



**Notice of Regular Meeting of the
Montrose Recreation District (MRD) Board of Directors
Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 11:30am
Montrose Community Recreation Center
16350 Woodgate Road
Montrose CO 81401**

- I.** Call to Order, Roll Call
- II.** Open Forum: Call for Public Comment (limit of 3 minutes per person)
- III.** Staff Recognition:
 - a. **Introductions:** Malachi Moreno, Maintenance Technician
 - b. **Anniversaries:** Miller Bowles, 1 year
 - c. **Employee Awards:**
 - i. Core staff of the month -
 - ii. Part time staff of the month -
- IV.** VISTA Charter School Interns presentation
- V.** Approve 2024 Board meeting Calendar
- VI.** Request for Executive Session: Executive Session for a conference with the District attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b)
- VII.** Budget Adjustments to 2024 Recommended Budget
- VIII.** Recreation Programs Report: 50+ Programs – Cindy
- IX.** Committee Updates and Assignments
 - a. **Exec. Committee of Board** (Board: Christina, Alli. Staff: Mari, Jeremy)
 - b. **Administrative** (Board: Alli, Barb. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Lisa)
 - c. **Foundation** (Board: Megan, Barb. Staff: Mari, Astro)
 - d. **Growth** (Board: Ken, Suzi. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Justin, Miguel)
 - e. **Finance** (Board: Paul, Alli. Staff: Mari, Jeremy)
 - f. **MURA** (Board: Alli)
- X.** Executive Director's Update
- XI.** Approval of BOD Meeting Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting of the Board 11.30.2023
- XII.** Adjourn

**Next BOD Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing
January 4th at 11:30am
CRC 16350 Woodgate Road
Montrose, CO 81401**



Montrose Community Recreation Center (970) 249-7745
16350 Woodgate Road, Montrose, CO. 81401
www.montroserec.com

NOTICE

The Board of Directors of the Montrose Recreation District will hold regular meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise specified. The following dates have been selected for the 2024 regular scheduled board meetings. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

**Meetings will be held at one of the following locations:
CRC Party Rooms: 16350 Woodgate Road, Montrose, CO 81401
Field House: 25 Colorado Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401
Flex Rec: 1309 Mayfly, ~~F103 and 104~~, Montrose, CO 81401**

2024 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

**January 4, 11:30 a.m. at CRC Party Rooms
January 25, 11:30 a.m. at Flex Rec
February 22 at 11:30 a.m. at CRC Party Rooms
March 28, 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
April 25, 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
May 23, 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
June 27, at 11:30 a.m. at the Field House
July 25, at 11:30 a.m. at Flex Rec
August 22, at 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
September 26, at 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
October 24, at 11:30 a.m. at the Field House
November 21, at 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms
December 12, (2nd Thurs) at 11:30 a.m. at the CRC Party Rooms**

The Montrose Recreation District **Administrative and Recreation Offices will be closed to the public on Saturdays and Sundays and the following Holidays:**

**New Year's Day, (Monday, January 1, 2024)
Memorial Day, (Monday, May 27, 2024)
Fourth of July, (Thursday, July 4, 2024)
Labor Day, (Monday, September 2, 2024)
Thanksgiving, (Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29, 2024)
Christmas Eve, (Tuesday, December 24, 2024)
Christmas Day, (Wednesday, December 25, 2024)
New Year's Eve, (Tuesday, December 31, 2024)**

**The Montrose Recreation District Facilities will
have adjusted hours or be closed on the following
Holidays:**

2023 Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24: Close at 2 pm, Open swim 10 am to 1:30 pm

Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25: CLOSED

New Year's Eve, Sunday, Dec. 31: Close at 2 pm, Open swim 10 am to 1:30 pm

2024 New Year Day, January 1: CLOSED

Easter, Sunday, March 31: CLOSED

Memorial Day, Monday, May 27: Close at 2 pm

Independence Day, Thursday, July 4th: CLOSED

Annual Maintenance Shutdown: Aug 19th – Sept 1

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2: CLOSED

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28: CLOSED

Christmas Eve, Tuesday Dec. 24: Close at 2 pm, Open swim 10 to 1:30 pm

Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25: CLOSED



LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET CALENDAR: SB23B-001

The budget calendar is a general listing of the deadlines for the budget and for the property tax certification process. Several deadlines related to the preparation of the 2024 budget will be pushed back due to [SB23B-001](#). These one-time deadline changes are listed in the right column below.

DATE	EVENT / ACTIVITY	POSTPONED DATE:
Dec. 10	Assessors' changes in assessed valuation will be made only once by a single notification (re-certification) to the county commissioners or other body authorized by law to levy property tax, and to the DLG. (C.R.S. 39-1-111(5))	Jan. 3
Dec. 15	Deadline for certification of mill levy to county commissioners (C.R.S 39-5-128(1)). Local governments levying property tax must adopt their budgets before certifying the levy to the county. If the budget is not adopted by certification deadline, then 90 percent of the amounts appropriated in the current year for operations and maintenance expenses shall be deemed re-appropriated for the purposes specified in such last appropriation. (C.R.S. 29-1-108(2) and (3))	Jan. 10
Dec. 22	Deadline for county commissioners to levy taxes and to certify the levies to the assessor. (C.R.S. 39-1-111(1))	Jan. 17
Dec. 31	Local governments not levying a property tax must adopt the budget on or before this date; governing body must enact a resolution or ordinance to appropriate funds for the ensuing fiscal year. If the budget is not adopted and appropriations have not been made, then 90 percent of the amounts appropriated in the current year for operations and maintenance expenses shall be deemed re-appropriated for the budget year. (C.R.S 29-1-108(4))	Jan. 10
Jan. 10	Deadline for assessor to deliver tax warrant to county treasurer (C.R.S 39-5-129.)	Jan. 24
Jan. 31	A certified copy of the adopted budget must be filed with the Division. (C.R.S 29-1-113(1)). - If a budget is not filed, the county treasurer may be authorized to withhold the local government's tax revenues. -	Remains Unchanged



COLORADO
Governor Jared Polis

November 29, 2023

Dear Local Elected Officials and Property Tax Administrators,

I want to begin by thanking you for serving as a leader in your community as the head of a local taxing jurisdiction.

Most areas of Colorado have seen a historic increase in home values. Residential properties are up nearly 40% statewide. For some areas, the increases are over 50%. I'm writing to ask you and your board to play a critical role in making Colorado more affordable. With the state now having taken action, the final opportunity to provide meaningful property tax relief for property owners in 2023 lies with you and I'm hopeful you can help provide additional relief.

The state has taken several steps to avoid large increases in homeowners' property tax bills. The legislature placed Prop HH on the ballot to provide a permanent way to keep property taxes low, with a generous backfill for local governments. With opposition from the left and the right, it didn't pass.

I then immediately called a special session of the legislature and asked them to do everything we could for homeowners owners. I'm proud that we subtracted \$55,000 per home from property tax valuation and reduced the residential assessment rate to 6.7%, for many Coloradans, including your constituents, which, when paired with other recent measures by the state from 2021 and 2022 will provide as much relief from the state as we could get done. But for many Coloradans, including your constituents, this is simply not enough.

