San Miguel County has been serving the public since its incorporation in 1883.

* Population projection by Colorado State Demography Office for 2016 and assuming 2.5% population growth rate.
San Miguel County’s annual budget is prepared in accordance with Colorado law. It is developed in compliance with Colorado Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) provisions. The full budget can be downloaded at https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/budget2018. San Miguel County has a long and continued commitment to addressing the needs of county residents, providing quality service and practicing prudent fiscal management.

**County Service Levels**

The 2018 budget funded 121.1 Full-Time Equivalent positions (FTEs) a 0.5 FTE decrease from 2017. The 2018 FTEs represent an increase of 0.93% over 2011 staffing levels. Budget years 2009 through 2015 saw declines in staffing levels due to the recession. Personnel costs comprise approximately 41% of the county’s 2018 Adopted Budget compared to 51% of the 2017 Adopted Budget.
2018 Budgeted Revenues are $22,953,105. 2018 Budgeted Expenditures are $27,286,046. The 2018 budgeted revenues are $2,943,991 more than 2017 estimated revenues. This more than 14% increase is due in part to several significant grants. For comparison, the 2017 budgeted revenues increased from 2016 by less than 1%. Approximately 39% of the county revenue is from property taxes (see page 6). Sales tax for 2018 is projected to increase 2% over 2016-2017 levels, in part due to cannabis sales. About 60% of the county is untaxable federal public land. The county received $1.1 million in federal Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) in 2017, which accounts for 5% of the total budgeted revenues and 10% of the budgeted General Fund revenues. PILT funds require authorization and funding by Congress annually. As of June 2018, the House and Senate have each approved PILT funds for FY2019 at levels similar to 2018.

The County’s General Fund supports most of the County’s departments. The General Fund allocations in 2018 are fairly typical of past years with a few exceptions where grants have been procured to accomplish capital projects. For example, budgeted transit expenditures increased from $301,552 in 2017 to $1.7M in 2018 due to a $1.5M state grant to construct a transit hub and parking lot at Lawson Hill in 2018. The new Early Childhood Care and Education Fund approved by the voters to be created and funded by a new 0.750 mill levy in 2018, is projected to generate balanced revenues and expenditures of $617,145 in 2018. Similar to last year, Public Safety/Sheriff’s Office accounts for 40.3% of the General Fund’s budgeted expenditures.
2018 Adopted Revenues by Fund

2018 Adopted Expenditures by Fund

2018 Adopted Expenditures Within General Fund

2018 Sheriff's Office Adopted Expenditures
Property tax revenue estimates are based on the assessed valuation provided by the County Assessor multiplied by the mill levies. A mill levy is a tax that is applied to each property's taxable value which is based on the assessed value reduced by the assessment rate (see Example Calculation below). One mill equates to one dollar per $1,000 of taxable value. In Colorado, the assessment rate depends on the type of use of the property. For example, the 2018 assessment rate on residential property is 7.2%, while the assessment rate on commercial or vacant property is 29%. The 2017 assessment rate on residential property was 7.96%. Per the Gallagher Amendment, Colorado must periodically adjust the residential assessment rate to maintain a 45/55 ratio between residential property tax revenues and commercial/industrial/vacant property tax revenues statewide.**

The assessed valuation of all property within San Miguel County increased 4.1% between 2017 and 2018 and remains 8.9% lower than the pre-recession 2008 assessed valuation level. The assessed valuation increased by $33,476,890, representing a combined $957,168 increase in property tax revenue for all funds from 2017 to 2018. Property tax revenues account for 39% of the 2018 Adopted Budget revenues compared to 41% of the 2017 Adopted Budget revenues.

The San Miguel County Treasurer collects property taxes for all taxing districts within the county. Mill levies are set by special taxing districts or authorities such as municipal governments, school districts, recreational districts, hospital districts, fire protection and water districts. The County Government itself collects 10.870 mills for six specific county funds. In 2018, the County started collecting 0.750 mills for a new Early Childhood Care fund approved by San Miguel County voters. While the county's total mill levy is 10.870 mills per property, the actual mills collected vary from 30.405 to 71.683 because the County Treasurer distributes funds collected for other taxing districts.**

**See SMC's Gallagher Amendment Whitepaper at https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/gallagher2018**
2018 Allocation of Property Taxes by Tax Area

Norwood Residents (Area 201)
Total Mills: 71.683

- Norwood Sanitation District (2.643 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.508 Mills)
- Recreation District (1.000 Mills)
- Town Govt (15.129 Mills)
- Fire District (10.600 Mills)
- Library District (2.428 Mills)

Telluride Residents (Area 101)
Total Mills: 35.956

- SMART Transit (1.525 Mills)
- County Govt (13.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Cemetery District (0.437 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Town Govt (4.651 Mills)
- Fire District (2.940 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)

West End Residents (Area 301)
Total Mills: 40.431

- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.162 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (10.962 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Fire District (8.000 Mills)

Mountain Village Residents (Area 108)
Total Mills: 46.926

- SMART Transit (1.075 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Cemetery District (0.159 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Town Govt (13.717 Mills)
- Fire District (2.940 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)

Fall Creek/Placerville/Hastings/Ski Ranches (Area 104) Residents Total Mills: 31.347

- SMART Transit (0.775 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Fire District (2.840 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.162 Mills)
- SMC Rec. District (0.000 Mills)

Hillside/Last Dollar/Ski Ranches (Area 103) Residents Total Mills: 31.497

- SMART Transit (0.775 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Cemetery District (0.159 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Fire District (2.840 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.162 Mills)
- SMC Rec. District (0.000 Mills)

Wilson Mesa (Area 106) Residents Total Mills: 53.482

- SMART Transit (0.775 Mills)
- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Wilson Mesa Metro District (2.315 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Fire District (2.940 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)
- Solid Waste Disposal District (0.162 Mills)
- SMC Rec. District (0.000 Mills)

Ophir Residents (Area 105) Total Mills: 58.070

- County Govt (10.870 Mills)
- School District (11.059 Mills)
- Water Conservation District (0.407 Mills)
- Town Govt (27.665 Mills)
- Hospital District (2.299 Mills)
- Fire District (2.940 Mills)
- Library District (2.830 Mills)

* Incorporated Area
Our Mission

The San Miguel County Board of Commissioners works to ensure that our residents are healthy and flourishing and that our communities are safe and vibrant by:

- Providing essential community services,
- Practicing responsible stewardship of our environment,
- Prioritizing long-term fiscal stability, and
- Partnering with others to enhance the quality of life in San Miguel County and the region.

Our 2018 Goals

The San Miguel County Board of Commissioners has prioritized the following goals:

Community

- Improve access to behavioral health.
- Increase affordable housing opportunities.

Environment

- Work toward the San Miguel County organization becoming carbon neutral.

Economy

- Maintain long term fiscal responsibility.

Communication

- Strive for proactive and effective organizational communication.
- Increase public information and transparency.