Potential Cuts to Essential Services By Department and Elected Office



Assessor's Office could be cut by \$632,000 resulting in changes, such as:

- Eliminating seven positions leading to increased wait times for residents needing tax questions and disputes resolved through phone calls and in-person office visits.
- Longer wait times for appraisal issue requests and valuation appeals.
- Deed and address change requests would become a lengthy process.
- Delays in senior and veteran exemption processing.

Clerk and Recorder's Office could be cut by \$1.6 million resulting in changes, such as:

- Closing the Centennial and Byers Motor Vehicle Branches leaving many residents to travel longer distances for services and experience longer wait times for appointments.
- Reducing in-person voter locations and 24-hour ballot drop boxes.
- Eliminating passport services and reducing marriage license appointments.
- Eliminating nine positions from the Motor Vehicles Division, two from the Recording Division, two from the Administration Division, two from the Elections Division, reducing Election judges, and eliminating temporary positions.

Community Resources could be cut by \$437,000 resulting in changes, such as:

- Eliminating four to five employees and closing the Altura Plaza Office, which manages 525 community services intakes and 1,600 case management services annually.
- Average caseloads for Judicial Services Case Specialists would increase from 320 to 427, negatively impacting service quality and reducing accessibility.
- Eliminating the Community Service Program, a sentencing option that can divert people from Arapahoe County jails, could increase the jail population.

Coroner's Office could be cut by \$307,000 resulting in changes, such as:

- Eliminating two to three employees which can directly lead to increased errors and delays in crime/death scene response time resulting in a longer wait for law enforcement officers and families during death scene investigations.
- A decrease in the quality of death investigations due to fewer interactions with family and community partners, a decreased ability to gather thorough and accurate information, and increased autopsy turn-around time.
- Death investigators have the ability to move jobs easily and retention of doctors in this
 position is crucial for autopsies to be completed within a reasonable timeframe. Autopsy
 reports and death certificates could be delayed by six months or more.

Human Services could be cut by \$8.6 million resulting in changes, such as:

- Eliminating 60 full-time employees jeopardizing the safety of children and at-risk adults.
- Decreased response times for child abuse and child neglect referrals.

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- Vulnerable families, children and adults would be adversely impacted as safety and well-being is diminished, causing more strain on the human services system.
- For every \$100 reduction in the human services budget, the department only saves \$20 and returns \$80 to the State for other counties to use for their residents. Although this reflects a reduction of \$8,689,661 the County budget would be reduced by \$1,737,932.

Information Technology (IT) could be cut by \$1.8 million resulting in changes, such as:

- Compromised emergency response impacting the delivery of essential services.
- Emergency response expenses may increase and risk management would suffer especially in security and disaster recovery.
- Eliminating and reducing cybersecurity and monitoring tools would result in a higher risk
 of public services being compromised and increases the probability of a major cyber
 incident disabling the County for up to several weeks or longer.

Public Health could be cut by \$630,000 resulting in changes, such as:

- Eliminating three full-time Environmental Health Specialists in the Consumer Protection Program would impact inspections of restaurants, child care centers and public pools.
- Eliminating one or two positions from the Communicable Disease Epidemiology team leading to less monitoring of diseases that may spread through the community.
- Reducing clinic hours and the ability to provide robust sexual health programs, such as testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STI), STI education, comprehensive family planning services, and reducing immunization services.

Public Works could be cut by \$3.7 million and \$316.6 million of deferred maintenance and needed transportation projects would remain unaddressed resulting in changes, such as:

- Road safety, quality and congestion would worsen.
- Forty percent of roadways the County maintains are rated in "poor" or "very poor" condition - more budget cuts would lead to further deterioration.
- Snow removal and street sweeping routes would be reduced and pothole repair would become a lower priority.
- New bike and pedestrian projects would get cut entirely further jeopardizing safety.

Sheriff's Office could be cut by \$12 million resulting in changes, such as:

- The investigative team would lose eight full-time staff, leading to fewer arrests while crime prevention and response would also be affected.
- Some neighborhoods and patrol areas would no longer have 24/7 coverage.
- Response time would increase in the unincorporated parts of the County.
- Co-responders who help people in a mental health crisis would be eliminated.
- Full-time school resource officers would be reduced by five.