,152.89
Purchasing Warehouse, 230 S Mechanic St	8,020	1912	32,307	\$ 5,731.58	2,327	\$ 2,374.71	17,000	\$ -	\$ 8,106.29
Engineering Office (Public Works), 211 East D St	7,488	1974	55,832	\$ 9,737.35	3,953	\$ 3,675.75	83,000	\$ 2,690.76	\$ 16,103.86
Traffic Office Shop, 200 S Mechanic	6,944	1963	35,661	\$ 6,301.38	4,419	\$ 4,052.52	-	\$ 2,088.84	\$ 12,442.74
City Park and Rec Office, 800 Goodnight Ave	6,621	1934	27,857	\$ 14,878.09	1,044	\$ 1,464.64	1,570,000	\$ 3,788.40	\$ 20,131.13
Firestation #9, 4527 Surfwood Ln	6,508	2010	65,279	\$ 11,422.94	2,851	\$ 2,751.15	1,656,000	\$ 1,541.88	\$ 15,715.97
Firestation #8, 1551 Bonforte Blvd	6,508	1963	69,329	\$ 12,117.17	3,609	\$ 3,365.54	259,000	\$ 1,392.24	\$ 16,874.95
Elmwood Golf Course Clubhouse, 3900 Thatcher Ave	5,972	1965	176,055	\$ 30,982.14	2,687	\$ 2,687.00	299,000	\$ 5,879.89	\$ 39,549.03
Pope Block Data Center & Generator, 220 W 4th St	5,000	1920	Need Submeter						\$ -
Walking Stick Golf Course Maintenance Building	5,000	1991	124,800	\$ 47,158.32	3,176	\$ 3,144.55	78,000	\$ 1,457.33	\$ 51,760.20
Fire Station #2, 1800 Eagleridge Blvd	4,456	1998	47,755	\$ 8,436.67	2,147	\$ 2,236.85	404,000	\$ 476.88	\$ 11,150.40
WWTP Engineering Building, 1300 S Queens Ave	4,386	1938	47,755	\$ 8,436.67	5,794	\$ 5,646.19	5,907,000	\$ 19,577.82	\$ 33,660.68
Fire Station #3, 123 W Evans Ave	3,797	1981	32,667	\$ 5,788.40	3,075	\$ 2,908.04	325,000	\$ 191.16	\$ 8,887.60
Fire Station #7, 840 S Pueblo Blvd	3,797	1981	23,184	\$ 4,150.85	1,911	\$ 2,060.60	189,000	\$ 191.16	\$ 6,402.61
Totals	482,353		4,974,614	\$ 1,001,429.76	221,548	\$ 183,145.56	17,472,226	\$ 316,236.12	Yearly Grand Total
							*Stormwater		\$ 1,484,105.40

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, EVS TO SIGNIFICANTLY BOOST U.S. POWER LOAD BY 2030

- ▶ U.S. electricity demand has been flat at around 4,000 terawatt-hours since around 2010.
- ▶ Electricity demand is accelerating from the rapid build-out of data centers needed to develop generative artificial intelligence.
- ▶ Government and corporate climate pledges that hinge on electrifying industries such as transportation.
- ▶ IEA - **Tripling renewable power capacity by 2030 is vital to emissions reduction goals**

EV Statistics in CO



Colorado goals: 2030 EV Plan
*supporting the acceleration of widespread electrification
of cars, buses and trucks
and adopting the goal of 940,000 light-duty electric
vehicles in Colorado by 2030.*



130,460

EVs on the Road

22.61

EVs per 1k People

4,198

Level 2 Ports

1,071

DCFC Ports



6/4/2024

Last Updated

[Launch EValuateCO](#)

COMMITTED TO CHARGING SMART



**DRIVE CLEAN
COLORADO**
a Clean Cities Coalition

**CHARGING
SMART**
NATIONALLY DISTINGUISHED. LOCALLY POWERED.

Technical Assistance and certification program to support municipalities

Recognize progress in achieving EV-readiness goals, streamlining regulatory practices, and facilitating the adoption of zero emission transportation

Drive Clean Colorado offers technical assistance to local Colorado governments, providing tools to facilitate and speed deployment of electric vehicles.

