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#### Challenges facing Colorado:

- Tax Payer's Bill of Rights (limitation on taxing authority on state and local government; limitation on spending authority on state and local government)
- Gallagher Amendment (cap residential assessment rate at 7.2% and ratchets down; caps non-residential assessment rate at 29%)
- Unfunded mandates as dictated by state and federal government
  - Balance of local control on land use regulations, human service implementations, implantation of criminal justice reform.
    - In Colorado, counties are arms of the state, charged with administering state mandated programs
- Uncertainty in elections outcomes for statewide elections including gubernatorial candidates, legislature and ballot initiatives
- Strong urban/rural divide
  - Population density in Front Range, while other counties are experiencing population decline.
- Year-round wildfire season with long term effects

#### Addressing Challenges:

- Legislative interim committee studying changes to Gallagher
- Advocacy and education on impacts of unfunded mandates
- Early outreach with candidates and initiative campaigns
- Building relationships with state and federal partners regarding wildfires, unfunded mandates, land use regulations, etc.
- Educating commissioners through bi-annual conferences, webinars, newsletters, and regional meetings on various issues impacting county government



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#### Advocacy Campaign:

- Educating state and federal agencies, statewide elected officials, non-member partners and the public on CCI's mission:
  - CCI is a non-profit, membership association whose purpose is to offer assistance to county commissioners and to encourage counties to work together on common issues. Governed by a board of directors consisting of eight commissioners from across the state, our focus is on information, education and legislative representation. We strive to keep our members up-to-date on issues that directly impact county operations. At the same time, we work to present a united voice to the Colorado General Assembly and other government and regulatory bodies to help shape the future.

#### Media and Social Media Strategy:

- Facebook presence
- Electronic and printed newsletter distributed to commissioners, associate members and interested parties
- Op-ed and interviews done by the executive director and legislative staff
- Fostering positive relationships with local journalists
- Annual Report sent out to commissioners, associate members and interested parties
- Coordination with sister state-associations on newsletters, reports, and upcoming events