

# 2017 Areas of Focus

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**WHAT IS AN AREA OF FOCUS?** Our Strategic Plan sets forth the County's goals and objectives. It is a road map for our current and future activities as well as a guide for allocation of our resources. Areas of Focus, on the other hand, are a filter or a lens through which all projects and activities can be evaluated regardless of whether the activity is in the Strategic Plan.

Although there may be some overlap, Areas of Focus are topics we want our employees to consider in their day-to-day activities. Some may be applicable, some may not. Our hope is that we will look holistically at how we provide services through this Areas of Focus lens.

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**AREA OF FOCUS: Affordable Health Care.** The availability of affordable health care will benefit local communities by ensuring universal access to essential health care services for all residents, reducing overall employer costs, retaining a middle class workforce, and creating a healthier community. Improve access and reduce costs through competition, efficiency, transparency, and strategies to reduce both external and internal costs of health care.

**AREA OF FOCUS: Early Childhood Development.** The investment in affordable, quality child care will benefit local communities by having children school ready, strengthening parents' ability to go to work, providing a larger and more diverse workforce, and providing middle class vitality. Improve access to childcare through land use, will building, social services, and partnerships.

**AREA OF FOCUS: Affordable Quality Workforce Housing.** The investment in affordable, quality workforce housing means energy efficient, durable, and safe housing units that are affordable to the workforce, senior, and disabled population in Eagle County. Improve access to workforce housing through land use, projects, investment and partnerships.

## 2017 Areas of Focus - *Continued*

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**AREA OF FOCUS: Transportation.** The investment in elevated air service as a preferred mode of transportation for destination travelers as well as increased local utilization of public transit and alternative modes of transportation will benefit the local economy, environment, safety, and overall quality of life. Improve Eagle County's local transportation network by focusing efforts to expand service options, improve connectivity efficiencies, and enhance supporting infrastructure including air service, public transit, local roads and highways, cycling opportunities, and pedestrian walkways.

**AREA OF FOCUS: Mental Health and Detox Facility.** The availability of a multi-faceted facility will benefit local communities by providing a full range of mental health services that support recovery, enable meaningful lives, increase potential for our constituents, and reduce strain on our local detention center. Improve local mental health services by education, public/private partnerships, and strategies to address this vulnerable area of our population.

**AREA OF FOCUS: Climate Action Plan.** The County has adopted the Climate Action Plan that calls for 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 and 80% by 2050. The implementation of the Climate Action Plan will protect the natural environment, provide economic savings, and provide an economic driver. Improve the local environment by education, outreach, discussion of policy and global targets, and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**AREA OF FOCUS: Internal Communication.** Eagle County Government will benefit when all employees who choose to be engaged have such an opportunity, when barriers to communication are removed, and when there is transparency and consistency in the messaging. Improve internal communication by involving the right people in the decision-making process, having our actions consistent with the message, better explaining the "why" behind decisions, and providing a meaningful opportunity for both top-down and bottom-up communications.