Now it's up to you - local elected officials - to do more, which is why I am urging you to reduce the tax rate (mill levy) in your district. Hardworking people in Colorado cannot afford a 40% increase in their tax bills, or even a 20% increase. Wages have not gone up by anything close to this amount, and high inflation and interest rates are creating an affordability challenge for many Colorado families.

I appreciate that you work hard to pass a budget that is responsive to the needs in your community. With the historic rise in property values, most districts can make significant rate cuts and still maintain strong revenue growth at or above the rate of inflation. I urge you to consider this and reduce your mill levy as much as possible. I recently signed bipartisan legislation providing statutory authority for you to temporarily reduce your mill levies, so you can lower your levies this year without risking a permanent loss of revenue in an uncertain future. Across the state districts like yours can help provide needed property tax relief.

I have asked the Department of Local Affairs to provide guidance to you on options that you can take to lower rates this year while preserving your budgetary flexibility. [DOLA's helpful toolkit](#) is attached to this letter.

One other way you can get involved is by engaging in the Property Tax Task Force established during the recent special legislative session by [HB23B-1003](#). This bi-partisan group is tasked with looking at long-term, locally driven solutions to property taxation, and your engagement is key to that group's success.

This year is like nothing we've seen before. Property owners are now looking to their local elected officials for help during this challenging time. Each and every one of Colorado's four thousand taxing jurisdictions

can be a part of this solution by reducing rates, even if by a small amount. If we all work together - the state and every local government - we can ensure homeowners throughout Colorado are protected.

[DOLA Toolkit](#)

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Polis
Colorado Governor

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE TO SET MILL LEVIES

(Pursuant to 39-5-128, C.R.S. and 39-1-111, C.R.S.)

A RESOLUTION / AN ORDINANCE LEVYING PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR _____,
TO HELP DEFRAY THE COSTS OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE _____,

COLORADO, FOR THE _____ BUDGET YEAR.

WHEREAS, the _____ of the _____, has adopted the
annual budget in accordance with the Local Government Budget Law, on _____, ____ and;

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for **general operating** purposes
from property tax revenue is \$ _____, and;

WHEREAS, the _____ finds that it is required to **temporarily** lower the
operating mill levy to render a refund for \$ _____, and:

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for **capital expenditure**
purposes from property tax revenue approved by voters or at public hearing is \$ _____
, and;

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for voter-approved **bonds and**
interest is \$ _____, and;

WHEREAS, the 20____, valuation for assessment for the _____ as
certified by the County Assessor(s) is \$ _____.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED/ORDAINED BY THE _____

OF THE _____, COLORADO:

Section 1. That for the purpose of meeting all **general operating** expenses of the _____

during the _____ budget year, there is hereby levied a tax of _____ mills upon each dollar of the total
valuation for assessment of all taxable property within the _____ for the year
_____.

Section 2. That for the purpose of rendering a refund to its constituents during budget year _____,
there is hereby levied a **temporary tax credit/mill levy reduction** of _____ mills.

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE TO SET MILL LEVIES - Con't.

Section 3. That for the purpose of meeting all **capital expenditures** of the _____ during the _____ budget year, there is hereby levied a tax of _____ mills upon each dollar of the total valuation for assessment of all taxable property within the _____ for the year _____.

Section 4. That for the purpose of meeting all payments for **bonds and interest** of the _____ during the _____ budget year, there is hereby levied a tax of _____ mills upon each dollar of the total valuation for assessment of all taxable property within the County/City/Town/District for the year _____.

Section 5. That the _____ is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify to the County Commissioners of _____ County(s), Colorado, the mill levies for the _____ as hereinabove determined and set, or be authorized and directed to certify to the County Commissioners of _____ County(s), Colorado, the mill levies for the _____ as hereinabove determined and set, but as recalculated as needed upon receipt of the final (December) certification of valuation from the county(s) assessor(s) in order to comply with any applicable revenue and other budgetary limits.

ADOPTED this _____ day of A.D. _____.

Attest: _____

(Officials' signatures and titles)



Local Government Elected Officials and Staff:

Following the passage of [SB23B-001](#), the Governor has requested that counties, municipalities, and special districts consider reducing their mill levies for budget year 2024 to provide critical property tax relief to help combat cost of living increases. Here is a helpful toolkit to take into account for local government boards considering temporarily lowering the mill levy for the 2024 budget year and technical guidance:

- Have the top decision makers, including both elected/appointed officials and staff, been engaged on this topic, including being notified about the percentage increase in assessed value that exceeds the level of inflation?
- How much assessed value increase has your local government experienced and what is the anticipated impact on taxpayers?
- Is your local government's mill levy subject to automatic revenue limits that will require a temporary mill levy reduction?
- Have you reviewed bond covenants and considered legal implications for debt and other obligations and consulted with legal counsel?
- Are you familiar with your local government's voter approval history with regard to mill levies?
- How is budget growth above the rate of inflation being communicated with property owners and is it inconsistent or consistent with voter expectations?
- Have you considered a multi-year plan for property tax revenue and/or property tax relief, or at least for this two-year assessment period?
- Are there other unique considerations for your community?

Local governments that choose to reduce their mill levies should use a temporary mill levy credit. [SB23-108](#) revised 39-1-111.5 C.R.S. clarifying that a local government can use a temporary mill levy reduction/temporary property tax credit to provide temporary property tax relief and later eliminate the credits if needed.

To use a temporary mill levy credit, the local government should adopt the same mill levy as the previous year, while also adopting a temporary mill levy credit. The gross mill levy minus the temporary mill levy credit will be the effective net mill levy. The effective net mill levy will be the mill levy that actually ends up on tax bills. **Ensure that any temporary mill levy credit is made clear in all relevant budgeting documents** such as the annual budget, the resolution to set the mill levies, and the [mill levy certification](#) to the county. The county treasurer will indicate the temporary mill levy credit on the tax statement per 39-1-111.5 (5) C.R.S. If possible, discuss the use of a temporary mill levy reduction with legal counsel.



Example: A local government with a net assessed value of \$10,000,000 and a general operating mill levy of 10 mills wants to do a temporary mill levy reduction of 3 mills for an effective net operating mill levy of 7 mills.

Mill Levy Type	Mill Levy	Revenue
General Operating	10 mills	\$100,000
- Temporary Mill Levy Reduction/Temporary Property Tax Credit	-3 mills	-\$30,000
= Effective Net Operating Levy	7 mills	\$70,000

In this example, the local government offers temporary property tax relief by offering a temporary mill levy credit of 3 mills. This means that 7 mills is used to calculate the final tax bill. If future revenue limits allow, the local government could choose to either adjust the temporary mill levy credit or eliminate the temporary mill levy credit, which would return to the general operating levy to 10 mills.

A sample resolution to set mill levies, an updated calendar for budget year 2024, and other resources are available on the Division of Local Government's [budget webpage](#).

Note: School districts should contact the [School Finance Office](#) at the Department of Education for more information.

For more information, please contact the Local Government Services team at 303.864.7720 or email cynthia.thayer@state.co.us. The team is standing by to help you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT, December 2023

Finance

We have not yet received the November finance documents, so do not have a Finance Committee meeting, nor a report at this time. The City's report should be to us after the 20th December.

