

Joint Budget Committee



Staff Budget Briefing FY 2025-26

Department of Agriculture

JBC Working Document - Subject to Change

Staff Recommendation Does Not Represent Committee Decision

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Brief summaries of all bills that passed during the 2024 legislative session that had a fiscal impact on this department are available in Appendix A of the annual Appropriations Report: <https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/fy24-25apprept.pdf>

The online version of the briefing document may be found by searching the budget documents on the General Assembly's website by visiting leg.colorado.gov/content/budget/budget-documents. Once on the budget documents page, select the name of this department's *Department/Topic*, "Briefing" under *Type*, and ensure that *Start date* and *End date* encompass the date a document was presented to the JBC.

Overview of Department

The Department of Agriculture has seven divisions. A brief description of each division and its associated responsibilities is provided below.

The **COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION** provides administrative and technical support for department divisions and programs, including accounting, budgeting, human resources, communications, information technology, and legislative coordination functions.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES consists of the following program areas:

- ***Animal Industry Division***, also known as the Animal Health Division, provides oversight for the prevention and control of livestock diseases, operation of the Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory, and implementation of pest control.
- ***Inspection and Consumer Services Division (ICS)*** provides metrology and regulatory laboratory services including content analysis of feeds, fertilizers, groundwater, and pesticides. Additionally, ICS inspects anhydrous ammonia tanks, eggs, grain warehouses, agricultural commodity handlers and dealers, door-to-door sales companies, custom meat processors, and small and large weighing and measuring devices.
- ***Plant Industry Division*** is responsible for organic certification, nursery stock inspection, produce inspection, certification of plant and seed exports, seed inspection and certification, commercial and private pesticide applicator testing and licensing, and inspection of pesticide product records and labels.
- ***Conservation Services Division*** operates the biological pest control program, the Palisade insectary, noxious weed and weed free forage programs, the groundwater protection program, and the chemigation permitting and inspection program. The Division also provides grants for the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

The **AGRICULTURAL MARKETS DIVISION** promotes Colorado's agricultural products and services to domestic and international markets, provides export assistance, and develops value-added business ventures. The Markets Division is also responsible for promoting Colorado's wine industry, administering the Colorado Proud brand, and operating the agricultural products inspection program.

Established in 1865, the **BRAND BOARD** annually inspects and verifies the ownership of approximately 4 million head of livestock at sale barns, slaughterhouses, and export sites to protect producers and buyers from fraud and theft of livestock. The Brand Board also investigates reported livestock theft, maintains brand records, and licenses livestock sales barns, processing plants, and alternative livestock farms. It also serves as a resource to assist in criminal prosecutions against individuals accused of livestock theft.

The **COLORADO STATE FAIR AUTHORITY** is responsible for planning and operating the 11-day state fair held at the end of August and beginning of September, and coordinates special events utilizing its facilities that occur on the fairgrounds throughout the year.

The **CONSERVATION BOARD** provides administrative and financial assistance and competitive grants to the state’s 74 conservation districts which support private landowners in conserving land and water resources. The Conservation Board also works with districts on noxious weed management, groundwater protection, biological pest control, and erosion prevention projects.

The **DIVISION OF ANIMAL WELFARE**, created through H.B. 24-1458, supports pet and livestock welfare. It currently administers the Bureau of Animal Protection (BAP) program, the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA) program, and an equine welfare grant program.

Recent Appropriations

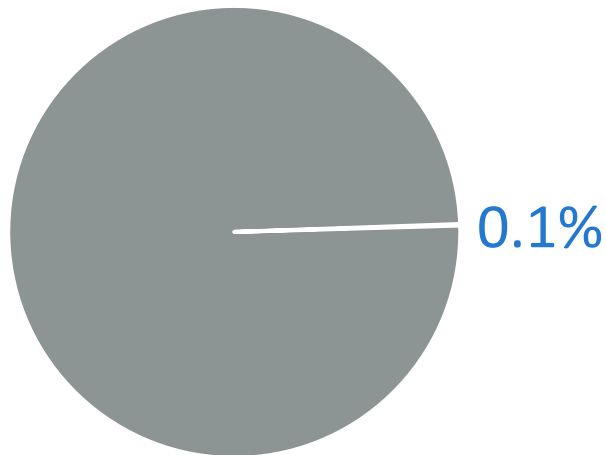
Agriculture				
Funding Source	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26*
General Fund	14,787,857	18,103,753	22,054,585	22,211,464
Cash Funds	50,172,615	43,058,143	47,809,565	48,702,324
Reapprop. Funds	2,623,496	2,714,972	3,332,362	3,320,563
Federal Funds	3,946,930	3,920,506	4,008,224	3,995,804
Total Funds	\$71,530,898	\$67,797,374	\$77,204,736	\$78,230,155
Full Time Equiv. Staff	310.7	317.5	327.5	332.1

* Requested appropriation

Funding for the Department of Agriculture in FY 2024-25 consists of 28.6 percent General Fund, 61.9 percent cash funds, 4.3 percent reappropriated funds, and 5.2 percent federal funds.

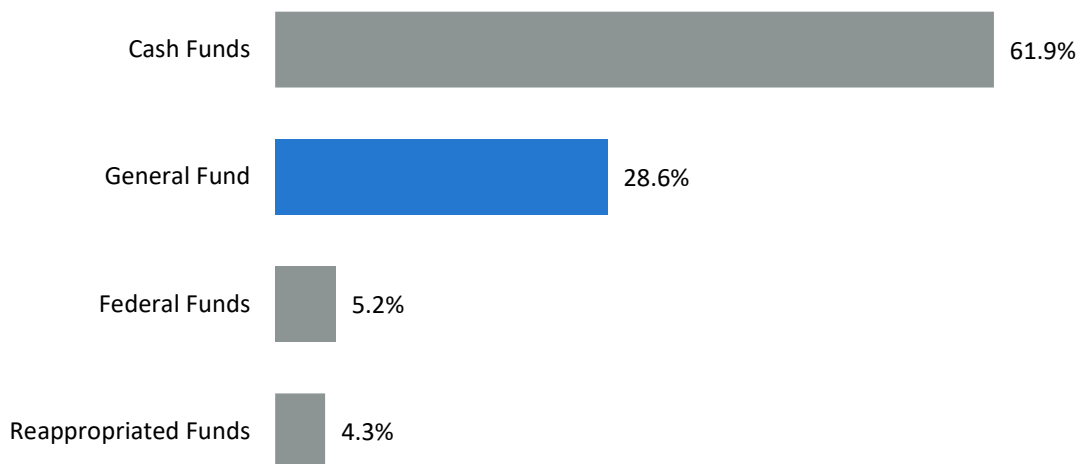
Graphic Overview

Department's Share of Statewide General Fund



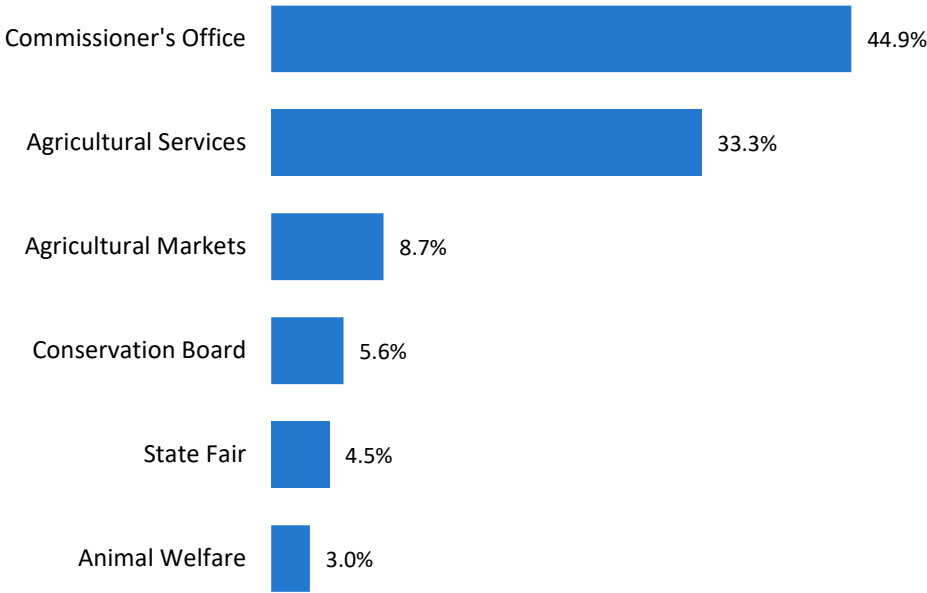
Based on the FY 2024-25 appropriation.

Department Funding Sources



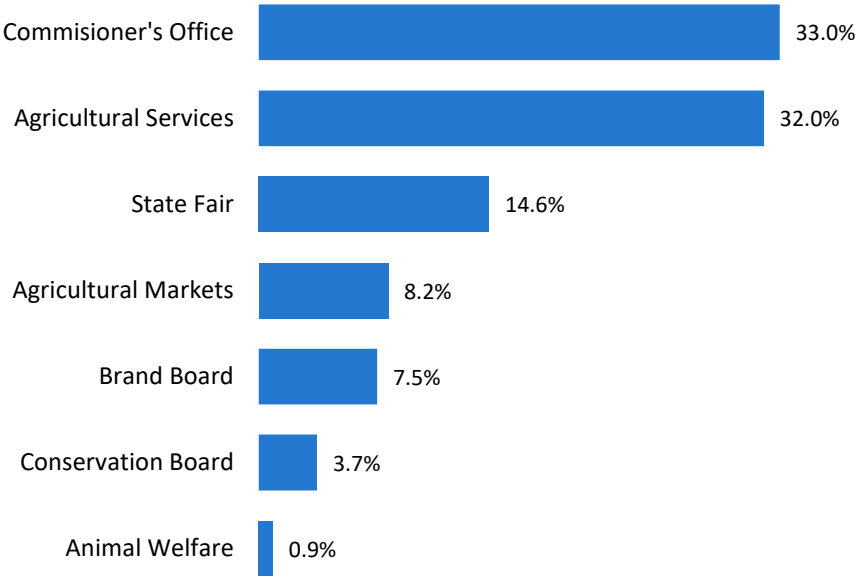
Based on the FY 2024-25 appropriation.

Distribution of General Fund by Division



Based on the FY 2024-25 appropriation.

Distribution of Total Funds by Division



Based on the FY 2024-25 Appropriation

Cash Funds Detail

Department of Agriculture Cash Funds Detail				
Fund Name	FY 2024-25 Approp.	Note	Primary Revenue Sources	Primary Uses in Dept.
State Fair Authority cash fund	\$11,027,428	¹	Revenue from facility leasing and State Fair activities, interest from the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Trust Fund, and any General Assembly appropriations [Section 35-65-107, C.R.S.]	Use, operation, maintenance, and support of Colorado state fair and fairgrounds, including salaries for temporary staff, professional services (e.g., entertainers), equipment rentals, and utilities.
Brand Board cash funds	8,910,971	³	Sale of estray animals and fees for cattle inspection [Section 35-41-102, C.R.S.]	Costs associated with related Brand Board activities.
Division of Plant Industry cash funds	7,328,367		Fees and penalties pertaining to plant health, pest control, and environmental protection.	Costs associated with implementing, administering, and enforcing related activities.
Revenue from inspection fees	7,233,584		Fees from inspection services pertaining to fertilizers, eggs, meat animals, commercial feed, brands, produce, and other agricultural products (except cattle inspection).	Implementing, administering, and enforcing inspection activities and regulations.
Various cash funds	4,614,605		Various revenue sources, depending on the cash fund.	Various uses, particularly those that affect multiple Divisions and program areas.
Revenue from marijuana and hemp-related sources	3,276,506	⁴	Taxes on retail marijuana (see Marijuana Tax briefing) and fees pertaining to registration, inspection, and compliance testing for industrial hemp cultivation.	Hemp-related research, outreach, and industry development, and 4-H and Future Farmers of America youth programs.
Agriculture management cash fund (AMF)	3,235,036		Sale of inspection and consumer services facilities and warehouse and storage facilities, and interest from the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Trust Fund [Section 35-1-106, C.R.S.]	Funding for the agricultural efforts approved by the Commissioner, including grant assistance for conservation districts and office consolidation.
Division of Animal Industry cash funds	1,320,826	³	Fees and proceeds related to animal sales, vaccine supplies and services, pet care facilities, aquaculture, diseased livestock, and cervidae diseases.	Costs associated with implementing, administering, and enforcing related activities.
Conservation district grant fund	700,000		Severance Tax: State tax on oil, gas, and other mining activities deposited in the Operational Account of the Severance Tax Trust Fund (see Department of Natural Resources briefing) [Section 35-1-106, C.R.S.]	Grants for conservation districts to perform soil and water conservation activities.
Agriculture value-added cash fund	512,242	²	Public or private gifts, grants, or donations received by the Colorado Agricultural Value-Added Development Board [Section 35-75-205, C.R.S.]	Financial or technical assistance to agricultural projects, project concepts, and research.
Total	\$47,809,565			

¹ Statute intended for the fund to be an enterprise and TABOR exempt, but historically it has been disqualified from enterprise status due to its operating losses and high reliance on state and local funding.

² Continuously appropriated cash fund, which is included in the Long Bill for informational purposes.

³ Includes continuously appropriated cash fund(s), which are included in the Long Bill for informational purposes.

⁴ Includes \$2,176,641 of funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund that are exempt from the TABOR revenue limit.

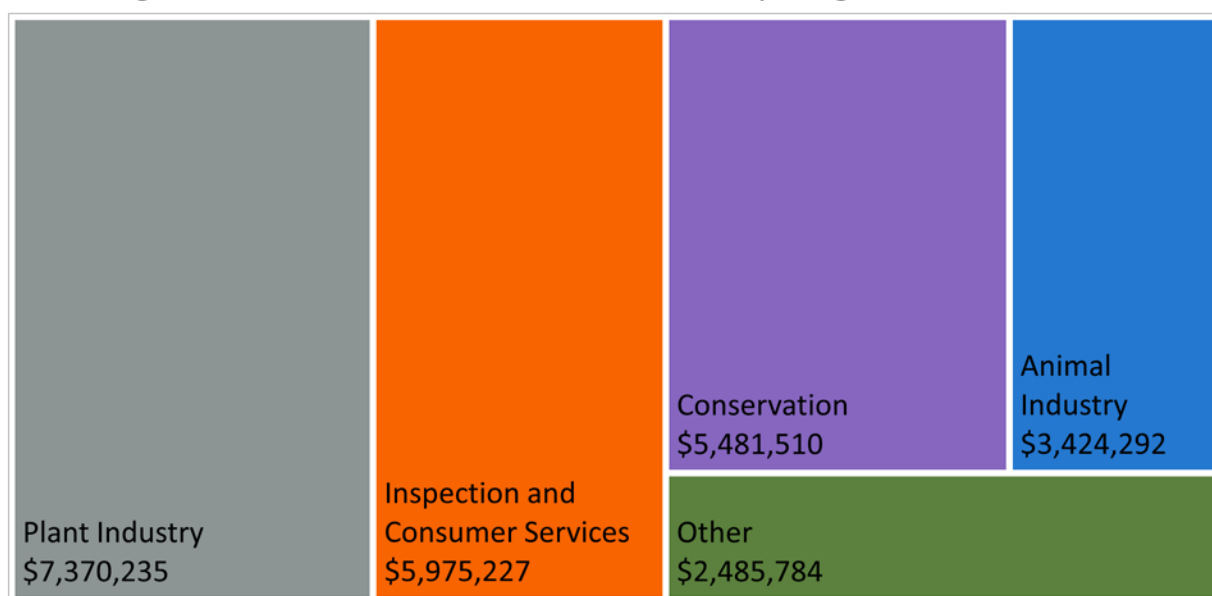
General Factors Driving the Budget

Two major factors drive the Department's annual budget: (1) Funding and programmatic changes for the Agricultural Services Division, which provides the majority of the Department's agricultural services and comprises a large share of the Department's total funds, and (2) Appropriations from the Agriculture Management Fund, which is one of the Department's cash funds with the largest ending balance and includes approximately \$2 million in annual discretionary spending determined by the Commissioner.

