
**AGENDA
JOINT WORKSHOP**

**CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MESA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026
3:30 PM**

**CITY HALL HUMAN RESOURCES TRAINING ROOM
250 NORTH 5TH STREET, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO**

To participate or watch the meeting virtually register for the [GoToWebinar](#).

1. Discussion Topics

- a. Health & Human Services (Erin Minnerath, Interim Executive Director, Public Health and Jill Calvert, Executive Director, Department of Human Services)
- b. Grand Valley Transit Update and Transportation Finance Study (Dana Brosig, Regional Transportation Planning Office Director)
- c. Japanese Beetle (Amber Martinez, Natural Resources Director)

2. Next Workshop Topics

3. Other Business

Coordinated County Community Services

**Mesa County Department of Human
Services Mesa County Public Health
February 3, 2026**



**MESA
COUNTY**



Jill Calvert

MCDHS Executive Director

Erin Minnerath

MCPH Interim Executive Director



Behavioral Health & Crisis Navigation

Grand Valley Connects (PH)

- Our Resource Navigators connect community members with services and programs.
- There is no income eligibility for our program. Anyone can receive our service.

500 – Average monthly workload in 2025

100 – Average monthly referrals in 2025

Behavioral Health Division (PH)

- Launched in 2025 to better align behavioral health efforts across the community.
- Coordinating system building along the crisis care continuum.
- Used OD2A funding to purchase 12 naloxone kiosks that are strategically placed throughout Mesa County.

Community Paramedic Program (PH)

- Paramedics often encounter people who have unmet needs that aren't directly medical.
- Grand Valley Connects can serve in the role of supporting the connection of those community members to other resources.



Early Childhood & Family Health Support

WIC (PH)

We help pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children under five:

- Support healthy pregnancies
- Understand why good nutrition matters
- Buy health foods at local grocery stores

3.1k – Mesa County families enrolled in WIC in 2025

\$79-121 – Average food benefits per month for participating families

Nurse-Family Partnership (PH)

- Specially trained, registered nurses support first-time moms from pregnancy through child's second birthday.
- Proven results include better pregnancy outcomes, improved child health and development, and increased economic self-sufficiency.

189 – Average monthly caseload in 2025

Public Health Clinic (PH)

- We offer women's health and vaccinations for low-income, no income, and uninsured patients.
- We're experts in STI testing and treatment.

Top vaccines administered in 2025:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP)
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Typhoid
- Polio



Child/Youth Safety & Emancipation Services

Child Welfare

- 4559 child abuse and/or neglect allegations received by the hotline annually
- 28% of these referrals met the criteria for assessment (1276 households/2918 children assessed)
- 5.3% of those children needed to be placed out of the home due to immediate safety issues not able to be mitigated (149)
- 50% of our open cases involve children who are able to remain in the home while safety issues are being mitigated
- 49% of those children needing out-of-home care are placed with a kinship provider

Youth & Young Adults

Youth Behavioral and Protective Services

- Beyond the Control of Parent
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Suspected abuse and/or neglect

Emancipating Services

- Chafee Services
- Youth in Transition Young Adults

71 youth/young adults served monthly through the following:

- Assessment
- Out of home placement
- Like Skills Classes
- Educational Services
- Mental & behavioral services
- Substance abuse services
- Housing assistance



Stability & Prevention

Stabilization (PH)

- 30K community benefit donation by Mesa County to Homeward Bound which helped keep the North Ave. shelter open to the end of February.
- Leadership support deployed to Homeward Bound in the form of Dan Prinster.
- GVC connects community members who need housing to the Coordinated Entry Process.

Stabilization (DHS)

- Unhoused individuals may use the Human Services address to apply for public assistance programs. However, mail pickup occurs at the Main Post Office via General Delivery and valid ID is required.
- ID fee waiver: MCDHS assists eligible clients in obtaining a Colorado ID at no cost. This requires an official referral letter on county letterhead.
- Case management in some specific programs (Child Welfare, Colorado Works)

Prevention (DHS): Benefits Enrollment

Food

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Medical Assistance

- Medicaid aka Health First Colorado
- Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
- Long Term Care

Cash Assistance

- Aid to the Needy Disabled
- Old Age Pension
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) aka Colorado Works
- Child Support

Prevention (DHS): Workforce Center

- \$11,492 is the median annual wage increase for participants in our WFC programs that do not have eligibility requirements
- 71% of those who participated have maintained their jobs after 12 months
- Helped to fund child care for over 1100 children in our community
- 51 GED graduates in 2024/25

Prevention (DHS): Area Agency on Aging

- Builds and supports a healthy and thriving senior community
- Sits under DHS and services the north west region (Delta, Montrose, Garfield, Rio Blanco & Moffat Counties)

4074 seniors were served

- In-home meals
- Senior centers
- Options counseling
- Material aids
- Legal Services
- Advocacy (Ombudsman)

Prevention (DHS): Veterans Service Officer

- Over \$6M in one time benefits to Veterans
- Over \$800,000 increased monthly benefits to existing Veterans cases

4266 veterans and their families served

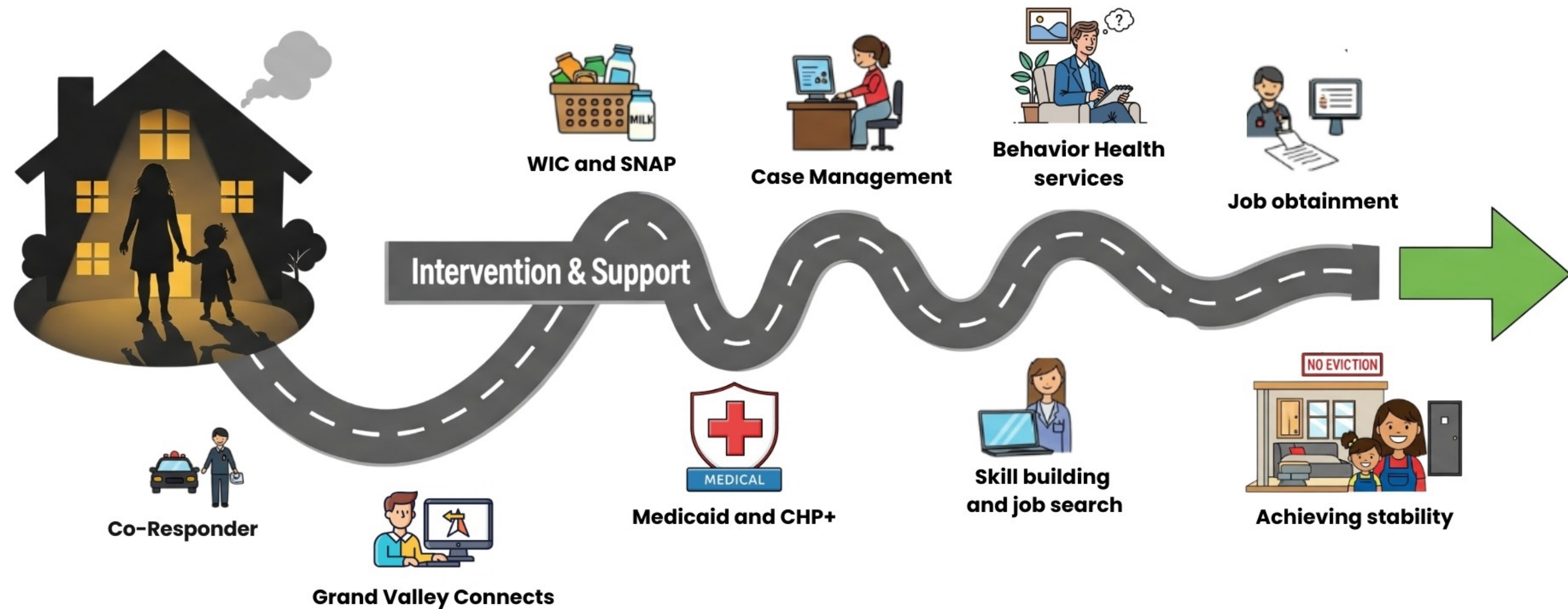
- Education
- Voc Rehab and Employment
- Survivors Benefits
- Medical
- Pension
- Veteran Services (VSO)