Page | **Human Resources**

¹ *Staffing Plan and Compensation Analysis:* Employee letters are being finalized and distributed in time for Christmas, with Supervisor scripts / talking points and training prepared on this same timeline. The changes are scheduled to go into effect at the first pay period in January, 2024.

Special Projects – Open and underway

Wrapping up year-end processes and projects.

Justin, Jeremy, Liz and Suzi are working to (re)develop the Marlins agreement and are reviewing an abundance of comparative agreements, changes over the years and other historic information.

Field House RFP

We're working to schedule a Growth Committee meeting prior to Christmas to review the proposals received on the Field House rehab.

Division Reports

Admin

Flex Rec: Business IS picking up, and staff has been hard at work to establish and market the December rate changes and new year blitz.

Fitness / Outdoor Recreation – John

Miguel, Gene, and John worked to finalize the cardio equipment replacement plan for the CRC in 2024. They collected updated pricing information, finalized the types of equipment that would be chosen, and kept the project moving forward in order to refresh and revitalize the seven year old equipment at the CRC. Flex Rec also hosted a climbing film showing to promote flex rec as well as to continue to enhance and broaden the outdoor recreation related programming that the MRD is building. John and Gene also finished spending the 2023 funds from the bicycle grant given to the MRD by Friends of Youth and Nature (FOYAN). Now that these funds have been spent, the MRD will be given additional funds in 2024 to continue to expand mountain biking opportunities across the community.

Adults – Matt

December is a busy 2 weeks of adult sports as we have playoffs and finals for 5 different programs, 3 soccer divisions, dodgeball and 3v3 basketball.

Overall the late fall seasons have been a success and run pretty smoothly. I have had comments from the officials about the level of play and how it keeps rising. For the most part the players are behaving themselves and adjusting to our tighter rules and expectations for behavior. I am working with officials and supervisors to constantly evaluate rules and get their input on how we can continue to improve the experience for players and spectators and very importantly for our officials.

I am excitedly looking forward to a few weeks off of no nights or programs before we gear up and start with 5v5 basketball and indoor soccer again in January.

Have a safe holiday season.

FACILITIES OPERATIONS – Justin

- At Flex Rec the movie night was a smashing success with 55 people in attendance. We definitely learned some lessons (turn up the heat) that we can use to improve future events but overall the feedback was very positive. We already have another movie night in the works with a potential showing in January.
- Staff continues to brainstorm ways to get more traffic, engagement and revenue from the Flex Rec. Big changes coming into the new year are a lower price for people 26 years old and under, a lower monthly fee overall, stepped up and targeted marketing and an exciting new class. Memberships continue to hover around 50.
- The Field House became fully activated in November with a full slate of programs and rentals every night of the week. Programs include youth and adult soccer, youth and adult lacrosse, baseball, parkour, high school team sports practices, PE classes, after school program, community meetings, church groups and TONS of party rentals on the weekends. Weehawken has also been in full swing preparing for their annual performance. All of this will add to the solid cost recovery numbers for the Field House YTD.
- Kellie Wolff, new Leader - Field House, has done a remarkable job in her first month. She has also taken over external scheduling duties for the entire district during the busiest stretch of rentals we have had. Lack of field time/space is becoming a good problem to have.
- The RFP for the Field House renovation was released in early November. Several firms reached out to express interest and ask questions. Final proposals are due on Monday, Dec. 4. We can't wait to get that process started.
- The Rec Center had a steady month with paid attendance (23,000) on par with previous years. Memberships increased by 50 to 7,338 and we expect continued increases through early 2024, which should push us past our all time high of 7,780 members (Jan. 2019).
- We have noticed a significant increase in the number of high school age youth in the fitness area. While it is great to see so many more than usual it definitely creates a different vibe at times and is something that we are keeping an eye on. Most of the discomfort comes from a lack of knowledge of gym etiquette and just a sheer lack of space.
- Staff in all areas are gearing up for a significant increase in the number of patrons which should increase from about 65 people served per hour to around 80-85 people per hour in December. The week of Thanksgiving was a good preview of what's to come.

Data, Grants and Evaluation - Astro November Metrics

*Passes Held: 7,283 in November 2023 compared to 7,279 in October 2023; on seasonal trend compared to a slight increase between these months in 2022.

*Avg Weekly Revenue Day Pass: \$5,962 in November 2023 up from \$3,942 in October 2023 this increase is on trend, but slightly larger than the \$1,500 increase between these months last year.

*Weekly visits: 24,058 in November 2023 up from 19,982 in October 2023; on trend compared to increase from the same period last year, but 2023 Nov is almost 2,000 higher than Nov 2022.

*People per hour: 66 in November 2023 compared to 55.6 in October 2023; on trend but a couple people per hour higher than increase in these months from 2022.

*Child Watch Visits 334 in November 2023 compared to 297 in October 2023; this is off trend from the decrease in only other recorded year of 2022 for these same months.

*Child Watch annual passes: 57 in November 2023 compared to 63 in October 2023; passes held steady between these months in 2022.

*Climber certifications: 274 in November 2023 compared to 259 In October 2023; on trend with approximately the same number of increased certs from Sept to October in 2022. Overall climber cert numbers continue to reach new records.

*CRC rental: \$4,623 in November 2023 compared to \$1,958 in October 2023; there was only a \$200 increase between these months in 2022. This is a surprising--though happy--result.

*FH rental: \$3,570 in November 2023 compared to \$3,074 in October 2023 ; there was a slightly larger increase last year, but to lower absolute levels.

Summary: The overall pattern is to higher absolute levels of CRC attendance, rentals, climber certs relative to the same months in previous years. Any variations are within what you would expect from random variance. The only aberration is the huge jump in CRC rentals.

Page | Rerstarting the unique participant list. We still can not get a complete 2023 summary because adult sports started
3 tracking individuals in Summer. But figuring out the best way to generate this list using RecTrac. Will target providing a complete facility unique patron list and for programs other than adult sports.

FLEX REC: Dual Unlimited: 6; Unlimited: 4; Limited: 14; 3 month: 9; CRC add on: 14
Maslow: 1
Total paid memberships: 48; up 2 from last month
punch pass: 6

November brought the highest business to date for **Movement Medicine**, with **\$7,137** in client fees. 10% share of that is \$713.70 in lease payment, bringing the YTD total from Movement Medicing to \$2,522 for the 8 months.
Working with the COW (Committee of the Whole) on identifying core metrics to evaluate Flex Rec performance, along with performance of other facilities.

Grants and Fee Assistance:

- MCF grant report submitted
- Anchutz grant report submitted
- Maybel Hughes submitted for FFAM
- Working with Pomona Brewing to be a continued regular funder of fee assistance through the MRF
- FFAM briefly ran a wait list for the first time, but subsequently a few families that were contacted about low attendance elected to drop the program opening slots for other families.

