

CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS
TAKING CLIMATE ACTION
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017
CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

September 19, 2017

Purpose

- To better understand the impacts of climate change to the Yampa Valley
- To present work being done around the State to address climate change
- Identify options to address climate change locally

GLOBAL IMPACTS



NATIONAL IMPACT



STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACTS



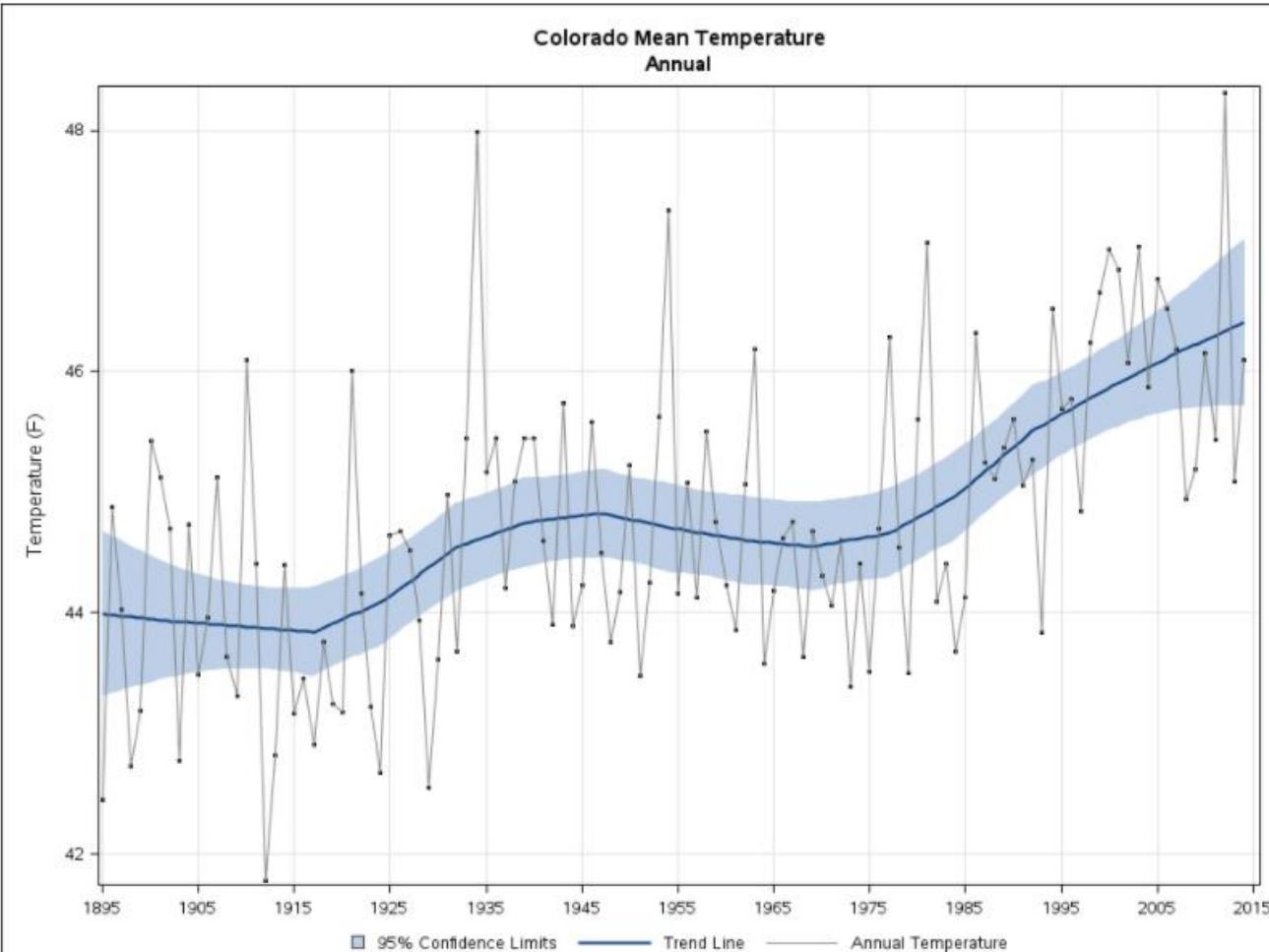
“Climate change threatens not only physical ecosystem health, but it poses a threat to the long-term economic viability of communities by impacting things such as season length, infrastructure, and snowpack.”