Why are Human Services administered at the County level?

- State & Federal dollars flow through counties
- Certified and specifically trained caseworkers
- Benefits trained staff and specific state training
- Data reporting & accountability monitored through state systems accessible only to counties
- 24/7 crisis response

How it Works:

Coordinated Community Services





Economic & Human Impact



Public Health

Return on Investment

- \$2.5 million put back into local grocery stores through WIC.
- For every \$1 invested in NFP, return on investment ranges from \$2.90 to \$7.90 saved in future costs.

Human Services

- \$455M in Medical benefits are paid annually for Mesa County residents
- Over \$47M in food and cash benefits are infused into our local economy annually
- Over 42,000 individuals in Mesa County are receiving one or more public benefits
- Over \$785,000 paid to local businesses for internships and on the job trainings
- \$14.4 million in child support received by the custodial parent annually

Questions?

humanservices.mesacounty.us

mesacounty.us/public-health



Grand Valley Transit Update and Transportation Finance Study

February 3, 2026



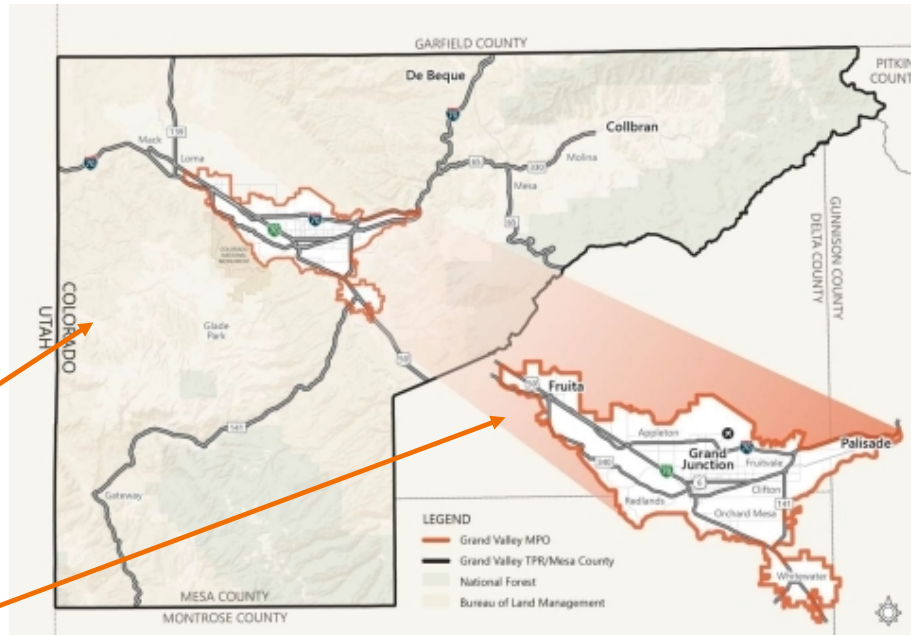
Agenda

1. Grand Valley Transit Overview
2. Transportation Finance Study Overview

Regional Transportation Planning Office (RTPO)



- Grand Valley Transportation Planning Region (GVTPR)
- Grand Valley Metropolitan Organization (GVMPO)
- Grand Valley Transit (GVT)