Other:

- Supporting MRF around decision and implementation of becoming a 501c3.
- Outdoor Recreation Collaborative next meeting scheduled in Jan. Further coordination with principal players developing a plan to share outreach and engagement panel between the collaborating agencies.
- Working with ED around a plan for ongoing improved communication with the City.
- Researched SOP procedures from other agencies and began working with the area team on creating SOP for facilities. Determining the level of specificity of the SOP using more examples before proceeding.

see **50+** separate / next

From GOCO

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a constitutional amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,600 projects in all 64 counties of Colorado without any tax dollar support. Visit [GOCO.org](https://www.goco.org) for more information.

The GOCO board just approved \$4,323,592 in grants to five projects supporting community parks and stewardship, and 26 conservation service corps projects. Plus, our partners at Keep It Colorado have re-granted \$260,000 in GOCO funding to support transaction costs associated with conservation projects.

The service corps grants will be put to work to:

- Restore seven miles of riverbank corridor.
- Complete 29 miles of trail work.
- Address forest health issues on 4,400 acres.
- Remove invasive species on 550 acres.

Keep It Colorado's [Transaction Cost Assistance Program \(TCAP\)](#), in partnership with GOCO, has re-granted funds to six nonprofit land trusts to help cover the costs associated with conservation easement transactions. The program helps landowners who have urgent opportunities to conserve their properties, and those who face financial barriers to doing so, to protect their land more quickly.

Lastly, the GOCO board approved a \$6.5 million loan to The Conservation Fund for a significant property acquisition in Western Colorado. More details to come in 2024.

Base Programs - \$3,123,592 in grant awards

Community Impact

- Reynolds Landing Park, \$950,000 to the City of Littleton
- Otis Park Improvements, \$773,592 to the Town of Otis
- A Pool to Build & Strengthen Our Rural Community, \$600,000 to the Town of Eads
- Marshall Fire Recovery at Enclave & Sunflower Parks, \$500,000 to the City of Louisville

Stewardship Impact

- Advancing Community-Powered Stewardship in Western Colorado, \$300,000 to Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers

[Read the Base Programs release >>](#)

Conservation Service Corps - \$1,200,000 in grant awards

- 2024 City of Colorado Springs Open Spaces Preservation and Restoration, \$92,400 to the City of Colorado Springs
- Alamosa City Ranch Stewardship Project, \$19,700 to the City of Alamosa
- Baker's Park Trail System, \$56,100 to San Juan County
- Big Thompson River Corridor Invasive Species Removal, \$33,300 to the City of Loveland
- Conserving Fragile Recreation Landscapes - Park County, \$37,400 to Park County
- Conserving Pinyon Mesa Headwaters & Habitats, Year 4, \$61,350 to Colorado West Land Trust
- Dolores River Tamarisk Removal, \$33,300 to Montrose County
- Ecological Restoration, \$44,400 to Boulder County
- Elephant Rock Park Trails Project, \$34,400 to the Town of Palmer Lake
- Elkhorn Creek Forest Health Initiative, \$111,000 to Larimer County
- Enhancing Habitat and Outdoor Learning Opportunities Near Delta County Schools, \$33,300 to North Fork Pool, Park & Recreation District
- Evergreen Parks Invasive Species Mitigation Project, \$77,700 to the Town of Evergreen
- Fountain Creek Watershed Invasives Mitigation, \$29,350 to Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control & Greenway District
- Inlet Bay to South Bay Trail Construction Project, \$34,400 to Larimer County
- Invasive Weed Removal and Spraying, \$33,300 to Foothills Park and Recreation District
- Lake San Cristobal - Recreation Infrastructure & Ute Ulay Heritage Tourism Site, \$40,900 to Hinsdale County
- North St. Vrain Forest Health Project, \$88,800 to the City of Longmont
- Pineries Open Space Trail Construction & Weed Monitoring, \$68,950 to El Paso County
- Purgatoire-Cucharas Collaborative Forest Health & Stewardship Project - Phase 3, \$33,300 to the City of Trinidad
- Restoring Connection to the Historic Squirrel Creek Trail, \$46,750 to the City of Pueblo
- Riverbend Park Riparian Restoration, \$22,200 to the Town of Palisade
- Russian Olive Mapping and Mitigation on the High Line Canal Aurora, \$66,600 to High Line Canal Conservancy
- Sand Creek Open Space Land Restoration at The Urban Farm, \$48,000 to the City & County of Denver
- Trail Improvements and River Access, \$17,200 to South Suburban Parks and Recreation District
- Walton Loop and Tater Tots Trail Development and Maintenance, \$18,700 to the Town of Buena Vista
- Wildcat Gulch Stairway Rehabilitation Project, \$17,200 to the City of Manitou Springs

[Read the Conservation Service Corps release >>](#)

Transaction Cost Assistance Program (TCAP) in partnership with Keep It Colorado - \$260,000 in grant awards

- Lower Howard Creek Ranches, \$40,000 to Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Manzanares Creek Ranch, \$50,000 to Colorado Open Lands
- Hawk Ranch, \$43,150 to Colorado West Land Trust
- Property in La Plata County, \$45,000 to La Plata Open Space Conservancy
- Woolenweber + Stupka Property, \$31,850 to Mountain Area Land Trust
- Herencia Lucero Property, \$50,000 to Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust

[Read the TCAP release >>](#)

END

50+ Report – November 2023

Cindy Marino

Blue Sage Center for the Arts Engage Series

This month, in a captivating performance titled “This is My Story,” Chautauqua performer Susan Marie Frontczak brought Eleanor Roosevelt to life for an audience of 67.

Fall/Winter Pickleball League

Our league began November 8th and extends through December 27th. The league, featuring 19 teams and 38 players, takes advantage of available evening gym space. Players appreciate the enhanced competition opportunity that league play provides. 2023 is the first year that an indoor pickleball league has been offered. Our first league ran last spring, March – April.

Pickleball Annual Butterball Round Robin Tournament

We had 59 players across four divisions in our Butterball Tournament on November 25. This yearly post-Thanksgiving event included a food drive, with donations of food and personal hygiene items going to Sharing Ministries based on their current wish list. Despite challenging weather conditions including slick roads, participants from Palisade, Grand Junction, Cedaredge, Ridgway, and Norwood traveled for the tournament. We had 9 volunteers who made the tournament run smoothly.



Fall Hike at the Colorado National Monument

MRD 50+ hiking on Veteran's Day is an annual tradition as we get free access to the monument. We hiked Devil's Kitchen and No Thoroughfare Canyon. One of our hikers spotted a big horn sheep which made the day even more fun!



Senior Center's Education Series

This month we featured Kate Burke's presentations on Silverton's four narrow gauge railroads. The two sessions drew an audience of 49 and 48 attendees, respectively. We also had 19 in attendance for a Treating Joint Pain presentation hosted by local orthopedic surgeon, Dr Ryan Albrecht.

Action Voting Results

===== TONIGHT'S AGENDA =====

Introductions

Unify Montrose Going Forward

What are your thoughts on the Voting Results

Forming the Unify Montrose Childcare Implementation Taskforce

How will the Taskforce work with Unify Montrose Resident Catalysts?

