

# State of Colorado Performance Report Capital Projects Fund

July 2024

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# Colorado Broadband Office

## Executive Summary

The Colorado Broadband Office (CBO) was tasked by Colorado Governor Jared Polis to implement the Capital Programs Fund broadband program and subsequently established the Advance Colorado Broadband Capital Projects Fund (Advance-CPF) grant program. The objective of the [Advance-CPF grant program](#) is to connect at least 18,000 unserved locations in Colorado. To date only administration funds have been spent - used to support staff salaries, stakeholder engagement activities, and consultant support to design and implement the Advance-CPF grant program.

After conducting extensive stakeholder engagement, including instructional webinars for prospective applicants, bi-monthly community and industry roundtable discussions, an Internet for All: Colorado Broadband Summit, and ongoing Summer Broadband Roadshows, the CBO opened the Advance-CPF grant program application window on June 20, 2023. The application window remained open until September 29, 2023. After applications were carefully reviewed, awards were announced on January 3, 2024 followed by an appeals process and a location challenge process. Following remediation of awarded applications as a result of the location challenge process, a supplemental award announcement and challenge process was conducted from March 22 to April 4, 2024. CBO received 112 applications from 24 unique applicants, and, as of June 30, 2024, has fully executed all but two approved applications.

An internal working group has documented current processes and developed strategies to ensure that the contracting process would move smoothly and all CPF funds will be obligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. The CBO has also worked with the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to build additional finance and contracting capacity for the Advance-CPF Program in anticipation of reimbursing grantees this fall.

The majority of work this year has been on the development, deployment and evaluation of grant proposals. Subsequent reports will reflect progress towards the primary goals of the Advance CPF grant program, specifically including construction of broadband last-mile networks and serving locations.

## **Summary of Advance-CPF Grant Program Applications Received**

- Applications received: 112
- Individual applicants: 24
- Total funds requested: \$643M
- Matching funds: \$227M
- Matching funds %: 30%
- Unserved locations applied for: 27,271
- Underserved locations applied for: 73,120
- Total CPF eligible locations applied for: 100,391
- Aerial miles proposed: 4,977
- Underground miles proposed: 4,665
- FTTP technology proposed: 99%

## **Summary of Advance-CPF Grant Program Awards**

- Applications awarded: 31
- Individual applicants: 15
- Total amount awarded: \$113,582,200
- Matching funds: \$43,291,447
- Matching funds %: 28%
- Unserved locations awarded: 8,713
- Underserved locations awarded: 9,713
- Total CPF eligible locations awarded: 18,426
- Aerial miles awarded: 808

- Underground miles awarded: 850
- FTTP technology awarded: 100%

## Uses of Funds

### Milestones, Outputs and Outcomes

**Milestone 1 - Competitive grant application process that will fund eligible broadband infrastructure projects that will deploy broadband internet service to households, businesses, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, community anchor institutions, recreational destinations, and agricultural operations that currently do not have access to reliable wireline broadband service at 25/3 Mbps speeds.** NOTE: Advance-CPF will also include open access middle-mile infrastructure designed to make last-mile deployment to the 120,000 unserved locations, including an estimated 93,000 households, more economically feasible. Last-mile connectivity is required for any middle-mile project.

- **Progress: IN PROGRESS** - The application window for the [Advance-CPF grant program](#) opened June 20, 2023 and closed September 29, 2023. The program received 112 applications requesting approximately \$643M in funding. Applications were subjected to a thorough review process and awards were announced on January 3, 2024. Award announcements were followed by a two week appeals process and post-award challenge process conducted from January 3 to January 19, 2024. After remediations to awarded applications were made based on information received during the post award challenge process, supplemental awards were announced on March 22, 2024 and a challenge process for those supplemental awards was held from March 22 to April 4, 2024.
- **Output: IN PROGRESS** - Currently the CBO and Office of Information Technology (OIT) are in the process of executing grant agreements with awardees. An internal working group has documented grant agreement processes and developed strategies to ensure the contracting process will move smoothly and all CPF funds will be obligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. The CBO has also worked with the OIT to build additional finance and

