

PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COLORADO
STIMULUS DISBURSEMENT
REGENERATIVE RECOVERY COALITION
MAY 14, 2021



THE ALLIANCE
CENTER



COLORADO'S
REGENERATIVE
RECOVERY

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INTRODUCTION

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) “provides a substantial infusion of resources to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, more equitable economy as the country recovers”. The projects listed below will help Colorado to lead the country, not just in an economic recovery, but also focusing on the social determinants of health, equitable recovery of good jobs, clean energy, local agriculture, and vibrant communities across the state. Colorado is already on a path to becoming a much more regenerative economy (even before the pandemic, clean energy supplied more jobs than oil and gas). Using the Federal stimulus money to accelerate this transition and ensure that prosperity is equally shared will jumpstart Colorado’s emergence from the crisis.

The Regenerative Recovery Coalition (RRC) prioritized the projects below based on being shovel ready (ready to receive money), and being “possible, popular, and passable”. Projects were selected based on their ability to strengthen the state’s economy, contribute to the workforce of the future, and address the social determinants of health. Project alignment with the eight fundamentals of a regenerative recovery is indicated throughout the report with icons. Applicable state agencies are named by each project as well as possible non-profit (NGO) partners (we would be honored to provide more information or connect you with the organizations listed). Much of the actual work is being done by NGOs across the state, and it is important that funding be made available to NGOs who can work with the Administration to build Colorado forward.

RRC is a coalition of approximately 300 members representing more than 21,000 Coloradans in the workforce and \$2.8 billion in managed revenue. Its goal is to move the state toward a robust, localized economy that meets human needs equitably and abundantly. It will provide clean water, air, energy, food, and all of the services we need. Such a regenerative economy will deliver shared prosperity on a healthy planet.

It rests on eight fundamentals of a new operating system:

1. Transition rapidly to renewable, distributed, reliable energy
2. Strengthen and increase our regenerative food systems
3. Provide equitable access and opportunities
4. Build the industries and the workforce of the future
5. Invest in natural and built infrastructure
6. Build Colorado’s circular economy
7. Preserve and strengthen democratic institutions



8. Leverage diverse partnerships to demonstrate regeneration in action

PROJECT CATEGORIES

This report presents four project categories in separate tables:

Top Priority Shovel Ready (TPSR)

These ideas are top priority ideas that are ready to be funded or addressed through legislation. There is an agency or organization ready to take on the work.

Shovel Ready (SR)

These are ideas that are ready to be funded or addressed through legislation. There is an agency or organization ready to take on the work.

Good Idea (GI)

These are ideas that should be presented as they are close to being shovel ready, however the idea needs more information.

Needs Further Development (NFD)

These ideas are presented in Appendix (1) and represent ideas that need more information, and organization identification, etc.

Each fundamental can be identified in the following tables by the icons below:



Energy and Climate Change



Workforce Development



Democracy



Regenerative Agriculture



Natural and Built Infrastructure



Leverage Partnerships/
Regeneration in Action



Equity



Circular Economy



TOP PRIORITY SHOVEL READY (TPSR) PROJECTS

| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|---|-------------------------------|--|---|----------|
| 1 |  | <p>Provide funding to create soil health programs and training, including establishing alternative urban microfarms and teaching marginalized people to grow and prepare organic food. Provide additional money for SNAP to support regenerative farmers.</p> | <p>CDA, SNAP</p> | <p>Denver Urban Gardens, Farm Box food, Emerald Farms, GrowHaus, Focus Points, Metro Caring, Dahlia Campus/Mo Betta Greens, Mile High Farmers (Bronzeville), Frontline Farming, Tomten Farm and others on the west slope.</p> | <p>Agricultural, urban food programs, schools, and community orgs could work together.</p> <p>Similar to HB 21-1181 but with a focus on marginalized populations and areas where there are food deserts.</p> <p>Work with Western Colo State Univ. and Colo. Mtn. College.</p> | 1 |
| 2 |  | <p>Fund Uproot Colorado to expand their volunteer gleaning for food banks, and establish a worker-owned agricultural services cooperative. Link workers, producers and prospective farmers with the Farm & Food Mobile Workforce Collaborative (FFW). Fund the creation of a mobile workforce supplying producers and processors with on-demand labor so producers can sell more of what is now waste.</p> <p>Transition the mobile workforce pilot into an agricultural services cooperative to provide additional services to producers (e.g., a tool library with machine knowledge; marketing services; legal services; processing services).</p> | <p>CDA, OEDIT, DOC, CSUCL</p> | <p>UpRoot Colorado - David Laskarzewski. 720.560.0825. dave@uprootcolorado.org</p> <p>Dr. Joshua Sbicca-CSU, Dr. Kristin Klopfenste at the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab</p> <p><i>Farm & Food Mobile Workforce pilot</i></p> <p>Explore models such as Misfits Markets and Imperfect Foods.</p> | <p>Gleaning can get surplus productive food out of fields and onto tables.</p> <p>Producers need support: The CCCDA tax credit ended on 12.31.19.</p> <p>UpRoot's gleaning initiative diverts on-farm surplus into hunger-relief agencies via UpRoot's volunteer network (Producers are donating the crops in their fields and UpRoot's volunteers harvest these crops for hunger relief.)</p> <p>Community Food Share which works with Uproot on its gleaning program.</p> | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|--|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| 3 |  | Fund Restore Colorado (which is already set up to accept funds) to distribute to farmers and ranchers to support actions that create healthy soil and sequester carbon. | BC, COB, COD | Anthony@zerofoodprint.org phillip@madagriculture.org | \$100k in carbon farming projects are awaiting funding now. Applications for carbon farming projects statewide could use funding to staff up and grow this engine for healthy soil. | 1 |
| 4 |   | Fund The Colorado Grain Chain to add value to Colorado-grown grains (heirloom, heritage and landrace) grown by family farms by connecting these grains to added value Colorado producers (distillers to home bakers.) Include a Colorado Grown logo, technical assistance, training and market info. CGC has received a small grant from the USDA to create this. | CDA | Partners include the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, University of Colorado Boulder Media Department, University of Colorado- Colorado Springs Grain School. | This initiative is designed, staffed and ready for deployment. The program supports rural communities, agricultural heritage. The program unites the markets and added-value infrastructure of the Front Range and the growers of the Western Slope. CRO plays a support role to CDA | 1 |
| 5 |   | Identify food deserts—locations where residents have limited access to fresh/healthy foods, throughout the state. Identify agencies/ NGOs capable of creating food producing operations there. Identify available land for this and incentivize turning every possible opportunity into growing food. Fill in the gaps so there are NO 'food deserts'. For example, every K-12 school, prison, mental health center, municipal building, higher educational institute, should have a community garden. | CDA | benu11@yahoo.com | roberto.meza@emeraldgardens.farm Work with Emerald Gardens and East Denver Food Hub - Identify equivalent organizations in every community where a food desert is now present. | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|--|-------------|--|--|----------|
| 6 |   | <p>Fund deployment of biochar for farmers, forestry management and fire mitigation, land reclamation, etc. Biochar amends soil, increases crop yield, conserves water and also mitigates heavy metals, toxins and industrial agriculture chemicals.</p> <p>Fund mobile biochar pilot projects for forestry management and fire mitigation.</p> | CDNR, CDPHE | <p>James Gaspard, CEO Contact Biochar Now LLC (303) 882-3561 James.gaspard@biocharnow.com</p> <p>darren.mcavoy@usu.edu CSFS,</p> <p>CSFS's Landscape Scale Restoration Grant Program has an extensive grant program. CSFS will be able to determine which program mobile biochar for forest management fits in.</p> | <p>This group meets the California standards on biochar production and is certified by the US EPA. Located in Berthoud, CO.</p> <p>Biochar can help restore brownfield sites such as the Globeville neighborhood.</p> <p>CO, Utah, CA, and other states have some interesting mobile biochar projects/pilots completed/underway.</p> | |
| 7 |   | <p>Pay for customer-sited solar that BIPOC can own, or access, in multi-family buildings to cut utility bills. Subsidize one or more solar co-ops (bulk purchase of rooftop solar) for low income or non-profit building owners at \$5,000 per building.</p> | CEO | <p>Bryce Carter, bcarters@solarunitedneighbors.org Solar Energy International</p> | | 1 |