Colorado Climate Plan, 2015

STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

- Warmer temperatures
- Results in
 - Fewer days of snowfall
 - Increased intensity and frequency of forest fire
 - Increased intensity and frequency of droughts
 - Risks of flooding with early snow melt

WARMER TEMPERATURES



<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/state-temps/>

FEWER DAYS OF SNOWFALL



Photo credit: Steamboat Pilot

FLOODING



Photo credit: Steamboat Pilot

DROUGHT



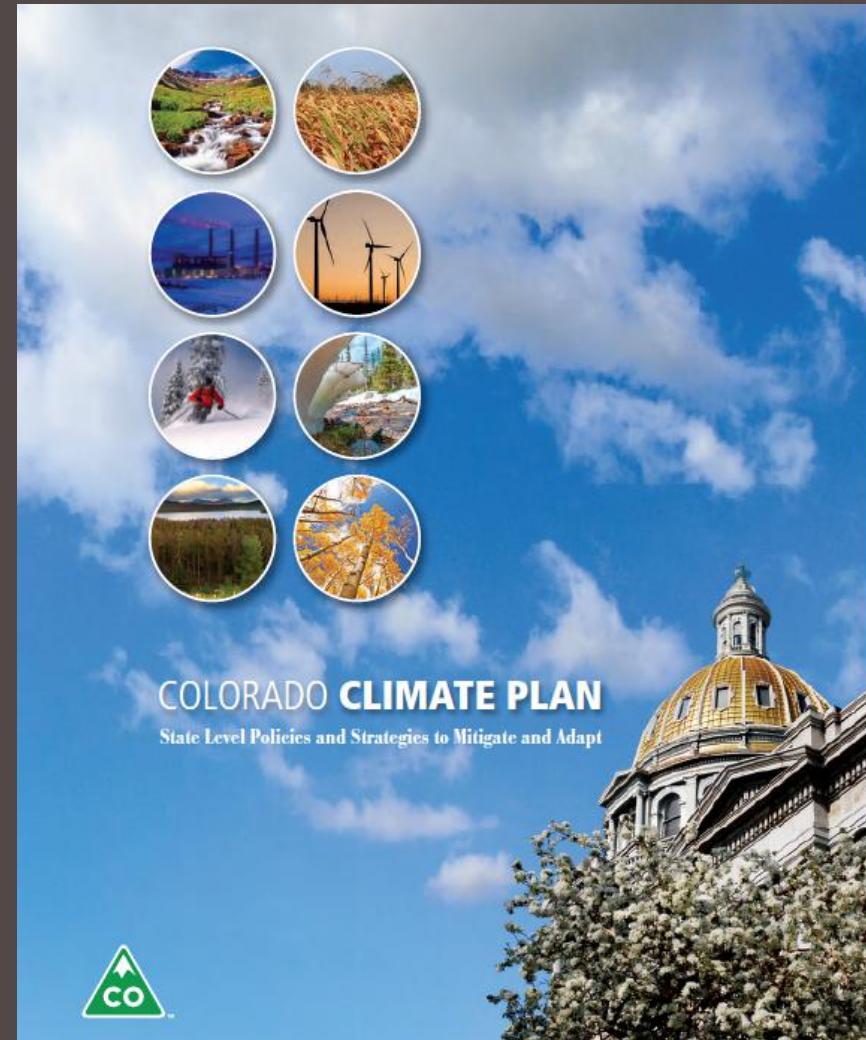
WILDFIRES



Photo credit: Steamboat Pilot

STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

- ❑ Economy
- ❑ Environment
- ❑ Public Health



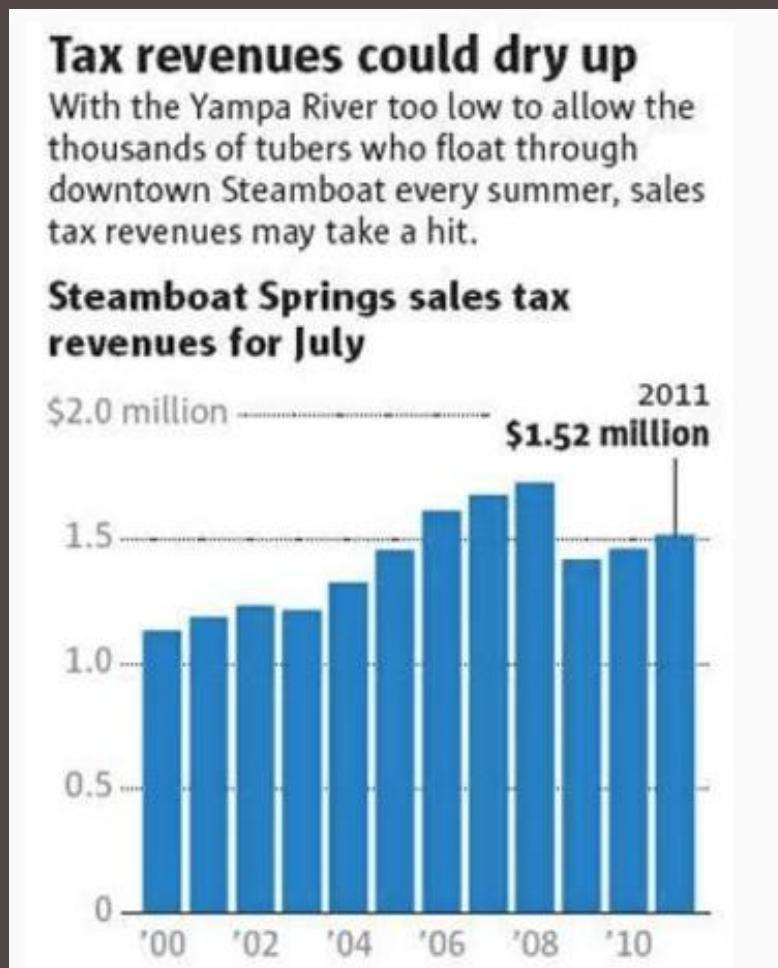
STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

ECONOMY – LOSS OF INCOME



STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACTS

ECONOMY – LOSS OF INCOME



Source: Denver Post Business
July 17, 2017

STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

ECONOMY – INCREASED COSTS

- Wildfire, Flooding, Drought
- Costs
 - Mitigation
 - Infrastructure damage
 - Property loss



Photo credit: Steamboat Pilot

STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

ENVIRONMENT

- Forest Health
- Fish, Bird and Mammal Populations
- Water Quality
- Soil Health



CLIMATE IMPACT



PUBLIC HEALTH

2017 is the Year of Climate Change and Health

"We're committed to making sure the nation knows about the effects of climate change on health. If anyone doesn't think this is a severe problem, they are fooling themselves."

American Public Health Association Executive Director Georges Benjamin

STATE AND LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

PUBLIC HEALTH

- Air Quality
- Extreme Weather
- Rising Temperature
- Increase in Vector Borne Illness



Photo credit: CDC

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

AS A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT

- Mitigate Damage
- Reduce Threat
- Example – Polio
 - Global issue – addressed at the local level
 - 99% eradicated
 - Largest public-private partnership