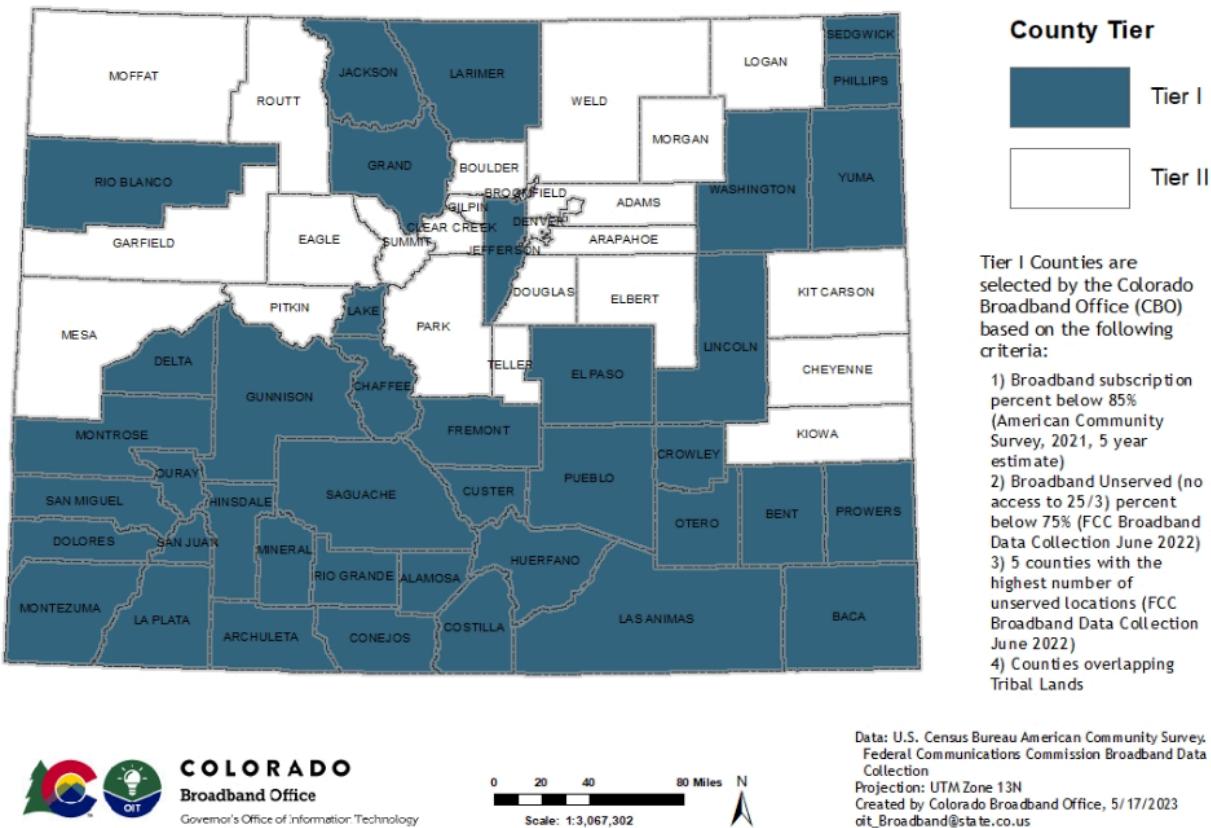
contracting capacity for the Advance-CPF Program in anticipation of awarding grants this fall.

- **Outcome: IN PROGRESS** - In total, 31 applications from 15 unique applicants were provisionally awarded to provide qualifying broadband service to 18,426 CPF eligible locations. \$113,582,200 of CFP funding has provisionally been awarded and an additional \$43,291,447 in matching funds have been pledged by awardees, or almost 28% of total project costs. 100% of funded projects will use FTTP technology.