Agricultural Services Division

The Divisions of Plant Industry, Inspection and Consumer Services, Conservation Services, and Animal Industry make up the majority of the agricultural services provided by the Department and make up the bulk of funding to the Agricultural Services Division.

Agricultural Services Division Total Funds by Program in FY 2024-25



Agricultural Services accounts for 32.0 percent of the Department's total appropriation in FY 2024-25, including 33.3 percent of the Department's total General Fund appropriation and 29.7 percent of the of the Department's total cash fund appropriation. The primary source of funding for the division is cash fund revenue from various license and inspection fees. Each program has dedicated cash funds that provide the Department with the revenue to carry out their various tasks (i.e., in FY 2024-25, 49.5 percent of the appropriation for the Inspection and Consumer Services Division was funded by the Inspection and Consumer Services Cash Fund). The following table outlines the Agricultural Services Division's share of the Department's totals from FY 2019-20 through the FY 2025-26 request.

Agricultural Services Divisions 7-year Appropriations History							
	FY 2019-20 Actual	FY 2020-21 Actual	FY 2021-22 Actual	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriated	FY 2025-26 Requested
ASDs Total	18,165,530	19,169,667	21,473,364	23,302,286	25,765,626	24,737,048	26,454,491
Department Total	50,764,980	48,815,127	58,929,416	69,457,947	72,278,838	77,204,736	78,230,155
Percent of Department	35.8%	39.3%	36.4%	33.5%	35.6%	32.0%	33.8%

Agriculture Management Fund

Fund Sources and Uses

The Agriculture Management Fund (AMF) was created by H.B. 08-1399 (Ag Unclaimed Property Trust Fund Interest), which authorized the transfer of the interest earned on the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Trust Fund (UPTPF) to the AMF starting in FY 2008-09. Statute allocates 65.0 percent of the interest from the UPTPF to the Agriculture Management Fund to be used for agricultural purposes and staff, pursuant to Section 38-13-801.5, C.R.S. The AMF also received revenue from the disposition of two properties: (1) the warehouse located at 5000 Packing House Road in Denver, which was sold in FY 2017-18 for approximately \$650,000; and (2) the inspection and consumer services lab, which sold for \$7.0 million in August 2018. Because the fund's revenue is not fee based, the AMF is not subject to the 16.5% excess uncommitted fee reserve balance pursuant to Section 24-75-402, C.R.S.

At the Commissioner's discretion, the AMF supports projects and programs in various divisions. The majority of AMF appropriations in the FY 2025-26 request, or approximately \$2 million, are allocated to programs at the discretion of the Commissioner through the AMF line item. Outside of this line item, AMF expenditure changes are directed at centrally appropriated line items.

Financial Trends

The table below outlines the AMF's annual cash flow beginning in FY 2014-15 and represents a "point-in-time" observation of the fund. The Department allowed the fund balance in the AMF to grow for several years anticipating capital costs while consolidating many of its offices to the one in Broomfield, which contributed to an increase in annual expenditures. This expenditure increase was balanced by the large revenue increase in FY 2018-19, which is attributed to the AMF's statutory authorization to retain proceeds from the disposition of the aforementioned warehouse and lab.

The estimated FY 2025-26 end-of-year balance of the AMF is \$3.3 million. The AMF has received, on average, \$3.3 million annually since FY 2015-16, and in most years the fund has generated more revenue than it has spent.

Agriculture Management Fund 10-year Operating Revenue and Expenditures				
Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenditures	Net Annual Cash Flow	End of Year Fund Balance
2015-16	3,009,565	-1,897,231	1,112,334	2,854,018
2016-17	2,696,909	-1,428,078	1,268,832	4,133,602
2017-18	2,947,657	-214,577	2,733,080	6,866,682
2018-19	8,493,357	-9,623,712	-1,130,354	5,736,328
2019-20	3,104,197	-4,114,995	-1,039,597	4,696,730
2020-21	2,221,292	-2,012,018	209,274	4,906,004
2021-22	2,025,235	-1,820,291	204,943	5,110,948
2022-23	2,878,059	-2,431,941	446,118	5,557,066
2023-24	2,603,193	-3,116,107	-512,914	6,069,980
2024-25 Estimate	3,019,235	-4,975,816	-1,956,581	4,113,399
2025-26 Estimate	3,049,429	-3,843,111	-793,682	3,319,717

Summary of Request

Department of Agriculture						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$76,675,630	\$21,775,479	\$47,559,565	\$3,332,362	\$4,008,224	326.9
Other legislation	529,106	279,106	250,000	0	0	0.6
Total	\$77,204,736	\$22,054,585	\$47,809,565	\$3,332,362	\$4,008,224	327.5
FY 2025-26 Requested Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$77,204,736	\$22,054,585	\$47,809,565	\$3,332,362	\$4,008,224	327.5
R1 Animal disease traceability support	137,133	137,133	0	0	0	0.5
R2 Soil health program continuation	296,653	296,653	0	0	0	1.8
R3 Long Bill reorganization	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R4 State Fair Fund distribution	0	-450,000	450,000	0	0	0.0
Non-prioritized decision items	-642,444	29,700	-672,793	0	649	0.0
Centrally appropriated line items	1,664,110	392,999	1,273,699	-1,605	-983	0.0
Annualize prior year legislation	115,548	115,548	0	0	0	1.8
Technical adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Annualize prior year budget actions	-365,154	-365,154	0	0	0	0.5
Indirect cost assessment	-180,427	0	-158,147	-10,194	-12,086	0.0
Total	\$78,230,155	\$22,211,464	\$48,702,324	\$3,320,563	\$3,995,804	332.1
Increase/-Decrease	\$1,025,419	\$156,879	\$892,759	-\$11,799	-\$12,420	4.6
Percentage Change	1.3%	0.7%	1.9%	-0.4%	-0.3%	0.0

R1 Animal disease traceability support: The Department requests \$137,133 General Fund and 0.5 FTE in FY 2025-26, which annualizes to \$137,665 General Fund and 0.5 FTE ongoing, to support the Animal Disease Traceability program. The request is in response to cuts in federal funding which support the program, including 0.5 FTE for a veterinarian, and increasing operational costs from a recent technology update.

R2 Soil health program continuation: The Department requests \$296,653 General Fund and 1.8 FTE in FY 2025-26, which annualizes to \$294,566 General Fund and 2.0 FTE ongoing to continue the Department's soil conservation efforts. The request funds one Technical Soil Specialist, one Program Assistant, an additional vehicle for the program, ongoing maintenance of the program's Soil Health Database, and creates a \$50,000 microgrant program. *For more details on this request, see Informational Issue 2.*

R3 Long Bill reorganization: The Department requests approval to restructure its Long Bill to align with its current organizational structure, and promote accuracy and transparency. This restructure is technical and does not require additional appropriations or FTE. Currently, the

Long Bill lists the Animal Services Division, the Plant Industry Division, the Inspection and Consumer Services Division, and the Conservation Services Division as line items under Agricultural Services. This request would make those Division-related line items their own Long Bill section, move other line items under Agricultural Services to their appropriate Divisions, and make other adjustments including redistributing indirect costs.

R4 State Fair fund distribution: As a budget balancing measure, the Department requests to decrease General Fund appropriations to the State Fair by \$450,000 and requests \$450,000 additional spending authority to the State Fair Authority Cash Fund for FY 2025-26 and ongoing. This funding is used to cover program costs for the State Fair. This request will not increase fees or revenues. *This request is further discussed in the Budget Reductions and Informational Issue 1 sections of this document.*

Non-prioritized decision items: The Department also submitted three non-prioritized requests totaling a \$29,700 increase in General Fund and a \$672,793 decrease in cash funds for FY 2025-26 to finance the annual fleet vehicle request, Office of Administrative Courts (OAC) staffing, and a Department of Natural Resources request to refinance Severance Tax Operational Fund appropriations to the General Fund before transferring it to the Department of Agriculture.

Non-prioritized decision items					
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
NP-01 Annual Fleet Vehicle Request	\$57,277	\$29,700	\$26,928	\$649	0.0
NP-02 OAC Staffing	279	0	279	0	0.0
NP-03: R10 Restruc Severance Tax	-700,000	0	-700,000	0	0.0
Total	-\$642,444	\$29,700	-\$672,793	\$649	0.0

Centrally appropriated line items: The request includes adjustments to centrally appropriated line items for the following line items.

Centrally appropriated line items						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Salary survey	\$831,951	\$320,798	\$511,153	\$0	\$0	0.0
Health, life, and dental	694,807	200,951	498,931	-5,075	0	0.0
Step Plan	142,727	46,716	96,011	0	0	0.0
CORE adjustment	79,681	4,276	72,002	3,403	0	0.0
Risk management & property	61,774	37,447	24,327	0	0	0.0
ALJ services	9,860	0	9,860	0	0	0.0
PERA direct distribution	8,331	-14,677	23,008	0	0	0.0
Shift differential	1,183	-279	2,223	138	-899	0.0
Payments to OIT	109	69	40	0	0	0.0
Prior year salary survey	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
FY 2024-25 Step Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Workers' compensation	-55,614	-11,000	-44,614	0	0	0.0
AED and SAED adjustment	-49,781	-169,764	120,050	13	-80	0.0
Legal services	-48,780	-14,195	-34,585	0	0	0.0

Centrally appropriated line items						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
DTRS Common Policy Adjustment	-9,096	-5,912	-3,184	0	0	0.0
Paid Family & Medical Leave Insurance	-2,239	1,172	-3,408	1	-4	0.0
Short-term disability	-803	-2,603	1,885	-85	0	0.0
Total	\$1,664,110	\$392,999	\$1,273,699	-\$1,605	-\$983	0.0

Annualize prior year legislation: The request includes a net increase of \$115,548 General Fund and 1.8 FTE to reflect the FY 2025-26 impact of prior year legislation.

Annualize prior year legislation			
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	FTE
HB 24-1249 Tax Credit Ag Annualization	\$182,465	\$182,465	1.5
SB 24-055 Ag & Rural Behavioral Health Annualization	16,912	16,912	0.0
HB 24-1458 Division of Animal Welfare	-83,829	-83,829	0.3
Total	\$115,548	\$115,548	1.8

Technical adjustments: The request includes a net neutral adjustment to correct for internal accounting misattributions by the Department and align funding to the Long Bill.

Technical adjustments				
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	FTE
FY24-25 BA01 Wolf Reintro Base Adj	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY23-24 R04 Insectary Personal Services	0	0	0	0.0
FY23-24 R04 Insectary Operating Correction	0	0	0	0.0
FY23-24 R04 Insectary FTE Correction	0	0	0	0.0
Base Tech R04 GF Conservation Board	0	0	0	0.0
Base Tech Fruit & Veg Program	0	0	0	0.0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Annualize prior year actions: The request includes a net decrease of \$365,154 in total funds to reflect the FY 2025-26 impact of prior year budget actions.

Annualize prior year budget actions			
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	FTE
FY24-25 R09 Workforce Services Annualize	\$1,702	\$1,702	0.2
FY24-25 R01 Ag Emergency Management Annualize	1,030	1,030	0.1
FY24-25 R10 Business Ops Improve Annualize	-207,009	-207,009	0.0
FY24-25 BA01 Wolf Reintro Annualize	-160,877	-160,877	0.2
Total	-\$365,154	-\$365,154	0.5

Indirect cost assessment: The request includes a net decrease of \$180,427 for indirect cost assessment, including a decrease of \$158,147 cash funds and \$12,086 federal funds.

Budget Reduction Options

The Executive Budget Request includes reductions of \$1,041,064 General Fund for the Department of Agriculture representing 4.7% of the General Fund appropriations in this section of the budget. This reduction is likely higher, pending a Department-specific estimate of the impact of Statewide R6 (Correction to Accounting of Merchandise Sales). This issue brief reviews these proposals and additional options identified by staff.

Summary

- The Department of Agriculture represents 0.1 percent of total state General Fund appropriations in FY 2024-25. The Executive budget request includes proposed reductions of \$1,041,064, representing 4.7 percent of the General Fund appropriations in this section of the budget. These reductions are partially offset by proposed increases, so that the Department's total General Fund is requested to decrease by 2.0 percent.
- The Department proposes an ongoing General Fund reduction to the State Fair of \$450,000 and a mirroring \$450,000 spending authority increase to the State Fair Authority Cash Fund.
- Statewide budget reduction requests will reduce the Department's General Fund by more than \$591,064, with a specific estimate pending data to estimate the impact of the Statewide R6 request in this department.
- Staff budget reduction options include one-time cash fund transfers from four cash funds to increase the General Fund by \$916,511. These cash funds are the Rodent Control cash fund, the Agricultural Management cash fund, the Diseased Livestock Indemnity cash fund, and the Cervidae Disease cash fund.
- Staff options for programmatic changes include \$200,000 in ongoing General Fund reductions to the Next Gen Ag Leadership/Agriculture Workforce Development Grant program and the renewable energy and energy efficiency grant program.

Recommendation

- Staff recommends the Department discuss the health, available cash reserves, and cash flow of the State Fair Authority Cash Fund.
- Staff recommends that the Department discuss the staff options in its budget hearing, focusing particularly on the possibility of replacing some General Fund appropriated to the Commissioner's Office with other funding sources, reducing funds to the Next Gen Ag Leadership program and other grant programs, and the long-term impact of a General Fund transfer from the Agriculture Management Fund.

Discussion

Funding History FY 2018-19 to FY 2024-25

The Department of Agriculture represents 0.1 percent of total state General Fund appropriations in FY 2024-25. As reflected in the table below, General Fund in this section of the budget has increased by 56.8 percent since FY 2018-19 after adjustments for inflation. This is more than the statewide increase in General Fund appropriations of 11.3 percent over the same period after adjustments.¹ Over the same period, total funding in the Department after adjustments has increased by 18.2 percent.

FY 2018-19 to FY 2024-25 Appropriations Comparison - Adjusted for Inflation					
Fund	FY 2018-19		FY 2024-25	Increase/ -Decrease after inflation adjustment	
	Nominal Dollars	FY 24-25 Dollars		Amount	Percent
General Fund	\$11,107,420	\$14,067,957	\$22,054,585	\$7,986,628	56.8%
Total Funds	\$51,592,874	\$65,344,275	\$77,204,736	\$11,860,461	18.2%

In FY 2024-25, 80.6 percent of the Department of Agriculture's General Fund appropriation were in two divisions: the Commissioner's Office and Administrative Service Division (\$9,900,595 General Fund) and the Agricultural Services Divisions (\$7,338,066 General Fund). The Commissioner's Office has the largest increase in General Fund appropriation since FY 2018-19 at 122.0 percent, followed by the Agricultural Markets Division at 113.7 percent.

FY 2018-19 to FY 2024-25 Appropriations Comparison by Division* - Adjusted for Inflation						
Division	Fund	FY 2018-19		FY 2024-25	Increase/ -Decrease after inflation adjustment	
		Nominal	FY 24-25 Dollars		Amount	Percent
Commissioner's Office	General Fund	\$3,520,758	\$4,459,170	\$9,900,595	\$5,441,425	122.0%
	Total Funds	\$13,383,726	\$16,950,982	\$25,478,371	\$8,527,389	50.3%
Agricultural Services	General Fund	\$4,674,998	\$5,921,057	\$7,338,066	\$1,417,009	23.9%
	Total Funds	\$16,722,431	\$21,179,575	\$24,737,048	\$3,557,473	16.8%
Agricultural Markets	General Fund	\$708,061	\$896,785	\$1,916,276	\$1,019,491	113.7%
	Total Funds	\$4,944,503	\$6,262,395	\$6,356,449	\$94,054	1.5%
Conservation Board	General Fund	\$1,203,603	\$1,524,408	\$1,235,018	-\$289,390	-19.0%
	Total Funds	\$2,160,384	\$2,736,206	\$2,891,799	\$155,593	5.7%

¹ FY 2024-25 appropriations are adjusted to *exclude* the impact of H.B. 24-1466 (Refinance Federal Coronavirus Recovery Funds) which provided for a one-time decrease of \$587.2 million in General Fund appropriations for FY 2024-25, spread across the Corrections, Human Services, and Judicial Departments. Temporary personal services reductions in these departments were backfilled with federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Fiscal year 2018-19 appropriations are adjusted for inflation, calculated based on the Legislative Council Staff September 2024 forecast, which reflects an increase in the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood consumer price index of 26.7 percent between FY 2018-19 and FY 2024-25.

