

Policy & Legislative Updates from the State Capitol

Balancing the Budget While Advancing Policy: The Tension Is Defining This Session

If March was about setting the table, April is where the real tradeoffs are happening. Colorado lawmakers are now deep in the most consequential phase of the 2026 legislative session, where policy priorities collide with fiscal reality. A significant budget shortfall, driven by federal tax changes and slowing revenue growth, continues to shape nearly every conversation under the Gold Dome. The result: difficult decisions around spending cuts, fee increases, and what simply can't move forward this year.

At the same time, leadership has shown little appetite to slow down on major policy initiatives. Housing, labor, technology, and public safety proposals are all still moving, creating a push-pull dynamic between ambition and affordability that is defining the session's final stretch.

Housing & Land Use Still Front and Center

Efforts to increase housing supply remain a top priority, though divisions persist around local control, zoning authority, and development standards. The **HOME Act (HB26-1001)** was recently passed and signed into law by **Governor Polis**, in direct conflict to the position of the Metro Mayors Caucus. In better news at least one lot splitting bill, **HB26-1114 Allowed Minimum Lot Size for Subject Jurisdiction**, was postponed indefinitely.

Public Safety & Technology Debates Intensifying

Bills related to surveillance, data privacy, and law enforcement tools, particularly **SB26-070**, sparked significant debate. These proposals highlight an ongoing tension between privacy protections and public safety needs. SB26-070 was laid over until after session, with Senator Amabile vowing to reintroduce it next year.

Transportation & Infrastructure Investment

Legislation like **HB26-1065** (Transit and Housing Investment Zones) reflects continued interest in linking housing growth with transit development, an area where state and local priorities are more closely aligned. **SB26-150**, Modernizing Regional Transportation District was recently introduced to overhaul RTD. While MMC did not have consensus on a position, we issued a statement, supporting change broadly and hope to continue to work with bill sponsors going forward.



Updates on Bills MMC is Closely Following

MMC Has Taken Positions and Sent Letters on:

- **HB26-1001, Housing Developments on Qualifying Properties (HOME Act)** (Oppose)
 - signed into law
- **SB26-024, State & Local Unmanned Aircraft Regulation** (Oppose) Postponed indefinitely
- **HB26-1114, Allowed Minimum Lot Size for Subject Jurisdictions** (Oppose)
- **HB26-1065, Transit and Housing Investment Zones** (Support)
- **SB26-070, Ban Govt Access Historical Location Information Database** (Oppose)
Failed/Laid Over

MMC has not met the Vote Threshold for:

- **SB26-001, Workforce Housing & Housing Tax Credit** (Recommend Support) Signed into law
- **HB26-1037, Ban Government Purchase of Personal Data from Third Parties** (Recommend Oppose) Postponed Indefinitely
- **HB26-1140, Local Government Impact Hearings** (Recommend Support)
- **HB26-1334, Modify Standards of Wildfire Resiliency Code Board** (Recommend Support) Postponed Indefinitely
- **SB26-112, Court Actions Related to Failure to Appear** (Recommend Amend)
- **SB26-129, Mitigate Impacts of Tax Increment Financing (TIF)** (Recommend Oppose) Postponed Indefinitely
- **HB26-1102, Funding for CO DRIVES Account** (Recommend Oppose)
- **SB26-119, Authorize Local Electronic Ballot Return** (Recommend Support) Postponed Indefinitely
- **SB26-098, State and Local Noise Abatement Authority** (Recommend Support) Postponed Indefinitely
- **HB26-1308, Lot Splitting Approval by Subject Jurisdictions** (Recommend Oppose)
- **HB26-1360, Affordable Housing Financing Fund** (Recommend Oppose)
- **SB26-150, Modernizing Regional Transportation District** (No Position, Issued Statement)

MMC is Monitoring:

- **HB26-1190, Alcohol Beverage Manufacturer Sales**, Postponed Indefinitely
- **HB26-1134, Fairness & Transparency in Municipal Court**, Sent to the Governor for Signature
- **HB26-112, Court Actions Related to Failure to Appear in Court**
- **SB26-071, Use of Surveillance Technology by Law Enforcement**



✉ Kara@VistaStrategiesLLC.com

🌐 vistastrategiesllc.com

📞 720.432.9407



**VISTA
STRATEGIES**