**Milestone 2 - Prioritize projects that seek to connect areas of the state with the lowest levels of broadband access with last-mile infrastructure.**

- **Progress: COMPLETE** - The CBO has developed a two-tiered system that prioritizes areas of the state that have greater need for connectivity.
- **Output: COMPLETE** - The CBO included in the Advance-CPF Grant Program application a two-tiered system that prioritizes services to areas of the state that have the greatest need for access to high-speed internet. Tier I allocates the majority of CPF funding (75%) to areas of the state where broadband subscription percent is below 85%, the percent of unserved locations (no access to 25/3) is below 75%, and the five counties with highest number of unserved locations and counties overlapping Tribal Lands. Tier I locations require a minimum match of 2%. The remaining funds are available for Tier II locations and require a minimum grant match of 50%. An applicant serving any tier location could apply for a match waiver based on need.

## Tier I and Tier II Counties



- **Outcome: COMPLETE** - 89% of Advance-CPF funds was provisionally awarded to projects to serve eligible locations in Tier 1 counties, and 11% was provisionally awarded to projects to serve eligible locations in Tier 2 counties. The lower matching fund requirement for Tier 1 counties allowed the CBO to prioritize projects that connect areas of the state with the lowest level of broadband access.

**Milestone 3 - Obligate all CPF funding by December 2024 and have all funds exhausted by December 2026.**

- **Progress: IN PROGRESS** - Following the grant period closing - including application review, location challenges and remediation, the CBO has awarded grants and is currently negotiating and executing grant agreements. The grant award process is nearly complete, with only two applications in the final stages

of minor location remediation. The current target for grant agreement execution is Q3 CY 2024.

- **Output: IN PROGRESS** - The initial application window closed on September 20, 2023, followed by an application review process. This was followed by a round of initial awards and a location challenge process in January 2024. As a result of remaining funds due to challenges and location remediation, a subsequent round of awards followed in April 2024. Grants were reviewed for responsiveness, and based on the grant criteria established in the [grant application guidelines](#) (p. 28), awardees were selected. The CBO has announced all awarded applications and is in the final stages of location remediation. The CBO is in the process of executing grant agreements, which are expected to be complete in time to capitalize on Colorado's 2024 summer building season.
- **Outcome: PENDING** - The grant application process is complete. Applications were thoroughly reviewed, applicants were afforded an appeals process after awards were announced and all stakeholders were afforded a location challenge process after awards were announced. The grant award process is nearly complete, with just two applications with minor location remediation remaining. Grant agreements have begun to be executed and should be completely executed by the end of Q3 CY 2024.

#### **Milestone 4 - Connect up to 18,000 unserved Colorado households to high-speed, affordable internet service**

- **Progress: PENDING** - The Advance-CPF grant program is nearly complete with just two provisionally awarded applications undergoing minor location remediation. The CBO anticipates that the Advance-CPF program will connect 18,426 CPF eligible locations.
- **Output: PENDING** - The CBO will execute grant agreements that will connect an anticipated 18,426 unserved households.

- **Outcome: PENDING** - Increasing broadband internet access will enable unserved Colorado households to connect to government services, education, healthcare and remote work.

## Planned Activities

In the next reporting period, the CBO anticipates fully executing all remaining broadband deployment grant contracts. The CBO will also continue to conduct awardee and stakeholder engagement activities, including preparing subgrantees for post award grant compliance and reporting activities.

## Household Benefit Narrative

The Advance-CPF grant program has spent only administrative funds to-date and will report on the impact of program fund impact on households in the next reporting period.

However, administrative funds from both CPF and State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) have been utilized to increase Coloradans awareness of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). As part of the administrative portion of this program, Colorado enrolled a total of 250,473 households into the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), an increase of 33% over baseline.