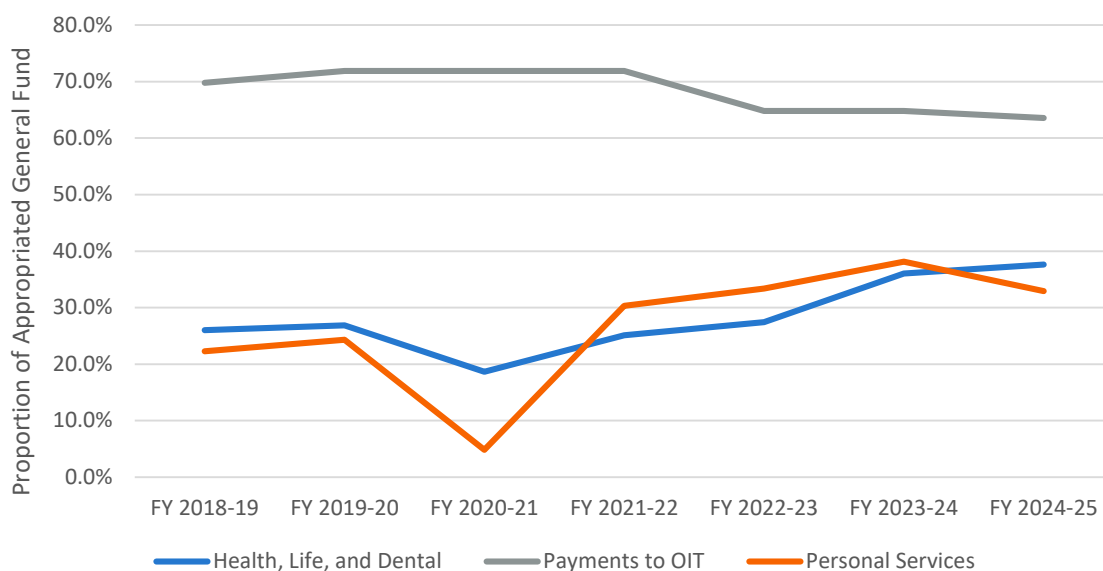
FY 2018-19 to FY 2024-25 Appropriations Comparison by Division* - Adjusted for Inflation						
Division	Fund	FY 2018-19		FY 2024-25	Increase/ -Decrease after inflation adjustment	
		Nominal	FY 24-25 Dollars		Amount	Percent
Colorado State	General Fund	\$1,000,000	\$1,266,537	\$1,000,000	-\$266,537	-21.0%
Fair	Total Funds	\$9,975,705	\$12,634,598	\$11,307,415	-\$1,327,183	-10.5%

*The Brand Board is excluded from this table as it is entirely cash funded. The Division of Animal Welfare is excluded as it was created in FY 2024-25.

The growth in the Commissioner’s Office General Fund appropriations is largely due to increasing administrative support needs within the Department, costs to support the Health, Life, and Dental insurance of additional FTE, and technical support costs to OIT. Of note, the Department is using a higher share of General Fund in FY 2024-25 to cover total costs of Health, Life, and Dental insurance and Personal Services than it did in FY 2018-19. If the Department covered Health, Life, and Dental in FY 2024-25 at the same proportion of General Fund spending as in FY 2018-19, it would have used \$552,871 less General Funds. Similarly, the Department would have used \$349,159 less General Funds to cover Personal Services this fiscal year if it funded this line item to the same funding source proportions as it did in FY 2018-19. Both of these amounts would instead be covered by cash funds and reappropriated funds, if using FY 2018-19 funding allocations.

Staff is exploring why these proportions of General Fund spending have increased with the Department. Staff also recommends the Committee ask the Department about the possibility of using other sources of funding to cover these General Fund increases during the Department’s hearing.

The proportion of General Fund appropriations covering **Health, Life, and Dental** and **Personal Services** has **increased over time**, while that for OIT payments has decreased.



Growth in the Agricultural Markets Division is due to the expansion of existing programs and the introduction of new programs into the Division:

- General Fund appropriations towards program costs for the Agricultural Markets subdivision increased by \$601,920 since FY 2018-19, adjusted for inflation. This increase is driven by funding increases to domestic and international marketing and FY 2023-24 Long Bill appropriations for a climate drought-smart agricultural marketing specialist.
- The Division started housing the Agriculture Workforce Development Program in FY 2019-20, which was created by S.B. 18-042. General Fund appropriations to this program increased by \$290,026 through the FY 2024-25 Long Bill to expand grant funding to it and the Next Gen Agriculture Leadership program, bringing this line item's total General Fund spending to \$360,261.
- The Community Food Access Program was created through H.B. 22-1380; while mainly funded through ARPA funds, \$172,238 General Fund was appropriated to the Division in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 to help implement the program.

Budget Requests for General Fund Relief

For this section of the budget, the budget request includes proposals for General Fund relief totaling \$1,041,064, representing 4.7 percent of the General Fund appropriations. These reductions are offset by proposed increases, so that the Department's total General Fund is requested to decrease by 2 percent. However, this decrease will likely be higher, as OSPB's Statewide R6 request (Correction to Accounting of Merchandise Sales) did not include a Department-specific General Fund reduction estimate.

The proposals for General Fund relief are summarized in the table below. As shown in the table, the first two items (Statewide requests R1 and R6) require statutory change.

Budget Requests for General Fund Relief				
Option	General Fund	Other Funds	Bill? Y/N	Description
Revenue Enhancements				
Statewide R1 Transfer Certain Interest Income Revenue Subject to TABOR	\$544,102	-\$544,102	Y	This statewide request proposes a one-time transfer of FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 interest revenue from multiple cash funds. From the Department of Agriculture and across both fiscal years, this includes a \$282,610 transfer from the Colorado Agricultural Future Loan Program Cash Fund and a \$261,492 transfer from the Plant Health, Pest Control and Environmental Protection Fund. The total statewide transfer is about \$131.5 million. The proposal also includes an ongoing 1.5 percent cap on interest income revenue beginning in FY 2026-27, but impacted cash funds and specific fiscal impact were not identified.
Statewide R6 Correction to Accounting of Merchandise Sales	N/A	0	Y	This statewide request would make merchandise sales exempt from being counted as TABOR revenue. From the Department of Agriculture, this would include pesticide and agricultural inspection supply sales, non-concession sales at the State Fair, and promotional wine sales by the Wine Industry Development Board. However, the request does not include an estimate of General Fund relief in the Department.
Subtotal - Revenue	\$544,102	-\$544,102		
Expenditure Reductions				
R4 State Fair Fund Distribution	-\$450,000	\$450,000	N	This request includes an ongoing reduction of \$450,000 General Fund to State Fair program costs, to be replaced with a \$450,000 spending authority increase from the State Fair Authority Cash Fund.
Statewide R4 1% GF Reduction for Program Lines	-36,483	0	N	This statewide request proposes to combine Personal Services and Operating Expenses line items into a single Program Line across all Departments, and reduce General Fund appropriation to that line item by 1 percent. For the Department of Agriculture, this results in an ongoing General Fund reduction of \$36,483. The total statewide General Fund reduction is \$5.5 million.
Statewide R5 Round to the Nearest \$1,000	-10,479	-13,451	N	This statewide request is to round all appropriations to the nearest \$1,000 by rounding down General Fund and cash funds, rounding up federal funds, and rounding reappropriated funds using standard rounding rules. For the Department of Agriculture, this results in a \$23,930 ongoing total fund reduction. The total statewide reduction is \$829,174, which includes an ongoing total reduction of \$449,396 General Fund.
Subtotal - Expenditures	-\$496,962	\$436,549		
Net General Fund Relief	\$1,041,064			

Additional Options for JBC Consideration

The table below summarizes options identified by the JBC staff that the Committee could consider in addition to or instead of the options presented in the budget request.

A General Fund reduction of 5.0 percent to the sections of the budget covered in this briefing would require a reduction of \$1,102,729.

Additional Options for General Fund Relief				
Option	General Fund	Other Funds	Bill? Y/N	Description
Revenue Enhancements				
End Rodent Control Cash Fund and Transfer Balance to GF	\$26,511	-\$26,511	Y	This fund was originally created to sell rodent control to producers, but it is no longer in use. The fund has consistently kept a reserve of \$26,511. Ending the fund and transferring its reserve to General Fund will not affect program operations.
Agriculture Management Cash Fund Transfer to GF	620,000	-620,000	Y	This fund is used primarily to pay for agricultural workforce programs and other agricultural efforts determined by the Commissioner. It has accumulated a fund balance of \$5.4 million. Since FY19, it has grown by \$661,250. A one-time transfer of \$620,000 may affect existing programs.
Diseased Livestock Indemnity Cash Fund Transfer to GF	250,000	-250,000	Y	This fund is used primarily to pay indemnity to any livestock owner whose herd is voluntarily sold for slaughter for disease control and does not receive federal indemnity. It has accumulated a fund balance of \$731,737. Over the past 7 fiscal years, it has made an average payout of \$10,294 and grown by \$233,705. A one-time transfer of \$250,000 should not affect program operations unless federal indemnity payments end.
Cervidae Disease Cash Fund Transfer to GF	20,000	-20,000	Y	This fund was initially created to pay indemnity to owners of cervidae destroyed for disease control. It has accumulated a fund balance of \$225,201. Over the past 7 fiscal years, it has made an average payout of \$1,583 and grown by \$20,131 through interest revenue. A \$20,000 one-time transfer is unlikely to put the fund at risk.
Subtotal - Revenue	\$916,511	-\$916,511		
Expenditure Reductions				

Additional Options for General Fund Relief				
Option	General Fund	Other Funds	Bill? Y/N	Description
Reduce Next Gen Ag Leadership and Agriculture Workforce Development Grant Funding	-\$100,000	\$0	N	The FY 2024-25 Long Bill appropriated \$200,000 General Fund and \$150,000 Cash Fund to the Department to expand the Next Generation Agriculture Leadership and Agriculture Workforce Development programs. This option is to decrease ongoing General Fund appropriations to these programs by \$100,000, starting in FY 2025-26. The reduction would represent a 50.0 percent reduction to the General Fund appropriation and 28.6 percent reduction to the total funds.
Reduce Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grant Funding	-100,000	0	N	The FY 2024-25 Long Bill appropriated \$500,000 General Fund towards renewable energy and energy efficiency grants to agricultural producers. This option would decrease ongoing General Fund appropriation to the grant by \$100,000 (20.0 percent), starting in FY 2025-26.
Subtotal - Expenditures	-\$200,000	\$0		
Net General Fund Relief	\$1,116,511			

The Department also has about \$1.7 million of unencumbered ARPA funds towards its Community Food Access Program. Staff will discuss with the Department how much of this is uncommitted and could be recaptured.

Revenue Enhancements

End Rodent Control Cash Fund and Transfer Balance to GF

Description: Bill to end the Rodent Control Cash Fund and transfer its remaining \$26,511 balance to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: The transfer does not negatively affect any existing program since the Department has indicated that the fund is no longer in use.

Additional background: The fund no longer collects revenue. When it was initially created in 1927, it received General Fund appropriations to use towards the sale of rodent poison to help farmers and livestock owners control rodent populations, and proceeds from that sale returned to the fund. The fund hasn't received revenue since at least FY 2018, and the Department is not operating this rodent control program.

The Fund, created at Section 35-7-103, C.R.S., is permanent and requires a statute change to end.

Rodent Control Cash Fund				
	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Estimate	FY 2025-26 Estimate	FY 2026-27 Estimate
Beginning FY Balance	\$26,511	\$26,511	\$0	\$0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Ending FY Balance without transfer	\$26,511	\$26,511	\$0	\$0
Transfer Option		-26,511		
Ending FY Balance after transfer		\$0		

Fee impact: None. The fund no longer receives any form of revenue.

Agricultural Management Cash Fund Transfer to GF

Description: Bill to transfer \$620,000 from the Agricultural Management Cash Fund (AMF) to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: The transfer could impact current uses of the AMF. This is a one-time option.

Additional background: The fund consists of interest from the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Trust Fund (UPTPF) and money gained from sales of former Department properties. The fund may be expended for agricultural projects determined by the Commissioner and as appropriated by the General Assembly, including workforce development programs and funding for Department employees. Between FY 2019-20 and FY 2023-24, the Department expended an annual average of \$2.7 million. While the AMF fund balance grew by about \$1.4 million between FY 2019-20 and FY 2023-24, the Department anticipates spending down its reserve by \$2.7 million by FY 2025-26. After accounting for this anticipated spending, the AMF's annual reserve balance is about \$3.3 million.

The Department indicates a one-time transfer of \$620,000 could have the following impacts:

- Limit efforts to make its buildings more energy efficient, in line with Executive Order D 2022-016 (Amending and Restating Executive Order D 2019 016, Concerning the Greening of State Government),
- Eliminate the Department's financial support towards wolf reintroduction grants, which CDA provides to the Department of Parks and Wildlife through a MOU agreement, and
- Eliminate mental health grant funding, which was not funded through S.B. 24-055 (Agricultural & Rural Behavioral Health Care) but which the Department committed \$200,000 AMF support.

A one-time \$620,000 transfer to the General Fund would impact how quickly the Department spends down its AMF reserve and its ability to use AMF funding towards other programs.

The Fund, created at Section 35-1-106.9, C.R.S., is annually appropriated to the Department.

Agricultural Management Cash Fund				
	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Estimate	FY 2025-26 Estimate	FY 2026-27 Estimate
Beginning FY Balance	\$5,557,066	\$6,069,980	\$3,493,399	\$2,699,717
Revenues	2,603,193	3,019,235	3,049,429	2,500,000
Expenditures	-3,116,107	-4,975,816	-3,843,111	-3,000,000
Ending FY Balance without transfer	\$6,069,980	\$4,113,399	\$2,699,717	\$2,199,717
Transfer Option		-620,000		
Ending FY Balance after transfer		\$3,493,399		

Fee impact: None. Revenue is from interest of the UPTPF and interest from sales of Department properties.

Diseased Livestock Indemnity Cash Fund Transfer to GF

Description: Bill to transfer \$250,000 from the Diseased Livestock Indemnity Cash Fund to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: The transfer does not negatively affect any existing program. This is a one-time option.

Additional background: The fund consists of unexpended and unencumbered appropriations made by the General Assembly for personal services for the State Veterinarian's office. It may be appropriated for payments to qualifying owners of livestock sold for slaughter or destroyed for disease control purposes as indemnification, if federal indemnity is not already being paid. The state's average annual payment from this fund since FY 2018-19 is \$3,217, with several years having expenditures less than \$500. The largest expenditure from the fund in recent years was \$52,753 in FY 2020-21. Since FY 2018-19, the fund has gained an average annual revenue of \$48,054, increasing its current uncommitted fee reserve by \$353,685. The fund currently has \$851,717 in reserve.

The fund has experienced this growth in part because the fund does not pay indemnity when the federal government does so. For example, since the start of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influence outbreak in 2022, the federal government has made a total of \$64 million in indemnity payments to Colorado livestock owners. Should these federal indemnity payments end, the fund would be at risk even without a \$250,000 transfer to the General Fund. A transfer from this fund risks the Department not being able to pay indemnity if a large-scale outbreak occurs for which the federal government does not pay indemnity. Therefore, staff only recommends this transfer if the Department cannot propose another source of cuts.

