

COMMUNITY INPUT



# Choosing Larimer County's Future

June 2026



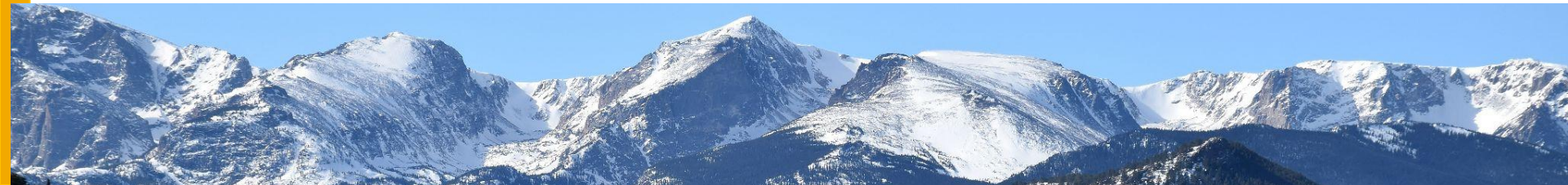
# YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Larimer County invites your input to guide our future together.

We are proud to engage residents to help shape our future together.

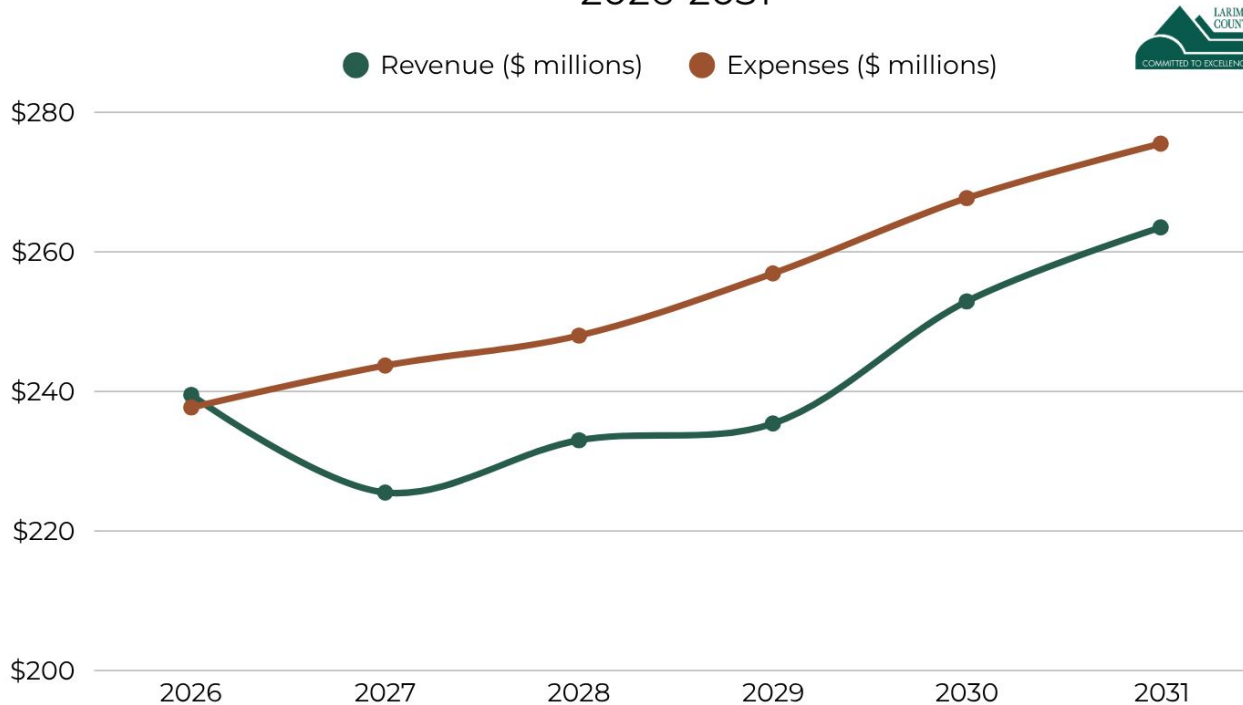
## Residents value:

- wildfire protection
- public safety
- family crisis support
- many other critical services



# Rising Costs are Outpacing Revenue

Projected General Fund Revenues and Expenditures, 2026-2031



**Increased demand for services and rising costs have left the County with very few options.**

# Impact to Critical Services

It has become simultaneously more expensive and more imperative to fund critical services due to:

- Rising costs
- Increased risk
- Growing demand



# Risks, Demand, Costs, are all Higher

## **Rising costs for basic equipment continues to increase.**

For example, fleet vehicle cost increased an average of 36% from 5 years ago.

## **Wildfire risk has never been higher.**

**The Cameron Peak fire season cost \$19 million; \$14 million was reimbursed by FEMA and the State.**

**FEMA payments are often delayed for years or have recently been refused entirely.**

## **Rising demand for services.**

Like public safety, roads, and support for children and families facing cases of abuse, neglect, health, housing, or financial crisis.

Public safety has seen a **\$71M increase** since 2017

# Critical Services Will be Impacted



Additional revenue is needed if we want to fully fund services such as:

- Wildfire Protection
- Public Safety
- Clean Water Sources
- Roads and Bridges
- Crisis Support Services

# Wildfire and Natural Disaster Preparedness

## Mitigation | Response | Recovery



- Wildland fires in natural areas where grasslands and forests meet neighborhoods are a major danger in Colorado.
- Emergency response and recovery efforts meet the challenge but staff is stretched thin and we need to be better prepared for the future.
- **\$1.7 million** is needed annually to staff emergency preparedness at necessary levels.

# Protecting Our Emergency Reserves

Investment | Preparation | Resiliency



- Funding is required to protect the County's **\$23.3 million** emergency reserves.
- A single event could use up all the emergency reserves.
- The 2013 Flood incurred **\$109.9 million** in costs and **\$97.1 million** in federal and state reimbursements.
- Investing now saves money long term and better prepares us for the future

# Public Safety

Crime Prevention | Law Enforcement | Criminal Justice Improvements



- Public safety costs are outpacing revenue.
- Costs have increased over **\$71 million**, or 72%, since 2017.
- **\$5 million** in new annual revenue would help ensure streets and neighborhoods remain safe.
- Continued investments to improve justice outcomes save time and money long-term.

# Clean Drinking Water Sources

Protect | Invest | Save



- Water sources serve the vast majority of County residents, including Fort Collins and Loveland.
- The highest risk portion of the Big Thompson watershed needs at least **\$35 million** to meaningfully reduce the risk from wildfire contaminants.
- Every **\$1** invested can provide up to **\$7** in long-term savings.

# Roads and Bridges

Safety | Efficiency | Improvements



- Many roads and bridges need safety improvements, including some over 50 years old.
- Rising costs are surpassing the revenue available for these projects.
- Up to **\$26 million** in annual funding is needed just to keep up with current demand.

# Critical Support Services

Children | Families | Veterans | Older Adults



- Support is provided for cases of abuse, neglect, health, housing, or financial crisis.
- Food assistance (SNAP) caseload increased from approximately 12,000 households (2019) to more than 19,000 (2025).
- Prevention services for seniors have been eliminated; we now only help those already in Adult Protective Services.
- **\$2 million** in new revenue is needed to maintain serving the community at the same level, especially after recent federal and state funding reductions.

# Shape Larimer's Future



## Choose Our Future

Larimer County Wants Your Input

We are proud to ask residents like you to play an important role.

- We are informing residents and seeking input.
- We will be making a decision later this summer about revenue options.



**Now is your opportunity!**

Please learn more and share your input at

**[ChooseLarimersFuture.com](https://www.chooselarimersfuture.com)**