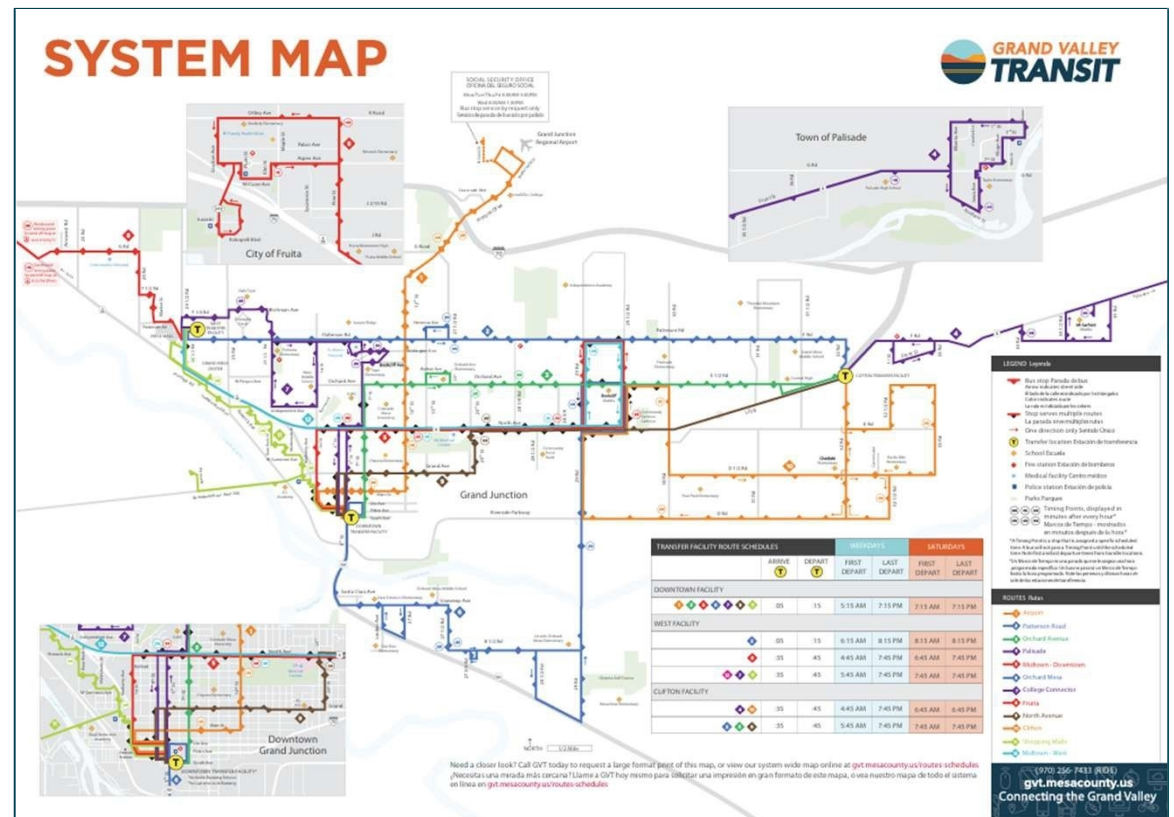


1.
**Grand Valley
Transit Overview**



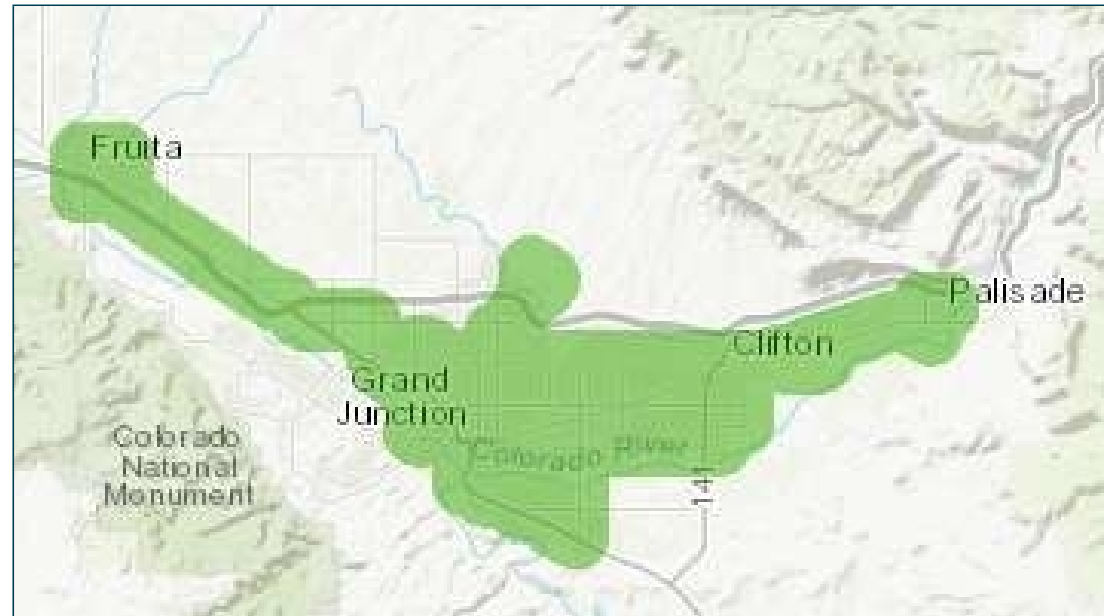
Grand Valley Transit System Overview- Fixed Route

- 12 Fixed Routes- Monday-Saturday
- Serves Unincorporated Mesa County, Grand Junction, Fruita and Palisade
- \$1.50 cash fare, \$3.75 day pass, \$45 month pass, \$275 annual pass
- 2025 ridership ~600,000 unlinked passenger trips
- Economic engine- 73% of riders are employees or students



Grand Valley Transit System Overview- Paratransit Service

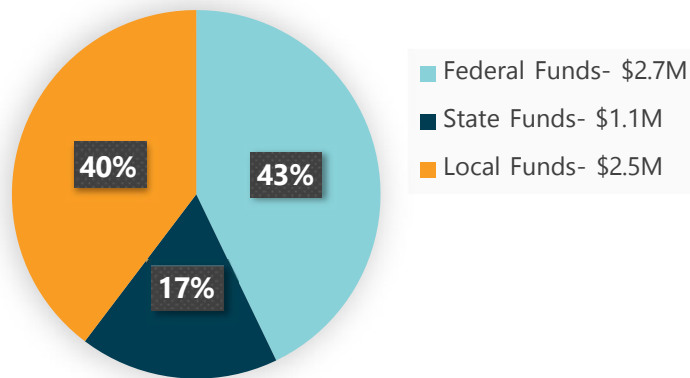
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grantees are required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which states that no entity will discriminate against an individual with a disability in connection with the provision of transportation service.
- Must have a disability and that disability must prevent you from using the GVT fixed route bus service. Determined through an eligibility process
- GVT provides service within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of fixed route service area
- \$3/ride



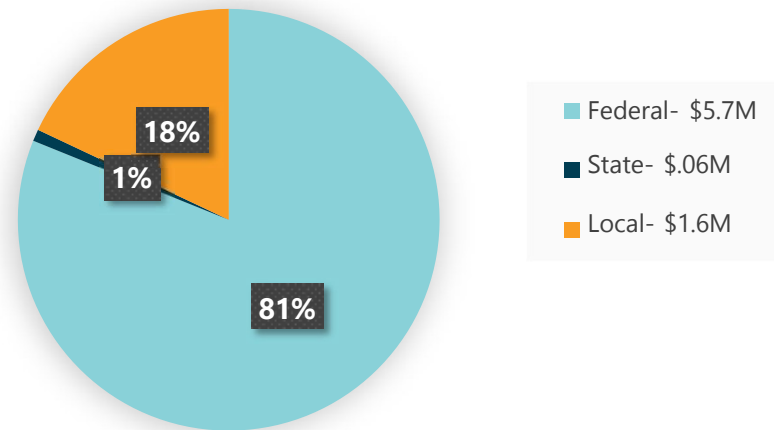
Grand Valley Transit Operations Overview

- Total Annual Operating Costs 2026 Budget~ \$7.1M
 - Local Cost~\$3M

2025 GVT Operations Funding Split



2025 GVT Capital Funding Split



Grand Valley Transit Operations Overview

- Service Operated by MV Transportation
 - Three base years- 2025-2027
 - Four option years-2028-2031
 - 2026 Contract= \$4.7M
 - Includes ~50 local employees, CDL training, insurance, administration, etc.
- Fleet Maintenance~2026 Budget~\$900,000
 - Conducted in new GVT Fleet Maintenance Facility (completed July, 2025). Building is owned by Mesa County with a long-term lease on City of Grand Junction property
 - Active fleet of 32 buses maintained by City of Grand Junction mechanics and staff
 - Increased efficiency and decreased costs with bus replacements and new maintenance facility
- Fuel -2026 Budget ~\$500,000