The Fund, created at Section 35-50-114(3), C.R.S., is continuously appropriated to the Department.

Diseased Livestock Indemnity Fund				
	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Estimate	FY 2026-27 Estimate
Beginning FY Balance	\$671,737	\$776,503	\$564,110	\$601,717
Revenues	104,767	37,607	37,607	37,607
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending FY Balance without transfer	\$776,503	\$814,110	\$601,717	\$639,324
Transfer Option		\$250,000		
Ending FY Balance after transfer		\$564,110		

Fee impact: None. Revenue is from unexpended and unencumbered appropriations.

Cervidae Disease Cash Fund Transfer to GF

Description: Bill to transfer \$20,000 from the Cervidae Disease Cash Fund to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: The transfer does not negatively affect any existing program, although a large indemnity payment after transfer could result in fee collection resumption. This is a one-time option. The Committee could also consider modifying statute to avoid fee collection resumption and transfer more of this cash fund to General Fund.

Additional background: The fund consists of assessment fees to owners of alternative livestock or captive wildlife Cervidae (deer and elk), and interest. Since at least FY 2018-19, the fund has only grown through interest, as the Department cannot impose assessments once the fund's balance exceeds \$200,000, per statute.

The fund may be expended to indemnify owners of cervidae destroyed due to disease control. The fund has only made three payments in the past 7 fiscal year: the highest was for \$7,091 and the lowest was for \$90. The fund has grown an average of \$4,086 annually through interest. Its current total uncommitted fee reserve balance is \$225,201. This proposal is to transfer \$20,000 to the General Fund, keeping the fund's balance above \$200,000 to avoid resuming fee payments. However, the Committee could consider transferring more to the General Fund if it also modifies statute to lower the \$200,000 threshold at which assessments cease. This could risk lack of funds should a large-scale indemnification event occur.

The Fund, created at Section 35-50-115, C.R.S. is continuously appropriated to the Department.

Cervidae Disease Cash Fund				
	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Estimate	FY 2026-27 Estimate
Beginning FY Balance	\$216,092	\$224,074	\$212,056	\$218,538
Revenues	7,982	7,982	7,982	5,430
Expenditures	0	0	-1,500	-1,500
Ending FY Balance without transfer	\$224,074	\$232,056	\$218,538	\$222,468
Transfer Option		-20,000		
Ending FY Balance after transfer		\$212,056		

Fee impact: Possibly. Revenue is from assessment fees that occur once the fund falls below \$200,000, and interest. The Department indicates if the balance falls below \$200,000 it would refund the balance back to \$200,000.

Expenditure Reductions

Reduce Next Gen Ag Leadership/Ag Workforce Dev Grant Funding

Description: This option would reduce ongoing General Fund appropriations to the Next Generation Agricultural Leadership program and Agriculture Workforce Development program by \$100,000.

Key Consideration: Reducing General Fund appropriations to this grant program by \$100,000 could result in a reduction of about four Ag Leadership grants. In FY 2024-25, the Department financed 14 grantees for a total \$263,940 in awards.

Additional Background: Currently, the Department is appropriated total grant funds of \$500,000 for the Next Gen Ag Leadership and the Ag Workforce Development programs. This includes the FY 2024-25 Long Bill appropriation of \$350,000 to expand the programs, consisting of \$150,000 from the Agriculture Management Fund (AMF) and \$200,000 General Fund. The remaining \$150,000 of total grant funding also comes from the AMF. This budget cut option makes total funding to the programs \$400,000 through a \$100,000 General Fund decrease. With \$400,000, the Department could fund about 50 internships and 8 grants to agricultural employers, using estimates from FY 2024-25 Long Bill figure setting.² The Department has opened applications for leadership development grant and internships programs for FY 2024-25, and anticipates committing all of its \$200,000 General Fund appropriation by December 2024. Therefore, a reduction would apply to FY 2025-26.

Reduce Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grant Funding

Description: This option includes an ongoing \$100,000 General Fund reduction to the renewable energy and energy efficiency grant program, starting in FY 2025-26.

Key Considerations: A \$100,000 reduction in General Fund appropriations would reduce the number of projects funded. It may also impact the Department's federal match eligibility, but to an unknown degree.

Additional background: The FY 2024-25 Long Bill appropriated \$500,000 General Fund to the Agricultural Drought and Climate Resilience Office for the renewable energy and energy efficiency grant program. Prior to this, the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ACRE3) program was financed through an annual severance tax transfer from FY 2006-07 through FY 2015-16 and then through one-time stimulus funding through S.B. 21-235 (Stimulus Funding Department of Agriculture Efficiency Programs) for FY 2021-22 through FY 2023-24 to support program operations.

² FY 2024-25 Long Bill figure setting estimated that with \$200,000 General Fund, the Department could support 25 internships and 4 leadership development projects. Therefore, a total of \$400,000 in grant funding is estimated to double this offering. This number is not precise, as the Department has flexibility to modify its awards to both programs.

Aside from directly funding renewable energy projects, the grant program provides producers initial capital to conduct projects that would improve their eligibility for federal funding, such as support for feasibility studies or energy audit reports. The Department anticipates the programs it funds will be multi-year, by phasing projects and leveraging the grant funding's three-year roll-forward authority.

The Department has not expended these funds but has started to accept pre-applications from producers. The Department anticipates making awards this winter, with projects starting in the spring or summer. Given this timeline, a General Fund reduction is proposed for FY 2025-26.

The Department has indicated it receives a federal match on these funds. JBC staff is working with the Department to understand how a \$100,000 cut to grant funding could impact its federal match. On average, the overall match is 136% of awarded state funding. Additionally, a reduction in grant funding would impact the long-term sustainability of projects by impacting the Department's investment into phased projects. However, even with a reduction, the Department would have \$400,000 General Fund to fund renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

Issue 1: State Fair Financial Trends

This issue brief provides an overview of the Colorado State Fair, funding trends, and its progress towards achieving enterprise status. It also briefly discusses the Department's R4 request.

Summary

- The Department's R4 request proposes a reduction of \$450,000 General Fund to State Fair program costs, to be replaced with a commensurate \$450,000 spending authority increase from the State Fair Authority Cash Fund. The Department will not collect additional revenue to support this request.
- The State Fair Authority Cash Fund has the authority to operate as an enterprise, but has not done so since 2006 because it is not self-sufficient. In FY 2022-23, about 37.8 percent of the State Fair's revenue came from state and local sources, well above the 10.0 percent limit for entities qualifying as enterprises.
- Based on revenue reported in the FY 2022-23 fiscal audit, the Department's R4 request would decrease state and local revenue for the Fair by an estimated 8.9 percent, but given the State Fair's operating losses, it is a long way from achieving enterprise status.

Discussion

Background on the State Fair

The Colorado State Fair Authority is administered by an eleven-member Board of Commissioners and is primarily responsible for putting on the eleven-day State Fair, held each August - September. The Fair highlights the state's best livestock, equine, and horticulture exhibits; holds rodeos, concerts, and carnival amusements; and hosts competitions for youth enrolled in 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs.

The first recorded State Fair event occurred in 1872, and since then it has been held almost annually in Pueblo. The Fair moved to its current site in Pueblo in 1901. The administration of the State Fair Authority was moved to the Department of Agriculture in 1997.

The State Fairgrounds reside on 101 acres with about 57 facilities, most of which are over 50 years old. In 2021, the State Fair Authority released its Master Plan for updating its fairgrounds, with anticipated outcomes of decreasing the Fair's operating deficit through modernized facilities, and increasing State Fair attendance and use of facilities outside of the Fair. At the time of publication, the Master Plan was estimated to cost \$177 million over 30 years, divided into four phases. The first phase of work, completed in 2023,³ included updating the entry plaza, main street, Palace of Agriculture, and creating a new food plaza. The second phase –

³ <https://coloradostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2023-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>

estimated to take 15 years to complete – includes the brunt of facility maintenance, relocation, and new building construction. In its 2023 report, the State Fair Authority anticipated launching a fundraising campaign of \$40 million towards this phase in February 2024, to gain a mix of private and public funding.⁴

As of October 14, 2024, the State Fair’s new general manager is Andrea Wiesenmeyer, who previously led the Jerome County Fair and Rodeo in southern Idaho. Her appointment follows the departure of the Fair’s former general manager, Scott Stoller, who led the Fair for six years.

Funding Trends of the State Fair

State Fair funding partially comes from the Colorado State Fair Authority Cash Fund, created in Section 35-65-107, C.R.S. The cash fund is comprised of two sources: (1) 25.0 percent of the interest earned on the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Trust Fund (UPTPF), pursuant to Section 38-13-801.5, C.R.S., and (2) revenue collected during the annual Fair and from other events held at the fairgrounds. Specifically, the State Fair Authority Cash Fund generates revenue from admission, concert ticket sales, carnival revenue sales, food and beverage sales, vendor rental, sponsorship, and year-round facility rental. This revenue supports the Fair’s administration and maintenance, seasonal staffing, and other operating costs.

The Fair also receives funding from other state and local sources, including:

- City of Pueblo
- Pueblo County
- Marijuana Tax Cash Fund
- Agriculture Management Cash Fund, depending on availability and need
- General Fund, both annual and one-time appropriations

Information detailing state appropriations from FY 2019-20 through FY 2023-24 is found in the table below. This table only reflects the state funds and does not include the Fair’s collections (fees, ticket sales, etc.), which are discussed further below.

State Fair 5-Year State Funding History					
Item	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
General Fund (annual appropriations)	\$1,000,000	\$875,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
General Fund (one-time transfers)	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0
Unclaimed Prop. Tourism Promotion Fund*	\$1,491,048	\$1,091,457	\$1,042,269	\$1,495,842	\$1,625,458
Marijuana Tax Cash Fund	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Agriculture Management Fund Dept. Approp.*	\$545,000	\$579,102	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$350,000
ARPA/SLFRF for capital construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,711,302	\$0
Capital Construction	\$1,527,488	\$0	\$4,536,963	\$0	\$0
COP Payments for capital maintenance*	\$132,598	\$970,234	\$1,090,517	\$0	\$1,957,754
Total Public Funding Sources	\$4,996,134	\$8,665,793	\$12,469,749	\$9,907,144	\$5,233,212

*Data provided by the Department. All other data taken from Long Bills and relevant stimulus bills.

⁴ <https://coloradostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2023-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>

State appropriations have increased, driven by one-time General Fund transfers and stimulus payments to help cover capital construction costs, particularly towards the Master Plan. Details about those transfers and stimulus payments are discussed in the next section.

Recent Changes to State Fair Funding

One-Time General Fund Increases

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Fair received multiple forms of one-time General Fund transfers and stimulus funding to support its operational costs, particularly capital maintenance and upgrades. These include:

- H.B. 21-1262 (Money Support Agricultural Events Organization): **\$5 million General Fund** transfer to the State Fair Authority Cash Fund to fund maintenance and other projects.
- S.B. 22-134 (State Fair Master Plan Funding): **\$4 million General Fund** transfer to the State Fair Authority Cash Fund to partially fund the 2021 State Fair Master Plan. Most (over 90.0 percent) of this funding paid for a landscape redesign and entrance plaza project, estimated to be completed by June 30, 2024.
- H.B. 22-1329 (Long Bill): **\$6.7 million in ARPA/SLFRF funds** towards capital construction maintenance and upgrades at the 4-H complex and the Palace of Agriculture. During last year's JBC hearing, the Department expected construction on both projects to start in spring 2024, with funding encumbered by December 31, 2024. Most of this funding was refinanced to General Fund in H.B. 24-1466 (Refinance Federal Coronavirus Recovery Funds).

State Fair Authority Cash Fund Spending Authority Increases

State Fair Authority Cash Fund spending authority for the State Fair has increased by over \$2 million since FY 2019-20, driven by increasing costs in areas such as staffing, entertainment and attractions, and facility rental. Most recently, the FY 2024-25 Long Bill provided a 4.4 percent ongoing spending authority increase (or \$422,168) from the cash fund, primarily to cover rising costs due to inflation. The Department's R4 request would further increase spending authority by 4.5 percent; with common policy adjustments, the Department's FY 2025-26 request totals to a 7.5 percent authority increase.

The table below documents the growth in State Fair Authority Cash Fund spending.

State Fair Authority Cash Fund Appropriation 7-Year History							
	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26 (Request)
Appropriations	\$8,675,705	\$8,816,606	\$8,871,747	\$9,553,035	\$9,585,247	\$10,007,415	\$10,753,254
Annual Monetary Increase		\$140,901	\$55,141	\$681,288	\$32,212	\$422,168	\$745,839
Annual Percent Increase		1.6%	0.6%	7.7%	0.3%	4.4%	7.5%

Progress Towards Achieving Enterprise Status

While the State Fair has had the authorization to operate as an enterprise since 1997 per Section 35-65-405(1), C.R.S., it has not qualified as an enterprise since 2006. Prior to 2006, the State Fair had been in enterprise status for a total of four years: the first year after being given enterprise authority, and from 2003-2006. In 2006, H.B. 06-1384 (Money Benefiting the State Fair) resulted in the State Fair losing its enterprise status due to being granted additional state revenue to help pay off its debts.

The 2019 Office of the State Auditor performance audit of the State Fair encouraged the State Fair Authority to create a strategy to obtain enterprise status. To obtain enterprise status, the Fair must receive no more than 10 percent of its annual revenue from combined state and local government sources. However, since FY 2019-20, the State Fair has received between 37.8 percent and 87.4 percent of its revenue from state and local sources. Revenue growth that the State Fair has seen through increased gate admissions and concert ticket sales has been countered by significant growth in expenses through construction costs and economic forces like inflation and supply chain issues driving up costs. The State Fair's largest barrier to achieving enterprise status is the high cost of maintaining and updating its fairgrounds, which it could not cover through its own revenue and reserves.

State Fair Revenues and Expenses, Four-Year History ¹				
	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
Operating Revenue (fees, tickets, etc.)	\$7,057,486	\$1,452,497	\$8,027,660	\$8,348,674
Operating Expenses	\$8,988,569	\$4,219,723	\$10,349,048	\$12,171,655
Operating Loss	-\$1,931,083	-\$2,767,266	-\$2,321,388	-\$3,822,981
State Revenues ²	\$4,209,695	\$9,684,166	\$8,101,541	\$4,623,763
Local Revenue	\$417,550	\$392,500	\$975,626	\$439,374
Total State/Local Revenue	\$4,627,245	\$10,076,666	\$9,077,167	\$5,063,137
Net Revenue	\$2,696,162	\$7,309,400	\$6,755,779	\$1,240,156
% of Total Revenue from State and Local Sources	39.6%	87.4%	53.1%	37.8%

¹ Source: FY 20 - FY 23 Colorado State Fair Financial Audits.

² State revenues include transfers from the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Cash Fund, annual and one-time General Fund appropriations, and Marijuana Tax Cash Fund appropriations.

The Department aims to reach enterprise status through growing Fair revenue and increasing its spending authority to use the State Fair Authority Cash Fund. In this direction, the Department's R4 request is to reduce General Fund appropriations by \$450,000 and increase State Fair Authority Cash Fund spending authorization by the same amount. This would marginally contribute towards the State Fair achieving enterprise status, by decreasing state and local revenues by an estimated 8.9 percent, based on the FY 2022-23 actual revenues. However, given the Fair's large operating losses without supporting state and local funding, it is a long way from achieving enterprise status. Without enterprise status, State Fair revenue is not TABOR exempt. However, the Department indicated that they will not increase fees or revenues as a result of this request.

