



## Please vote **NO** on SB14-66

### Metro District Conservation Trust Fund Allocations Sponsors: Sen. Steadman and Sen. Harvey

#### **What does SB14-66 do?**

SB14-66 takes roughly \$155,000 away from Pueblo County and gives it to the Pueblo West Metro District. It also takes roughly \$58,000 away from Jefferson County and gives it to Ken-Caryl Ranch Metro District.

It does this by changing the allocation formula used to determine the share of conservation trust fund dollars these metro districts would receive.

#### **Background**

For the third year in a row, Pueblo West Metro District is seeking state legislation to address a specific feud between them and Pueblo County.

Pueblo County spends their CTF dollars in complete compliance with state statutes and rules which dictate allowable expenditures. In a true state/county partnership, Pueblo County spent roughly half of their total \$400,000 CTF allocation in 2013 to support the Colorado State Fair. Additionally, the county allocated roughly \$80,000 in 2013 for the development of a new sports field in north Pueblo West and was an amount requested by Pueblo West. The dollars, however, were never drawn down by Pueblo West. In addition, the county allocated nearly \$100,000 in 2013 out of its general fund to support the Desert Hawk Golf Course. This golf course is located in Pueblo West Metro District.

#### **Why does the existing per-capita formula treat metro districts different than counties and cities?**

Metro district residents are either county or city residents. As such, metro district residents benefit from CTF dollars spent throughout the county, not just those spent within the metro district itself.

Taking CTF dollars away from counties and channeling them to certain metro districts means there will be fewer parks and recreational services for county residents. In the case of Pueblo County, the county has a responsibility to maintain all 17 county parks, including Liberty Point Park which is located in Pueblo West Metro District, for residents living in the entire unincorporated area of Pueblo County. Pueblo West Metro District, on the other hand, is only responsible for providing parks and recreation programs within their jurisdiction.

*A statewide policy change is not needed for two local governments that are not getting along.*

## We ask for your **NO** vote on SB14-66