

RESOLUTION NO. 07-272
EXHIBIT A
SPECIAL DISTRICT POLICIES

I. PURPOSE, INTENT AND APPLICATION

- A. Purpose.** The purpose of these policies is to provide a framework for the evaluation of applications for new, amended and updated special district service plans as authorized by C.R.S. Title 32 and which are under the jurisdiction of the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners.
- B. Intent.** It is the intent that applications for new and revised service plans should be drafted to both address and be consistent with these policies. However, the applicant(s) for a proposed district or districts, or amendment to any existing service plan shall have the right to seek relief or modification from any of these stated policies, based on proper justification, to the extent allowable by law. The County, for its part, maintains its discretion to apply additional evaluation criteria, policies and limitations to the formation of new and revised districts, as the County may deem applicable.
- C. Model Service Plans.** New service plans and any major amendments thereof shall adhere to the applicable Model Service Plan formats as further addressed in Resolution No. 07-273 (June 25, 2007) as may be amended. The purposes of the model plan approach include standardizing the organization of information, and inclusion of standard language and limitations consistent with current Board policy. Additionally, this approach is intended to focus on variations from standard language and/or policy. The appropriate Model Service Plan template (i.e. Single District, Multiple District, and Master District) should be utilized and then modified as appropriate to address the particular needs and circumstances associated with a given application. Title 32 Special Districts which are not metropolitan districts should adhere to the Model Service Plan template to the extent possible.
- D. Required Hearings.** Prior to a hearing of the Board of County Commissioners, all service plans for new Title 32 Special Districts and Major Amendments thereof shall first be considered at a hearing of the Planning Commission in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes and as further described in the El Paso County Land Development Code and its accompanying Procedures Manual. Any request

for a service plan amendment which does not meet the definition of a Major Amendment does not require a hearing by the Planning Commission unless a need for this hearing is specifically determined by the Development Services Department Director. The above policy is intended to apply retroactively to any previously approved Service Plans which may have had conditions requiring all requests for Material Modifications to first be heard by the Planning Commission.

E. Special Justification. Certain matters shall be specifically and comprehensively justified based on the unique needs and circumstances associated with the particular Service Plan application. Matters requiring special justification include but are not necessarily limited to the following, as further addressed in these policies:

1. Use of Master Districts;
2. Authorization of mill levy caps in excess of the caps as set forth in Section III.F;
3. Specific authorization of special purpose mill levy caps which have the effect of increasing the Maximum Combined Mill Levy Cap above 60 (sixty) mills as set forth in Section III.F.5 and 6;
3. Processing of service plans prior to approval of underlying land use approvals as set forth in Section III.I.;
4. Use of a district or districts for covenant enforcement in lieu of Homeowners Associations (HOAs), where a Master District arrangement is proposed and/or where the district or districts are not otherwise being used to provide ongoing services.

F. Procedures. The detailed procedures governing the application process for new and amended service plans shall be maintained by the Development Services Director in a Procedures Manual (to be subsequently adopted by the BoCC and as may be amended).

II. BACKGROUND

A. History. Prior to 2007, El Paso County followed Special District policies which were initially adopted on September 2, 2004, and subsequently amended on September 22, 2005, and on December 28, 2006 to address limited changes. El Paso County has processed approximately 40 new and amended Service Plan Applications between 2000 and mid- 2007, involving about 70 separate districts. During this period, policy issues have continued to evolve. In October of 2006

the Board of County Commissioners directed the Long Range Planning Division Staff to review the County's existing policy language for additional updates and pursue the adoption of a Model Service Plan approach.

- B. **Formation of Special District Task Force.** Since the County recognizes the value Special Districts provide in developing community infrastructure and services, a Special District Task Force was formed in early 2007, comprised of special district attorneys and managers, members of the development community, El Paso County Administration and Commissioners, and citizen representatives.
- C. **Objectives of Special District Task Force.** The initial, 2006 objectives of the Task Force were (1) to recommend an updated Annual Report form; and (2) make a policy recommendation pertaining to developer advances. Additional objectives for 2007 included revising existing County policy and preparation of Model Service Plans. It was contemplated the Task Force may also be utilized to provide beneficial input regarding potential future legislative and technological changes. The importance of using the County Web site as a vehicle for communication and disclosure was also agreed upon.
- D. **Outcome of Special District Task Force.** An updated Annual Report Form was prepared to include a single combined Annual Report and Disclosure form, approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 18, 2006. County staff worked together to reference this document on the Assessor's tax bill and allow for internet availability. The developer funding agreement policy was proposed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 28, 2006. Special District Model Service Plans and revised Policies were approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 25, 2007.