Points to Consider

- What are the overall cash reserves and cash growth of the State Fair Authority Cash Fund? How much is cash growth driven by the Unclaimed Property Tourism Promotion Cash Fund (UPTPF)?
- How vital is UPTPF support to the State Fair Authority Cash Fund? To assist with budget balancing, should the UPTPF transfer be reduced or the State Fair's UPTPF allocation be deposited into the General Fund, with a related, but lower, General Fund appropriation to the State Fair?
- The Statewide R6 request (Correction to Merchandise Sales) would treat merchandise sales as TABOR exempt on the basis that these constitute "sale of state property", which is exempt under TABOR. This request includes non-concessions sales at the State Fair. Are there other options to make certain State Fair revenues TABOR exempt?

Issue 2: R2 Soil Health Program Continuation

This issue brief provides an overview of the Department's request for additional General Fund and FTE to support the Colorado Soil Health Program.

Summary

- The Colorado Soil Health Program is mainly federally funded, particularly through the \$25 million Climate-Smart Commodities Grant. Federal funding is scheduled to end starting on January 1, 2026, with the Climate-Smart Commodities Grant funding ending in December 2027.
- Additionally, H.B. 24-1249 (Tax Credit Agricultural Stewardship Practices) established an income tax credit program for producers currently practicing agricultural stewardship, including soil health practices, and appropriated 2.0 FTE to the Department.
- In light of decreasing federal funds and to continue producer support towards soil health practices, the Department requests \$296,653 General Fund and 1.8 FTE in FY 2025-26, which annualizes to \$294,566 and 2.0 FTE ongoing. The request covers one Technical Soil Specialist, one Program Assistant, an additional vehicle, database maintenance, and a \$50,000 microgrant program.

Discussion

Colorado Soil Health Program Background

The Colorado Soil Health Program (CSHP) within the Conservation Division was created through H.B. 21-1181 (Agricultural Soil Health Program) as a voluntary program. The bill allows the Department to establish, pending the availability of funds, the following:

- A grant program,
- A system for monitoring the agricultural, environmental, or economic benefit of soil health programs,
- A state soil health and inventory platform,
- A soil health testing program, and
- Other programs as the Department deems necessary and appropriate.

Currently, the program has twelve staff, nine of which are funded through a federal Climate-Smart Commodities Grant. Through partnering with conservation districts and other local entities, CSHP helps producers evaluate their soil health, identify soil health practices to implement, and provides producers up to \$5,000/year of matching funds to support

implementation. The program also provides peer-to-peer learning opportunities to producers, and funds research with Colorado State University Extension and Ag Experiment Station staff.

CSHP Funding

House Bill 21-1181 appropriated \$4,464 to the Department in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23, and authorized the program to seek private and public gifts, grants, and donations. Since then, the program has received a total of almost \$32 million in state, federal, and private funding, including funding appropriated from FY 2024-25 through FY 2030-31 by H.B. 24-1249 (Tax Credit Agricultural Stewardship Practices), discussed further below.

Total Funding to the Colorado Soil Health Program	
Funding Source	Total Amount
State Funding	
HB 21-1181 (Agricultural Soil Health Program)	\$8,928
SB 21-235 (Stimulus Funding Department of Agriculture Efficiency Programs)	\$2,000,000
HB 24-1249 (Tax Credit Agricultural Stewardship Practices)	\$1,295,791
Colorado Water Conservation Board	\$298,467
CDPHE 319 Grant	\$450,000
Total State Funding	\$4,310,491
Federal Funding	
National Fish and Wildlife Federation Conservation Partnership Program	\$265,812
Conservation Innovation Grant, National Resources Conservation Service	\$2,412,000
Climate-Smart Commodities Grant, U.S. Department of Agriculture	\$25,000,000
Total Federal Funding	\$27,677,812
Private Funding	
Gates Family Foundation	\$125,000
Wallace Foundation	\$90,000
Loretto Community Foundation	\$27,500
Total Private Funding	\$242,500
Total Funding	\$31,973,498

Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

The program's largest source of funding is the Climate-Smart Commodities Grant, awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Grant funding started in 2023, and provided the program \$25 million to spend over four years. With this funding, the program expanded the number of enrolled producers, established a peer-to-peer learning network, invested in soil health research, extended 2 existing staffing positions (a Grant Specialist and a Western Colorado Soil Health Coordinator), and hired 7 new positions. Those new positions included a program manager, program assistant, an Eastern Colorado Soil Health Coordinator, and four technical assistants.

Funding Changes

The Department's federal funds will begin to expire in January 1, 2026, with funding for the Climate-Smart Commodities Grant ending in December 2027.

Last year, H.B. 24-1249 (Tax Credit Agricultural Stewardship Practices) established a refundable state income tax credit program for qualified stewardship practices on a farm or ranch, to begin on January 1, 2026. The bill included practices that promote soil health as a qualified stewardship practices, and appropriated the Department 2.0 FTE – one Program Manager and two part-time (0.5 FTE) Inspectors – to administer the tax credit program. The Program Manager will be hired in July 2025, and Inspectors will be hired January 2026.

Department Request

The Department's request aims to address decreasing federal funds and provide stable soil health support to producers, particularly by hiring permanent staff to CSHP before grant-funded staff depart. While H.B. 24-1249 provides an incentive tax credit for producers already engaged in soil health practices, the Department believes in-field technical assistance and additional support are needed for producers beginning to implement soil health practices. This request proposes to add:

- **Technical Soil Coordinator (1.0 FTE):** This position will provide direct guidance and education to producers, conduct soil testing, pursue grant opportunities for the program, help producers apply for grants, and monitor and evaluate the program.
- **Program Assistant (1.0 FTE):** This position will apply for and manage state and federal grants, conducting workshops and trainings with conservation districts and other local partners, manage public communications, and provide general administrative support.
- **\$50,000 annual microgrant program:** Grants would support producer education about soil health practices through outreach events, field days to highlight current research and innovation on climate-smart practices, data collection, and climate-smart commodity market development. The Department anticipates awarding 8 – 10 microgrants, with each lasting at most 2 years.
- **A vehicle:** H.B. 24-1249 provided funding for two fleet vehicles for use by inspectors. The Department requests an additional vehicle for use by the Program Manager (an FTE appropriated by H.B. 24-1249) and the Program Assistant (Department-requested FTE).
- **CSHP Soil Health Database maintenance support:** The database compiles soil health test data to help assess the impact of climate and water impacts from soil health practices. The database will also be used for the tax credit program, particularly to confirm eligibility.

Without this appropriation, the Department will attempt to find grant funding to sustain its program, or decrease the program's scope.

CSHP Performance

340 producers are enrolled in the CSHP program as of September 2024, representing 63,887 acres where farmers and ranchers are working to improve soil health. CSHP staff have also engaged 1,331 producers in soil health education across 28 field tours, conferences, in-field demonstrations, and education events. More information about the program's performance is found in the Department's climate and drought-smart agricultural marketing RFI report, which is included in Appendix C.

Points to Consider

- What is the program's long-term administrative and financing plan as federal funding ends?
- How much federal funding is the program losing in the next fiscal year?
- Considering Conservation District grants and other Department sustainability grant programs, how many programs currently fund soil health practices and provide support to producers?

Footnotes and Requests for Information

The General Assembly includes footnotes in the annual Long Bill to: (a) set forth purposes, conditions, or limitations on an item of appropriation; (b) explain assumptions used in determining a specific amount of an appropriation; or (c) express legislative intent relating to any appropriation. Footnotes to the 2024 Long Bill (H.B. 24-1430) can be found at the end of each departmental section of the bill at <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB24-1430> The Long Bill footnotes relevant to this document are listed below.

- 1 Department of Agriculture, Commissioner's Office and Administrative Services, Operating Expenses -- It is the General Assembly's intent that \$207,099 General Fund of this appropriation be used for the implementation of a Human Resources and Business Operations solution within OnBase. This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the completion of the project or the close of the 2026-27 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote was first included in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill. It explains legislative intent to allocate \$207,099 of the Commissioner's Office total General Fund Operating Expenses budget towards implementing an administrative solution with OnBase and grants three-year roll-forward authority to this appropriation.

- 2 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Services, Conservation Services Division -- It is the General Assembly's intent that \$500,000 General Fund of this appropriation be disbursed for grants for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. This appropriation remains available until the close of the 2026-27 state fiscal year.

Comment: This footnote was first included in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill. It explains legislative intent to provide three-year roll-forward authority to the \$500,000 General Fund appropriated towards renewable energy and energy efficiency project grants.

- 3 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets Division, Agricultural Markets, Program Costs -- It is the General Assembly's intent that \$39,825 General Fund of this appropriation be used for the International Markets program, and \$26,550 General Fund be used for the Colorado Proud program.

Comment: This footnote was first included in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill. It explains legislative intent in allocating General Fund to the International Markets program and the Colorado Proud program.

- 4 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets Division, Agricultural Markets, Agriculture Workforce Development Program -- This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the close of the 2025-26 state fiscal year.

Comment: This footnote was modified in the FY 2024-25 Long Bill to extend the availability of workforce development funds from FY 2024-25 to FY 2025-26. It explains legislative intent to provide the Department multi-year funding ability.

- 5 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets Division, Agricultural Markets, Agriculture Workforce Development Program -- It is the General Assembly's intent that \$64,108 General Fund of this appropriation is designated to be used for purposes of the Workforce Development program.

Comment: This footnote was first included in the FY 2021-22 Long Bill after the Adult Agriculture Leadership Grant Program and Agriculture Workforce Development Program were merged into one line item. It explains legislative intent that funding for both programs be kept separate.

Update on Requests for Information

The Joint Budget Committee annually submits requests for information (RFIs) to executive departments and the judicial branch via letters to the Governor, other elected officials, and the Chief Justice. Each request is associated with one or more specific Long Bill line item(s), and the requests have been prioritized by the Joint Budget Committee as required by Section 2-3-203 (3), C.R.S. Copies of these letters are included as an Appendix in the annual Appropriations Report (Appendix H in the FY 2024-25 Report):

<https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/fy24-25apprept.pdf>

The RFIs relevant to this document are listed below.

Department of Agriculture Requests

- 1 Department of Agriculture, Colorado State Fair, State Fair Facilities Maintenance – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024 a report on facility maintenance projects for the Colorado State Fairgrounds. This report should include the following for each facility with planned maintenance: facility name, the type and nature of maintenance, the anticipated cost of the maintenance, the expenditures to-date on the maintenance, and the anticipated completion date.

Comment: The Department submitted its response on November 1, 2024, which can be found in Appendix B in the electronic version of this document.

From FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24, the Department expended \$2,235,814 towards State Fair facility maintenance. For FY 2024-25, the Department anticipates spending \$824,276 towards State Fair maintenance.

- 2 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets Division, Agricultural Markets, Program Costs – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024, a report on the development of climate and drought-smart agricultural markets for Colorado producers. This reports should include the number of producers and acreage in the STAR Plus program, the estimated number of businesses and purchasing climate and drought-smart products, the attendance at climate-smart training sessions and events, and the findings of climate-smart research conducted by Colorado State University and partner universities.

Comment: The Department submitted its response on November 1, 2024, which can be found in Appendix C in the electronic version of this document. Responses were also included in performance information for the Colorado Soil Health Program in Issue 2 of this document.

- 3 Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Services, Conservation Services – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024 a report on ACRE3 program performance. At a minimum, this report should include the following: number of applicants and requested funding amounts, number and amount of awards, co-funding amounts (if federal funding was also secured), type of project, and annual energy cost savings (if applicable).

Comment: The Department submitted its response on November 1, 2024, which can be found in Appendix D in the electronic version of this document.

Since 2021, the program has received 47 applicants, from which it made 30 awards totaling \$2,245,434. In the last four years, the program brought in \$3,066,000 in co-funding. Of the projects it has funded over the past four years, 26.7 percent were feasibility studies, 26.7 percent were energy efficiency projects, 23.3 percent were hydropower projects, and 23.3 percent were agrivoltaic projects. The Department estimates \$207,000 in annual energy cost savings, largely through solar projects and heating efficiency projects.

Department Annual Performance Report

Pursuant to Section 2-7-205 (1)(b), C.R.S., the Department of Agriculture is required to publish an **Annual Performance Report** for the *previous state fiscal year* by November 1 of each year. This report is to include a summary of the Department's performance plan and most recent performance evaluation for the designated fiscal year. In addition, pursuant to Section 2-7-204 (3)(a)(I), C.R.S., the Department is required to develop a **Performance Plan** and submit the plan for the *current fiscal year* to the Joint Budget Committee and appropriate Joint Committee of Reference by July 1 of each year.

For consideration by the Joint Budget Committee in prioritizing the Department's FY 2025-26 budget request, the FY 2023-24 Annual Performance Report and the FY 2024-25 Performance Plan can be found at the following link:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/performancemanagement/department-performance-plans>

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

Appendix A details actual expenditures for the last two state fiscal years, the appropriation for the current fiscal year, and the requested appropriation for next fiscal year. This information is listed by line item and fund source.

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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Department of Agriculture Kate Greenberg, Commissioner

(1) Commissioner's Office and Administrative Services

This office provides administrative and technical support for the Department, including accounting, budgeting, and human resources. Cash funds are from various fees and reappropriated funds are from departmental and statewide indirect cost recoveries. Federal funds are from federal grants for agricultural purposes and COVID-19 stimulus funding.