The CBO will continue to advocate for ways to make access to the Internet affordable for all Colorado families, including the re-establishment of the ACP program. On January 12, 2024 the CBO released the following statement:

*"We cannot overstate the importance of making the internet affordable. It is a crucial piece in bridging the digital divide and reducing inequalities in Colorado. Congress' decision to no longer fund the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is unfortunate. We believe the ACP offers the solution to making internet affordable nationwide. We will pursue ways to make access to the internet affordable for all Colorado families because affordability is a critical piece of universal broadband."*

The ACP provided eligible households with a monthly discount of up to \$30 per month (up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands) and a one-time \$100 discount toward a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet. ACP-eligible households included families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level and

those who qualify for Lifeline, SNAP, Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch, WIC, and other government-funded programs. According to the White House, approximately 753,000 Colorado households are eligible for the ACP. See additional activities related to ACP in Promoting Equitable Outcomes below.

### **Notable Challenges/Challenge Status**

As a part of the preparation for establishing the Advance-CPF grant program application process, the State worked to ensure the maps that define allowable locations accurately reflect unserved and underserved households in Colorado. The State of Colorado has used SLFRF and CPF administration funds to participate in the development of the FCC National Broadband Map, through reviewing location data released by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and internet service provider (ISP) data submission to FCC as compared to State collected data. The CBO submitted more than 13,000 location challenges (or “Fabric challenges”) and 1,500 availability challenges. The FCC’s transition from Census block level reporting to location level reporting provides a more uniform and granular representation of broadband access. Previous Census block reporting allowed internet service providers to represent service to a full census block, but in some cases not all locations within the Census block were served. Many households missed out on funding or improvement because they were reported as served. Data collected by the CBO continues to be used to verify the FCC data and identify potential inaccuracies. The [Colorado Broadband Map](#) was also developed to serve as a public-facing resource that allows Coloradans to see the availability of service in communities, awarded grants, and once in-progress, grant status.

Additionally, the CBO has been implementing SLFRF funds for broadband services over the last year and as part of the process has identified internal process delays that had the potential to slow deployment of Advance-CPF broadband projects. The CBO has reorganized procurement and grant award and execution processes to ensure projects are not delayed because of State processes.

### **Overview and Outcomes of Ancillary Costs**

Not applicable - CBO has not had any ancillary costs to date.

## Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Colorado has designed a program that promotes strong, equitable economic growth, including racial equity, in communities with a critical need, such as high-poverty and rural areas. Colorado is capitalizing on all broadband infrastructure funds to address equity and digital inclusion in a comprehensive strategy. The CBO has designed a response to populations with critical need in all broadband grant programs, including Advance-CPF. The CBO has also braided SLFRF and CPF funds to support work in increasing adoption of the Affordable Connectivity Program, and has ongoing outreach and stakeholder engagement to determine digital equity related needs in the State of Colorado. Finally, Colorado's Digital Equity program that is funded by the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) with Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds, distributed individual surveys across the state of Colorado to inform work for CPF broadband implementation and adoption.

## Application Scoring Criteria

Colorado prioritizes projects promoting strong, equitable growth, including racial equity, in communities with a critical need, such as high-poverty and rural areas. The majority of the high poverty areas in Colorado are in rural Colorado. Advance-CPF grant program scoring criteria reflected a preference for projects in areas with the highest percentage of unserved households, knowing that many of these areas are in critical need of broadband access to propel the local economy and provide opportunities for residents. The highest priority preference also included providing an affordable service plan and discounts on devices and applications that demonstrate an ability to offer ongoing education on how to access and productively utilize the internet. An ongoing series of community and industry outreach meetings provides a continual feedback loop to help the CBO assess applications and award projects focused on the critical need areas of the state. Scoring also included consideration of race, ethnicity, household income, and other equity dimensions.

## Stakeholder Input

Since Summer 2022, the CBO has conducted Broadband Roadshows across the state to seek input from communities, providers, residents, and other stakeholders for the design of the Advance-CPF grant program. The CBO also did extensive outreach to

communities to make them aware of the CPF opportunity. The CBO conducted over two dozen roadshow stops, held bi-monthly Community Leader roundtable meetings, and hosted the Colorado Broadband Summit, in which over 350 participants attended. In addition, CBO has been a regular participants in other regional planning meetings, industry events, community meetings, and other events to promote the programs and ensure that communities were prepared to apply.