JAN 30/31

Action #1

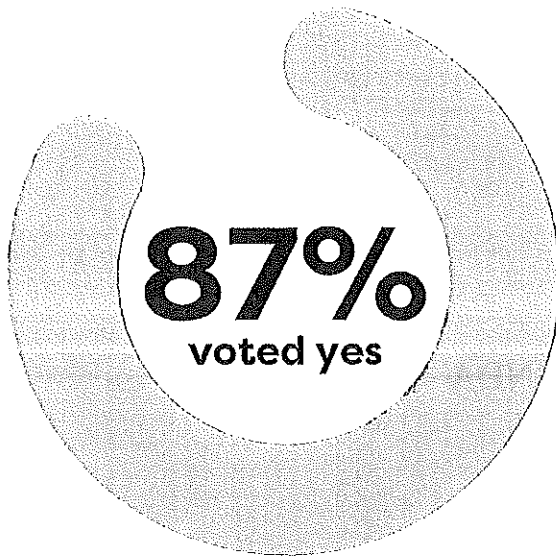


Action Overview

Camp Montrose would be a partnership between Montrose youth program providers, childcare centers, and the school district, where they would bring together their various expertise to provide after-school, no-school day, and summer programming for K-8 students. (For the full Action description, see page 10, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 92-93.)

VISTA

Delegate Voting Results: More than two-thirds support



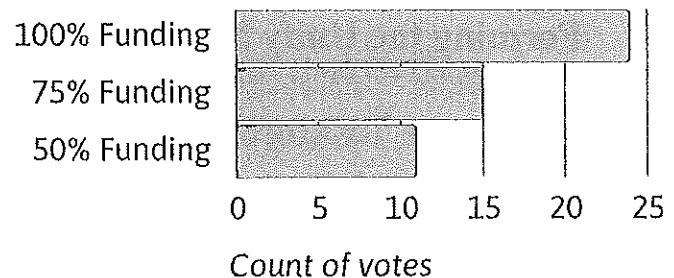
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **86.7% (39 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **13.3% (6 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **1 Delegate**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 87% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



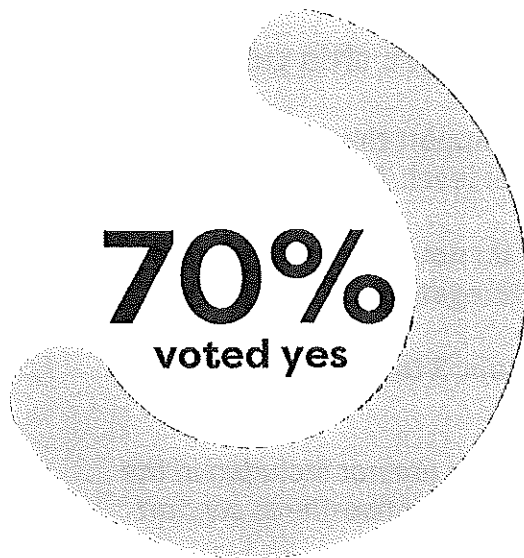
Action #6



Action Overview

The Nurture Network would coordinate the efforts of local organizations that support FFN caregivers, help those organizations extend their offerings, and market to the community to encourage more FFN providers to get training, and more residents to become homecare providers themselves. (For the full Action description, see page 29, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 103-104.)

Delegate Voting Results: More than two-thirds support



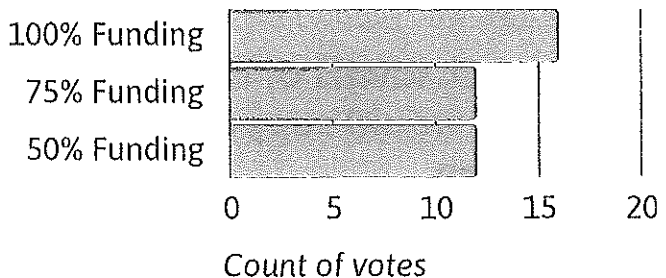
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **69.8% (30 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **30.2% (13 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **3 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 70% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



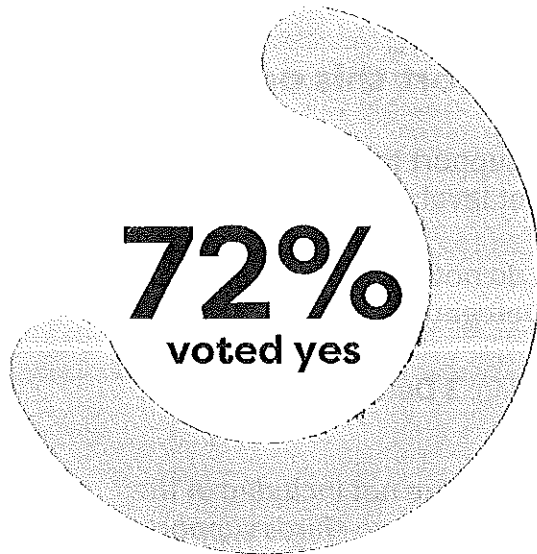
Action #7

ECE CENTER Upgrade

Action Overview

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Center Upgrade would replace the school district's trailers with yurts that can serve three- and four-year-olds in Montrose, and would also add yurts at elementary schools as needed. Drop-off times would be early enough and pick-up times late enough that parents can work a full day. A preschool camp would be available at the newly updated Center during the summer. (For the full Action description, see page 33, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 105-106.)

Delegate Voting Results: More than two-thirds support



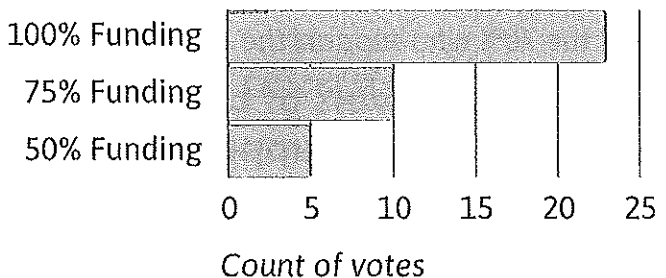
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **72.1% (31 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **27.9% (12 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **3 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 72% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



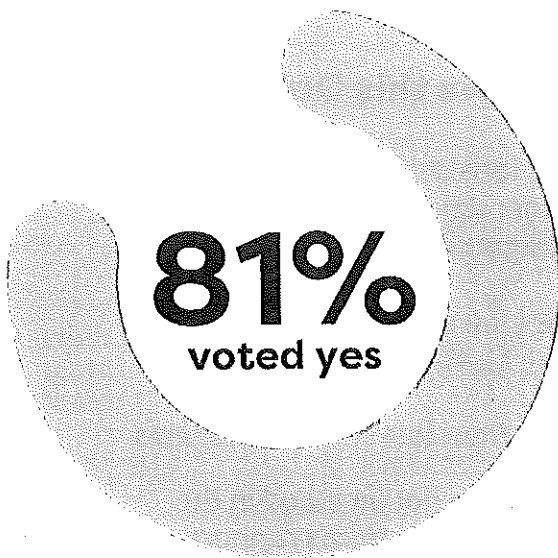
Businesses Incentivized to Create On-Site Childcare Options

Delegate Idea #3

Delegate Idea Overview

Larger employers (such as the hospital or school district) and groups of businesses in the same location (e.g. the Target/Walmart shopping area) would be incentivized to create on-site childcare. These facilities could be physical additions to existing buildings, current spaces in existing buildings, or they could be yurts at a nearby location. The childcare centers could be open to all children in the community, but employees with children from sponsoring employers would receive a discount and could have their tuition automatically deducted from payroll.