Grand Valley Transit Operations Overview

- Other Transit Expenses-2026 Budget ~\$600,000
 - Includes staff positions, security, landscaping, advertising and bus stop maintenance
- Indirect Costs- Costs covered by Mesa County ~\$400,000
 - Includes facility operations and maintenance for three GVT Facilities (Downtown, West and Clifton) and GVT Fleet Maintenance Facility
 - Includes indirect costs from Mesa County cost allocation plan
- Capital Improvements Projects ~2026 budget=\$2.5M
 - Majority is bus replacement (varies widely annually)
 - 80/20 match
- Revenue-2026 Budget ~\$400,000
 - Include farebox revenue ~\$350,000 and advertising revenue ~\$70,000

Grand Valley Transit Funding-Federal

- Federal Transit Administration (FTA)- 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grants
 - Fixed Route and Paratransit Operations
 - Match of 50/50 or 80/20 (Federal/Local) depending on expense type
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA)- 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities
 - Staff position and some marketing
 - Match of 80/20
- Carbon Reduction Program
 - Used for capital for transit expansion
 - Match of 82.79/17.21

Grand Valley Transit Funding-State

- SB 24-230 Oil and Gas Production Fees
 - Used for expansion of transit service only (Route 12 Pilot)
 - No local match for 2026, otherwise 80/20 match is **not currently in IGA**
- Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF)
 - Historically used for transit operations
 - No match for current awards, future awards 75/25
 - Funding allocated to other local multimodal projects through 2029

Grand Valley Transit Funding-Local

- Local Match is funded through an annual Intergovernmental Agreement and funded through local jurisdiction's General Fund or Capital Fund.

2026 GVT IGA

	Distribution	Local Funding
Total IGA	100%	\$3,076,799
Mesa County	65%	\$1,999,919
Grand Junction	30%	\$923,040
Fruita	3%	\$92,304
Palisade	2%	\$61,536

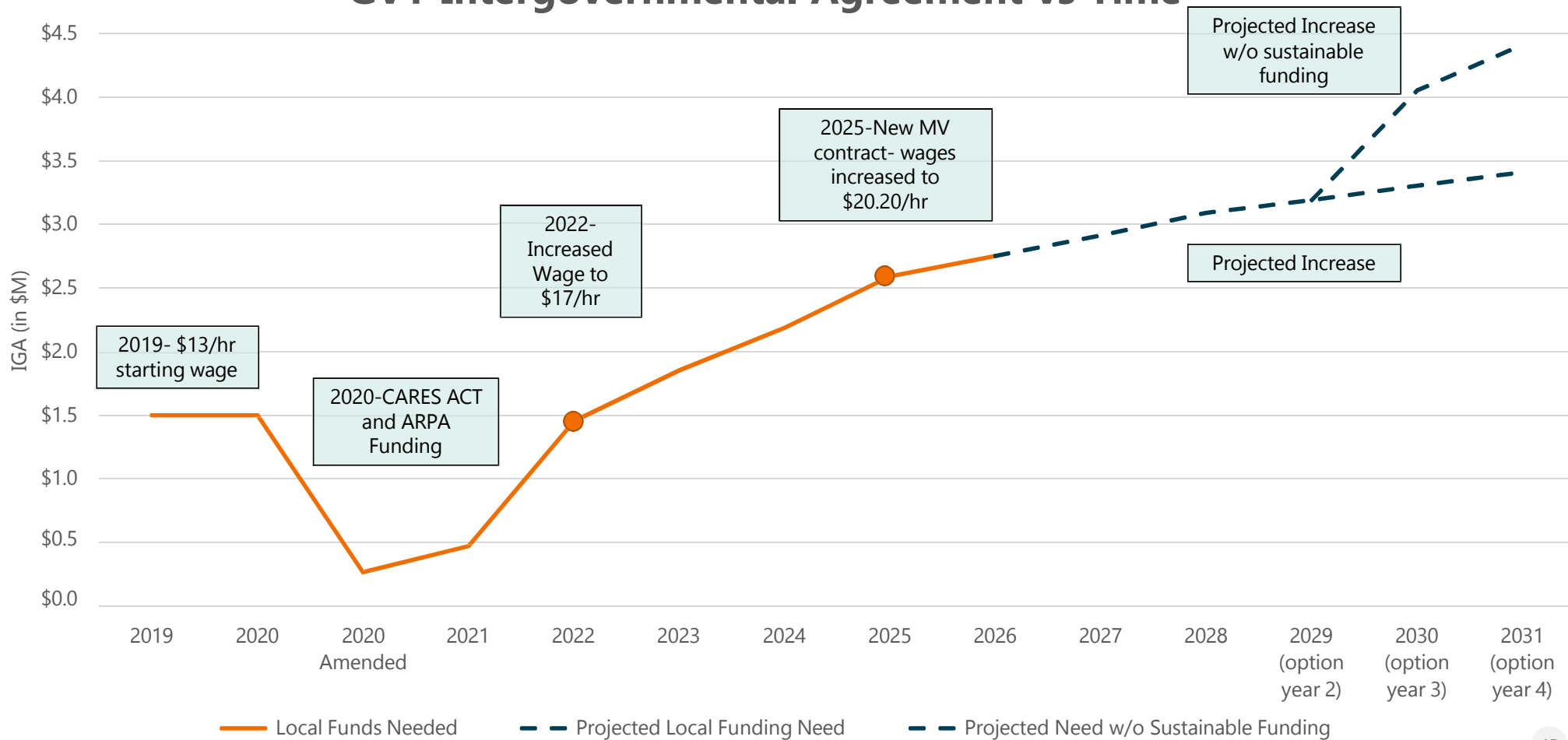
Other Funding Sources- RTP0

- Federal and State- competitive grant programming
 - Bus replacement and expansion- Mesa County has received over \$11M in the last 6 years
 - GVT Fleet Maintenance Facility- About 90% of the \$8.2M facility was funded by federal funds.
- Leveraging SB24-230 Oil and Gas Production Fees
 - Route 12 Pilot, which connects West Transfer Facility and North Ave, was launched in October and has seen higher than expected ridership as well as a marked increase in ridership to Fruita.
- Colorado Department of Transportation
 - Finance Study funding (100% of funding)
 - Additional funding for GVMPO expenses which were historically covered by local governments
- Highway Safety Office Grant
 - Additional funding to staff a Transportation Safety Program Manager (100% of funding)

Transit Funding Challenges

- The cost to run GVT has grown faster than the increase in funding due to:
 - Increase to operations contract (20% increase in 2025) ** **Largest increase in cost**
 - Increase in cost to replace aging buses (between 39%-110% between 2020-2025 depending on bus type)
 - Grand Junction Mobility Hub- additional facility costs when constructed (2027)
- This has led to:
 - Increased local/matching funds needed
 - Future federal funding gap due to reduced spending power of the annual federal allocation
- Additionally, local government have funding limitations:
 - Slow down in local tax revenue growth
 - Mesa County TABOR caps and refunds