Personal Services	<u>2,310,709</u>	<u>2,503,805</u>	<u>3,282,926</u>	<u>3,490,750</u>
FTE	19.0	21.4	22.0	22.0
General Fund	741,489	962,925	1,080,068	1,287,892
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	1,368,649	1,446,323	2,086,365	2,086,365
Federal Funds	200,571	94,557	116,493	116,493
Health, Life, and Dental	<u>2,790,575</u>	<u>3,972,735</u>	<u>4,749,937</u>	<u>5,477,570</u>
General Fund	936,114	1,564,098	1,787,464	2,021,241
Cash Funds	1,854,461	2,408,637	2,957,398	3,456,329
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	5,075	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Short-term Disability	<u>24,303</u>	<u>29,156</u>	<u>46,321</u>	<u>45,781</u>
General Fund	9,930	13,195	20,116	17,776
Cash Funds	14,373	15,961	26,120	28,005
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	85	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>138,795</u>	<u>136,556</u>	
General Fund	0	0	51,367	52,539	
Cash Funds	0	0	87,424	84,016	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	1	
Federal Funds	0	0	4	0	
Unfunded Liability Amortization Equalization					
Disbursement Payments	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,084,349</u>	<u>3,052,101</u>	
General Fund	0	0	1,337,308	1,185,077	
Cash Funds	0	0	1,746,957	1,867,007	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	13	
Federal Funds	0	0	84	4	
S.B. 04-257 Amortization Equalization Disbursement	<u>795,785</u>	<u>968,399</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	323,967	439,603	0	0	
Cash Funds	471,818	528,796	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
S.B. 06-235 Supplemental Amortization Equalization					
Disbursement	<u>795,785</u>	<u>968,399</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	323,967	439,603	0	0	
Cash Funds	471,818	528,796	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
PERA Direct Disbursement	<u>308,025</u>	<u>75,702</u>	<u>507,289</u>	<u>515,620</u>	
General Fund	0	31,526	213,061	198,384	
Cash Funds	308,025	44,176	294,228	317,236	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Salary Survey	<u>523,318</u>	<u>1,050,618</u>	<u>1,163,190</u>	<u>831,951</u>	
General Fund	211,167	475,981	486,213	320,798	
Cash Funds	312,151	574,637	676,977	511,153	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Step Pay	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,776,869</u>	<u>142,727</u>	
General Fund	0	0	746,285	46,716	
Cash Funds	0	0	1,030,584	96,011	
Shift Differential	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>55,265</u>	<u>56,448</u>	
General Fund	0	0	1,139	860	
Cash Funds	0	0	53,179	55,402	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	8	146	
Federal Funds	0	0	939	40	
Information Technology Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Temporary Employees Related to Authorized Leave	<u>0</u>	<u>36,018</u>	<u>41,536</u>	<u>42,325</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	789	
Cash Funds	0	36,018	41,536	41,536	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Workers' Compensation	<u>176,126</u>	<u>201,026</u>	<u>299,675</u>	<u>244,061</u>	
General Fund	34,834	39,759	59,270	48,270	
Cash Funds	141,292	161,267	240,405	195,791	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Operating Expenses	<u>470,022</u>	<u>314,972</u>	<u>626,766</u>	<u>426,475</u>	
General Fund	206,135	45,348	363,624	173,527	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	263,887	269,624	262,192	251,998	
Federal Funds	0	0	950	950	
IT Accessibility	<u>0</u>	<u>220,605</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	28,817	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	191,788	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Legal Services	<u>970,527</u>	<u>852,124</u>	<u>1,002,945</u>	<u>969,527</u>	
General Fund	183,328	198,634	291,848	293,015	
Cash Funds	787,199	653,490	711,097	676,512	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Digital Trunk Radio Payments	<u>0</u>	<u>31,680</u>	<u>27,984</u>	<u>18,888</u>	
General Fund	0	20,592	18,190	12,278	
Cash Funds	0	11,088	9,794	6,610	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Administrative Law Judge Services	<u>19,491</u>	<u>22,148</u>	<u>704</u>	<u>10,843</u>	*
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	19,491	22,148	704	10,843	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Payment to Risk Management and Property Funds	<u>428,108</u>	<u>495,886</u>	<u>418,801</u>	<u>480,575</u>	
General Fund	259,549	300,625	253,906	291,353	
Cash Funds	168,559	195,261	164,895	189,222	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Annual Depreciation- Lease Equivalent Payment	<u>461,617</u>	<u>461,617</u>	<u>461,617</u>	<u>461,617</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	461,617	461,617	461,617	461,617	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Vehicle Lease Payments	<u>297,606</u>	<u>327,267</u>	<u>457,173</u>	<u>536,226</u>	*
General Fund	111,266	121,793	237,058	288,534	
Cash Funds	186,160	205,282	214,933	241,861	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	180	192	5,182	5,831	
Information Technology Asset Maintenance	<u>42,033</u>	<u>42,041</u>	<u>42,041</u>	<u>42,041</u>	
General Fund	42,033	42,041	42,041	42,041	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Leased Space	<u>19,180</u>	<u>19,180</u>	<u>19,301</u>	<u>19,301</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	19,180	19,180	19,301	19,301	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Office Consolidation COP	<u>524,713</u>	<u>523,961</u>	<u>529,063</u>	<u>529,063</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	524,713	523,961	529,063	529,063	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Agrivoltaic Grants	0	499,682	500,000	500,000	
General Fund	0	499,682	500,000	500,000	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
CORE Operations	156,241	129,937	42,721	122,402	
General Fund	21,310	17,722	5,827	10,103	
Cash Funds	117,971	98,110	32,257	104,259	
Reappropriated Funds	16,960	14,105	4,637	8,040	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Payments to OIT	3,132,967	2,823,402	3,707,601	3,707,710	
General Fund	2,030,269	1,885,288	2,355,810	2,355,879	
Cash Funds	1,102,698	938,114	1,351,791	1,351,831	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Utilities	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	
General Fund	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	190,000	190,000	190,000	190,000	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Indirect Cost Assessment	79,629	139,451	206,588	191,872	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	79,629	139,451	206,588	191,872	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
DPA Administration Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Office of the State Architect	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
DHR State Agency Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
DHR Training Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
DHR Labor Relations	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Financial Ops and Reporting Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Procurement and Contracts Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Agriculture Management Fund	<u>1,634,127</u>	<u>1,798,154</u>	<u>2,048,914</u>	<u>2,048,914</u>	
FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	1,634,127	1,798,154	2,048,914	2,048,914	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
IT Accessibility	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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TOTAL - (1) Commissioner's Office and Administrative					
Services	16,200,887	18,747,965	25,478,371	24,341,344	(4.5%)
<i>FTE</i>	<u>21.0</u>	<u>23.4</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>(0.0%)</u>
General Fund	5,485,358	7,177,232	9,900,595	9,197,072	(7.1%)
Cash Funds	8,675,282	9,555,932	12,905,762	12,484,391	(3.3%)
Reappropriated Funds	1,839,496	1,920,052	2,548,362	2,536,563	(0.5%)
Federal Funds	200,751	94,749	123,652	123,318	(0.3%)

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(2) Agricultural Services

The section is divided into four distinct divisions: (1) Animal Industry; (2) Plant Industry; (3) Inspection and Consumer Services; and (4) Conservation Services.

Animal Industry Division	<u>2,981,226</u>	<u>2,795,984</u>	<u>3,424,292</u>	<u>3,735,566</u>	
FTE	19.3	20.5	24.2	25.0	
General Fund	1,990,606	2,265,559	2,841,107	3,151,130	
Cash Funds	268,294	277,987	405,925	407,176	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	722,326	252,438	177,260	177,260	
Plant Industry Division	<u>5,519,063</u>	<u>5,864,073</u>	<u>7,370,235</u>	<u>7,723,804</u>	
FTE	58.2	59.2	59.3	58.3	
General Fund	528,421	544,757	546,768	653,767	
Cash Funds	3,861,273	4,326,620	6,021,611	6,268,181	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	1,129,369	992,696	801,856	801,856	
Inspection and Consumer Services Division	<u>5,552,109</u>	<u>5,859,009</u>	<u>5,975,227</u>	<u>6,480,046</u>	
FTE	56.2	56.2	58.0	58.2	
General Fund	1,382,366	1,121,898	1,366,041	1,562,084	
Cash Funds	3,289,620	3,615,730	4,209,343	4,518,119	
Reappropriated Funds	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000	
Federal Funds	796,123	1,037,381	315,843	315,843	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Conservation Services Division	<u>7,173,689</u>	<u>9,186,351</u>	<u>5,481,510</u>	<u>6,138,733</u>	
FTE	20.5	21.5	22.7	27.0	
General Fund	2,330,530	1,232,686	1,884,150	2,415,148	
Cash Funds	1,774,192	1,446,716	2,071,056	2,197,281	
Reappropriated Funds	692,973	671,301	700,000	700,000	
Federal Funds	2,375,994	5,835,648	826,304	826,304	
Appropriation to the Noxious Weed Management Fund	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>	
General Fund	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Lease Purchase Lab Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>99,360</u>	<u>99,360</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	99,360	99,360	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>1,376,199</u>	<u>1,360,209</u>	<u>1,686,424</u>	<u>1,576,982</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	873,667	811,359	1,375,852	1,277,843	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	502,532	548,850	310,572	299,139	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
TOTAL - (2) Agricultural Services	23,302,286	25,765,626	24,737,048	26,454,491	6.9%
<i>FTE</i>	<u>154.2</u>	<u>157.4</u>	<u>164.2</u>	<u>168.5</u>	<u>2.6%</u>
General Fund	6,931,923	5,864,900	7,338,066	8,482,129	15.6%
Cash Funds	10,067,046	10,478,412	14,183,147	14,767,960	4.1%
Reappropriated Funds	776,973	755,301	784,000	784,000	0.0%
Federal Funds	5,526,344	8,667,013	2,431,835	2,420,402	(0.5%)

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(3) Agricultural Markets Division

This division provides marketing assistance and related support to Colorado agricultural-based businesses competing in local, national, and international arenas.

(A) Agricultural Markets

Program Costs	<u>3,776,426</u>	<u>2,838,182</u>	<u>2,206,079</u>	<u>2,271,920</u>	
FTE	6.3	7.3	6.4	6.4	
General Fund	2,003,566	1,314,986	1,245,398	1,311,239	
Cash Funds	226,540	190,675	32,451	32,451	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	1,546,320	1,332,521	928,230	928,230	
Wine Promotion Board	<u>687,992</u>	<u>874,299</u>	<u>574,246</u>	<u>574,246</u>	
FTE	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	687,992	874,299	574,246	574,246	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Agriculture Workforce Development Program	<u>375,982</u>	<u>158,781</u>	<u>660,261</u>	<u>660,261</u>	
FTE	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.0	
General Fund	209,045	59,858	360,261	360,261	
Cash Funds	166,937	98,923	300,000	300,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>89,039</u>	<u>52,591</u>	<u>46,016</u>	<u>43,348</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	25,064	21,526	28,290	26,275	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	63,975	31,065	17,726	17,073	
Community Food Access Program	<u>0</u>	<u>99,096</u>	<u>172,238</u>	<u>172,238</u>	
FTE	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	
General Fund	0	99,096	172,238	172,238	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
ARPA Appropriations	<u>127,009</u>	<u>2,715,064</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	127,009	2,715,064	0	0	
SUBTOTAL - (A) Agricultural Markets	5,056,448	6,738,013	3,658,840	3,722,013	1.7%
FTE	<u>8.1</u>	<u>11.1</u>	<u>10.9</u>	<u>10.9</u>	(0.0%)
General Fund	2,212,610	1,473,940	1,777,897	1,843,738	3.7%
Cash Funds	1,106,534	1,185,423	934,987	932,972	(0.2%)
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	1,737,304	4,078,650	945,956	945,303	(0.1%)

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
(B) Agricultural Products Inspection					
Program Costs	<u>2,379,225</u>	<u>2,486,294</u>	<u>2,538,757</u>	<u>2,825,876</u>	
FTE	34.5	34.5	34.5	34.5	
General Fund	190,000	200,000	138,379	200,000	
Cash Funds	2,189,225	2,286,294	2,400,378	2,625,876	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>83,813</u>	<u>107,750</u>	<u>158,852</u>	<u>147,536</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	83,813	107,750	158,852	147,536	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
SUBTOTAL - (B) Agricultural Products Inspection	2,463,038	2,594,044	2,697,609	2,973,412	10.2%
FTE	<u>34.5</u>	<u>34.5</u>	<u>34.5</u>	<u>34.5</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
General Fund	190,000	200,000	138,379	200,000	44.5%
Cash Funds	2,273,038	2,394,044	2,559,230	2,773,412	8.4%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
TOTAL - (3) Agricultural Markets Division	7,519,486	9,332,057	6,356,449	6,695,425	5.3%
FTE	<u>42.6</u>	<u>45.6</u>	<u>45.4</u>	<u>45.4</u>	<u>(0.0%)</u>
General Fund	2,402,610	1,673,940	1,916,276	2,043,738	6.7%
Cash Funds	3,379,572	3,579,467	3,494,217	3,706,384	6.1%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	1,737,304	4,078,650	945,956	945,303	(0.1%)

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(4) Brand Board

The Brand Board is responsible for inspecting cattle, horse, and alternative livestock brands to verify ownership at the time of sale, transport, or slaughter, and constitutes an enterprise for the purposes of Section 20 of Article X of the Colorado Constitution.

Brand Inspection	<u>4,550,029</u>	<u>4,550,356</u>	<u>5,429,025</u>	<u>5,920,613</u>
FTE	59.0	59.0	59.0	59.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,550,029	4,550,356	5,429,025	5,920,613
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Alternative Livestock	<u>145</u>	<u>15,355</u>	<u>15,355</u>	<u>15,355</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	145	15,355	15,355	15,355
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Brand Estray Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	40,000	40,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>234,456</u>	<u>195,537</u>	<u>284,644</u>	<u>264,367</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	234,456	195,537	284,644	264,367
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
TOTAL - (4) Brand Board	4,784,630	4,761,248	5,769,024	6,240,335	8.2%
FTE	<u>59.0</u>	<u>59.0</u>	<u>59.0</u>	<u>59.0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Cash Funds	4,784,630	4,761,248	5,769,024	6,240,335	8.2%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(5) Colorado State Fair

This division administers the State Fair under the guidance of the State Fair Authority. Cash funds are from fees collected by the annual State Fair event, and from non-fair events held at the State Fairgrounds in Pueblo, Colorado. The Marijuana Tax Cash Fund provides funding to support the activities of 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) youth programs.

Program Costs	<u>14,075,104</u>	<u>9,948,436</u>	<u>10,162,085</u>	<u>10,469,738</u>	
FTE	26.9	26.9	26.9	26.9	
General Fund	450,000	450,000	450,000	0	
Cash Funds	13,625,104	9,498,436	9,712,085	10,469,738	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
FFA and 4H Funding	<u>987,725</u>	<u>1,100,000</u>	<u>550,000</u>	<u>550,000</u>	
General Fund	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	
Cash Funds	737,725	850,000	300,000	300,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
State Fair Facilities Maintenance	<u>612,849</u>	<u>729,492</u>	<u>429,492</u>	<u>429,492</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	
Cash Funds	312,849	429,492	129,492	129,492	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>146,572</u>	<u>126,175</u>	<u>165,838</u>	<u>154,024</u>	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	146,572	126,175	165,838	154,024	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL - (5) Colorado State Fair	15,822,250	11,904,103	11,307,415	11,603,254	2.6%
<i>FTE</i>	<u>26.9</u>	<u>26.9</u>	<u>26.9</u>	<u>26.9</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
General Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	550,000	(45.0%)
Cash Funds	14,822,250	10,904,103	10,307,415	11,053,254	7.2%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(6) Conservation Board

This division works to preserve Colorado's natural resources including reducing soil erosion and flood damage, as well as protecting underground water reserves.

Program Costs	<u>510,921</u>	<u>525,831</u>	<u>526,251</u>	<u>648,957</u>	
FTE	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	
General Fund	510,921	525,831	526,251	648,957	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Distribution to Soil Conservation Districts	<u>483,767</u>	<u>483,767</u>	<u>483,767</u>	<u>483,767</u>	
General Fund	483,767	483,767	483,767	483,767	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Matching Grants to Districts	<u>733,182</u>	<u>648,643</u>	<u>675,000</u>	<u>675,000</u>	
General Fund	225,000	225,000	225,000	225,000	
Cash Funds	508,182	423,643	450,000	450,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Salinity Control Grants	<u>100,538</u>	<u>109,598</u>	<u>506,781</u>	<u>506,781</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	100,538	109,598	506,781	506,781	

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Appropriation to the Conservation District Grant Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>700,000</u>	<u>0</u> *	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	700,000	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL - (6) Conservation Board	1,828,408	1,767,839	2,891,799	2,314,505	(20.0%)
<i>FTE</i>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
General Fund	1,219,688	1,234,598	1,235,018	1,357,724	9.9%
Cash Funds	508,182	423,643	1,150,000	450,000	(60.9%)
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	100,538	109,598	506,781	506,781	0.0%

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
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(7) Division of Animal Welfare

Created through H.B. 24-1458, this division supports pet and livestock welfare. It currently administers the Bureau of Animal Protection (BAP) program, the Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act (PACFA) program, and an equine welfare grant program.

Program Costs	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>664,630</u>	<u>580,801</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	2.8	3.1	
General Fund	0	0	664,630	580,801	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

TOTAL - (7) Division of Animal Welfare	0	0	664,630	580,801	(12.6%)
FTE	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>2.8</u>	<u>3.1</u>	<u>10.7%</u>
General Fund	0	0	664,630	580,801	(12.6%)
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%

TOTAL - Department of Agriculture	69,457,947	72,278,838	77,204,736	78,230,155	1.3%
FTE	<u>308.9</u>	<u>317.5</u>	<u>327.5</u>	<u>332.1</u>	<u>1.4%</u>
General Fund	17,039,580	16,950,670	22,054,585	22,211,464	0.7%
Cash Funds	42,236,962	39,702,805	47,809,565	48,702,324	1.9%
Reappropriated Funds	2,616,469	2,675,353	3,332,362	3,320,563	(0.4%)
Federal Funds	7,564,937	12,950,010	4,008,224	3,995,804	(0.3%)

Appendix B: Colorado State Fairground Facility Maintenance Projects

Department of Agriculture, Colorado State Fair, State Fair Facilities Maintenance – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024 a report on facility maintenance projects for the Colorado State Fairgrounds. This report should include the following for each facility with planned maintenance: facility name, the type and nature of maintenance, the anticipated cost of the maintenance, the expenditures to-date on the maintenance, and the anticipated completion date.