Delegate Voting Results: More than two-thirds support



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **81.0%** (**34 Delegates**)
- No, this idea should not move forward: **19.1%** (**8 Delegates**)
- I abstain from this vote: **4 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

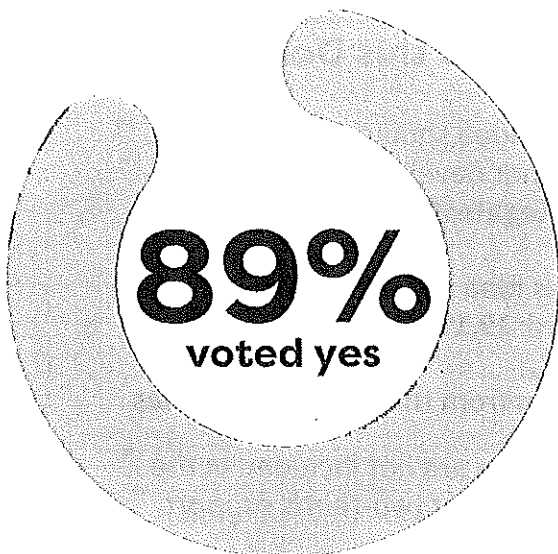
Comprehensive Montrose Childcare Resources Website

Delegate
Idea #10

Delegate Idea Overview

Create a single website portal where Montrose residents can access resources and links to local and state websites (such as CCCAP and Colorado Shines), as well as information on Actions the Assembly may adopt. The portal website should cover a range of childcare needs and include information or links on financial aid, finding childcare, transportation, etc. The website could also advertise trainings for family, friends, and neighbors. While these resources exist across several websites, there is not currently a single location for this information. The website should also include a social media presence. When possible, make use of existing resources.

Delegate Voting Results: More than two-thirds support



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **88.6%** (39 Delegates)
- No, this idea should not move forward: **11.4%** (5 Delegates)
- I abstain from this vote: **2 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

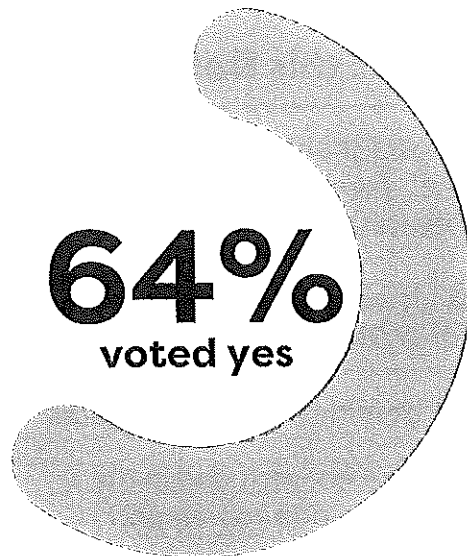
Incubator for Childcare Co-Ops

Delegate
Idea #1

Delegate Idea Overview

An initiative to help employers and individuals work together to create childcare co-op facilities throughout Montrose. In these co-ops, parents would lower costs by participating as caregivers. Parents who work during different hours could support each other. The incubator could help organize businesses that want to band together to create childcare spots for their employees. It could also help faith-based and other communities to organize childcare co-ops that embody their values. The idea is for each co-op, within a few years, to be self-sufficient economically, and for the incubator itself to eventually no longer be needed.

Delegate Voting Results



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **64.4%** (**29 Delegates**)
- No, this idea should not move forward: **35.6%** (**16 Delegates**)
- I abstain from this vote: **1 Delegate**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

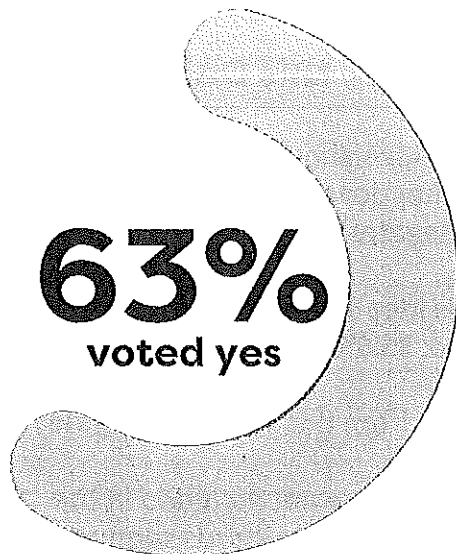
Scholarships for Early Childcare Education Students at CMU-Montrose

Delegate
Idea #6

Delegate Idea Overview

Since the CMU-Montrose courses need an enrollment of 10 students, fund annual scholarships for students studying early childhood education to drive enrollment numbers and keep students (and new early childhood graduates) in the Montrose community.

Delegate Voting Results



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **62.5% (25 Delegates)**
- No, this idea should not move forward: **37.5% (15 Delegates)**
- I abstain from this vote: **6 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

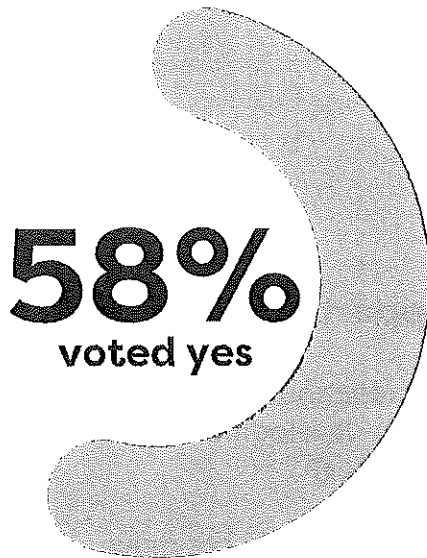
Action #5



Action Overview

Care Corps is a program that would train interested Montrose residents to fill a variety of roles in the childcare system as part-time, licensed caregivers. While open to all residents, it would target young people and seniors who could volunteer their services to the community, or work for school credit, a stipend or minimum wage. (For the full Action description, see page 25, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 101-102.)

Delegate Voting Results



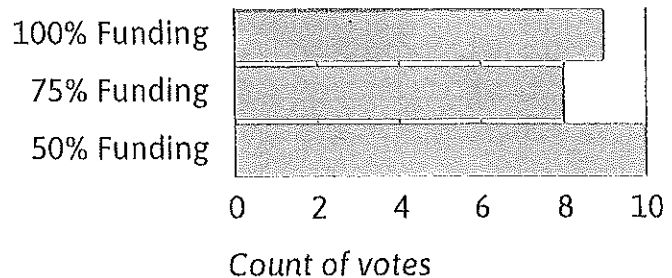
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **57.9% (22 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **41.1% (16 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **8 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 58% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



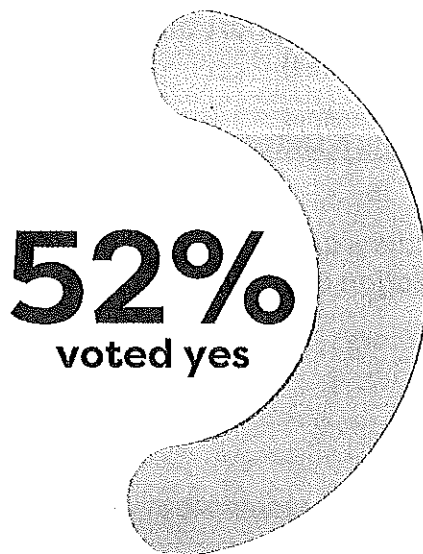
Free Childcare for Childcare Employees

Delegate
Idea #5

Delegate Idea Overview

This allows for childcare workers to be paid normal (market) childcare wages, but with a perk of free (or significantly discounted) childcare paid by local government.