GVT Intergovernmental Agreement vs Time*

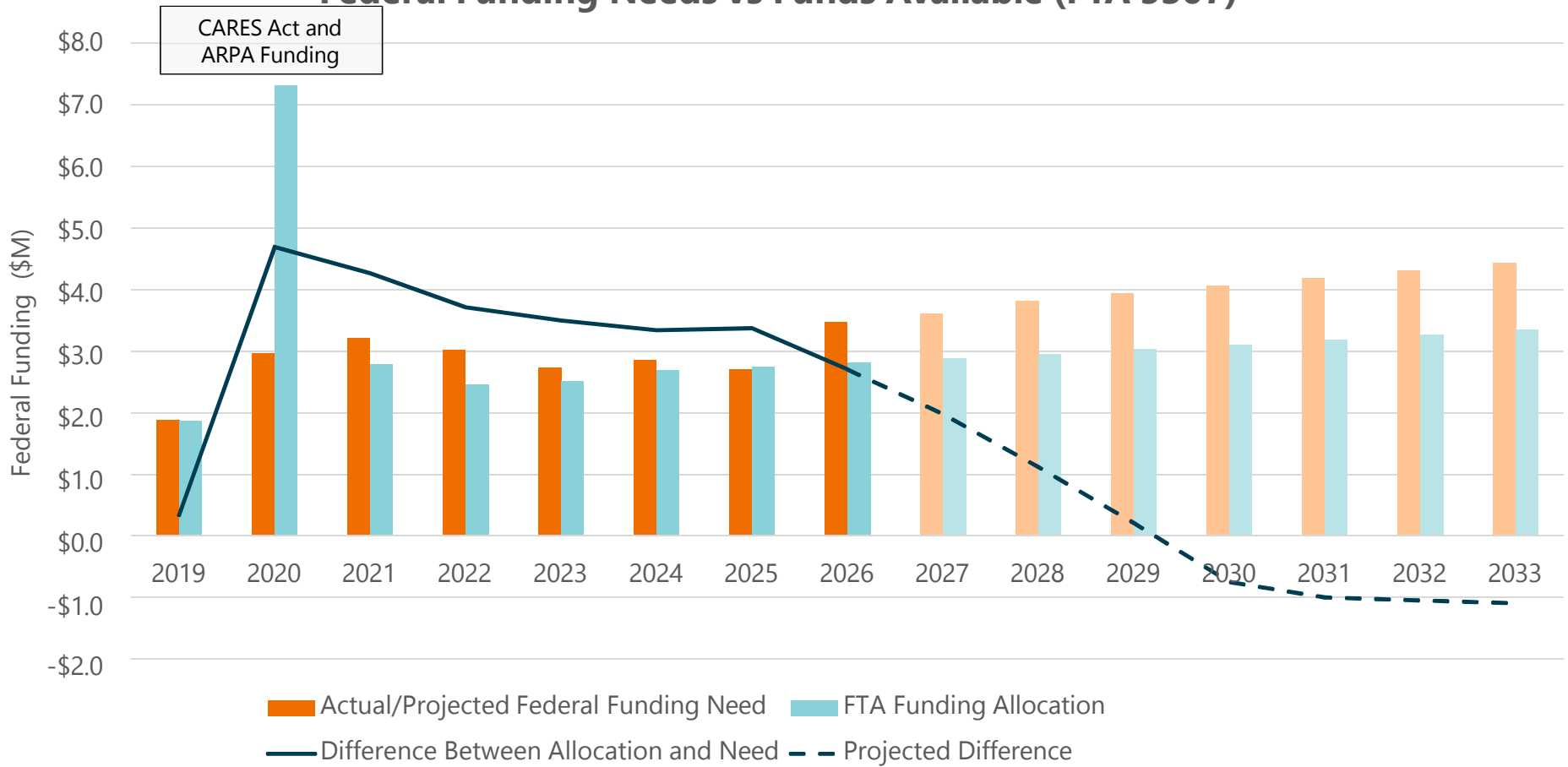


*IGA formula does not include future local match for SB24-230 Funding

Federal Funding Gap

- Due to different match ratios for different expenses, federal funds typically account for about 60% of operating costs
- However, federal funding has not matched inflation rate and increased operation costs resulting in a gap between Mesa County's federal allocation and the federal match used to cover expenses
- CARES Act funding was allocated to Mesa County for transit services in 2020 in addition to annual FTA 5307 allocations allowing us to cover this gap.
- However, once this funding runs out, the funding normally covered by federal funds will need to be filled by other, more sustainable funds

Federal Funding Needs vs Funds Available (FTA 5307)



2. Transportation Finance Study Overview



Why?



Rising costs: The cost of operating Grand Valley Transit and maintaining local roads has increased sharply in recent years.



A high rate of traffic fatalities: Mesa County ranks among the highest in Colorado for traffic deaths and serious injuries.

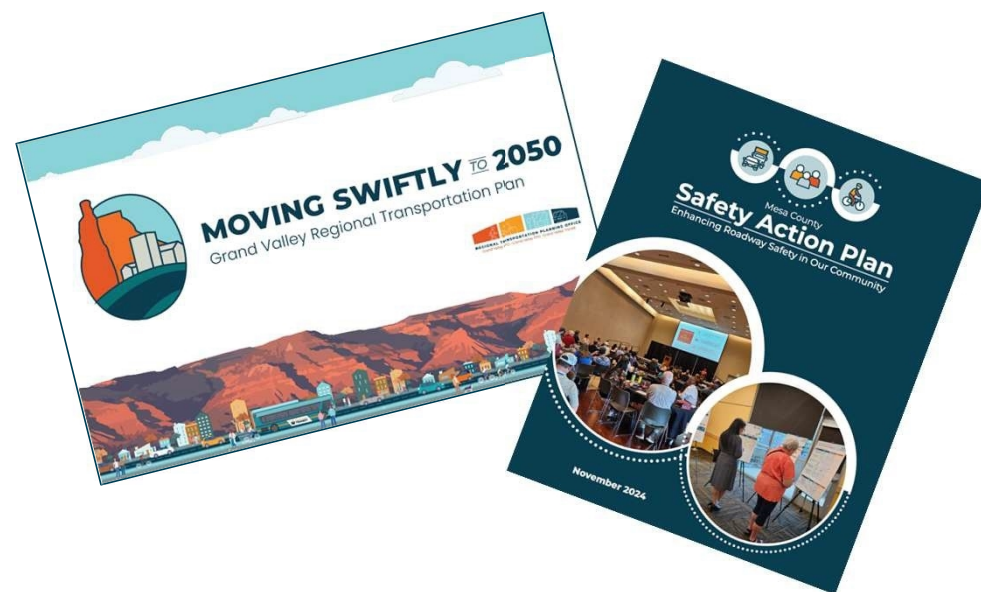


A funding gap: Even with ongoing federal and state grants, our needs outpace available funding. The County has never formally asked the community what improvements or services they would be willing to support through a potential ballot initiative.