| 8 |   | <p>Fund real-time monitoring for noxious gas permits and analysis instead of using imprecise predictive modeling. This will combat both local toxins and GHG emissions. Establish a third-party oversight approval process for permits. Focus monitoring on underserved communities.</p> | CDPHE | | <p>Could be a workforce development program. The state could also provide a certificate program and training to build a workforce that can keep up with demand for both direct monitoring and the third-party approval process.</p> | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|------------|--|--|----------|
| 9 |  | Fund the study to align the 2020/2021 talent pipeline report with regenerative jobs, then create and fund the certificate programs to support the skills transition. | CDLE, CDHE | Regenerative Recovery Coalition, Community Colleges across the state | With funding, the Regenerative Recovery Coalition can do this study/mapping then coordinate with the community college system to set up the certificate programs. | 1 |
| 10 |  | Run Public Education Campaign on: “Career opportunities in renewable energy” and “Returning to Work: The best time to transition to a career”. Focus the campaign to de-stigmatize the skilled trades, certificate programs and vocational training. | CEO, CDLE | Namaste Solar, Solar International, The Colorado Regenerative Recovery Coalition | Many employers need workers and have durable careers to offer. Include retraining programs for 2nd chance citizens include chronically underemployed/ unemployed. | 1 |
| 11 |  | Provide sufficient funding to the CO Just Transition Office to expand the office's support to oil and gas industry workers to assist them in the re-training and other support needed as this industry goes through a managed phase-out. | CDLE, COJT | Kathy Swartz, Solar Energy International, Brittany Heller, Grid Alternatives | Identify coal, oil and gas dependent communities and where possible fund the installation of wind and solar farms to use local workers to transition. Consider upfront funding to these new energy producers to ensure that wages are similar to prior jobs. | 1 |
| 12 |  | Establish program to train contractors to install heat pumps and other energy efficient equipment. Provide scholarships/discounted rates. Ensure that when that equipment owner is ready, they aren't forced into a reactive situation of replacing failed equipment with the first available, which is usually only minimally code compliant. | CEO, CDLE | steve@bolderee.com , president@rmaee.org , Blocpower, Community College Network | Team with companies like Carrier, Johnson Controls, AO Smith, etc. to bulk buy. Opportunity to focus on BIPOC training as skilled labor and expanded financing through the RENU, C-PACE and CCEF programs. | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|---|-----------------------|--|---|----------|
| 13 |  | <p>Use stimulus funds to create jobs skills in renewable energy. Invest in expanding the reach of established training providers like Solar Energy International and Grid Alternatives.</p> <p>Develop stand-alone solar training programs at community colleges and universities where there is a regional market that can actively support the ongoing hiring of graduates.</p> <p>Invest in ongoing training-of-trainers, including mentoring programs and opportunities for real-world experiences. Connect efforts to the (potential) renewable energy park near NREL.</p> | DORA, CEO, CDLE | <p>Kathy Swartz, Solar Energy International;</p> <p>Brittany Heller, Grid Alternatives</p> | <p>Connect this with the renewable energy park near NREL for onsite training and implementation.</p> <p>Suggest reaching out or working with the CDLE. They did a similar program during the 2008 Recession called the Green Initiative.</p> <p>See Sterling Community College's wind training program.</p> <p>IBEW - apprentice programs to accelerate electrification to meet new Federal programs: electrify houses, install charging stations, etc.</p> | |
| 14 |  | <p>Increase funding for composting infrastructure with regional/ multi-county partnerships that have been working on infrastructure, but may not have all the resources they need to put in infrastructure. Focused on local utilization of end products.</p> <p>Fund gap infrastructure (e.g., for composting) identified through the pending statewide organics management study conducted by CDPHE and DOA.</p> | CDPHE, CDOA | Recycle Colorado, Eco-Cycle | <p>e.g., in-vessel composting, vaults - https://www.compostingtechnology.com/ - earth tubs/connex systems.</p> | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| 15 |  | <p>Direct more funding to RREO as they get more applications for funding.</p> <p>Fund an end-market center to use recycled materials in Colorado. SB 20-55 commissioned a study, but has not funded the center.</p> <p>Deploy universal curbside recycling bins and infrastructure.</p> | CDPHE, RREO | | <p>RREO receives far more project applications than they can fund.</p> <p>CDPHE RREO Fund/Front Range Waste Diversion/(FRWD).</p> | 1 |
| 16 |  | <p>Supply additional funding for a rapid build out of light rail that currently doesn't have sufficient funding to build out until 2040+.</p> | CDOT | | | 1 |
| 17 |   | <p>Provide gap funding to bring broadband cable to rural Colorado. Focus on the most acute areas for lack of service and where the 'last' mile of installation can close the gap.</p> <p>Workforce development can be a focus as well to train and hire teams to do this work from rural parts of the state.</p> | DOLA, CDOT, OEDIT, CDLE | | <p>Coordinate with CDOT projects to lay cable where existing projects are already identified.</p> | 1 |
| 18 |  | <p>Allow 501c3 nonprofits to become eligible recipients of the stimulus funds, in addition to small businesses. Provide preference for organizations with an equity and regenerative focus.</p> | JBC, OEDIT | The Regenerative Recovery Coalition | <p>The Regenerative Recovery Coalition could help be a liaison with this. NGOs deliver many of the services that are needed to bring the economy back from the pandemic. They are chronically underfunded, but essential to their communities.</p> | 1 |

| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|-------------------------|--|---|----------|
| 19 |  | <p>Fund the Regenerative Recovery Coalition as the backbone to coordinate all such efforts listed in this report. The Coalition can work with all relevant state agencies, legislative chambers and all listed NGO partners to implement these projects. The Coalition will be the coordinating agency to break down silos, ensure effective action and clear communication between all stakeholders and track qualitative and quantitative metrics of success.</p> | <p>OEDIT, DOLA, CRO</p> | <p>Regenerative Recovery Coalition</p> | <p>The first step is to provide funding to The Alliance Center to run the Coalition. The second step would be to fund a staff person in CRO as a dedicated to this liaison effort. The third step would be identifying the top priority projects from this list the state wants to advance. The fourth step would be to create an implementation council of relevant state agency representatives, and NGO leaders to move these ideas into action.</p> | <p>1</p> |
| 20 |     | <p>Issue grants to municipalities across the state with three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical assistance and capacity building; 2. Strategic planning; 3. Implementation <p>The grants would fund municipal level resilience and recovery planning incorporating climate change mitigation and adaptation. Where possible networks of municipalities can be connected into regional collaboratives. CRO developed the Colorado Resiliency Framework 2020 that can also be a base for this project with additional funding. CEO has an online guide for local governments on what should be addressed and contained in a local Climate Change Action Plan.</p> | <p>DOLA, CRO, CEO</p> | <p>Regenerative Recovery Coalition</p> | <p>Two Examples:</p> <p>1- Coordinate with local governments to ensure that each community has a Resilience Hub capable of operating off-grid should the utility lights go out. Make grant money available to get solar and battery storage. Resiliency hubs are a strategy in the Colorado Resiliency Framework. Funding would be needed to incentivize the construction of these and it would also create local jobs.</p> <p>2- Empower local communities to create the foundations for self-sustenance. Educate and equip communities to create regenerative gardens to provide the basic necessity of food with an understanding in their contribution to reverse climate change.</p> | <p>1</p> |



