

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), later called the Work Projects Administration, was created under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. This was a massive employment relief program created to provide jobs and income to the unemployed during the Great Depression. The philosophy was to put the unemployed back to work in jobs which would serve the public and save the skills and self esteem of the workers. Local workers and local materials were utilized in the construction. All across Prowers County these hand-built projects are visible and in use even today. Enjoy a visit to Willow Creek Park, Zebulon Pike Tower, Douglas Crossing Bridge, Wiley Rock Schoolhouse, Hartman Gymnasium, and the former Holly City Hall to list a few.

www.history.com/topics/works-progress-administration

WIND POWER PROJECTS

Wind power continues to grow as a renewable energy source. Here in Prowers County we are home to the Colorado Green Wind Power Project. It was built to help meet Colorado's demand for clean, renewable energy. The Colorado Green Wind Power Project, located twenty-three miles south of Lamar, is built across more than 11,840 acres of cattle grazing lands. The turbine foundations occupy less than 2% of the total acreage allowing the rest of the acreage to continue to be used for other purposes such as ranching and grazing. Wind energy is plentiful, renewable, and clean. The project generates local income, boosts the local tax base, attracts tourists, and uses the clean power of the wind to deliver electricity to Colorado consumers.

TWO BUTTES TRAIL REGION COLORADO BIRDING TRAIL

With our fresh air, abundance of natural habitats, diversity of scenery, solitude, and amazing skies, we are home to the Two Buttes Trail Region of the Colorado Birding Trail. In Prowers County the area is an attraction for the tired, migratory birds passing through in the spring and fall. Every year the High Plains Snow Goose and Birding Festival offers tours, lectures, field trips, films, demonstrations, and more. This festival is one of the largest birding festivals in the state of Colorado.

www.coloradobirdingtrail.com

SOUTHEAST COLORADO

ENHANCED RURAL ENTERPRISE ZONE

The Colorado Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program is designed to promote a business-friendly environment in economically distressed areas by offering state income tax credits that incentivize businesses to locate and develop in and non-profit organizations to assist with the needs of these communities. The Enhanced Rural Enterprise Zone (EREZ) program provides greater financial incentives to businesses to promote and encourage new job creation in designated rural Enterprise Zone counties.

1. 3% Investment Tax Credit of equipment purchases
2. 1.5% Commercial Vehicle Investment Tax Credit of commercial vehicle purchases
3. New Employee Tax Credit \$1,100 per net new job; additional \$2,000 per new job located in EREZ
4. Agricultural Processor New Employee Credit \$500 per new job; additional \$500 per new job located in EREZ
5. 12% Job Training Tax Credit of qualified expenses
6. Employer Sponsored Health Insurance Credit \$1,000 per covered employee
7. R&D Tax credit 3% of increased R&D expenditures
8. Vacant Building rehab Tax Credit 25% of rehab
9. Contribution Tax Credit 25% cash—12.5% in-kind contributions to EZ projects
10. Manufacturing/Mining Expanded Sales and Use Tax Exemption
11. Local incentive flexibility possible if located in EZ

www.choosecolorado.com/ez

PROWERS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY (PEP)

Prowers Economic Prosperity (PEP) is a public/private partnership formed to bring about a new focus that will provide the results that Prowers County residents expect and deserve in their economic development group. PEP represents business and economic development interests within Prowers County. PEP works with city, county, state, and private industry leaders to foster new businesses and support the expansion of businesses that contribute economic growth. PEP also provides assistance to new and existing businesses with retention, relocation, and expansion needs; assists in finding appropriate sites or suitable buildings based on the clients' needs; provides assistance with necessary permitting; helps new developers through the process of planning, zoning, incentive negotiations, and other development issues.

SOUTHEAST COLORADO

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT, INC.

(SECED, Inc.)

Created in 1986 by the counties of Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers, SECED administers programs in cooperation with our 31 members, comprised of local governments.

SECED provides incentives and develops promotional activities that will market and advertise the advantages of locating a business in the Southeast Colorado area, create a positive identity, encourage retention and expansion of existing business, promote redevelopment, expand the region's tourism industry, attract new businesses, and generally enhance the economic growth of the area.

