



Visit www.urgedc.com

Looking for a sense of community you just can't find in most large metropolitan areas? Look to the San Luis Valley!

Each small town located within the Valley's six counties has a distinct character. Alamosa, the largest full-service community in the Valley, serves as home to the area's largest hospital, Adams State University and Trinidad State Junior College's satellite campus. Head east to the Fort Garland museum for a glimpse of the Kit Carson era or northeast to stunning beauty of Great Sand Dunes National Park. Travel south and envelope yourself in the rich history and culture of the area. Explore west and take in a night of theater at the internationally-renowned Crede Repertory Theatre or a day of skiing at Wolf Creek Ski Area. Go north to Saguche for a taste of the "modern" old west and spectacular rock climbing! Choose Del Norte if you prefer mountain biking.

Everywhere you go in the San Luis Valley, people work together to achieve common goals. You'll find farmers' markets, youth groups, civic organizations and volunteer groups dedicated to making the Valley a great place to live. If you want to raise a family here, you'll find there are fewer "big-city" concerns.

What you won't find are carbon-copy mini malls; the Valley has not experienced the uncontrolled sprawl of the front range of Colorado. If you want a little elbow room, you'll find it here.

Come visit! Kick back and take a look around.

Some say the Valley is behind the times; we think we are ahead of the curve. The Valley is planning pro-actively for our future. If you look to the San Luis Valley as a place to relocate, start or expand a business, your research won't be complete without specific local information. Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council stands ready to help. Visit URGEDC's website (www.urgedc.com) to read profiles of some of the areas successful companies. Additionally, URGEDC—whose membership includes community leaders, elected officials, business leaders, utility representatives, bankers and more—can set up one-on-one meetings to help you learn more about the Valley. Like most places, the San Luis Valley offers its own unique set of opportunities and challenges. Entrepreneurs and business owners will find many unfilled niches, an exceptional quality of life, lower taxes and in many cases, lower operating costs.

If you are thinking of relocating, starting or expanding a business in the San Luis Valley, be sure to contact URGEDC. No matter which location you choose—from South Fork to Crestone or Saguche to San Luis—the friends and contacts you make through URGEDC will help you succeed.

The Sangre de Cristos, among the tallest mountain ranges in Colorado, border the east side of the Valley. The more gently rolling La Garita Mountains border the north and northwest sides. To the west, the San Juan Mountains provide the backdrop for spectacular sunsets along with great skiing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and more.

Those who prefer a more laid-back approach to recreation may enjoy annual artist studio tours, theater, art galleries, museums and cultural events. The San Luis Valley hosts one of the oldest rodeos in the state, antique and vintage car events, motorcycle rallies, gem shows, food tasting events and more. If what you like isn't here, there are probably others like you who are willing to help make it happen! The Valley is a place of possibilities!

You won't want for adventure in the San Luis Valley and the surrounding mountains!

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- Like to get outdoors to play? You'll feel right at home with the spectacular opportunities for outdoor recreation:
- 14,000-foot peaks to climb
 - wildlife refuges to explore
 - National Forest, BLM and National Park trails to hike
 - pristine areas to hunt and fish
 - off-road challenges for 4-wheelers, snowmobiles and all-terrain-vehicles to navigate
 - powder snow to ski and snowboard
 - mountain trails to hike
 - choice locations to hike, camp or go RVing

Play

Work

Live



Who We Are

Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council, a 501(c)6 non-profit organization, advocates wise use of the San Luis Valley's abundant resources coupled with smart planning. Our goal: creating thriving and prosperous communities.

URGEDC serves as a communication hub for economic development activities within the region. We assist in a diverse range of development opportunities—from creating infrastructure and recreation ventures to encouraging growth in established agricultural and agribusiness firms. Our "ready-response" team works with companies interested in relocating to the Valley. Our database of service and resource contacts assists both existing businesses and Valley newcomers.

By "Partnering for Planned Growth," URGEDC strives to provide a bright future for the Upper Rio Grande. Visit www.urgedc.com to learn more.



How to Reach Us

Join us at one of our regular monthly meetings. Meetings are held at 7:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Meeting locations rotate among local communities. For the next meeting location, email info@urgedc.com, check www.facebook.com/urgedc or call!

Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council
www.urgedc.com
info@urgedc.com

Rio Grande County Courthouse
 925 6th St. Room 207, Del Norte, CO 81132
 Ph: (719) 657-4215, Fax: (719) 657-2514



A Perfect Place to Live, Work and Play

Looking for the perfect location to raise a family, run a business and enjoy your favorite outdoor activities?

Take a look at the San Luis Valley in South Central Colorado!