Delegate Voting Results



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **52.3% (23 Delegates)**
- No, this idea should not move forward: **47.7% (21 Delegates)**
- I abstain from this vote: **2 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

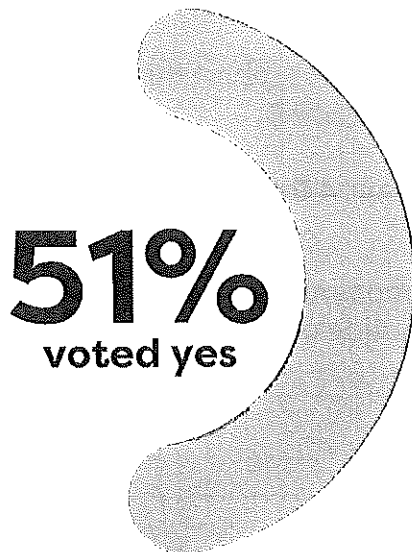
Continue Studying and Monitoring Montrose Childcare Data

Delegate Idea #9

Delegate Idea Overview

Implement the number one recommendation from the Root Policy Assessment report to "continue to proactively track the key metrics for childcare demand." On an ongoing basis, update the metrics based on new, strong data, and delay any measures that have a cost to citizens of Montrose.

Delegate Voting Results



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **51.2% (22 Delegates)**
- No, this idea should not move forward: **48.8% (21 Delegates)**
- I abstain from this vote: **3 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

Action #3



Action Overview

The Childcare Providers Fund would be a fund established by the citizens of Montrose. Licensed childcare providers in Montrose can apply to the Provider's Fund for reliable, multi-year grants. Providers would use this supplemental funding to pay better wages to staff and lower fees for families who can't afford tuition. (For the full Action description, see page 17, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 96-97.)

Delegate Voting Results



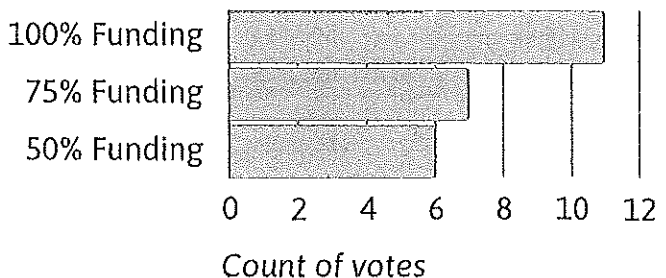
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **50% (21 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **50% (21 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **4 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 50% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



Action #8

Action Overview

The Neighborhood Preschool Project would build yurt preschool classrooms at every Montrose public elementary school to serve three- and four-year-olds in Montrose. Drop-off times would be early enough and pick-up times late enough that parents can work a full day. A preschool camp would be available at the new facilities during the summer. (For the full Action description, see page 37, and for all Delegate improvements, see pages 107-108.)

Delegate Voting Results



50%
voted yes

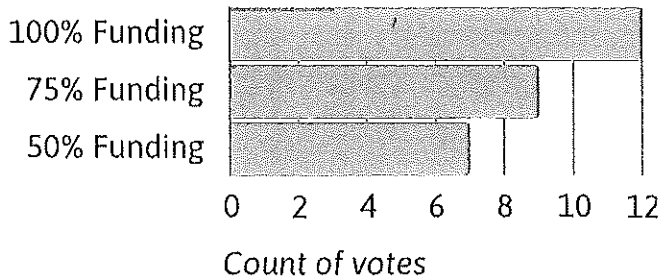
Do you support this action?

- Yes, I support this action at some budget level: **50% (21 Delegates)**
- No, I do not support this action: **50% (21 Delegates)**
- I abstain: **4 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support

For the 50% who support the action...

Select ALL levels of budget that you would support for this action



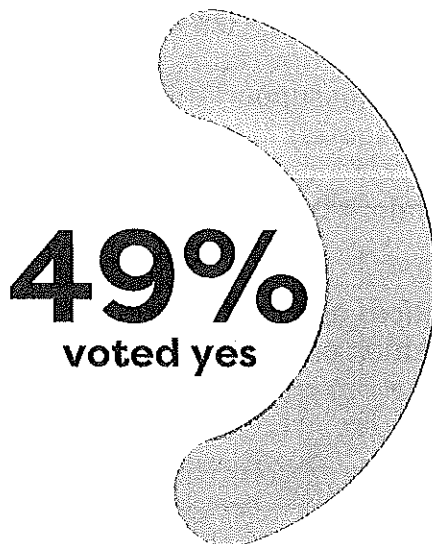
Get What is Ours

Delegate Idea #11

Delegate Idea Overview

Get informed as to what is being passed at our state capital and make sure we are participating in all social programs that are already funded. Appoint a person to track down all of the programs and funding that are available to our citizens for childcare and every other program that is available. Create software for citizens to go into local retailers and access information via an interactive Kiosk.

Delegate Voting Results



Do you support this Delegate idea?

- Yes, this idea should move forward for further development: **48.7%** (**18 Delegates**)
- No, this idea should not move forward: **51.4%** (**19 Delegates**)
- I abstain from this vote: **9 Delegates**

Abstentions are not included in the calculation of two-thirds support



**Notice of Regular Meeting of the
Montrose Recreation District (MRD) Board of Directors
Thursday, November 30 at 11:30am
Montrose Community Recreation Center
16350 Woodgate Road
Montrose CO 81401**

- I.** **Call to Order, Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 11:32. Allison Howe, Barbara Sharrow, Ken Otto, Suzi King, Paul Wiesner, Megan Maddy, and Christina Files were present.
- II.** **Open Forum:** Call for Public Comment (limit of 3 minutes per person) – there was no public comment.
- III.** **Staff Recognition:**
- a. **Anniversaries: None**
 - b. **Employee Awards:**
 - i. Core staff of the month - will be announced at December’s meeting
 - ii. Part time staff of the month – will be announced at December’s meeting
- IV.** **Request for Executive Session:** Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official, the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official, or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees, but for a discussion regarding the MRD Employee Classification and Compensation Plan.
- a. Director Megan moved to enter into executive session. Director Allison seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of entering into executive session. The Board went into executive session at 11:36am. Director Christina read the appropriate and legal script for conducting executive sessions. Roll call for the executive session was taken, with Lisa, Jeremy and Mari included as well as Board members Allison Howe, Barbara Sharrow, Ken Otto, Suzi King, Paul Wiesner, Megan Maddy, and Christina Files. Director Christina made the statement: “For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meeting Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record.” There were no concerns voiced. With that, Director Christina concluded, with the appropriate and legal script for executive sessions and directed that the board conclude the executive session and return to the open meeting. The Board left Executive Session at 12:25pm.
 - b. At 12:32pm the Board meeting was called back to order. Upon returning to the open meeting, the appropriate and legal script was read by Director Christina.
- V.** **Budget**
- a. A 2nd review of the 2024 Recommended Budget and the 2023 Supplemental Budget was presented.
 - b. Jeremy reviewed the changes on the budget from 2024 version 1 and version 2. They included an increase in revenues within the CRC which now represents rental property income from Mountain View Therapy, instead of being appropriated within Admin. Also, recreation program revenues reflected an increase through grant revenues and player fees. Expenses also increased and included recruitment expenses, Flex Rec utilities, and recreation programs, specifically for officials.
 - c. Mari presented the draft resolution to adopt a supplemental budget and appropriation for fiscal year 2023. This resolution included all of the appropriation changes related to and proposed for 2023. The final resolution will be presented to the Board as a formal part of the budget packet at the January meeting.