- Promotes economic development through tax credit incentives
- Business loan fund within the 6 county area
- Owner occupied housing rehab - Baca, Kiowa, and Prowers Counties
- Technical assistance
- Regional Transportation Planning Region 2
- Region 6 planning and management agency
- SECOG Southeast Council of Governments
- Opportunity Zone Designation (2019)

The vision of SECED is to challenge our citizens to continually reach for superior social and economic characteristics, utilize natural resources to the fullest potential in cooperation with a multi-agricultural economy, and assert a vigorous campaign for aesthetic improvements to enhance business recruitment and retention.



Southeast Colorado Enterprise Zone Administrator
719-336-3850 Cell 719-688-0799 Fax 719-336-3835
PO Box 1600 112 West Elm Lamar, CO 81052
Email: seced@seced.net

www.seced.net



PROWERS COUNTY

Prowers County is located in Southeast Colorado, on the Colorado-Kansas border at the crossroads of Highways 50, the Ports to Plains Corridor 287, and 385. Founded in 1889, it was named after John Wesley Prowers, a leading pioneer, plainsman, cattleman, and legislator of the lower Arkansas Valley. The area is rich with recreational activities, historical sites, and western traditions as well as birding trails, excellent schools, and renewable energy sources. At the heart of the Wind Corridor, the Colorado Green Wind Power Project is one of the largest wind farms in the State of Colorado. Rich in agricultural production, Prowers County is the industrial and retail center of Southeast Colorado and has great opportunities for business expansion and relocation. The local amenities, museums, annual festivals, and cultural events enhance the attraction of the area as a great place to visit but a better place to live.

Home of the towns of Bristol, Granada, Hartman, Holly, Lamar, and Wiley

- Lamar, county seat
- Population (2015) 11,893 / 7.9 per sq. mile
- Area 1,645 square miles
- Average Elevation 3,622 feet
- Average temp 53.08° F
- Average summer high 93° F
- Average winter low 14.8° F
- Air quality index 46.8, ranked 42nd among 64 counties
- Median age is 39.4
- Agriculture primary economy driver
- Home to State Child Abuse Hot Line call center
- 2 Airports
- Assisted Living facility
- 2 Nursing care facilities
- 2 Theaters
- Golf course
- Bowling alley
- 2 Swimming pools
- 17 properties listed on State Historical Register

www.prowerscounty.net

COLORADO WELCOME CENTER

The Lamar Welcome Center, located at Beech and Main, is staffed by volunteers to welcome you to our area and to provide you with information on what Lamar and the surrounding area has to offer and directions on how to get there. Lamar was selected as one of ten locations for a Welcome Center to be placed in the state of Colorado because it sits at the intersection of three major highways; 50, 287, and 385. The Welcome Center, as well as the Lamar Chamber of Commerce, is housed in a beautifully restored 1907 rail depot which is still in use today. Amtrak operates daily between Chicago and Los Angeles. While at the center, view the Madonna of the Trail Monument, the blade of a wind tower, or the iconic Engine 1819 steam locomotive with windmill and water tank. The engine, built in the early 1900's, was in service 47 years, retired in 1953, and traveled 916,626 miles.

CHARGEPOINT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE STATIONS (EVSE)

SECED, Inc. in conjunction with a grant from the Colorado Energy Office (CLEER) has worked to install four dual charge EVSE units in four counties: Baca (Springfield), Bent (Las Animas), Kiowa (Eads) and Prowers (Lamar). We take pride in preserving and promoting clean air and would like to join Colorado's effort to promote improved air quality and encourage the deployment of electric vehicles across the State of Colorado. In Lamar, the charging station is located at 109 East Beech, next to the Colorado Welcome Center.

www.chargepoint.com

BIG TIMBERS MUSEUM

Big Timbers Museum, located on the Santa Fe Trail, one mile north of Lamar, is named for a stand of huge cottonwood trees that grew along the Arkansas River. Considered significantly important to the history of the area, the stand of trees was a stop and rest area for Native Americans, pioneers, army units, and traders. The many collections in the museum include artifacts from the Sand Creek Massacre site; one of Colorado's most extensive WWI poster collections along with other war memorabilia; the Fleagle Gang Bank Robbery; 100 years of newspapers, and more. The Transportation Museum, built in 2011, features antique wagons, cars, trucks, and fire equipment. While on site visit the 9-11 Memorial honoring first responders, dispatchers, and military personnel and the newly relocated / rededicated Santa Fe Trail Marker.