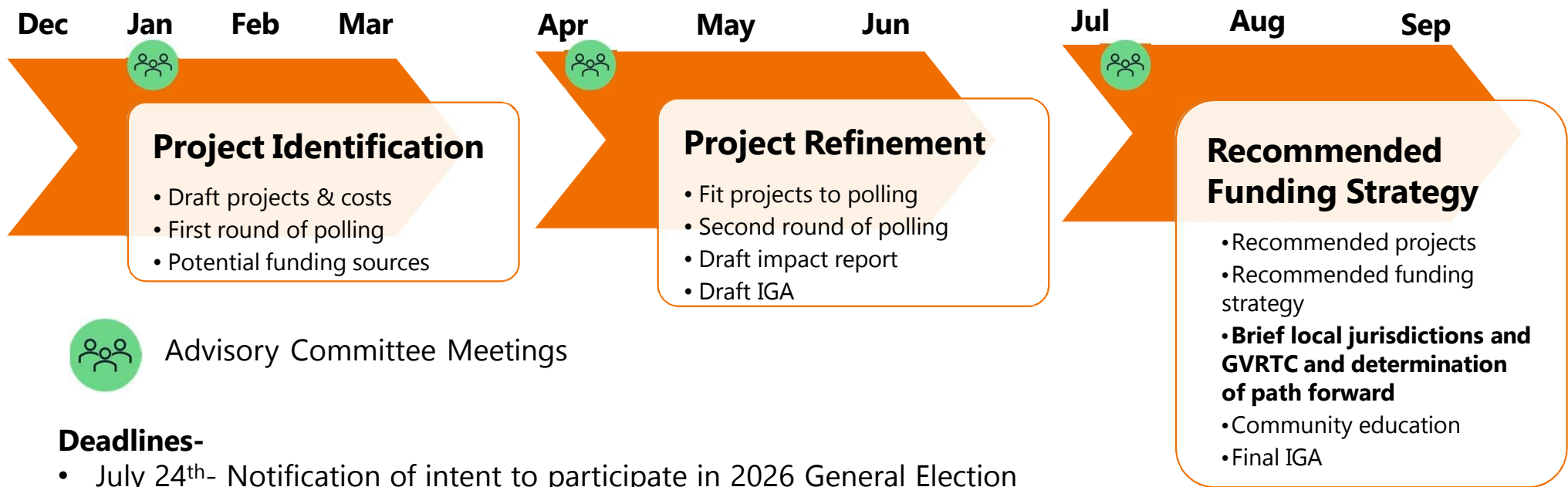
Regional Transportation Goals

From 2050 Grand Valley Regional Transportation Plan

- Safety (including Safety Action Plan goals)
- Efficiency
- Health and Environment
- Economy and Fiscal Responsibility
- Community Considerations



Study Process



Advisory Committee Meetings

Deadlines-

- July 24th- Notification of intent to participate in 2026 General Election
- August 25th - Deadline for IGA
- September 4th- Deadline to approve a question for the 2026 election

Partners and Contributors

- Consulting Services
 - Fehr & Peers and subconsultants-EPS, WR Communications, Kaplan Kirsh
- Advisory Committee
- Staff from local jurisdictions
- Updates at Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee(GVRTC) meetings and Transportation Advisory Committee meetings
- Presentation to governing boards and the GVRTC

Polling Overview

2 rounds of polling with the following purposes:

- Understand public concerns and transportation needs
- Assess willingness to provide dedicated/sustainable funding for transportation priorities
- Help team refine projects to balance community priorities with transportation needs

Impact Report

- Graphic-rich, yet concise public-facing document
- Communicate transportation challenges and potential solutions
- Relate transportation investment benefits to community values and impact
- Include qualitative and quantitative metrics including:
 - Economic impact- locally and personally
 - Quality of life/connectivity
 - Safety
- Explain anticipated impacts if funding doesn't increase

Potential Transportation Investments

Transit

- Maintain existing service
- Increase transit service

Safety

- Intersection improvements
- Pedestrian/Bicycle safety improvements
 - ADA Accessibility
 - Safe Routes to School
 - Filling sidewalk gaps
- Programming & Education

Roadway Maintenance

- Shoulder improvements
- Minor street reconstruction
- Surface treatments

Potential Transportation Investments

- Finance Study is not considering replacing the GVT IGA. Instead we are looking at:
 - Backfilling the “gap” that would normally be covered by federal funds (~\$1M/year)
 - Covering 20% match for SB24-230 Oil and Gas Production funds
 - Local appetite for increased transit service
- First round of polling and discussions with partners will help inform other potential investments in transportation

Peer Agencies

- Many Colorado communities have sustainability funding for transportation
- Some are also solely funded from general funds
 - Pueblo- City General Fund (majority of funding), County General Fund(One route that goes into unincorporated area)

Table 2
Current Regional Transportation Authorities

Authority	Member Municipalities and Counties	Sales Tax Rate	Use Tax Rate	Property Tax
Aerotropolis Regional Transportation Authority	City of Aurora, Adams County, and the Aerotropolis Area Coordinating Metropolitan District (AACMD)	None	None	5.0 mills
Eagle Valley Transportation Authority	Eastern parts of Eagle County, including the towns of Minturn, Eagle, Vail, Red Cliff, and Avon as well as the Beaver Creek Metropolitan District	0.5%	None	None
Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority	City of Gunnison, Town of Crested Butte, Town of Mt. Crested Butte, and Gunnison County excluding the municipalities of Somerset, Marble, Pitkin, and Ohio City	1.0%	None	None
Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority	Cities of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, unincorporated El Paso County, and the towns of Green Mountain Falls, Ramah, and Calhan	1.0%	1.0%	2.65 mills
Roaring Fork Transportation Authority	1. Cities of Basalt and New Castle 2. Cities of Carbondale and Glenwood Springs 3. Cities of Aspen and Snowmass Village, and unincorporated Pitkin County 4. Areas of unincorporated Eagle County in the El Jebel area and outside the city limits of Carbondale	1. 0.8% 2. 1.0% 3. 0.4% 4. 0.6%	1. 0.8% 2. 1.0% 3. 0.4% 4. 0.6%	2.65 mills
San Miguel Authority for Regional Transportation	Towns of Telluride and Mountain Village, plus eastern San Miguel County (excluding towns of Ophir and Sawpit)	1.07%	None	2.086 mills
South Platte Valley Regional Transportation Authority	City of Sterling	0.1%	0.1%	None

Next Steps

- Discussion today between the BoCC and City Council
- Manager's Meeting to discuss IGA split scheduled for February 13th, 2026
- Continued discussion on mobility hub ownership and operation
- Any changes to the IGA split would go before the GVRTC for approval



Thank You!