## **Broadband Roadmap Creation**

Colorado has been braiding funds to address digital equity for all Coloradans in need of assistance. For example, SLFRF-funded digital equity projects such as the Statewide Digital Inclusion Survey that examined Coloradans' access to State government services in the virtual environment, including educational opportunities, economic development, health care and public safety. The Digital Inclusion Survey found that Colorado ranks in the top 10 states in digital service provision with 92% of services fully or partially available digitally. While respondents were generally satisfied with State services, the survey identified the greatest areas of opportunity for improvement at the end of the user journey (i.e. renewals, appeals, customer support and resolution). This project also funded Colorado's [Digital Government Strategic Plan](#) that serves as the blueprint for expanding access to high-speed internet and modernizing online State services to create a Colorado for All. The Digital Inclusion Survey was the basis for [Colorado's Broadband Roadmap](#) and informs the Colorado Broadband Office's Workforce Plan and Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) 5-Year Action Plan.

## **Affordable Connectivity Program**

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) was a \$14.2 billion federal broadband benefit funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) that provides eligible households with a monthly discount of up to \$30 per month (up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands) and a one-time \$100 discount toward a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet.

As part of this program, and prior to the expiration of the program, Colorado enrolled more than 250,000 households into ACP, an increase of 33% over baseline. The ACP provided eligible households with a monthly discount of up to \$30 per month (and up

to \$75 per month for households on qualifying tribal lands) toward internet services and a one-time \$100 discount toward a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet.

ACP-eligible households included families with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level and those who qualify for Lifeline, SNAP, free and reduced-price school lunch, WIC, and other government-funded programs.

## **Subsequent Performance Period Reports**

The outreach and results of [Colorado's Digital Equity, Literacy and Inclusion Initiative](#) will be summarized in the subsequent report when additional details are available on project implementation and outputs. Colorado will provide an update, using qualitative and quantitative data, promotion of equitable outcomes and progress toward equity objectives during the reporting period, and any constraints or challenges related to increasing equity as progress is made in subsequent reporting periods and will address the following considerations:

- a) **Objectives:** Based on Colorado's definition of communities with critical need, are there particular historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups, including those living in rural areas and/or high-poverty areas, that the capital assets being funded by CPF are designed to serve? Include the definition of critical need used for each Program Plan.
- b) **Awareness:** How equal and practical was the ability for members of these communities, including households, businesses, and other organizations, to become aware of the services funded by CPF?
- c) **Outcomes:** What progress has the program made toward addressing critical need(s) identified in targeted communities, such as closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service, or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions that are relevant to the policy objective? What methods (e.g., surveys, interviews) are being used (if applicable) to quantify and qualify project and program outcomes?

## **Labor and Workforce Practices**

The Advance-CPF Program will only fund Broadband Infrastructure projects, as explained in the approved Program Plan. The Advance-CPF Program requires strong

labor standards. The [Advance-CPF Program Guidelines](#) addresses the labor requirements for the Advance-CPF Program. In addition, the CBO created an [Advance-CPF Compliance and Reporting Guidelines](#), which includes additional details for applicants regarding labor standards and how they apply to the program, consistent with federal requirements.

Labor plans must be included in grant proposals that meet the federal criteria for labor reporting, and will be described in more detail in subsequent reports once grantees have submitted labor plans are available for review. Subsequent reports will address how projects are using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality projects, and also supporting the economic recovery through employment opportunities for workers.

## Community Engagement

The State of Colorado has engaged in a number of activities designed to solicit and incorporate feedback from communities, organizations and constituents during project implementation.