Designation Structure



Bronze designees have successfully standardized EV charging infrastructure permitting, identified zoning restrictions, and discussed collaboration with utility providers.



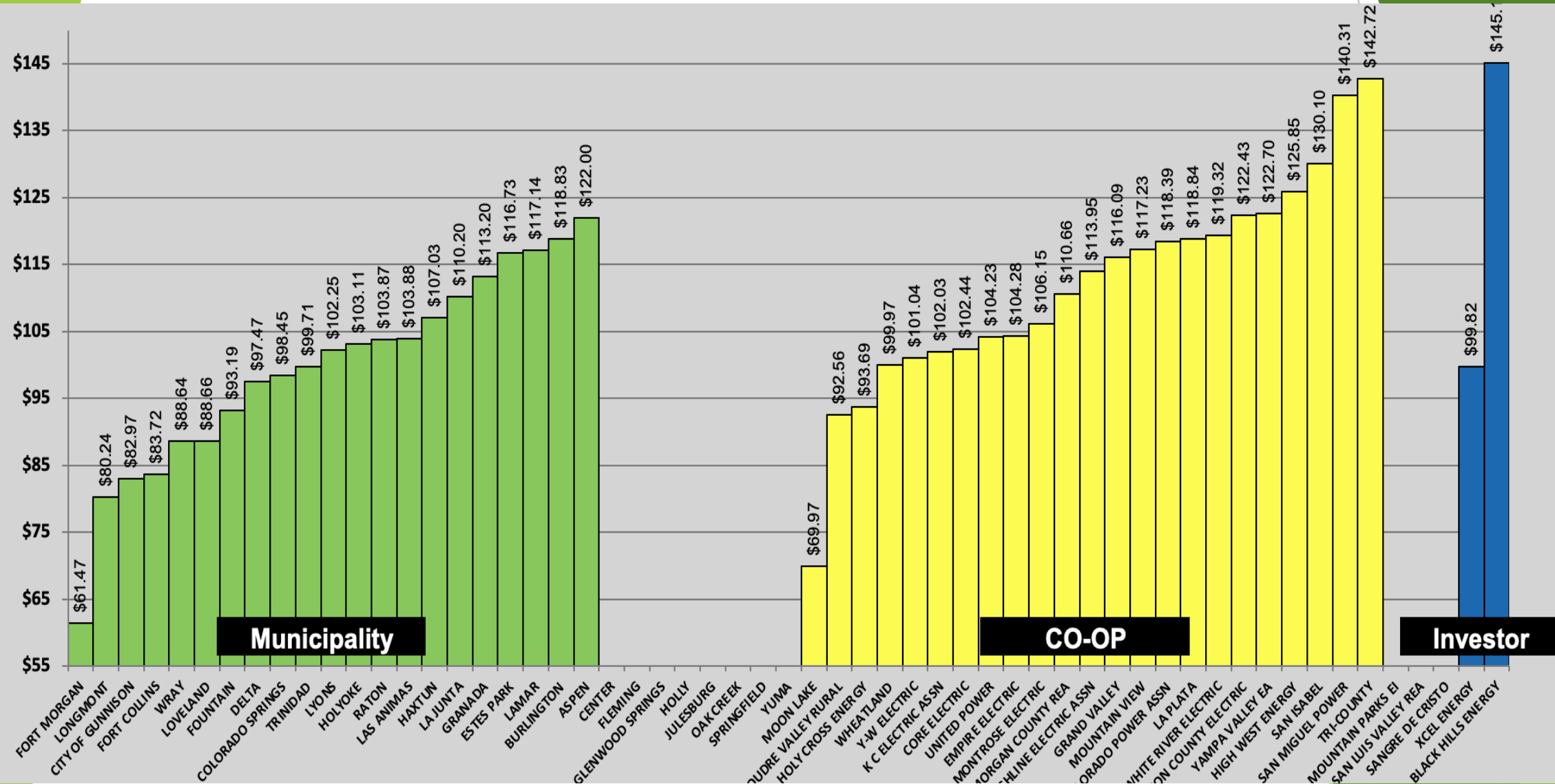
In addition to completing all criteria for Bronze designation, Silver designees have successfully completed a fleet analysis and changed zoning requirements to allow the easier and cheaper deployment of EV chargers.