III. **OVERALL SERVICE PLAN POLICIES**

- A. **Conformity.** All proposed service plans shall be evaluated by both the applicant and County staff for conformity with the applicable standards contained in C.R.S. 32-1-203. Evaluation shall consist of more than a simple listing of the standards and/or statement that the service plan complies.
- B. **Consistency.** All proposed service plans shall also be evaluated by the County for consistency with applicable elements of the El Paso County Master Plan, and with respect to these Special District Policies.

- C. **Applicable Statutes and El Paso County Preferences.** It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to assure that service plans are drafted to meet all of the minimum requirements contained in C.R.S. Title 32, specifically including C.R.S. 32-1-202 (2) as well as all other applicable State requirements.
1. Districts which include water supply as one of their purposes shall be strongly encouraged to join the El Paso County Water Authority upon formation.
 2. The preference of El Paso County is for the formation of conventional districts which accord full electoral representation to residents and property owners within the district(s) and/or service area(s).
- D. **Application and Schedule.** Although the County will endeavor to be reasonably flexible in accommodating the scheduling needs of special district applicants, it is the ultimate responsibility of the applicants to allow sufficient time to meet the County's procedural guidelines and requirements for application processing.
- E. **Review.** Service plans shall be drafted and processed in a manner that allows for coordination and input of all affected elected officials and County departments and other external agencies, specifically including the Clerk and Recorder, the Assessor and the Treasurer.
- F. **Mill Levy Caps**
1. All proposed districts that rely significantly on future development to meet financing projections shall include mill levy caps as part of their service plans. To the extent permitted by law, such caps may be lifted once the district achieves the ratios of assessed valuation to debt and other requirements which would allow these caps to be removed. However, actual removal of a Board-imposed mill levy cap is subject to approval of the Board of County Commissioners at the time the cap is proposed to be removed. Removal of mill levy caps should be supported by justifications including, but not limited to, data establishing ratios of assessed valuation to debt that meet statutory criteria for the issuance of bonds without a mill levy cap, and enhancement of a district's ability to refinance debt at a more favorable rate (if proposed in connection with a refunding of debt).
 2. The Maximum Debt Service Mill Levy Cap for Full Service Districts shall normally be 50 (fifty) mills, subject to Gallagher adjustment as permitted by law. Debt Service Caps for Limited Service Districts should be

- correspondingly lower based generally on the proportion of services and facilities the district will be providing compared with a Full Service District.
3. A Maximum Operational Mill Levy Caps of up to 10 (ten) mills shall be allowed if supported by the Service Plan and accompanying Development and Financial analyses. Unless a special district has been “de-TABORED” with respect to its operational mill levy, the Maximum Operational Mill Levy Cap shall not subject to Gallagher adjustment.
 4. All service plans for metropolitan districts shall specify a Maximum Combined Mill Levy cap. Unless otherwise provided for and justified below, the Maximum Combined Mill Levy shall be 60 (sixty) mills
 5. If justified and fully documented by supporting information, an increase in the Maximum Operational, Debt Service and/or Maximum Combined Mill Levy Caps to allow up to 15 (fifteen) additional mills may be specifically authorized for the purpose of funding ongoing fire protection services where either the District itself will be providing these services or the District(s) propose to contract with another district to provide these services. Such additional mill levy caps shall only be allowed in cases where the property within the proposed district is not presently included in an organized fire protection district.
 6. If justified and fully documented by supporting information, an increase in the Maximum Combined Mill Levy Caps of up to 5 (five) additional mills may be specifically authorized as a Special Purpose Mill Levy for the purpose of funding ongoing covenant enforcement and/or maintenance of common facilities in the absence of a Homeowners Association, or if such covenant enforcement, in the alternative, is to be undertaken by the District.
 7. In cases where districts are subject to a mill levy cap and will be relying significantly on future development to meet financing projections, notice shall be provided in the service plan or its approval to the effect that repayment periods for bonds and/or other district obligations are subject to extension in the event revenues come in at a rate lower than anticipated.