Colorado Department of Agriculture - RFI #1 State Fair Facilities Maintenance

Projects FY20-21	LOCATION/AREA	ANTICIPATED COSTS	EXPENDED AMOUNT	STATUS
Fencing waste disposal area	Event Center	\$ 10,000	\$ -	Tabled until other projects completed in the area
Fire Hydrant repairs/replacements	Grounds Wide	\$ 18,000	\$ 7,990	Completed
Replace flooring in bathrooms	Triangle Park Restroom Building	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,300	Completed
Replace Cover on Weatherport	Horse Show	\$	\$ 5,392	Completed
Thermostat replacement	All buildings	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,130	Completed
Cultural Heritage renovation & Lighting	Cultural Heritage	\$ 20,000	\$ 8,360	Completed
Roof replacement	Creative Arts	\$ 100,000	\$ -	Planned as part of Controlled Maintenance Application 2022-23
Exterior concrete repairs/drainage issue	Auditorium	\$ 15,000	\$ 12,273	Completed
Asphalt	Grounds	\$ 50,000	\$ 90,147	Completed*
Replace flooring	Auditorium and Dining Hall	\$ 25,000	\$ 7,300	Completed
Install Fence & Gate	Gate 10 Employee lot	\$ 13,340	\$ 13,340	Completed
Replace Gutters & Rotted Facia	Creative Arts	\$ 5,957	\$ 5,957	Completed
Update Electrical Services - Camping	Events Center - Small Ave Wall	\$ 23,835	\$ 23,835	Completed
Update Accessible Seating Area - Platform	Grandstand	\$ 42,609	\$ 42,609	Completed
Relocate & Replace Cover on Weatherport	Events Center	\$ 24,621	\$ 24,621	Completed
Update Electrical Meter	PB&T Bank Pavilion	\$ 8,160	\$ 8,160	Completed
Show Ring Demo & Pen Removal	Sheep & Swine Barn	\$ 7,835	\$ 7,835	Completed
Replace Doors	Events Center - Door #2	\$ 10,395	\$ 10,395	Completed
Replace Stage & Skirting	PB&T Bank Pavilion	\$ 13,260	\$ 13,260	Completed
Replace Stage Panels	Events Center - Main Stage	\$ 11,767	\$ 11,767	Completed
Portable compressor for Maintenance	Facilities	\$ 21,344	\$ 21,344	Completed
Stair & Concrete Repairs	Ag Palace	\$ 7,254	\$ 7,254	Completed
		\$ 453,377	\$ 336,269	Total Investment
Projects FY21-22	LOCATION/AREA	ANTICIPATED COSTS	EXPENDED AMOUNT	STATUS
Roof Repair/Replacement	Grandstand	\$ 201,910	\$ 4,640	Pre-bid - continue in FY22-23
Update primary electric meters to secondary	Event Center/ Public Safety Building/VIP lot	\$ 50,000	\$ 3,000	Tabled until other projects are completed in the area
Install Show Ring Structure	Sheep & Swine / Goat Area	\$ 74,638	\$ 74,638	Completed
Replace footing in 170 Horse Stalls	Horse Show - Stone Stalls & B/C Barns	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,353	Completed
Install Automated Gate opener/closer	Gate 9	\$ 34,000	\$ 29,012	Completed
Replace pens	Sheep & Swine barn	\$ 46,460	\$ 46,460	Completed
Modify gate for drive & pedestrian entrance	Gate 3	\$ 5,785	\$ 5,785	Completed
Replace Heater	Livestock Pavilion	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,611	Completed
Install Fans	Livestock Pavilion	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,855	Completed
Replace Stall Doors	Horse Show - Stone Stalls	\$ 61,950	\$ 61,950	Completed
Purchase JD Tractor	Horse Show	\$ 60,000	\$ 53,160	Completed
Interior Painting	Fine Arts	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	Completed
Safety repairs	Grandstand Box Seating Area	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	Completed
Replace buckled flooring	VIP Board Room	\$ 5,397	\$ 5,397	Completed
Repair wind damaged panels	PB&T Bank Pavilion	\$ 66,415	\$ 66,145	Completed
Interior Painting	Livestock Pavilion	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	Completed
Updates to Pepsi Park concession building	Pepsi Park Concession (old Subway/cookie bld)	\$ 21,514	\$ 21,514	Completed
Replace HVAC	Gate 3 Ticket/Restroom Building	\$ 9,198	\$ 9,198	Completed
Roof Repair/Replacement	Growing Minds dormitories	\$ 6,300	\$ 300	Completed
Water line repairs	Hangar	\$ 9,370	\$ 9,370	Completed
Replace Walk-in cooler compressor	Dairy Barn	\$ 6,495	\$ 6,495	Completed
Water line repair	Main street in between Sheep/Swine & Small A	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	Completed
Safety and waterproofing improvements	Grandstand Mezzanine	\$ 12,800	\$ 12,800	Completed
Replace Evap Coolers	Livestock Pavilion, Creative Art & 4-H Auditoriu	\$ 10,387	\$ 10,387	Completed
Schematic / concept Design	New Livestock Facility	\$ 31,600	\$ 31,600	Completed
		\$ 811,220	\$ 551,669	

Colorado Department of Agriculture - RFI #1 State Fair Facilities Maintenance

Projects FY22-23	LOCATION/AREA	ANTICIPATED COSTS	EXPENDED		STATUS
			AMOUNT		
Roof Repair/Replacement	Grandstand	\$ 211,000	\$ 12,092	Pre-construction	
Replace gate signage	Gates	\$ 6,791	\$ 6,971	Completed	
Purchase planters	Gate 5 & Grounds	\$ 28,690	\$ 28,690	Completed	
Replace Fence	VIP Building	\$ 10,400	\$ 10,400	Completed	
Repair Bleachers	Grandstand	\$ 17,400	\$ 17,400	Completed	
Replace 27 Stall Doors	Horse Show	\$ 62,000	\$ 36,450	Completed	
Replace Scale, Hog & Sheep gates	Livestock & Sheep/Swine	\$ 14,592	\$ 14,592	Completed	
Replace heaters	4-H Auditorium	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,899	Completed	
Replace Walk In Refrigeration	Manhattan's	\$ 18,744	\$ 18,744	Completed	
Purchase Facilities Maintenance Software	Facilities Operations	\$ 28,000	\$ -	Tabled to FY 24	
Replace Shade Curtains	Livestock north and south barns	\$ 16,000	\$ 1,850	One replaced - others tabled to FY24	
Update Sound System	Sheep & Swine Barn	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,489	Completed	
Update Manure Pits	Horse Show	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Vendor unable to complete for FY 23 - done in FY24	
Repair Horse Stall Windows	Horse Show	\$ 9,407	\$ 9,407	Completed	
Repair/Replace Frost Free Hydrants	Grounds	\$ 25,000	\$ 33,464	Completed	
Replace Trail Equipment	Horse Show	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,625	Completed	
Replace Hot Water Heater	Dining Hall	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,508	Completed	
Purchase Skid Loader	Grounds	\$ 93,402	\$ 93,402	Completed	
Update Scales & Gates	Livestock	\$ 14,592	\$ 14,592	Completed	
Replace Rear Exterior Door	Dining Hall	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,285	Completed	
Interior Painting	Admin & Facilities	\$ 9,500	\$ 9,500	Completed	
Carpet Replacement	Facilities Operations	\$ 5,500	\$ 3,571	Completed	
Fire Suppression Upgrades (Kitchens)	Dining Hall & Pepsi Park	\$ 6,635	\$ 6,635	Completed	
Asphalt Repairs	PB&T Bank Pavilion & Facilities Yard	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,512	Completed	
Replace Rolling Gate	Rodeo	\$ 6,800	\$ 6,800	Completed	
Repair Vendor Hookup an Frost Free Hydrant	Colorado Building	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,658	Completed	
Replace Evap coolers	Colorado Building	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,496	Equipment purchased - inhouse installation to be completed FY24	
Replace Evap Coolers & ductwork	Fine Arts	\$ 6,500	\$ 5,810	Equipment purchased - inhouse installation to be completed FY24	
Add Dampers	Fine Arts & Colo Bldg	\$ 5,628	\$ 5,628	Equipment purchased - inhouse installation to be completed FY24	
Upgrade Camera System NVR	Grounds	\$ 15,000	\$ 250	On going project	
Repair damaged panels	PB&T Bank Pavilion	\$ 58,067	\$ 59,612	Completed	
Install new PA systems	Gates 3, 5, 9	\$ 4,307	\$ 3,234	Completed	
Floor Cleaning Machines	Grounds	\$ 110,123	\$ 110,123	Completed	
Concrete Planters	Grounds	\$ 44,675	\$ 44,675	Completed	
Repair masonry wall	Grandstand - short wall	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	Completed	
Dead Tree Removal	Grounds	\$ 10,900	\$ 10,900	Completed	
Update switches & routers for ticket & public network	Grounds	\$ 20,000	\$ -	On going project	
Replace overhead door & Frame	Sheep & Swine	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,550	Completed	
Replace Flooring, partitions & fixtures	Colorado Building Restroom	\$ 50,000	\$ -	Tabled - Part of FY23-24 Controlled Maintenance Application	
Build new Information Signs	Grounds	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,221	Completed	
Ticketing Kiosks	Grounds	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,996	Completed	
Install exterior lighting for safety	Grounds	\$ 8,500	\$ 6,445	Completed	
*Anticipated projects completed as cashflow is available		\$ 1,009,652	\$ 639,975	Total Investment	

Projects FY23-24	LOCATION/AREA	ANTICIPATED COSTS	EXPENDED		STATUS
			AMOUNT		
Roof Repair/Replacement	Grandstand	\$ 259,144	\$ 259,144	Completed	
Purchase Facilities Maintenance Software	Facilities Operations	\$ 33,882	\$ 16,941	In progress	
Purchase folding Chairs & Chair Racks	4-H Buildings	\$ 67,105	\$ 67,105	Completed	
Replace Shade Curtains	Livestock north and south barns	\$ 16,000	\$ 1,200	One replaced - tabled for later	
Ag Palace Code & Safety Updates	Ag Palace	\$ 17,594	\$ 17,594	Completed	
Asphalt Repairs	Carnival, EC & VIP Employee Lot	\$ 36,831	\$ 36,831	Completed	
Replace Manure Pits	Horse Show & Livestock	\$ 82,500	\$ 82,500	Completed	
Replace Tables & Carts	4-H Buildings	\$ 69,128	\$ 69,128	Completed	
Lighting Installation at Gate 5	Gate 5 Canopy	\$ 12,485	\$ 12,485	Completed	
Master Re-Key	Grounds	\$ 100,000		On-going project	
Upgrade Camera System NVR	Grounds	\$ 15,000	\$ 300	On-going project	

Colorado Department of Agriculture - RFI #1 State Fair Facilities Maintenance

Repair Judges Booth	Rodeo/Grandstand	\$	2,500	\$	1,711	Completed
Replace awning at Grandstand Box Office	Grandstand	\$	5,000	\$	-	Tabled to FY25
Update switches & routers for ticket & public network	Grounds	\$	20,000	\$	928	On-going project
Plant new trees on Main Street and Fountain	Grounds	\$	12,000			Tabled to FY25
Replace footing in horse stalls	Horse Show Stone Stalls	\$	50,000	\$	-	Tabled to FY26
Electrical and Sewer Repairs	Carnival west wall	\$	25,000	\$	855	Electrical repair complete / Sewer tabled to FY25
Roof Replacement	Amphitheater	\$	3,900	\$	3,900	Completed
Roof Repairs	Carnival Restrooms	\$	2,736	\$	2,736	Completed
Roof Repairs	Small Animal Bldg	\$	3,500	\$	3,500	Completed
Roof Repairs	Horse Show Restroom	\$	3,145	\$	3,245	Completed
Roof Repairs	Boy's Dorm	\$	1,200	\$	1,200	Completed
Fire Alarm Repairs	Grounds	\$	17,757	\$	17,757	Completed
Roof Repairs	Grandstand Box Office & 4-H Exhibit bldg	\$	5,650	\$	5,650	Completed
Replace Rollup Door	Ag Palace	\$	4,190	\$	4,190	Completed
Tree Trimming & Removals	Grounds	\$	12,110	\$	12,110	Completed
Hydrant repairs & valve replacements	Horse Show	\$	4,200	\$	4,200	Completed
Concrete Repairs / Repair Trip Hazards	Creative Art Bldg & Kid's Fountain	\$	7,123	\$	7,123	Completed
Roof Replacement	Gate 2	\$	3,450	\$	3,450	Completed
Repair and Paint	Pepsi Stage	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	Completed
Concrete floor polish & seal	Ag Palace	\$	38,311	\$	38,311	Completed
Replace Carpet & paint walls	Box Office at Events Center	\$	6,441	\$	6,441	Completed
Replace backflow	Small Ave / Grandstand	\$	5,275	\$	5,275	Completed
Replace panel #9	PB&T Pavilion	\$	10,145	\$	10,145	Completed
HVAC REPAIRS	Events Center	\$	6,945	\$	6,945	Completed
Replace chain link fence	Facilities Operations	\$	15,000			Tabled to FY25 or FY26
*Anticipated projects completed as cashflow is available		\$	980,247	\$	707,901	Total Investment

Anticipated Projects FY25	LOCATION/AREA	ANTICIPATED COSTS	EXPENDED AMOUNT	STATUS
Purchase Facilities Maintenance Software	Facilities Operations	\$ 33,882	\$ 16,941	In progress - Anticipated completion date is 11/30/24
Replace Shade Curtains	Livestock north and south barns	\$ 16,000	\$ 1,200	On-going project
Master Re-Key	Grounds	\$ 100,000		On-going project
Upgrade Camera System NVR	Grounds	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,810	On-going project
Repair Judges Booth	Rodeo/Grandstand	\$ 2,500	\$ 4,531	Completed
Replace awning at Grandstand Box Office	Grandstand	\$ 5,000		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Update switches & routers for ticket & public network	Grounds	\$ 20,000	\$ 928	Completed
Plant new trees on Main Street and Fountain	Grounds	\$ 12,000	\$ 7,824	Completed
Sewer Repairs	Carnival west wall	\$ 127,000		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Sewer Repairs	Events Center west wall	\$ 99,000	\$ 5,099	Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Sewer Repairs	4-H Complex	\$ 95,000		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Purchase Display items for 4-H	4-H	\$ 4,895	\$ 4,895	Completed
Waterproof & Resurface Mezzanine	Grandstand	\$ 36,000	\$ 36,000	Completed
New Shade Structure for ADA seating area	Grandstand	\$ 1,447	\$ 1,447	Completed
Arena dirt reset / laser grade	Horse Show	\$ 39,473		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
HVAC Repairs	Events Center	\$ 26,000		Anticipated completion by 4/30/25
Replace wood stall doors	Horse show	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,378	On-going project
Sewer Line Replacement	Horse Show	\$ 36,470	\$ 36,470	Completed
Roof Repair	Chute 9 / Grandstand	\$ 5,931		Anticipated completion by 12/31/24
Replace Chain Link Gate	Facilities Operations	\$ 4,294	\$ 4,294	Completed
Replace Steel Gate	Beulah Entrance	\$ 10,000		Anticipated completion by 12/31/24
Barn A door repairs	Horse Show	\$ 6,125	\$ 6,125	Completed