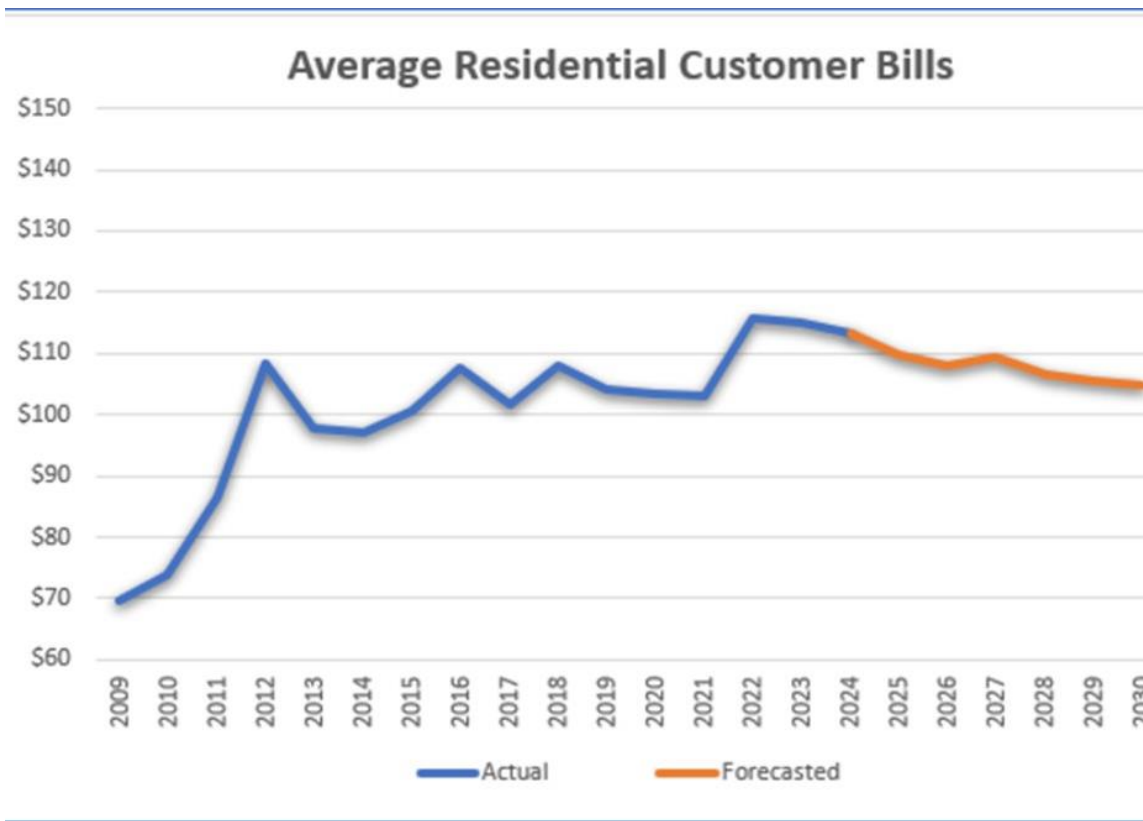
In addition to completing all criteria for Bronze and Silver designation, Gold designees have purchased EVs for use in their municipal fleet, adopted standard approval and review timelines, installed a public charger, adopted relevant ordinances for new construction, and updated their comprehensive plan.

BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC

The most expensive residential bills in Colorado (700kWh CAMU 2024)



