



Honorable
Michael B. Hancock
Mayor

Dear Denver residents:

In 2020 we experienced unprecedented financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a matter of months, we had the worst drop in city revenue since 1933. The impact was nearly equal to the entire 2020 operating budgets of Parks and Recreation, Community Planning and Development, Denver Public Library, Trash Collection, Public Health and Environment, Human Rights and Community Partnerships, and the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency combined. Especially during times of financial stress, it is imperative we provide residents with a clear view of how their tax dollars were invested.

Prior to the pandemic, we placed considerable emphasis on building and maintaining our cash reserves. Much like a savings account, these funds exist to help us sustain our core services during economic downturns. In 2020, we were able to maintain essential city services, while responding to the pandemic, thanks in part to those reserves. We were able to continue our emphasis on caring for those experiencing homelessness while facing the extraordinary challenges COVID-19 presented. We were able to distribute personal protective equipment and other critical goods to partners throughout the city. Support to the community also included rental assistance, grants to local small businesses that were negatively affected by closures due to COVID-19 public health orders, support for restaurant and hotel workers who live in Denver and were laid off, furloughed or had a severe reduction in income due to COVID-19, and many other efforts to aid our residents and businesses during the pandemic. We ensured Federal funds were leveraged to support those most impacted by the pandemic. All of our funds were evaluated through an equity lens to ensure our historically marginalized communities, many of whom were deeply impacted by the pandemic, were not left behind.

While this Consolidated Annual Financial Report officially closes the books on 2020, I am writing this letter at the close of our books in May of 2021. Our city continues to experience the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, but we have charted our path to recovery through the RISE Denver initiative to rebuild an inclusive and sustainable economy that works for everyone. We are continuing to prioritize support for our community, workers, small businesses and public health response, and preparing to invest in our workforce through job creating infrastructure.

While this has been a period of both tremendous loss and tremendous sacrifice, it has carried with it lessons learned around who we are, where we want to go as a city and as a community, and how we can work together to reach higher and recover as a stronger city than we were before.

Mayor's Cabinet and Chief of Staff

Don Mares Deputy Mayor and Executive Director of Human Services	Brendan Hanlon Executive Director of Finance
Alan Salazar Chief of Staff	Kami Johle Deputy Director of General Services, acting Executive Director
Kristin Bronson City Attorney	Happy Haynes Executive Director of Parks and Recreation
Kim Day Executive Director of Aviation	Bob McDonald Executive Director of Public Health and Environment
Laura Aldrete Executive Director of Community Planning and Development	Eulois Cleckley Executive Director of Public Works
Ashley Kilroy Executive Director of Excise and Licenses	Murphy Robinson Executive Director of Public Safety