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Install chainlink gates to enhance security	Carnival North entrances	\$	15,495		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Update gate & perimeter security	Grounds	\$	15,000		on-going project
Replace Stall Mats	A-Barn Horse Show	\$	23,250		Anticipated completion by 6/15/25
Update Parking lot lighting to LED	Carnival Lot	\$	5,355	\$ 5,355	Completed
Replace appliances in Kitchens	4-H Exhibit Hall & Dining Hall	\$	3,026	\$ 3,026	Completed
Replace Doors & panic hardware	Livestock Pavilion north east	\$	2,750		Anticipated completion by 12/31/24
Asphalt repairs - crack fill & seal coat	Main St, Colo Concourse	\$	38,383	\$ 38,383	Completed
Replace chain link fence	Facilities Operations	\$	15,000		Tabled to FY25 or FY26
*Anticipated projects completed as cashflow is available		\$	824,276	\$ 185,706	Total Investment

Controlled Maintenance & Capital Renewal		APPROPRIATED	ENCUMBERED	
HVAC replacement	Event Center - Phase 1/1	\$	1,527,448	\$ 1,266,744 Complete - In close out
Fire Suppression , Accessibility Upgrade	Palace of Agriculture - Phase 1/1	\$	739,797	\$ 821,630 Complete - In close out
Repair/Replace Water, Sanitary, and Storm Water	Infrastructure - Phase 4 (CR)	\$	3,383,907	\$ 1,645,496 Complete - In close out
Code & Life Safety Updates	Events Center - Phase 1/1	\$	1,176,438	\$ 656,791 Complete - In close out
Fire Sprinkler, Code Upgrades	4-H Complex, Phase 1/1	\$	1,432,425	\$ 1,337,687 Awarded, Contracted - construction to commence 11/2024
Replace roof, HVAC & Windows	Ag Palace (CR)	\$	5,278,877	\$ 4,058,592 Awarded, Contracted - construction to commence 11/2024
Fire Suppression, HVAC, ADA, Code Updates	Colorado Building, Phase 1/1	\$	1,957,754	\$ 323,349 In Design
Fire Suppression, Code, ADA & HVAC Upgrades	Creative Art Building, Phase 1/2	\$	1,995,357	\$ 6,838 In start-up
Replace Retractable Seating	Events Center - Phase 1/1	\$	1,943,571	\$ 6,714 In start-up
		\$	21,316,831	\$ 14,401,000 Total Investment

2021 STIMULUS PROJECTS		APPROPRIATED	ENCUMBERED	
Gate 5 Remodel - Phase I	Prairie Avenue Entrance	\$	3,572,894	\$ 3,033,637 In close out
Landscape Redesign/Entrance Plaza	West of Ag Palace to Gate 5	\$	1,900,000	\$ 176,192 Tabled until FY23 due to time & funding issues
		\$	4,419,838	\$ 3,209,829 Total Investment

2022-2023 STIMULUS PROJECTS		APPROPRIATED	ENCUMBERED	
Gate 5 Remodel - Phase II	Prairie Avenue Entrance / Buildings	\$	681,367	\$ 236,259 Completed - In close out
Landscape Redesign/Entrance Plaza -	West of Ag Palace to Gate 5	\$	5,826,497	\$ 5,537,543 Completed - In close out
		\$	5,472,894	\$ 5,773,802 Total Investment

Appendix C: Climate Drought-Smart Agriculture Marketing

Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets Division, Agricultural Markets, Program Costs – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024, a report on the development of climate and drought-smart agricultural markets for Colorado producers. This reports should include the number of producers and acreage in the STAR Plus program, the estimated number of businesses and purchasing climate and drought-smart products, the attendance at climate-smart training sessions and events, and the findings of climate-smart research conducted by Colorado State University and partner universities.



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture

Legislative Request for Information #2

Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Markets, Climate Drought-Smart Agriculture Marketing

Details: The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024, a report on the development of climate and drought-smart agricultural markets for Colorado producers. These reports should include the number of producers and acreage in the STAR+ program, the estimated number of businesses and purchasing climate and drought-smart products, the attendance at climate-smart training sessions and events, and the findings of climate-smart research conducted by Colorado State University and partner universities.

**Please note, the LFRI refers to what the Department calls the “Colorado Soil Health Program (CSHP)” as the “STAR+ Program,” while STAR+ is a component of the overall program, it is best to refer to the program as “CSHP”*

Response:

Hiring Update

The Climate Smart Marketing Specialist was hired in the spring of 2024 with a start date of April 1, 2024. The position has focused on engaging stakeholders and networking with industry leaders researching and developing opportunities for producers within climate-smart & regenerative ag markets. The focus of this position is to integrate the research, stakeholder engagement, and climate smart market development to create a Climate Smart Marketing Strategic Plan by June 30, 2025. At this time, we are developing the strategic goals and structure of the plan, while regularly meeting with stakeholders and compiling and analyzing the latest trends in the marketing and labeling of climate smart products. The position has worked with the state’s IDS (Integrated Document Solutions) team and external stakeholders to create broad content marketing materials- signage, table top brochures, and business cards. This position works with the Colorado Soil Health Team to ensure consistency in the climate-smart marketing language across CDA programs.

The Climate Smart Marketing Specialist (CSMS) has already amplified opportunities in the climate smart marketplace by showcasing five Colorado businesses at the Newtopia Trade Show. These businesses work directly with Colorado producers sourcing raw ingredients grown following regenerative & soil health principles (as outlined by the Colorado Soil Health and STAR program), and/or modeling the climate benefits of short supply chains. There is continued focus on building these business opportunities and networks through external funding initiatives such as the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) and

Regional Food Business Center (RFBC) programs. The CSMS position has grown collaboration among food businesses trying to elevate these regenerative food business models by facilitating debrief and follow-up meetings (since Newtopia) and planning for future events to attend a group. These businesses completed surveys developed by the CSM team that supported the creation of baseline data, metrics, and qualitative information gathering. This survey information is a starting point for continued development and planning for the Climate Smart Marketing Program's future.

Number of producers and acreage in the Colorado Soil Health Program (also referred to as STAR+):

As of September, 2024, there are 340 producers enrolled in the Colorado Soil Health Program. These are farmers and ranchers who are improving the soil health on 63,887 acres across the state.

These producers not only receive acre-based incentive payments for soil health practice implementation, but also work with a CSHP soil specialist to create management plans that work best for their operation. They also have access to field days, peer-to-peer learning networks, and opportunities to engage in market opportunities (see above). At the end of the program (3 years), each farmer and rancher will receive a summary of their soil health improvements and potential next steps.

Attendance at climate-smart training sessions and events

CDA staff have led and/or presented soil health information at 28 field tours, conferences, in-field demonstrations, and educational events. These presentations were provided to a varied demographic of agricultural producers around the state, with a combined attendance of 1,331 producers.

Findings of climate-smart research conducted by Colorado State University and partner universities

- CSU's sociology team has completed 22 interviews, 58 surveys have been collected, and three focus groups have been conducted. The analysis of what has been completed so far is in the very early stages, and further survey respondents are being recruited. A final report will be available in Spring 2025.
- CSU is also completing a data meta-analysis of how soil health is understood differently in the literature based on close to 50,000 citations, focusing on the differences between research that engages with the social sciences with literature that does not.

- *Coordinating Data Collection.* The project successfully coordinated efforts across multiple states, establishing 61 research fields, with 19 located in Colorado and 42 in other states across the Rocky Mountain West. A comprehensive soil sampling plan was developed, including a sampling stratification protocol across all 5 states. Research field soil sampling is nearly complete, with 592 composite samples collected and 32 more expected from Montana. The first step in soil processing has been completed (8mm sieving) and lab analyses for microbial biomass carbon have begun, as well as bulk density calculations and water stable aggregate assays. (*Note: Sieving is a method of using a sieve to distinguish small particles from bigger particles*).
- *STAR Scoring and Application Development.* The research team contributed significantly to updating the STAR scoring sheets to align with the agricultural systems in Colorado. These updates are being integrated into the Colorado STAR application, allowing for streamlined evaluations of soil health practices. To facilitate data collection, dynamic field forms were created using Survey123. These forms are equipped with auto-updating capabilities to track sampling and sensor installations in real time.
- *Protocol Development and Field Trainings.* Detailed sampling and sensor installation protocols were created to standardize data collection methods. Trainings were conducted in select conservation districts for consistency in data collection across the research and program sites.
- *Building the Soil Health Inventory Infrastructure.* Substantial progress has been made in establishing the database infrastructure for the soil health inventory. This includes laying the framework for a data management plan, linking incoming data forms from multiple sources and automating the data processing workflows. Additionally, the team has implemented data privacy standards to safeguard sensitive information. The Shiny app has been updated to include visualizations of the first cohort of enrolled producer's carbon data.
- *Microbiome Sampling and Analysis.* Data processing will start in the new year, with the goal of obtaining a taxonomic and functional profile of the microbial community across the region. The long-term objective of this data is to use the microbiome as a soil health diagnostic tool in the region. Collecting and characterizing the data is the first important step. This dataset is one of a kind and will provide substantial knowledge to our understanding of the soil microbiome and its connection to environmental and human health.

Appendix D: ACRE3 Program Performance

Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Services, Conservation Services – The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024 a report on ACRE3 program performance. At a minimum, this report should include the following: number of applicants and requested funding amounts, number and amount of awards, co-funding amounts (if federal funding was also secured), type of project, and annual energy cost savings (if applicable).



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture

Legislative Request for Information #3

Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Services, Conservation Services

Details: The Department is requested to provide on November 1, 2024 a report on ACRE3 program performance. At a minimum, this report should include the following: number of applicants and requested funding amounts, number and amount of awards, co-funding amounts (if federal funding was also secured), type of project, and annual energy cost savings (if applicable).

*Please see the associated budget submission spreadsheet for more detailed information.

Total Number of Applicants and Total Requested Funding Amount

The general fund funding award starting in FY24 has not yet been encumbered or allocated. However, ACRE3 has been awarding energy efficiency and renewable energy grants since 2007.

Given that the new funding from the general fund has a two year spending authority, CDA plans to fund more explicit phases of each project, as many large-scale renewable energy projects cannot be completed (from design to permitting and construction) in the two year time frame. CDA is currently working on revising the ACRE3 preapplication process.

Total Number of Awards, Total Amount of Awards

The Spreadsheet covers projects that applied since 2021. Of the 47 potential projects, 30 were successfully funded. Two of these projects - the Lempke Farm and the Ute Mtn Ute hydroturbines are still in progress. The former is delayed due to land access issues, and the 2nd has been delayed due to supply chain issues. CDA expects both to be resolved and completed in 2025.

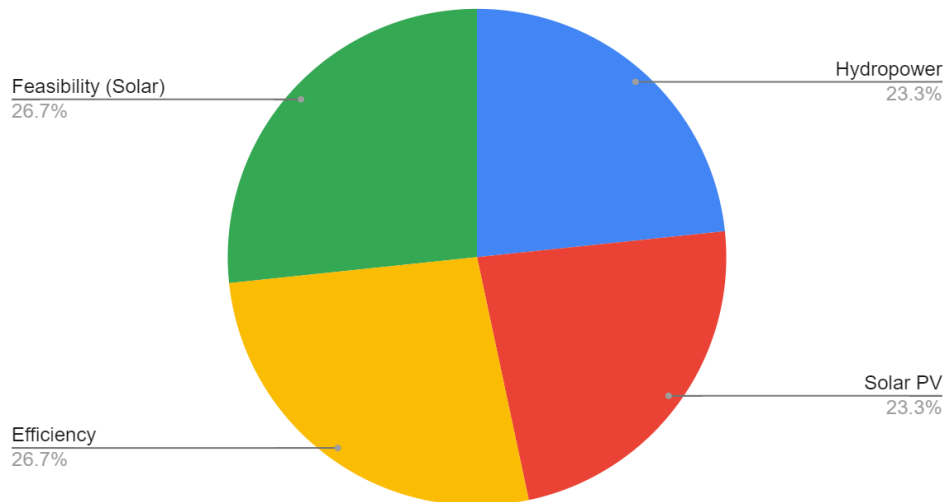
Total Co-funding amounts (if federal funding was secured)

In the last four years, ACRE3 projects have brought \$3,066,000 in match funding, or more than 136% of total project costs. This funding is from the producers or federal matching grants, such as the USDA Rural Energy for America program or NRCS.

Type of project (See attached spreadsheet)

ACRE3 is technology agnostic, and funds a wide variety of projects. In the last 4 years, ACRE3 has funded primarily solar photovoltaic or agrivoltaic projects, hydropower projects, energy efficiency projects, and feasibility studies.

Count of Project Type



Total Annual Cost savings

ACRE3 funds many different steps of the project, from feasibility studies to permitting and construction. For the construction projects ACRE3 funded in the last 4 years, ACRE3 projects saved a total of more than \$207,000 per year that the energy project was operational. On average, a producer is saving \$12,000 annually. The majority of savings come from projects that are large solar projects or heating efficiency projects.

Numbe	Project Type	Awarded	Amount Awarded	Total Project Cost	Annual Cost Savings	Status	Match
1	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 266,581	\$ 387,027	\$ 766	In progress	\$ 120,446
2	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 28,940	\$ 177,083	\$ 4,162	In progress	\$ 148,143
3	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 31,091	\$ 177,197	\$ 3,225	In progress	\$ 146,106
4	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 21,430	\$ 179,947	\$ 8,596	In progress	\$ 158,517
5	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 11,725			Complete	0
6	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 19,081	\$ 17,800	\$ 1,448	Complete	0
7	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 10,995	\$ 15,800	\$ 1,554	Complete	\$ 4,805
8	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 9,167	\$ 18,500	\$ 2,816	Complete	\$ 9,333
9	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 331,893	\$ 709,012	\$ 35,288	Complete	\$ 377,119
10	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 102,545	\$ 165,000	\$ 2,433	Complete	\$ 62,455
11	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 1,460	\$ 63,113	n/a	Complete	\$ 61,653
12	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 269,895	\$ 446,022	\$ 37,550	Complete	\$ 176,127
13	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 4,701	\$ 10,200	\$ 1,369	Complete	\$ 5,499
14	Efficiency	TRUE	\$ 11,865	\$ 17,242	\$ 2,639	Complete	\$ 5,377
15	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000		Complete	\$ -
16	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000		Complete	\$ -
17	Hydropower	TRUE	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500		Complete	\$ -
18	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Complete	\$ -
19	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 32,305	\$ 49,700	\$ 1,547	Complete	\$ 17,395
20	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Complete	\$ -
21	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Complete	\$ -
22	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Complete	\$ -
23	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Complete	\$ -
24	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500			Complete	0
25	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 27,760	\$ 42,707	\$ 2,281	Complete	\$ 14,947
26	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 2,500			Complete	0
27	Feasibility (Solar)	TRUE	\$ 3,000			Complete	0
28	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 147,875	\$ 227,500	\$ 6,772	Complete	\$ 79,625
29	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 414,458	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 46,000	Complete	\$ 885,542
30	Solar PV	TRUE	\$ 466,667	\$ 1,260,000	\$ 49,000	Complete	\$ 793,333
31	Efficiency	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 15,800	\$ 1,448	Canceled	NA
32	Efficiency	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 4,940	Canceled	NA
33	Hydroelectric	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 59,950	\$ 1,564	Canceled	NA
34	Solar PV	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 46,650	\$ 1,690	Canceled	NA
35	Feasibility (Solar Hot Water)	FALSE	\$ -			Canceled	NA
36	Solar HW PV	FALSE	\$ -			Canceled	NA
37	Feasibility (Solar)	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
38	Feasibility (Solar)	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
39	Feasibility (Solar)	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
40	Feasibility (Solar)	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
41	Polar PV	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
42	Feasibility (Solar Hot Water)	FALSE	\$ -			Expired	NA
43	Solar HW PV	FALSE	\$ -			Canceled	NA
44	Efficiency	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 17,500	\$ 4,949	Postponed	NA
45	Solar PV	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 194,700	Postponed	NA
46	Solar PV	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 37,800	\$ 2,050	Postponed	NA
47	Solar HW PV	FALSE	\$ -	\$ 135,000	\$ 7,789	Postponed	NA
Totals		31	\$ 2,245,434	\$ 5,290,850	\$ 207,446		\$ 3,066,422