SHOVEL READY (SR) PROJECTS

| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|--|-------------------------------|---|---|----------|
| 21 |  | Fund installation of Level 3 (rapid charging) and additional Level 2 EV charging stations at all state buildings to support the significant increase in electric vehicles that is coming. Fund Level 3 rapid-charging EV charging stations at all rest stops in the state. | CDOT Charge Ahead Colorado | | As the transportation fleet becomes electrified, sufficient supply of charging stations will be needed. | 1 |
| 22 |  | Boost existing utility and local municipal rebate offerings to replace older models of electric and gas equipment with high efficiency alternatives like tank-style water heaters and cooling-only DX equipment with heat pump versions. | CEO | | This could be paired with job skills training. | 1 |
| 23 |  | Support economic development opportunities related to soil-based carbon sequestration through CSU's Soil Carbon Solutions Center. | CDOA | CSU, Keith Paustian keith.paustian@colostate.edu Include all the groups doing this: Mad Agriculture, Colorado Carbon Fund, Savory Institute, etc. | Soil Carbon Solutions Center - Vice President for Research | 1 |
| 24 |   | Fund more voting centers and ballot boxes in BIPOC communities across the state. | CSOS | New Era Colorado | | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------|
| 25 |  | Provide funds to consolidate and utilize under-occupied and unused city properties to provide housing and services for the unhoused. | DOLA Division of Housing | Support Program (HB21-242) | Need to build coalition of invested groups closest to the issues and needs, create projects to execute. Housing Development Grants Hotel Tenancy. | 1 |
| 26 |  | Fund improvements for trailheads across the state including improved parking management technology and infrastructure, waste management collection bins and bi-lingual signage, and wayfaring upgrades. | CTO | | Supports Destination Stewardship and the Care for Colorado Coalition | 1 |
| 27 |  | Fund incentives to encourage installation of battery storage in combination with renewable energy generation at all scales (residential, multifamily, commercial, and utility). | CEO | | Pass legislation to incentivize then back it with the funding needed. | 2 |
| 28 |   | Eliminate the digital divide by delivering universal broadband as a public utility, delivering affordable, reliable, high-capacity technology to youth in schools to, especially in rural and BIPOC communities to deliver digital skills training and equip them to join the future workforce; Where possible map broadband cable with road/infrastructure projects. | DOLA, CDOT | | | 2 |

| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|--------------------|-------------|--|----------|
| 29 |  | Fund review of “State Blue Book” of Boards and Commissions to make board member selection inclusive, resulting in more racially and ethnically diverse appointees. Regulations on who sits on boards and reviews regulatory agendas for agencies are opaque or written in statute; Increase the stipend for members from marginalized communities to serve. | All state agencies | | With funding, the Regenerative Recovery Coalition can do this study/ mapping then coordinate with the appropriate agencies. | 2 |
| 30 |  | Fund agricultural workforce development through CSU’s new RamSkiller non-credit online platform focused on agriculture and technology. | CSU | | Set to launch this summer, this platform will provide accessible skills-based training for agricultural workforce development. | 2 |
| 31 |  | Establish a program and purchase trucks and hire drivers to transport rural farm products to various locations in the urban corridor so that product can be efficiently moved to markets. Purchase mobile slaughter vehicles to service small ranches and farms, and train people to operate them to reduce overhead costs for small meat producers. USDA Assistance for Small Scale Meat Processing USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service and Rural Development | CDA | | <p>Ensure that such programs are fair and equitable. Need USDA inspectors to have the product saleable commercially</p> <p>Small scale processing facilities are now booked out a year in advance. There is a clear market need.</p> | 2 |
| 32 |  | Coordinate with Federal programs to implement wildfire recovery and rehabilitation efforts from 2020 wildfires. | CSFS, CDNA, USDA | | Local Job creation and connection with environment/ climate issues and community. | 2 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|----------|--|--|----------|
| 33 |  | Fund the creation of accessible and multilingual ballot guides that translate legal language on ballots into common wording so voters can better form their own opinions. Use initial funding to create the team to do this, ideally from BIPOC communities, then create an annual fund for the translation each year. | CSOS | New Era Colorado | | 2 |
| 34 |  | Implement deep energy retrofits on public schools, including dynamic LED lighting upgrades. | CDE, CEO | LED Lighting: ted@eosavings.com | Students improve concentration and motivation from dynamic lighting (75% less hyperactive and make 45% fewer mistakes.) | 3 |
| 35 |  | Support subsidized soil health testing to farmers and homeowners; support expansion of CSU soil testing laboratory to SPUR campus in Denver. | CDA, CSU | | Builds on existing Colorado Soil Health Collaboratory efforts | 3 |
| 36 |  | Fund the \$3.2 billion in unfunded walking and transit improvements in the DRCOG plan. Plan and build out a full network of protected bike & walkways for all. Denver estimates around \$1 million/mile for high comfort bikeways or protected bikes lanes | CDOT | | For a network of 400-600 miles that's \$400-\$600M. 20 cities from CO would be about \$10 billion. Cost of a bike network for a city is around \$60 million (2008 estimate). | 3 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|---|-----------------|--|--|----------|
| 37 |  | Establish a multi-stakeholder task force reporting to the Governor to detail what is required to get the state to 90% (better 100%) renewable power by 2035. | CEO | | | 4 |
| 38 |  | Fund the difference to make every new public bus and school bus an EV. | CDOT, CEO, DOLA | | | 4 |
| 39 |  | Provide funding for LED lightbulb replacement. Provide user information in multiple languages and distribute in rural and mountain areas. | CEO | LED Lighting: ted@eosavings.com | Expand the utility programs doing this through Home Depot and other retail outlets BIPOC can access. | 4 |
| 40 |  | Interview local food producers and purveyors in rural Colorado towns. Create promotional and marketing assets for local regenerative food organizations and systems. | CDA | Liz Morgan Nutrition, liz@lizmorgannutrition.com | . | 4 |
| 41 |  | Action-ists Network: Develop a database of existing regenerative resources and programs, as well as an annual training program and annual conference. Create a network where people can communicate and a process to regularly update resource lists. | | Regenerative Recovery Coalition | | 4 |

