

How was the County's Strategic Plan developed?

La Plata County began the development of its new Strategic Plan in mid-2007. Members of the community were invited to attend several public meetings to discuss the County's role in Colorado local and regional government, and to provide input on issues of importance to them. Once this input had been gathered, it was reviewed by County's leadership team, considered by the County Board of Commissioners, and synthesized into the accompanying overview.

Do you have ideas for implementing the County's Strategic Plan? Are there ways that County government can work with you or your organization in support of mutual objectives? Drop us a line and let's discuss them. Send an e-mail to the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners at bocc@co.laplata.co.us or send us a note:

Name: _____

Your idea: _____

Mail to: La Plata County
Board of County Commissioners
1060 E 2nd Avenue
Durango, CO 81301



Why have a strategic plan?

A strategic plan serves as the "guide" for an organization's leadership when it comes to prioritizing new programs and initiatives, and evaluating existing ones.

In La Plata County, we also want to use our Strategic Plan as the basis for working cooperatively with other governmental, civic, and social organizations, and as an aid in the development of individual departmental "strategic business plans". These departmental plans will in turn have two main functions: to insure that each department's new initiatives support the County's overall strategic plan; and to serve as the foundation for developing departmental performance measures to provide accountability to County taxpayers for the use of their tax dollars.

What does La Plata County hope to accomplish through its Strategic Plan?

Measurable results toward the goals identified in the Strategic Plan. This, in turn, should mean improvement in the effectiveness and efficiency of County services, and improvement in the quality of life for La Plata County residents. Evaluation of the results will then serve as the basis for future updates and amendments to the Strategic Plan.



La Plata County Compass:

Charting the County's Future

An Overview of
La Plata County's Strategic Plan





La Plata County Compass: From Vision to Action!

Our Mission: To foster a safe, healthy, viable and self-sustaining community through wise stewardship of public and natural resources, efficient and effective delivery of mandated and discretionary services, local and regional collaboration, open, transparent government and active citizen engagement

Our Vision:

- We are known as a safe, healthy, and self-sustaining community for people of all ages and one of the best places to raise a family in the nation;
- We are a model of intergovernmental collaboration, partnership, innovation and efficiency;
- We have attained the highest level of satisfaction and confidence of our citizens while respecting our heritage and cultural richness.

Our strategic plan values:

- Leadership
- Stewardship
- Sustainability
- Regional cooperation
- Preservation of our heritage
- Integrity

~ CORE STRATEGIES ~

ECONOMIC VITALITY

La Plata County optimizes partnerships with other governments and stakeholders to foster a diverse and stable economy.

Objectives:

- Mitigate economic leakage / support local buying
- Business attraction, enhancement and retention
- Workforce development at all levels
- Enhanced cultural, tourism and environmental attractions
- Improved technological connectivity
- Monitor and prioritize tax and funding mechanisms

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

La Plata County guides sustainable development in a way that is symbiotic with local municipalities, neighborhood communities and sovereign nations.

Objectives:

- Support agricultural interests
- Intentional land use planning
- Stewardship of water resources to ensure existing and future supplies
- Mixed use development hubs

TRANSPORTATION

La Plata County continues to develop and enhance an efficient multi-modal transportation system that complements our land use strategies.

Objectives:

- Protect/maintain existing road & bridge infrastructure
- Identify system deficiencies and plans to address them
- Pedestrian/bicycle safety
- Mitigation of peak hour congestion
- Sustainable road construction and maintenance practices
- Reliable alternate modes of transport
- Improved air service

HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

La Plata County supports the protection and enhancement of healthy natural environments on a local, regional and global scale.

Objectives:

- Maintain clean air and water
- Leadership in energy management and resource conservation
- Champion best practices in sustainability and climate protection
- Informed, educated citizens who understand local issues such as living with wildlife and natural hazards such as wildfire and floods
- Mitigation of extractive industry impacts

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

La Plata County supports a work environment that values productive employees, progressive personnel practices and continuous workforce development to ensure our services are delivered in an efficient, ethical and responsible manner.

Objectives:

- High customer satisfaction
- Well trained and motivated staff
- User friendly and efficient government services
- Sufficient, efficient and well functioning facilities
- Balance competing demands of mandatory and discretionary services.
- Structurally balanced budget (revenues and expenditures) to fulfill existing responsibilities and secure the future of La Plata County

THRIVING FAMILIES AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY

La Plata County strives to maximize the quality of life, well being and potential of all citizens by supporting their efforts to thrive.

Objectives:

- Adequate, varied, accessible housing options
- Elder friendly communities
- Educational, recreational, cultural, and civic opportunities for people of all ages
- Responsive, innovative public safety
- Opportunities for youth to stay
- Accessible health care
- Supportive services and activities for all family members