

Aging + Older Adult Policy × × × × Leadership Landscape in Colorado



CREATED BY ERIN MARUZZELLA, MBA

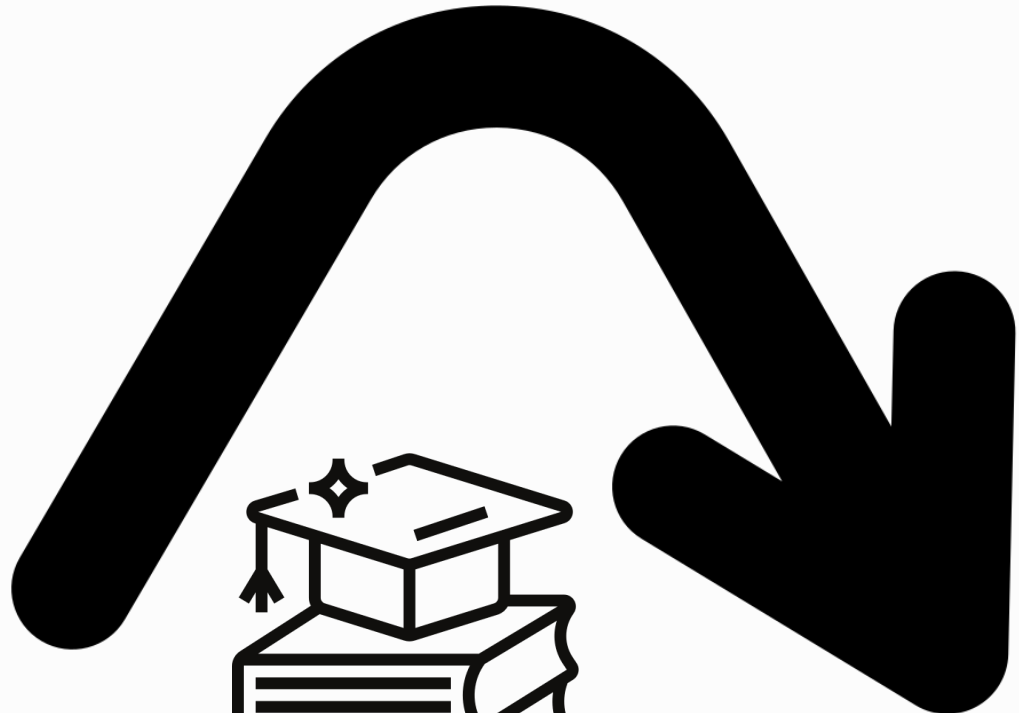


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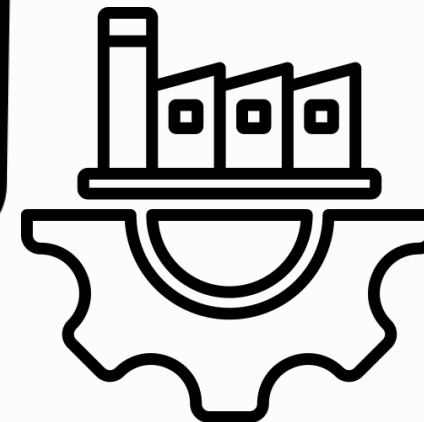
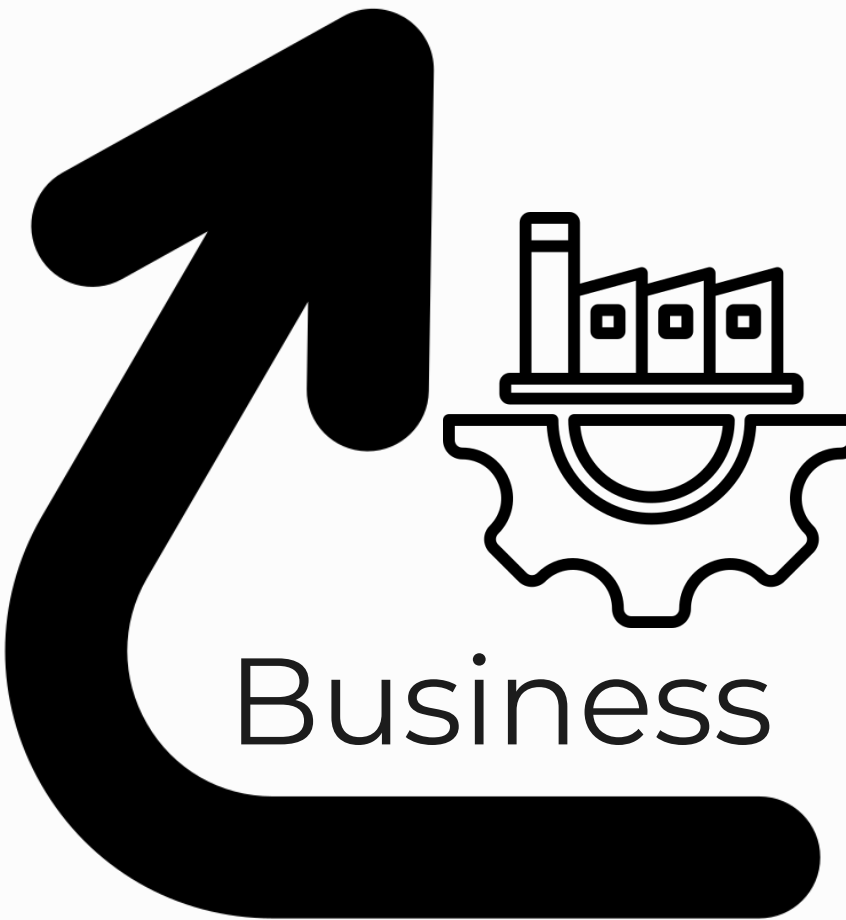
COMMISSIONER, PIKES PEAK COMMISSION ON AGING