GOOD IDEAS (GI) FOR PROJECTS

| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--|-------------|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 42 |  | Implement energy and water efficiency retrofits upon sale ordinance for all multi-family residences, and all large residences with high energy use. | CEO | | Will require study, but will overcome the situation now that houses are flipping in days | 1 |
| 43 |   | Provide grants to aspiring BIPOC farmers and ranchers (individuals, families, and co-ops) to buy and build sustainable farms and ranches. Give subsidies for land stewards in indigenous cultures who implement regenerative agriculture. | CDA | Rocky Mountain Farmers Union | Need to connect with community orgs and organizers; state agencies are not positioned to address these issues, and only need to be a conduit of funds and oversight - there is also Federal money coming specifically for this, so the task is to coordinate this money – Identify BIPOC farmers who might be eligible for such a program. | 1 |
| 44 |   | Invest in reforestation and vegetation management as a natural climate solution. This provides jobs, and restores Colorado's ecological diversity. Work with One Earth's Global Safety Net, Department of Natural Resources and conservation NGOS to develop a state land use and conservation plan to ensure Colorado has the adequate and intact ecosystems to sustain life and reduce carbon. | CDNR (BRIC) | One Earth | As Colorado's climate continues to get warmer and drier, this is important for water management, wildfire mitigation, and soil conservation. This is one climate solution that doesn't have a private market advocating for it. | 1 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|---|--------|---|---|----------|
| 45 |  | <p>Make Colorado a NON-GMO state in agricultural practices. Start including more indigenous agricultural practices by building collaborations with the BIPOC community members most impacted by the pandemic.</p> | CDA | | <p>https://vandanashivamovie.com/why-this-film/</p> <p>Encourage Dept. of Agriculture, USDA, RMFU, etc. to engage in more equity collaborations.</p> | 2 |
| 46 |  | <p>Fund the start-up of a public bank. The Bank would start out small, requiring very little investment from the State up front. As little as \$100 million could kick start a Bank that would be transformational to the state economy.</p> <p>Colorado could pay off or refinance Certificates of Participation making the public bank profitable in the first year and save taxpayers money.</p> | OEDIT | | <p>Legislation can be passed to exempt the bank from Proposition 117. Then it could grow to achieve its potential estimated at \$30-60 billion in loans if proportionate in population and lending to the Bank of North Dakota.</p> | 2 |
| 47 |  | <p>Start using appropriate public land for urban farming or education farming schools for BIPOC communities.</p> | | <p>benu11@yahoo.com, Denver Urban Gardens</p> | <p>Investigate leasing and other arrangements with the State and other land holders. Investigate partnering with other organizations who are also seeking use of underutilized public lands for urban farming potential.</p> | 3 |
| 48 |   | <p>Create a Colorado carbon market focused on ranchland carbon sequestration.</p> | CDA | <p>Savory Institute, Colorado Carbon Fund, Mad Agriculture</p> | <p>This could bring a large market to Colorado.</p> | 3 |



| Idea No. | Fundamental | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|---|-----------|--------------------------|--|----------|
| 49 |  | Fund water utilities efforts to conserve water by providing incentives and subsidies to water users throughout the State to remove turf for xeriscape and other water conservation initiatives. | CDNR | Water Conservation Board | Resource Central - Kate Larson, Program Director | 3 |
| 50 |  | Establish a land use and building code study group charged with going beyond IECC standards. | CEO, DOLA | | | 4 |



APPENDIX I: IDEAS THAT NEED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT (NFD)

| Idea No. | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|--|--------|------------------|--|----------|
| 51 | CDOT GHG Roadmap calls for transit-supportive land uses on state property near high-frequency transit stations (e.g., RTD train and bus rapid transit stations and Bus stations). | | | Emphasize affordable housing (low-income households use transit more than affluent households) and low parking supply (as parking reduced development intensity often counters transit use). Pursue super-municipal authority to encourage transit-supportive land uses. | 2 |
| 52 | Work with Resource Generation in creating more social justice projects around equity especially around BIPOC access to land and funding for start-ups including support to reduce failure. | | benu11@yahoo.com | https://resourcegeneration.org/ https://chinookfund.org/ | 2 |
| 53 | Mentor and Mobilize: Provide training to assist Colorado residents to jumpstart initiatives for environmental, justice, or community projects. Coach and mentor individuals to find or start teams that can launch projects such as community gardens, community solar, or other endeavors for neighborhoods, faith communities, businesses, schools, or other communities. Create an annual cycle of training to develop a growing network of action-ists and support programs and resources. | OEDIT | | [It is a good idea, but this would be an ongoing expense – the State wants one-time projects] | 3 |
| 54 | Work with the CO Dept. of Corrections to pilot an agricultural training program for BIPOC. The number of BIPOC farmers in the US is somewhere around 2%. Meanwhile, the ratio of people of color to whites currently residing in incarceration is ~7.4 to 1. | DOC | | Discuss shovel readiness with David Laskarzewski. 720.560.0825. dave@uprootcolorado.org | 4 |