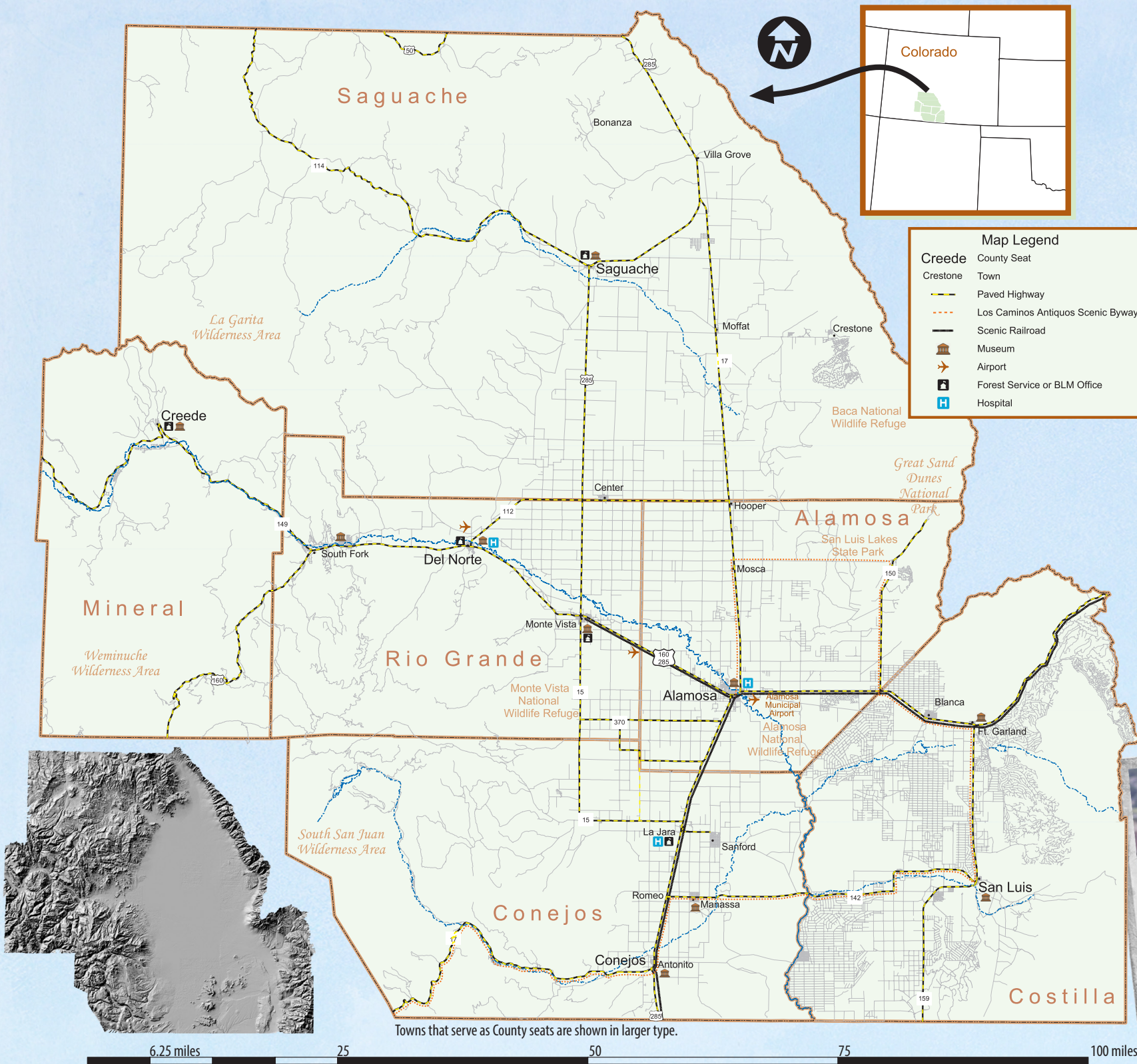
Immense Beauty

With a land area of close to 8,200 square miles, the San Luis Valley is larger than the land mass of Rhode Island, Delaware and Connecticut combined. The basin stretches almost 125 miles from north to south and 75 miles from east to west.

The Valley provides a home to the tallest dunes in North America at Great Sand Dunes National Park. It lies in the shadow of Mt. Blanca, the fourth tallest peak in Colorado. Within the Valley's watershed, high in the San Juan Mountains, snow melt and rain give birth to the mighty Rio Grande, second longest river in our nation.

The Valley floor sits at an average elevation of 7,500 feet. The flat terrain, rich soil, moderate summer temperatures and abundant sunshine provide the foundation for the Valley's agriculturally-based economy. These same factors, coupled with a lower cost of living than in many other parts of Colorado, make it a desirable place to live.

Visit www.urgedc.com to learn more about the Valley and what it can offer you!



URGEDC

Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council provides "one-stop-shopping" for business owners who want to keep current on what's going on in the Valley:

- Monthly breakfast meetings start at 7 a.m.—so they don't interfere with your work day. These meetings offer updates on current events, grant opportunities, community development plans, business training opportunities and more. Meeting information is available at www.urgedc.com.
- Guest speakers, often owners of successful Valley businesses, share information on new product launches and significant new opportunities.
- City, county and state officials keep members up to date on legislative issues and provide a forum for the exchange of ideas.
- Agency officials from government entities like the Forest Service provide updates on current events and situations that could affect business owners.

- Once a year, URGEDC schedules an annual dinner meeting. URGEDC invites other economic development groups, business leaders and others within the Valley to attend this meeting to provide even greater opportunities for networking.

Additionally, URGEDC helps build communities and business by writing letters of support for grant applications and through cooperative projects with organizations such as the Small Business Development Center. URGEDC has joined forces with other economic development groups and marketing representatives from various communities on specific projects over the years.

The group provides a forum for community discussions on Facebook. Visit www.facebook.com/urgedc to join in.

Here, you can keep current on upcoming meetings, open houses and other current events.

URGEDC supports individual business through in-depth business profiles that provide an opportunity for business owners to talk about their successes and share their insights with others. These profiles are available on the URGEDC web site.

Established a decade ago, URGEDC has the information, resources and contacts to help your business succeed in the San Luis Valley. Visit www.urgedc.com to obtain more information and to download an application form today!