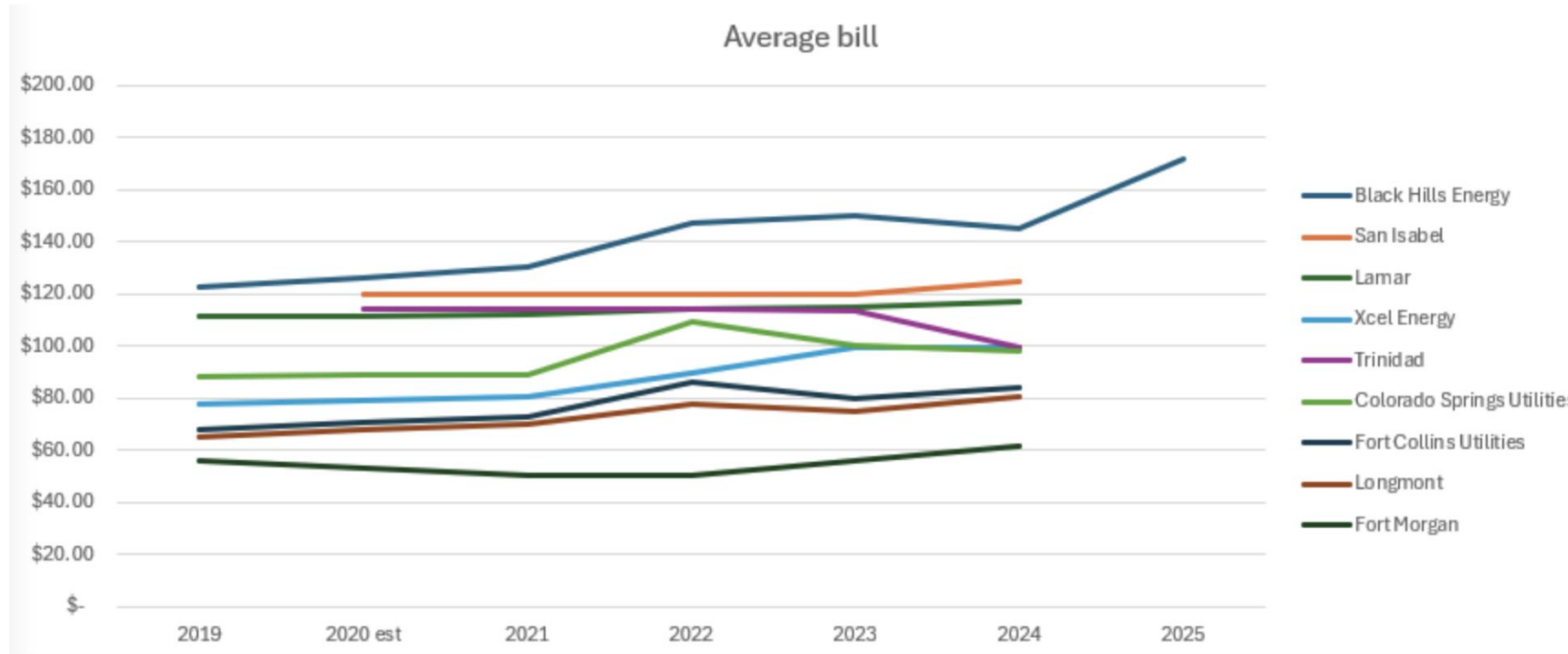
BLACK HILLS PROMISE IN MAY 2024



- ▶ Clean Energy Plan presented in May
- ▶ Adding 400MW of renewable
- ▶ Would reduce bills

BLACK HILLS, ANOTHER BROKEN PROMISE

JUNE 2024



18%

Increase

BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC IS AN INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITY (IOU)

- Regulated by the Public Utility Commission (PUC)
- IOU = For-profit utility
- Holds a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)
 - The CPCN ensures that granting a utility the right to operate in a specific area serves the public's convenience and necessity. It prevents unnecessary duplication of services and promotes fair competition in some cases.
- Franchise Agreement
 - The agreement grants the utility the right to install, operate, and maintain its electrical infrastructure on public property within the city's boundaries.
- Reliable, Safe, and Affordable?

BLACK HILLS HISTORY

- There is a history of the corporation sending Leaders to raise bills.
- Pueblo is the #1 Disproportionately Advantaged Community in Colorado.
- We are a low-income community with a high energy burden.
- History of economic damage because of high electric bills.
- Can we trust them in phase 2 of the current Clean Energy Project to build the 400MW of affordable renewable energy?

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- PUC rejects CPCN allowing City to replace BHE as our energy provider.
 - Everyone should make public comments at PUC
- Take the 2025 off-ramp and pursue municipalizing.
 - Partner with an energy company that can help us lower rates and fund the fight.
- The city is allowed to provide its own generation.
 - Large-scale renewables to replace all residents with lower-cost energy.
- State passes Community Choice Energy (CCE) legislation
 - Allow IOU communities to choose alternate energy providers.
- Ask Black Hills Electric to lower its bills by 18% and agree to keep them low in the future.

QUESTIONS