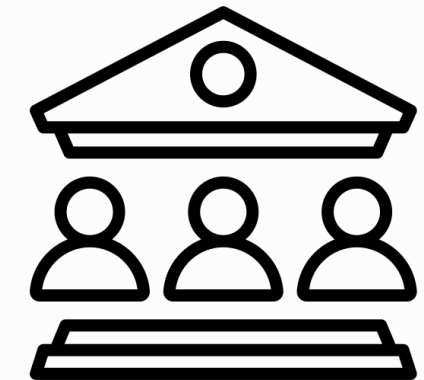
Aging Stakeholder Framework



Academia



Business



Government



01.

Colorado Commission on Aging



CCOA

Governor-appointed commission made up of Aging + Older Adult experts from across Colorado.

Erin Maruzzella + Penny Whitney are Southern Colorado-based Commissioners.

02.

Pikes Peak Commission on Aging



PPCOA

Municipality-appointed commission made up of Aging + Older Adult experts from the region served by PPACG.

Erin Maruzzella is the city's appointee.

03.

Colorado Center for Aging



CCA

Nonprofit 501c3 made up of volunteers.

The Mission of Colorado Center for Aging is to educate and inform the public, community leaders, and elected officials on diverse communities across the state and issues that impact the health and well-being of older Coloradans.

CCOA

SUBCOMMITTEES

- Age-Friendly Communities
- Microeconomy
- Macroeconomy
- Workforce
- Healthcare
- Public Policy

Attend a meeting--all are welcome:

The Colorado Commission on Aging meets on the third Thursday of each month.

Meetings are held virtually.

NEW MULTI-SECTOR PLAN ON AGING,
coming July 2025

Colorado Commission on Aging



CCA

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- 1.Volunteer
- 2.Become a member
- 3.Donate to the organization
- 4.Join us for Advocacy Committee Meetings (ACM):

Every Monday during the Legislative Session from 9:30 - 10:30 am on Zoom.

Colorado Center for Aging



PPCOA

The purpose of the Commission is to advise and recommend to the PPACG Board of Directors and PPACG staff action on matters regarding the development of an areawide system of advocacy and policy recommendations for older persons to enable them to maintain as much independence as possible.

- Provide ongoing and embedded advocacy for older adults in the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments and to the PPACG Board of Directors;
- Advise and make recommendations to the PPACG staff and Board of Directors on special issues and opportunities relating to the region's aging population;
- Review policies and legislation that affect older adults and make recommendations to the PPACG staff and Board of Directors relating to the region's aging population.

Pikes Peak Commission on Aging



PPCOA

We pave the runway for aging well in the Pikes Peak Region and offer our expertise by advising the shaping of mid-level policy.

We offer a pipeline to local voices and for local voices.

We set the tone for Aging + Older Adult policy regionally.

We signal to our community that our region cares about and is interested in the needs and opportunities of aging.

Pikes Peak Commission on Aging



PPCOA

WORKGROUPS

- Caregiving
- Social Engagement
- Housing + Transit
- Digital Access

Attend a meeting – all are welcome:

The Pikes Peak Commission on Aging meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

Meetings are held virtually and in person.

Pikes Peak Commission on Aging



WHY PPCOA

WHY COMMISSIONERS?

- Lack of government departments for aging
- Lack of local and national funding
- Commissioners are your **dedicated volunteer**:
 - join us for community listening sessions
 - reach out to us any time
 - invite us into municipal work groups
 - call or send us your questions

We want to report back to you biannually.
Let's work together!

Pikes Peak Commission on Aging





KEY HIGHLIGHTS - Q1 2025 Service Delivery

- Information + Assistance
- Caregiver Support
- Reauthorization of Older Americans Act
Interagency Collaboration





FUTURE PRIORITIES

- Tech for Seniors Initiative to bridge digital literacy gaps
- Enhanced Fraud prevention education in partnership with the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office
- New data dashboards to better inform service delivery





ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES



- **Legislative Support:** Continued engagement is needed in support of aging in place, aging infrastructure, rural service expansion, and funding sustainability.



- **Volunteer & Outreach:** Councilmembers are encouraged to attend upcoming senior town halls and caregiver forums.





OUR ASK OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Commissioners are your **dedicated volunteers**:

- join us for community sessions
- reach out to us any time
- invite us into municipal work groups
- call or send us your questions



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Thank you!



Erin Maruzzella, MBA

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