

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION



Choosing Larimer County's Future

July - August 2026



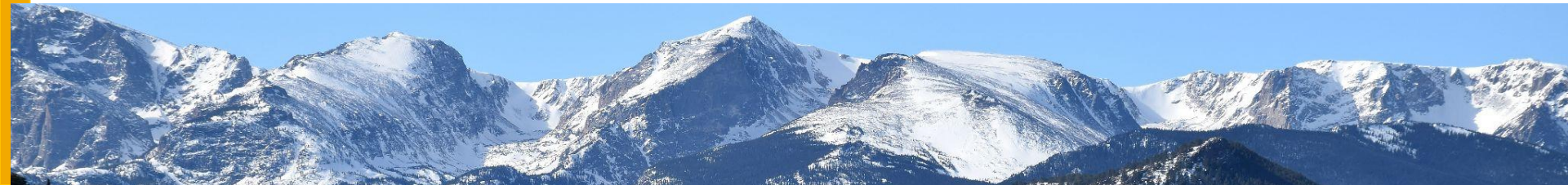
YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Larimer County invites your input to guide our future together.

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

Residents value:

- Responsible spending
- Wildfire protection
- Clean drinking water
- Safe roads and bridges
- Wise investments
- Local impact



Increased Risks and Rising Costs

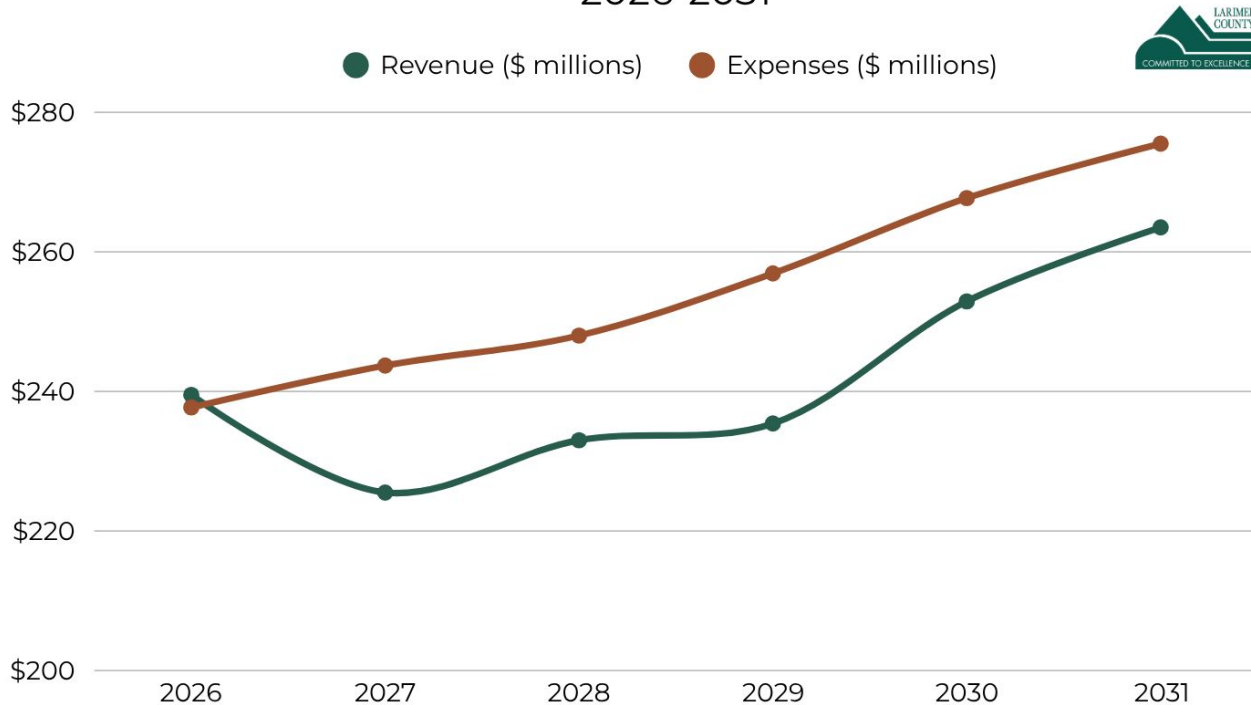
It has become both more expensive and more imperative to fund critical services due to:

- Rising costs
- Increased risks



Rising Costs are Outpacing Revenue

Projected General Fund Revenues and Expenditures,
2026-2031



Rising costs have created both financial risks and opportunities.

Higher Risks and Higher Costs

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.

Long term risks are also real.

Protecting our drinking water sources from contaminants both reduces wildfire risks and can save public dollars long term.

But more revenue would be needed to make these investments.

New Funding Now Can Save Long Term



Additional revenue is needed if we want to invest in high impact services such as:

- Wildfire Protection
- Clean Drinking Water Sources
- Road & Bridge Safety and Improvements
- Public Safety and Justice Improvements

Wildfire and Natural Disaster Preparedness

Mitigation | Response | Recovery



- Wildfire mitigation, emergency response, and recovery have become some of the biggest risks for our communities, even in areas that historically were considered low risk.
- Funding emergency response and investing in mitigation efforts not only saves lives and property - it saves public dollars in the long term, and reduces negative environmental and economic impacts.

Wildfire and Natural Disaster Preparedness

Mitigation | Response | Recovery



"The problem is we're going to see a switch flip... the day before we're going to be able to keep [wildfires] small and the next day... wow...we cannot catch this one. And it's coming if these conditions persist."

- *Justin Whitesell, Emergency Services Director, Larimer County Sheriff's Office speaking about wildfire danger at the Larimer County BOCC Work Session 3-30-26*

Clean Drinking Water Sources

Protect | Invest | Save



- Water sources serve the vast majority of County residents, including Fort Collins and Loveland.
- Projects to preserve clean drinking water through watershed protection for residents can save millions of dollars in the long term.
- Every **\$1** invested can provide up to **\$7** in long term savings, avoiding increases to water rates and much more costly interventions and clean-ups later.

Funding Now Can Save Long Term

Investment | Preparation | Resiliency



- Larimer County prides itself on being a good steward of taxpayer dollars, even as increased risks and rising costs put pressure on the budget.
- We're considering asking residents for added revenue through a **potential 0.3% sales tax to invest** in these high impact services today and save residents money in the long term.

Roads and Bridges

Safety | Access | Improvements



- Many roads and bridges need safety improvements, including some over 50 years old.
- Rising costs are surpassing the revenue available for these projects.
- Roads and bridges residents use every day to get to work or school, and to access parks and open space, are in need of repair and safety improvements.

Funding Now Can Save Long Term

Investment | Preparation | Resiliency



- Larimer County faces increased risks and rising costs for services that protect and invest in our community:
 - **Wildfire suppression** and emergency services.
 - Public safety and justice center improvements
- **Investing** in areas and services exposed to **higher risks**, which also provide **high returns**, is needed now to make a difference and save public dollars in the long term.

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.



Learn more and share your input:

ChooseLarimersFuture.com