| Idea No. | Idea | Agency | NGO Contact | Notes | Priority |
|----------|---|--------------|-------------|--|----------|
| 55 | Climate Change and Ecological Action Workshops: Lead established groups through envisioning their community together; each group/community creates a model. Address local food systems with regenerative agriculture along with recycling and upcycling as pillars of a sustainable trajectory. Create a loan fund to capitalize sustainable enterprises. | | | Browsing for Bridges Non-Profit hosting the workshop, a collaboration of resources to support communities with action plans. | 4 |
| 56 | Fund programs that facilitate businesses' ability to create and implement strategic corporate social responsibility (CSR) plans in order to recruit, retain, and engage employees and market their efforts to customers. | | | | 4 |
| 57 | Establish a land use and building code study group charged with going beyond IECC standards. | CEO, DOLA | | | 4 |
| 58 | Provide grants to businesses that can prove they are impact-driven and prove that they are taking care of stakeholders & not just shareholders. | | | | 5 |
| 59 | Instituting a VMT tax imposed on EV and ICE vehicles could generate increased funding for multimodal transportation investments like first/last mile connections. | | | | 5 |
| 60 | Require metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to assess per-capita costs and benefits and require a nexus between transportation plans (like Metro Vision) and transportation investments. | | | Despite MPOs' enthusiasm for smart growth, green mobility, etc. (like in DRCOG's Metro Vision), the MPOs often fund highway projects over multimodal projects. | 5 |
| 61 | Train the real estate industry in green appraisals and green MLS. | CEO | | | 5 |



APPENDIX II: GUIDANCE FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

The Secretary of the Treasury (Treasury) issued an Interim Final Rule to implement the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act. You can find the full interim rule at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf>

The Interim Final Rule specifies certain uses for the funds: “Funds should be designed to address an economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency. Recipients should assess the connection between the negative economic harm and the COVID-19 public health emergency, the nature and extent of that harm, and how the use of this funding would address such harm.”

The Rule specifies that funds may be used:

- a) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- b) To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- c) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency; and
- d) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

In addition, the Rule states that “the ARPA provides a substantial infusion of resources to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, more equitable economy as the country recovers.” It prioritizes funds “to ensure that State, local, and Tribal governments have the resources needed to continue to take actions to decrease the spread of COVID-19.... Funds may also be used by recipients to provide support for costs incurred in addressing public health and economic challenges resulting from the pandemic, including resources to offer premium pay to essential workers... and to replace State, local, and Tribal government revenue lost due to COVID-19, helping to ensure that governments can continue to provide needed services and avoid cuts or layoffs.”

The Rule states, “Finally, these resources lay the foundation for a strong, equitable economic recovery, not only by providing immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, but also by addressing the systemic public health and economic challenges that may have contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic among low-income communities and people of color.”

“Within the eligible use categories ... governments have flexibility to determine how best to use payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds to meet the needs of their communities and populations.” The Rule “provides flexibility for recipients to use payments from the



Fiscal Recovery Funds for programs or services that are not identified on these non-exclusive lists.” The rule stresses the “importance of public input, transparency, and accountability.”

APPENDIX III: TERMS

| <u>Acronym</u> | <u>Name of Department or Organization</u> |
|-----------------------|--|
| BC | Boulder County |
| BRIC | Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities |
| CDA | Colorado Department of Agriculture |
| CDE | Colorado Department of Education |
| CDLE | Colorado Department of Labor and Employment |
| CDHE | Colorado Department of Higher Education |
| CDOC | Colorado Department of Corrections |
| CDOT | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| CDPHE | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment |
| CSFS | Colorado State Forest Service |
| COB | City of Boulder |
| COD | City of Denver |
| CEO | Colorado Energy Office |
| COJT | Colorado Office of a Just Transition |
| CRO | Colorado Resiliency Office |
| CSOS | Colorado Secretary of State |
| CSU | Colorado State University |
| CTO | Colorado Tourism Office |
| CDNR | Colorado Department of Natural Resource |
| DOLA | Department of Local Affairs |
| JBC | Joint Budget Committee |
| OEDIT | Office of Economic Development International Trade |
| RREO | Recycling Resources Economic Opportunities Fund |



SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