### Community Engagement Activities

The CBO has conducted extensive community engagement to learn about community needs from stakeholders. This information informs the program and ensures that the Advance-CPF Grant Program will have the biggest impact possible. CBO staff have participated in over 476 in-person or virtual meetings, reaching over 13,074 individual stakeholders since May 2022 (See Stakeholder engagements chart below), published monthly newsletters delivered to over 9,200 contacts, and conducted bi-monthly industry and community roundtables with an average of 40 participants each session. Stakeholders included community leaders, Tribal leaders, industry, education, unions, state and local government agencies, residents, non-profits, federal offices, elected officials, and private groups. In addition, the CBO hosted the Internet for All: Colorado Broadband Summit in April 2023, of which the Advance-CPF Grant Program was a topic of discussion. Last summer, the CBO participated in the State of Colorado's IIJA Regional Summits and also hosted the [CBO Summer Roadshow](#). The CBO is hosting another roadshow this summer.

**Figure: Stakeholder Engagements**

Engagement Type	Number	Participants
In-Person	127	3321
In-Person/Virtual	13	1678
Virtual	336	8075
<b>Total</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>13074</b>

## **Outreach, Advertising, and Translation Activities and Services**

[Colorado's Digital Equity, Literacy and Inclusion Initiative](#) is designed to address the needs of underrepresented communities and unserved/underserved households.

### **Community Outreach Efforts and Materials Languages**

The CBO engages with all Coloradans including those who speak languages other than English. During community outreach, the CBO has conducted radio and social media interviews in Spanish. The CBO has also participated in a radio interview with KETO radio station. This radio station offers community services to African immigrants and refugees who speak Somali, Swahili, French, Amharic, Ethiopic and other languages.

All printed information that was shared with Colorado communities regarding the Affordable Connectivity Program was available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Japanese and French.

Additionally, [Colorado's Digital Equity, Literacy and Inclusion Initiative](#) translated individual surveys into 18 different languages. Completed translations included:

1. 简体中文 (Simplified Chinese)
2. 繁體中文 (Traditional Chinese)
3. عربى (Arabic)
4. Español (Spanish)

5. Persian
6. Français (French)
7. 日本語 (Japanese)
8. ភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer)
9. 한국어 (Korean)
10. မြန်မာဘာသာ (Burmese)
11. پښتو (Pashto)
12. Русский язык (Russian)
13. Soomaali (Somali)
14. Kiswahili (Swahili)
15. Tagalogукраїнська мова (Ukrainian)
16. Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)
17. Amharic
18. Tagalog

# Ridge View Supportive Residential Community

## Executive Summary

The Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)'s Division of Housing (DOH) Office of Homeless Initiatives (OHI) is overseeing the implementation of repurposing the State of Colorado owned Ridge View campus in Watkins, Colorado. The vacant Youth Services Center will be converted into the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community (RVSRC) aiming to provide transitional housing and services for people experiencing homelessness in Colorado. The objective of the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community is to provide low-barrier access to comprehensive care, vocational services and treatment to people experiencing homelessness in Colorado. While no CPF funds have been spent on the RVSRC project to date, the project team has utilized SLFRF funds to complete a [Ridge View Master Plan](#), hire a contractor for design/build services, and issue a Request for Proposals for a Transitional Housing Provider and Campus Operator.

DOLA started community engagement for the RVSRC in January 2023, launching a [Engage DOLA Ridge View](#) website to keep stakeholders informed of updates and a location for the public to submit questions or comments to staff. Community engagement activities have included:

- Study sessions with local jurisdictions including the City of Aurora and Arapahoe County
- Three steering committee visioning sessions
- Programming interviews were held with statewide service providers and subject matter experts
- Focus Group with persons with lived experiences of homelessness and substance use recovery
- Survey of local residents

The Master Plan process was ongoing through 2023 and the [Master Plan Summary report](#) was published in March 2024. The Master Plan serves as the guiding framework

for the upcoming renovations and programming of the campus. Renovations are projected to start in late summer 2024 after completion of a Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) assessment is complete. DOLA hired Davis Partnership Architects and Haselden Construction, LLC through a competitive solicitation to provide the design/build services for the Ridge View campus.

