## BROOMFIELD CITY COUNCIL TRAINING AND TRAVEL REPORT





## **Council Member Denny McCloskey**

JUNE 18 - 21, 2013

## **ANNUAL CML CONFERENCE**

TOTAL COSTS:	<b>\$717.07</b>
<b>BROOMFIELD COST:</b>	\$468.57
CML REGISTRATION:	\$210.00
HOTEL COSTS:	\$158.00
MILEAGE: 4 X 89= 356 miles@ 56.5¢=	\$100.57
PER DIEM: (2 x \$71 + 2 x \$53.25)	\$248.50
(per govt guidelines) (Council Member Paid)	

This annual meeting of CML offers presentations and forums for policy work for our local level, and provides opportunity to discuss timely issues and form coalitions to effectively work for change at our local and state level. Council Members active throughout the year make specific requests for topics, and staff lobbyists suggest informational sessions on recent and proposed legislation.

The pre-conference discussion on URA highlights the likelihood that again next year there will be another bill seeking to dismantle one of the few tools that cities have. Broomfield continues to defend this economic development tool. By its charter, Broomfield adds revenue, ability, and responsibility of a county to its capacity. It operates more as a municipal entity in day-to-day function. Broomfield is respected for its tradition of ensuring that ALL entities be invited to the table when considering use of URA powers. The battle continues over greenfield loss, sprawl, capacity of resources, valuation of real estate considered, and local planning and zoning control. The concern is that many rural counties and cities have supported eliminating the URA tool. This is important when considering that no more than 12 of Colorado's 64 counties are urban which creates a challenge because that lopsided ratio is reflected in Colorado's House and Senate where this law could be enacted.

(Due to Council scheduling a study session to continue exploring the MOU for Oil & Gas applications, I returned on Tuesday night to be a part of the meeting. Progress is being made on requests for enhancing the safety and fiscally responsible agreement. Concern grows over the Initiative for a moratorium for five years. The cooperation by applicants for oil and gas indicates much improved techniques will be ensured. Concern that a moratorium will have the reversal of the MOU progress if a moratorium succeeds. It is also likely to incur lawsuit costs for Broomfield by the state, and return to minimal techniques by operators. I will follow this closely.)

## Below are a few takeaways from sessions.

CIRSA recognized City and County of Broomfield for responsible management of it casualty loss for the year. It was a moment for Broomfield's Finance Director to receive this recognition on behalf of our hardworking staff. Thanks for the dedication to detail that made this possible.

The session on Oil and Gas development was interesting, and confirmed that Broomfield is taking the best path at the present.

The session on the impending implementation of medical marijuana highlighted many of the ongoing concerns that Broomfield is working to mitigate. Two large concerns are the possibility that ballot tax measures fail in the Fall election this November, and how to direct public safety employees to handle inter-jurisdictional enforcement. It will be a challenge to ensure citizens understand the legal, yet very different implementation from city to city and county to county. Identifying where funding will come for those issues if the ballot taxes fails is an issue that Broomfield may have to consider.

The last session of interest confirms that Broomfield is on the right path. Changes we continue to make increase transparency (web), and the improved format (how we format and summarize) makes our budget more understandable for all our citizens. Two of the presenters were working on a financial project for Broomfield, and confirmed our approach as very positive for our citizens.

Questions, comments, or concerns to me 303-489-0132 or mick4uward2@mac.com