- d. Mari also presented a cash flow chart, reflecting all of the MRD accounts and funds.
- e. Director Paul asked when the final budget meeting will be. Mari stated the original budget adoption date and regularly-scheduled BOD meeting is December 14. Because the State moved deadlines for budget adoption, the new adoption deadline date is January 10. The county assessor's deadline for re-certifying property valuation is January 3. Mari's recommendation was to keep the December 14th meeting, and to have a separate meeting solely to approve the budget. There is a State Statute clause that seems to state that 90% of the amount appropriated for 2023 operations and maintenance is automatically appropriated until the 2024 budget is adopted given that historically, the provision for the appropriation of 90% of last year's O&M expenses was to "prevent collapse of governmental subdivision. Mari did get legal counsel from the MRD's attorney, Bo Nerlin, and they will determine if the MRD should do a resolution to formally continue the budget. The board does need to decide on the date of the budget adoption. Director Paul moved to have the meeting on January 4, 2024, the motion was seconded by Director Ken. The board unanimously passed the motion. The meeting will be at 11:30am at the CRC. Along with the budget hearing, entire budget packet and related resolutions will be presented for adoption.

VI. **2024 Board Meeting Calendar / Staff Holiday Schedule.** The proposed calendar was presented. Mari stated that the November meeting was changed because it was listed as being on Thanksgiving. January 4 will also be added to the schedule, as the new addition that it is. Director Suzi asked if the CRC will be closed two days over Christmas. Mari stated that the CRC will be open until 2pm on Christmas Eve and will be closed Christmas Day.

VII. **Staff Reports**

- a. Flex Rec and Flex Park – Mari stated that the bid opening for Flex Park is today. The city will be reviewing the proposals. This is the city's project but Mari is serving as a liaison. Construction is expected to begin the second week in January and end in the summer of 2024. Mari stated that at the January meeting there will be a review of operations at Flex Rec.
- b. Ute & McNeil Park and Fields / Baldrige Regional Park Master Plan. There were several bids received by the city. Mari also serves as a Liaison for this project. The bid award should be determined by next week. The project is expected to be completed within 12 months. Director Barb asked if ADA needs are addressed in this proposal and Mari responded affirmatively. Director Megan asked if the rec district's needs are being addressed in the plan. Mari stated that they and it is most efficient and effective that the City and MRD partner on this.
- c. Field House property Master Plan. Mari stated that Justin is the project manager and put out RFPs for this project, with the deadline to receive bids December 4. Justin said there have been 4-5 firms reach out with questions. He stated that the concern is that the scope of the project is larger than the budget for this project.

VIII. **Committee Updates and Assignments**

- a. **Exec. Committee of Board** (Board: Christina, Barb. Staff: Mari, Jeremy) – Director Christina and Mari met last week, and discussion was heavy on Proposition HH.
- b. **Administrative** (Board: Alli, Barb. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Debby, Lisa) – did not meet this month
- c. **Foundation** (Board: Megan, Barb. Staff: Mari, Cindy) – The foundation met and said that The Montrose Community Foundation updated their website and it is now much easier to donate to the MRF. Director Megan said that the Foundation asked for donations on Colorado Gives Day. Director Suzi asked how much was raised with the triathlons. Director Megan reported that about \$7,000 was raised for the Montrose event and \$9,000 for the Ridgway event.
- d. **Growth** (Board: Ken, Suzi. Staff: Mari, Jeremy, Justin, Miguel) – did not meet but Director Suzi suggested that they meet before the January 25th meeting.
- e. **Finance** (Board: Paul, Alli. Staff: Mari, Jeremy) – Director Allison stated they met yesterday. They reviewed year to date to October of 2023. She stated it has been a very successful year for programs. She also stated that December will show the amended number to reflect true revenues. The year is 83% through and revenues for the Field House and recreation programs are both 120% of the budget. Expenses have also realized an increase as they are relative to revenues required to run the programs. Director Paul said the bottom line is we have to do an amended budget because revenues are higher than originally budgeted.
- f. **MURA** (Board: Alli)- Director Allison reported that the MURA meeting both the November and December meetings have been cancelled.

IX. **Executive Director's Update** – Mari noted that the final classification and compensation analysis was delivered to the MRD by the consultants. It was reviewed by the Admin Committee on 10/230/2023. Recommendations to the Board on compensation adjustments and position changes are forthcoming as a part of the 2024 budget. She then reported on the federal Employee Retention Credit program, and that staff had worked to compile all the info needed to apply for it. She noted that, as a reminder, the MRD lost significant revenue through Covid and still provided services and met payroll needs. While there is currently a hold or slow-down on processing the credit applications, we still expect ours to eventually go through. When we are set to receive the credits the board will review and would be requested to appropriate the funds. HVAC motors: Miguel reported that the new motors have been received, although we still are missing some parts. He expects them to be received and installed by the middle of next week. The lifespan of these motors appears to be 4-5 years. Future motors will be added to the Maintenance budget. Mari thanked Director Alli for doing a marketing training for staff this month, which had generated a lot of good conversation and activities. Staff will do a marketing push for Flex Rec (and CRC) for the beginning of the year. The vertical climbing film night took place earlier this month. 54 people attended at Flex Rec. Justin received the annual recreation center best practice report from architects BRS, we continue to learn from other recreation districts. Astro has been working with Pomona Brewery to potentially do a sponsorship program. The board policy does not allow for taking money from sponsors who represents alcohol or tobacco companies. Director Megan said the donations could be made through the Recreation Foundation. The Montrose Christmas parade is this Saturday evening. Wade stated that there will be a MRD bus and the board is invited to participate. The parade committee is meeting today at 3pm at the fairgrounds. Mari also stated that Buckley park has been renovated and there is an event for its Grand (re) Opening there this Saturday.

X. **Approval of BOD Meeting Minutes**

- a. Regular Meeting of the Board 10.26.2023
- b. Director Paul moved to approve the minutes, Director Megan seconded, the Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

XI. **Adjourn** – the meeting adjourned at 1:24pm

Next BOD Regular Meeting
December 14 at 11:30am
CRC 16350 Woodgate Road
Montrose CO 81401