DOLA has an active Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a transitional housing service provider. An additional solicitation will be released to seek qualified providers to operate the substance use treatment services and the health clinic portions of the campus.

## Uses of Funds

### Milestones, Outputs and Outcomes

- Milestone 1: Ridge View Master Plan: DOLA hired a consultant to complete a Master Plan to assess the Ridge View campus' capabilities and develop a guiding framework for implementing the supportive residential community and services. This activity was funded by SLFRF funds.
  - Progress: COMPLETE
- Milestone 2: Redevelopment and Renovation of Ridge View :
  - Progress: IN PROGRESS - DOLA has hired Davis Partnership Architects and Haselden Construction, LLC for design/build services for the Ridge View campus. As of 6/2024, a functionality assessment is underway including architectural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing, and kitchen equipment. The facility assessments will be completed by August 2024 and will inform the design plan, which has an estimated completion date of 12/20/24.
  - Output: PENDING - DOLA will obligate CPF funds through contracts for renovations and capital improvements to the Ridge View campus.
  - Outcome: PENDING: Ridge View renovations will be completed in July 2026

- Milestone 3: Implementation and Operations of Ridge View Supportive Residential Community: DOLA will release solicitations for qualified service providers to operate the transitional housing services, substance use treatment services and health clinic at Ridge View. These contracts will be paid for out of SLFRF and State funds.
  - Progress: IN PROGRESS - DOLA has an active solicitation seeking a qualified transitional housing service provider. Submissions are due on July 31, 2024. Solicitations for treatment services and medical services will be released following the selection of the lead provider in August 2024.
  - Output: IN PROGRESS - The solicitation for the Ridge View Transitional Housing Provider closes on July 31, 2024. DOLA will convene a review committee to assist with selection of a qualified provider.
  - Outcome: PENDING - DOLA will contract with the selected Transitional Housing Provider for services to begin once renovations are completed. The operational contracts will not be funded with CPF.

## Planned Activities

In the next reporting period, DOLA anticipates reporting on progress of renovations and selection of the transitional housing provider and campus operations contractor.

## Household Benefit Narrative

*The Ridge View -CPF grant program has spent no program funds to-date and will report on the impact of program fund impact on households in the next reporting period.*

However, State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) have been utilized to support staffing costs of planning, procurement, and stakeholder engagement, campus security and urgent repairs to campus property.

## Overview and Outcomes of Ancillary Costs

*Not applicable - has not had any ancillary costs to date.*

## Promoting Equitable Outcomes & Addressing Critical Needs

Homelessness has been a persistent issue in the country, but the issue has significantly escalated since the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10,054 people in the Denver metro area experienced homelessness in 2023, a 46% increase from the year prior. The number of people accessing homelessness-related services is far higher, with the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) recording that 27,860 people used such services throughout Colorado between July 2021 and June 2022. During the organization's 2023 Point-in-Time (PIT) count, MDHI totaled 9,065 people experiencing homelessness, a 32% increase from 2022.

People experiencing homelessness confront many difficulties beyond a lack of housing, especially pertaining to their health. Homelessness worsens pre-existing health issues and creates a high risk of exposure to violence, malnutrition, infectious diseases, and other health and safety concerns. The Colorado Coalition of the Homeless found that 40 to 70 percent of people experiencing homelessness suffer from either tobacco-related respiratory illness, substance or alcohol use disorders, anxiety, chronic pain, depression, hypertension or a combination of these conditions. These ailments have grave consequences; the coalition reports the life expectancy of people experiencing homelessness is 15 to 30 years lower than that of the general population.

These statistics only offer a glimpse into the struggles faced by people experiencing homelessness, as a lack of safe housing dictates most areas of a person's life. RVSRC addresses a critical need by applying a holistic approach to supporting the complex needs of this population. With transitional housing, vocational and educational training, a FQHC, and substance and alcohol addiction services, Ridge View will use best practices to attend to the underlying factors that lead to homelessness and provide the resources needed to set participants on the path to long-term recovery.