Extra Slides

Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA)

- Currently two IGAs between partner agencies
 - Grand Valley Transit
 - Operations and Capital Costs
 - Grand Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (GVMPO)
 - Federal requirements (long-range plan, Travel Demand Model and Transportation Improvement Program)
 - Mesa County Safety Action Plan
 - Transportation Finance Study

GVT IGA	Distribution
Total IGA	100%
Mesa County	65%
Grand Junction	30%
Fruita	3%
Palisade	2%

GVMPO IGA	Distribution
Total IGA	100%
Mesa County	47.1%
Grand Junction	47.1%
Fruita	4.1%
Palisade	1.7%

IGA Formulation

- Formula has historically considered a number of metrics
 - Assessed value
 - Ridership
 - Population
 - Number of routes
- Formula has not changed in over 20 years



Mesa County Japanese Beetle Eradication Project

Amber Martinez

Amber.Martinez@mesacounty.us

970-244-1762

www.mesacounty.us/departments-and-services/natural-resources

Mesa County Japanese Beetle Eradication Project

Having completed our third year of treatments, 2025 has had mixed results, in a challenging environment. With expanded trapping, more beetles were caught in a larger area. Existing staff have been critical, but additional resources are required to keep pace with the growing response.



3,997 Properties

↑**111%** since 2024. This number is significant for a very small team, primarily at the county. A consent determination was able to be made for 70% of them, while ↑**30% of properties were nonresponsive.**



1,454 Beetles Caught

↑**75%** since 2024. However, there was a ↑**51% increase in the number of traps set out (594).** These traps were also checked more frequently than in previous and mean beetles per trap only increased 15%.

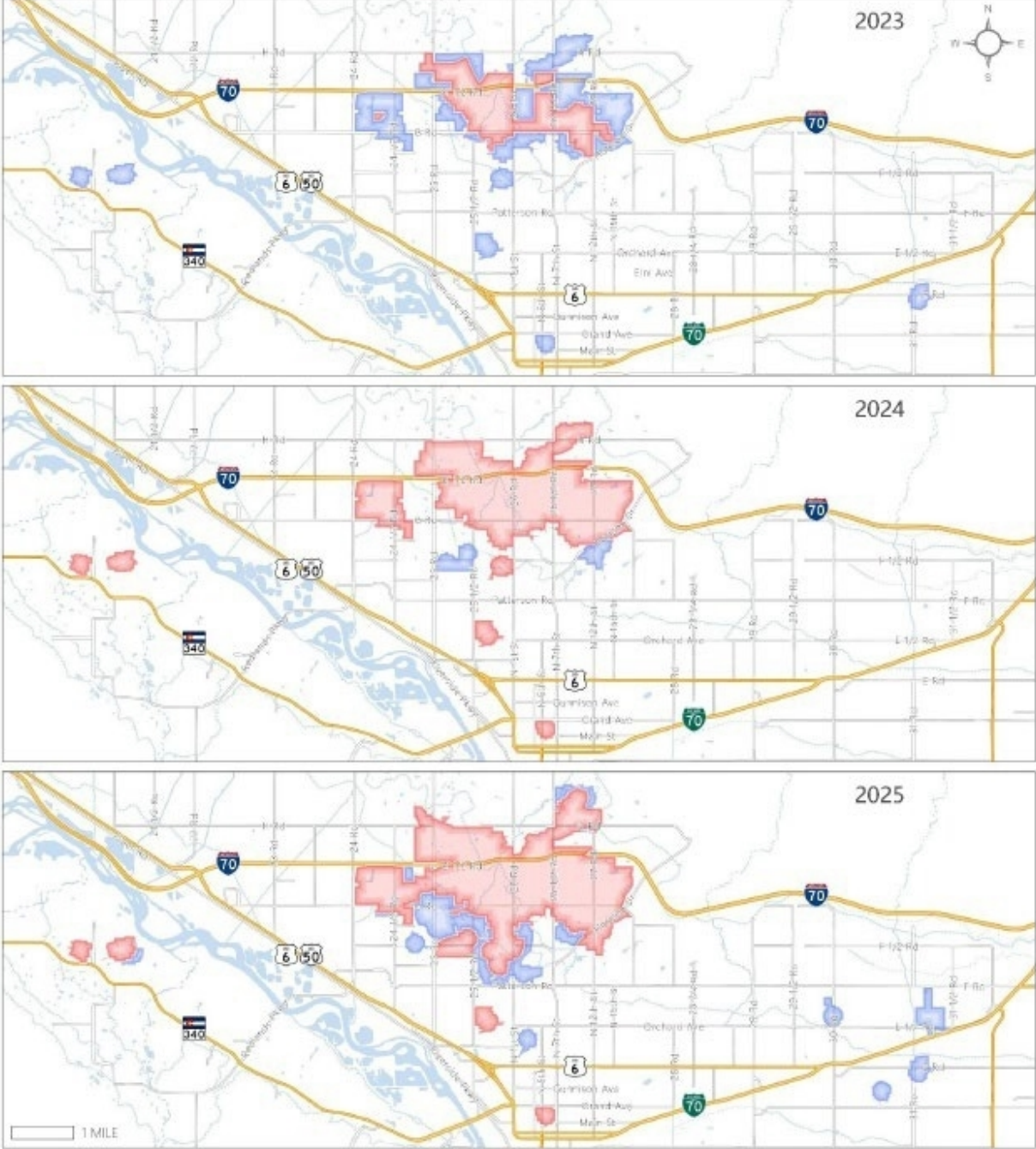
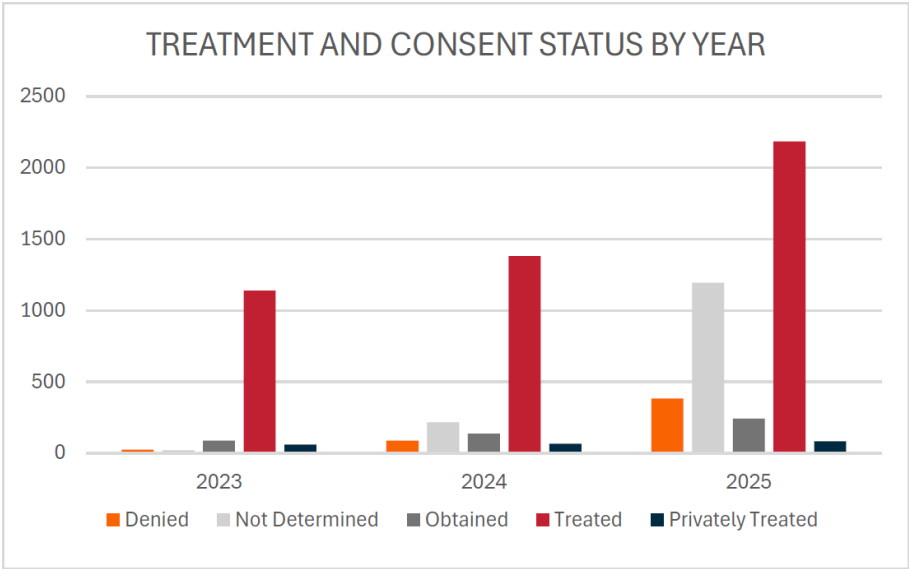