MADONNA OF THE TRAIL

From Bethesda, MD to Upland, CA twelve public statues stand, dedicated to the spirit of 800,000 pioneer women of covered wagon days who were part of the westward expansion. The idea of the statues began in 1909 when a group of Missouri women wanted to mark the Santa Fe Trail through their state. In 1909 Congress passed a resolution which gave a formal name, National Old Trails Road, to the series of trails followed by our forefathers. The monuments were commissioned by the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, created by Augusta Leimbach, and were installed in each of the twelve states along the National Old Trails Road (Route 40). Each statue stands 10-foot tall, weighs 5-ton and is made of an amalgam of crushed granite, stone, marble, cement and lead. The statue stands on a 6-foot high base that weighs 12 tons and stands on a 2-foot foundation. Each statue stands 18 feet above the ground and all 12 statues are exactly the same except for the inscriptions on the bases. The Madonna of the Trail located in Colorado stands in Lamar at the Welcome Center and Santa Fe Railway Park at the corner of Main and East Beech.

www.santafetrailscenicandhistoricalbyway.org

SANTA FE TRAIL MOUNTAIN BRANCH

In 1821, William Becknell hauled goods from Franklin, Missouri to Santa Fe, Mexico (now New Mexico) to trade and sell. The trail he used became known as the Santa Fe Trail and was used not only as a trade route but also an international commercial highway and military route until the railroad was introduced in 1880. The route was then used to help open the region to economic development and settlement. Today the highway route that roughly follows the Santa Fe Trail's 188-mile path through Colorado and northern New Mexico is called the Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway. While traveling this route, you can visit numerous historical sites, view actual wagon ruts and swales, and the rubble of old homesteads. Thirty-three stone markers identify the Santa Fe Trail across Colorado. The markers were placed by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) beginning in 1906 until the project was completed in 1912. Today seven of these markers are located across Prowers County and one can be visited at Big Timbers Museum, 7515 US Highway 50, Lamar.

CAMP AMACHE

WWII GRANADA RELOCATION CENTER

1 1/2 miles west of Granada on US Highway 50 is located the WWII Granada Relocation Center stretching across sixteen square miles. Camp Amache or Amache was one square mile of this area surrounded by four strand barbed wire fences and eight guard towers manned with armed military police and searchlights. Housing up to 7,500 prisoners, Amache was the 10th largest city in the state of Colorado. The residents were men, women, and children of Japanese descent, mostly native-born citizens. The town within the barb wire contained five churches, two silk screening shops, a state of the art hospital, a post office, and a high school. Although little remains of the original site, today you can visit the site on a self guided tour and view key restored landmarks which include the water tower, a guard tower, and barrack. Informative kiosks sit at key locations throughout the site. A downloadable driving tour is available on Amache.org. You can also visit the small cemetery tucked into a corner and the memorial that is dedicated to the 31 Nisei, second-generation Japanese-Americans, from Amache that volunteered, fought, and were killed in action during WWII. The volunteers served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team as well as the Women's Army Corps and the Nurses Army Corps. The 442nd was the most decorated WWII unit. Following the on-site visit, you can travel to Granada and browse the museum located at 105 East Goff Ave. During the summer it is usually open five days a week and during the school year, it is open on demand. Private tours can be scheduled by emailing amache@usa.com.

HOLLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Old Holly City Hall, a 1938 WPA project, houses the Holly Historical Society Museum filled with historical artifacts and treasures. It is located south of Highway 50 and east of Main Street in Holly.

HOLLY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

The town of Holly, also known as the Christmas City of Colorado, is home to the free Holly Bluegrass Festival during the second weekend of June. The three-day celebration kicks off with a barbeque on Friday night, with an open jam session, followed by the festival beginning on Saturday. Good music, good food, vendor booths, and free swimming at the municipal pool all help make the annual festival a fun, family event.