In metro Denver and across the country, people of color experience homelessness and housing instability at disproportionate rates.

While the RVSRC is in the planning phases, DOLA has worked to include input from people with lived experience of homelessness to ensure the facility will meet the critical needs of the target population. Ongoing engagement with people with lived experience of homelessness and substance use will inform the future programming and service delivery at the RVSRC.

## State's Prevailing Wage Statute

### Labor and Workforce Practices

The State's prevailing wage statute will be applicable to the Ridge View Supportive Residential Community Project. The minimum wage rates to be paid on the Project shall be furnished by the Principal Representative and requirements included in the Contract Documents.

Per Colorado rules (C.R.S. §24-92-Part 2), a public construction project in the amount of five hundred thousand dollars or more shall be subject to the State prevailing wage rate, of the regular, holiday, and overtime wages paid and the general prevailing payments on behalf of employees to lawful welfare, pension, vacation, apprentice training, and educational funds in the State, for each employee needed to execute the contract. Payments to the funds must constitute an ordinary business expense deduction for federal income tax purposes by contractors and subcontractors.

Contractors are required to pay their employees at weekly intervals and shall comply with the enforcement provisions of C.R.S. §24-92-209. Contractors awarded a project of this size will be required to utilize the LCPTTracker cloud-based labor compliance and certified payroll application.

The DIRECT LABOR BURDEN CALCULATION (SBP-6.18) template can be downloaded from the Office of the State Architect website:

<https://osa.colorado.gov/state-buildings/project-management-policies-guidelines/solicitation-forms>

Attached to the Design/Build contract are the prevailing wage rates in place at the time of the solicitation. Appendix F1: Prevailing Wage Rates- Arapahoe County 1/1/24, Appendix F2: Apprenticeship Contributions Form. Specifics regarding Colorado Prevailing Wage policy and Apprenticeship Contribution rates may be found on the Office of the State Architect website:

<https://osa.colorado.gov/state-buildings/prevailing-wage-and-apprenticeship>

# Community Engagement

The State of Colorado has engaged in a number of activities designed to solicit and incorporate feedback from communities, organizations, and constituents during project implementation.

## Community Engagement Activities

The Master Planning process for the Ridge View campus into a Supportive Residential Community has engaged the community in a variety of ways. DOLA's goal is to engage many diverse perspectives to create a plan and program that serves Coloradans effectively. The primary engagement events have included:

- Launched the Engage DOLA Ridge View website. The public can subscribe to Ridge View updates and submit questions or comments to staff.
- Study Session Presentation and Discussion with Aurora City Council
- Study Session Presentation and Discussion with Arapahoe County Commissioners
- Three Ridge View Steering Committee Visioning Sessions
- Programming interview with statewide service providers and subject matter experts
- Focus Group with residents with lived experience of homelessness and substance use recovery
- Aurora Ward 6 Town Hall Meeting
- Survey of local residents

Future meetings with local emergency responders, public town halls, elected officials, and engagement with people with lived experience with procured service provider(s).

## Outreach, Advertising, and Translation Activities and Services

DOLA will work with the contracted Transitional Housing and healthcare providers to develop an outreach plan to ensure eligible community members are aware of the services that will be available at the RVSRC and how to access them. Outreach materials will be translated to Spanish and translation services will be provided as needed. Specifically, as modeled at the Ft. Lyon Supportive Residential Community, the Transitional Housing provider at Ridge View will outreach and partner with a wide

network of homeless service providers representing diverse populations throughout the State on a regular basis to ensure they are aware of the resource and how their clients can access it. Key conduits to these service providers are the four Continuums of Care in Colorado as well as the State's Division of Housing, Office of Homeless Initiatives. Similarly, the provider will partner with the statewide Recovery Work Group, consisting of organizations and persons involved in recovery work throughout the State. Lastly, the scoring criteria for the Transitional Housing Operator RFP includes 15% of the overall score to be based on the proposer's experience and capacity for referral Process & community Engagement.