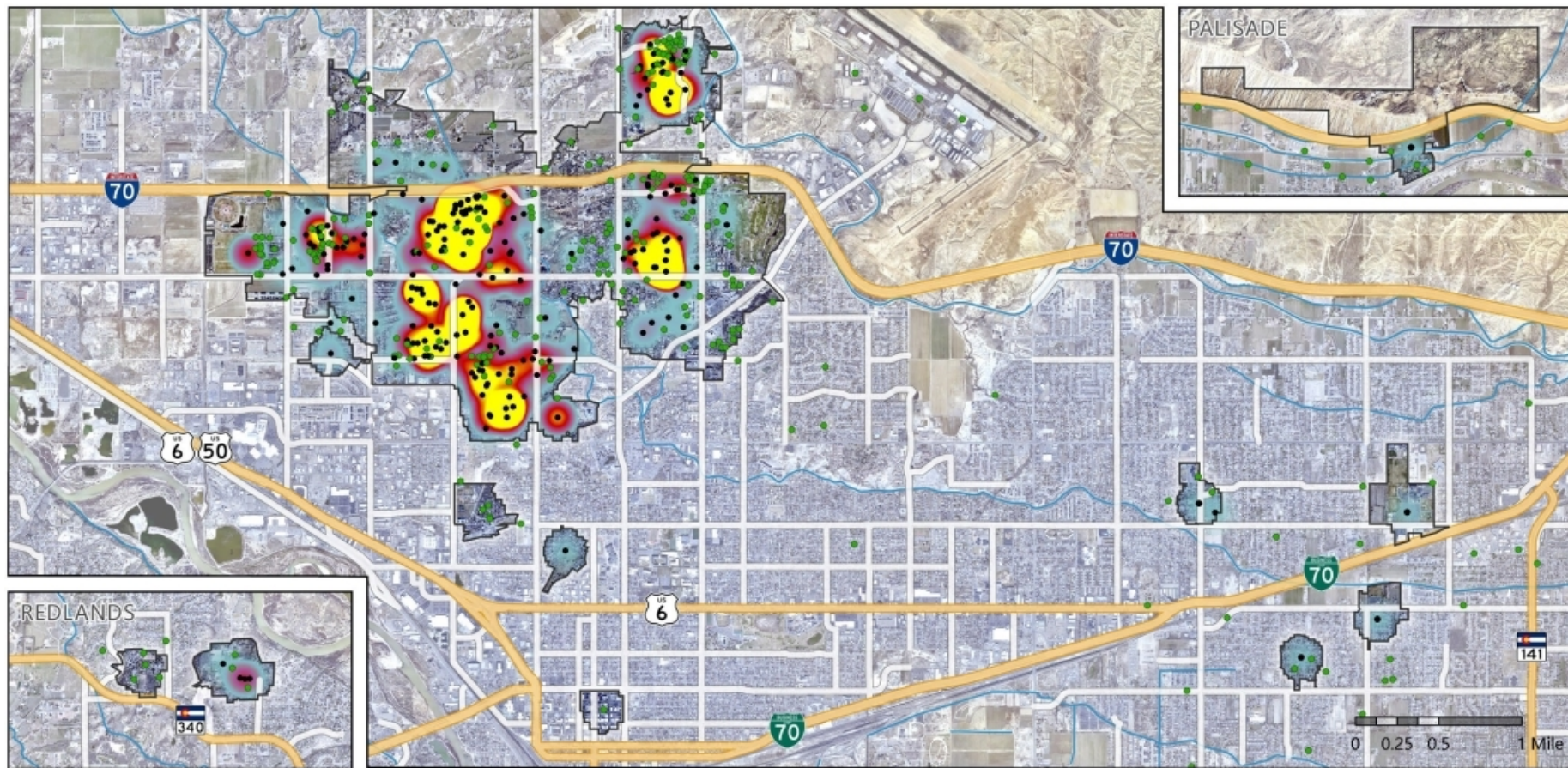
2,269 Properties Treated

↑**57%** since 2024. Other properties have been treated with GrubEx granules, largely outside the treatment zone and unrecorded. ↑**9.6% of properties explicitly did not consent to treatment.**

Treatment Zone Acreage

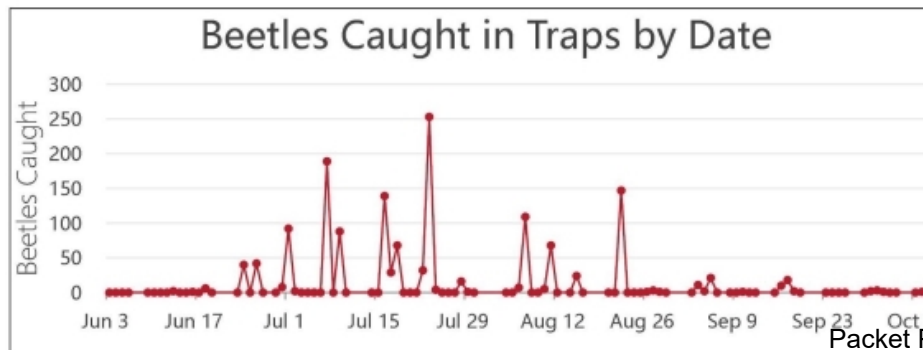
Year	Season	Acres (sq mi)	
2023	Spring	790.8	(1.2)
	Fall	1368.6	(2.1)
	Total	2159.4	(3.3)
2024	Spring	2123.3	(3.3)
	Fall	154.6	(0.2)
	Total	2277.9	(3.5)
2025	Spring	2660.4	(4.2)
	Fall	1287.7	(2.0)
	Total	3948.1	(6.2)





JAPANESE BEETLE HEAT MAP

2025 OVERVIEW*



2025 Japanese Beetle Count: 1454

Trap Locations and Beetle Presence

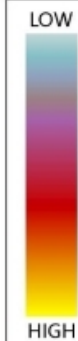
● Present ● Absent



Mesa County, Colorado
GIS/IT Department



Colorado State University
EXTENSION



2026 Project Year

Continue door-to-door efforts to secure homeowner consents

Spring and fall treatments

Trapping conducted by CDA and CSU Extension Office

Monthly coordination meetings

Partners treatments (Grand Junction, School District 51, Palisade)

Outreach & Education

Planning Site Plan handout

Mesa County, Grand Junction, Town of Palisade

Outreach Events

Pest of the Month

Radio- guest on various programs

Newsletters- City of Grand Junction's Forestry Board

Drawing for event tickets

Volunteers Needed

Contact: Ryan Surad, Coordinator

Email: JB@mesacounty.us