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE LOCALLY



MITIGATING DAMAGE

“Develop all hazard risk assessment and mitigation plan that incorporates hazards related to climate change (specifically drought and flood)”

Approved City of Steamboat Springs 2017 Sustainability goal

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE LOCALLY



REDUCING CO₂

- 2005 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (GHGEI)
- 2017 Approved City of SS Sustainability Goals
 - Reducing energy use for City facilities
 - Increasing green infrastructure
 - Increasing walkability
 - Increasing alternative transportation
- City Waste Diversion Efforts
- 2015 IECC

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE LOCALLY

REDUCING CO₂

- Support of Community Sustainability Initiatives
 - Energy efficiency
 - Waste diversion
 - Carbon sequestration



ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE LOCALLY



WE NEED TO DO MORE

- Develop Community-wide goals for reducing GHGE
- Update the GHGE Inventory
- Develop attainable goals
- Track and report

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER AS A STATE

- Governor Hickenlooper's Executive Order
 - Reduce GHGE statewide by more than 26% by 2025 (2005)
 - A 25% reduction in CO₂ from the electricity sector by 2025 (2012)
 - A 35% reduction in CO₂ emissions from the electricity sector by 2030 (2012)
 - Achieve electricity savings of 2% of total electricity by 2020 through energy efficiency

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER AS COMMUNITIES

Fraser

Winter Park

Durango

Pueblo

Basalt

Breckenridge

Avon

Eagle

Alamosa

Fort Collins

Glenwood Springs

Manitou Springs

Minturn

Frisco

Snowmass Village

Golden

Lakewood

Telluride

Wray

Jackson WY

Aspen

Crested Butte

Denver

Carbondale

Pueblo

Vail

Golden

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

NEXT STEPS

- Work Session to discuss
 - Roadmap for CO₂ reduction
 - Costs and time requirements
 - Timeline



THANK YOU!





Sarah Jones

Yampa Valley Sustainability Council

sarah@yvsc.org

971.871.9299