G. Disclosure, Notice and Annual Reports

1. It is the policy of El Paso County to further and encourage full, balanced, clear, convenient and constructive disclosure of special district information to all potentially effected parties especially including existing and potential future residential property owners.
2. Notice and disclosure should specifically address topics including but not necessarily limited to unique representational issues (e.g. master districts), dissemination of contact and basic financial information to property owners, and apprising tax and rate payers of their potential maximum financial risk and exposure associated with owning property in the district(s)
3. All districts shall file an Annual Report and Disclosure form in accordance with Resolution 06-472, as may be amended.

H. **Non-Proliferation and Need for Districts.** Notwithstanding the many factors which may create a justification to form one or more new and independent special district(s), it is the policy of the County to discourage the unnecessary proliferation of additional districts in the County.

1. All proposals for new districts shall clearly and comprehensively justify their need compared with alternatives including using existing districts or non-special district options.
2. Plans for new districts shall be designed and implemented to allow reasonable options for inclusion of additional property; thereby reducing the necessity of creating additional districts in the future.
3. Although the County supports the reasonable and judicious inclusion of additional territory by existing and proposed new districts, conditions should be placed on new and revised service plans to limit the potential for inclusion of remote properties unless these actions were anticipated in the original service plan.
4. Service Plans should be written with contingences that contemplate eventual annexation of territory by a municipality, in cases where this is a significant possibility.

I. **Land Use Approvals.** Applicants for developer-initiated districts are encouraged to obtain Underlying Land Use Approvals prior to, or at a minimum, in conjunction with service plan application. In those cases where an applicant desires to process a service plan prior to final action on underlying land use approvals, the

burden shall be on the applicant to justify the necessity of this timing, sufficient conditions shall be placed on the service plan to address potential subsequent denial or modification of the land use applications, and notations shall be added making it clear that the County has no obligation whatsoever to approve subsequent land use applications in cases where applicants may chose to process service plans in advance of obtaining underlying land use approvals.

J. Fees. Within the limits of State Statutes, it is the policy of the County to establish and charge fees commensurate with the actual cost of processing and reviewing of new and amended service plans. Such fees are established by separate Board resolution, and may be waived or reduced by the Board of County Commissioners either in advance of or in conjunction with the hearing on a given service plan. Justifications for fee waiver or reduction include, but are not limited to:

1. County-initiated or partnered service plans.
2. Reduced fee based on limited non-controversial modification to an existing Service Plan.
3. Processing of service plans for volunteer initiatives and/or for districts with limited proposed indebtedness and revenue generation.

IV. SERVICE PLAN REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

A. Development and Financial Analysis. A development analysis shall be required prior to formation or full authorization of all proposed districts which rely significantly on future development to meet financial projections

1. At a minimum, the development analysis shall include a summary of the anticipated development within the district described by applicable category and with development absorption projected throughout the applicable forecast period.
2. A summary financial analysis shall be provided to correspond with the development analysis. This financial analysis shall include, a first year revenue budget, a summary of projected revenues, expenditures, and proposed debt issuances over the forecast period, and at a minimum shall address the requirements of C.R.S. 32-1-202 (2) (b) and (f).
3. The development analysis and financial plan shall address the "most probable" market absorption assumptions at a minimum, but shall also specifically address contingencies in the event initial development is

significantly delayed and/or market absorption occurs at significantly lower rates than anticipated.

4. Service Plans for newly developing areas shall specifically address the potential vulnerability of the development forecasts to short-term market downturns at the beginning of the forecast period.

B. Eligible Improvements.

1. It is the policy of the County to encourage the use of financing districts for Regional Public Improvements which provide a benefit to a significant share of residents and businesses within a larger development and/ or to areas outside the development.
2. Special districts may be authorized to fund Local Public Improvements, where a need is demonstrated, and if a plan for this financing can be justified in the Service Plan.
3. Districts shall not be authorized to finance non-public improvements, nor shall district facilities be used for non-public purposes without proper remuneration to the district(s).
4. In cases where districts are used to finance Local Public Improvements which are tied to the subdivision process, any Service plans and/or subdivision agreements shall be structured in order to prevent a loss of sales tax revenue from sales of construction materials which would otherwise accrue to the County or other local government taxing entities.

C. Acquisitions and Eminent Domain

1. The policy of the County is to generally discourage the use of districts as a mechanism to reimburse developers for the cost of facilities or other costs already committed to a land development project unless such reimbursement was contemplated in previous County approvals.
2. The contemplated use of eminent domain and/or dominant eminent domain should be addressed in the service plan with reasonable limits placed on thereon, based on the intended use of the district(s). Such limits may include the requirement for express prior approval of the Board for any purposes not explicitly identified in the service plan.
3. In no case shall the authorized eminent or dominant eminent domain powers of the district(s) be used to acquire land or other assets for the purpose of private economic development of such property, where such

acquisition is not clearly necessary to support the essential facility and service provision purposes of the districts (s).

4. Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, districts shall not be authorized to acquire water rights by condemnation.

D. Authorization of Debt and Issuance of Bonds

1. Districts shall be encouraged to prudently phase the issuance of debt, especially in situations where future development will be substantially relied upon for to generate revenue to pay such debt.
2. The pre-authorization of debt shall be reasonably limited.
3. In cases where there will be a Master District arrangement, consideration may be given to limitations which require prior Board of County Commissioners approval for re-authorization of debt if and when the original authorization expires.
4. Districts shall evaluate their proposed mill levy and debt in relationship to the current and potential future combined mill levies and debt which may be levied by all overlapping and eligible taxing entities for the affected area.
5. Where applicable and appropriate, districts are encouraged to rely on a combination of property taxes, fees and charges both to diversify their revenue sources and to reduce some of the repayment impact on future property owners, particularly in the case where the district(s) will be used to fund Local Public Improvements.
6. Districts are encouraged to limit the term of bond issuances to the shortest time period that is reasonable and practical. The term of each individual bond issue should be limited to thirty (30) years or less unless specific justification for a longer duration is provided.
7. In cases where developers or other directly interested parties may be purchasing developer-held bonds, an opinion letter from an external financial advisor shall be provided to ensure that interest rates for these bonds are competitive as compared with bonds sold on the open market.
8. Districts shall not be authorized to directly accept sales or use tax revenues (i.e. from tax increment financing arrangements) without express prior approval of the Board).

E. Developer Funding Agreements. Districts shall be allowed to prudently use developer funding agreements and/or capitalized interest as a means of compensating for delays in receipt of property tax and other revenues in newly developing districts.

1. The proposed and potential use of Developer Funding Agreements shall be addressed as part of the Service Plan for new districts and Major Amendments, as well as for other non-Major Amendments if this topic is deemed by the Development Services Director to be pertinent to the amendment.
2. To the extent Developer Funding Agreements are included in an approved Service Plan (or any amendment thereof), such Agreements may provide for the earning of simple interest thereon, but under no circumstances shall any such Agreement permit the compounding of interest. The Service Plan may permit an interest rate that does not exceed the prime interest rate plus two points thereon
3. Unless specifically addressed in the original Service Plan or a Board of County Commissioners-approved amendment of the Service Plan, the maximum term for repayment of a Developer Funding Agreement shall be twenty (20) years from the date the Special District becomes obligated to repay the Developer Funding Agreement under the associated contractual obligation. For the purpose of this provision, Developer Funding Agreements are considered repaid once the obligations are fully paid in cash or when converted to bonded indebtedness of the Special District (including privately placed bonds). Any extension of such term must be approved by the Board.
4. Required disclosure notices shall clearly identify the potential for a Special District to enter into obligations associated with Developer Funding Agreements.

F. Multiple Districts.

1. Multiple District Service Plans shall include the following:
 - a. Provide justification that the total number of proposed districts is the minimum necessary to effectively manage the infrastructure and operational needs of the service area.

- b. Clearly and comprehensively address the relationships among separate districts, including proposed intergovernmental agreements and contingencies for potential dissolution or combination.
 - c. Clearly address intent to fairly and equitably distribute costs and benefits among separate districts.
2. If justified in the Service plan(s) the Board may consider Multiple District concepts for the following purposes:
- a. Accommodating the phasing of infrastructure financing for distinct major phases of a larger land development project
 - b. Allowing for differential mill levies between non-residential and residential areas within a larger project for the purposes of addressing the impact of the Gallagher Amendment.

G. Master Districts. Service plans which contemplate Master District concepts shall provide justification that the total number of proposed districts is the minimum necessary to effectively manage the infrastructure and operational needs of the service area. Master District approvals shall be allowed subject to specific justification of the unique need for these limited representation arrangements.

- 1. The preference of El Paso County is for the formation of conventional districts that accord full electoral representation to residents and property owners within the district(s) and/or service area(s).
- 2. Service Plans that contemplate Master District concepts shall provide justification that the total number of proposed districts is the minimum necessary to effectively manage the infrastructure and operational needs of the service area.
- 3. In cases where one or more Master Districts will provide services or facilities to a larger defined service area, the applicants for the district shall use reasonable means (including mailings and/or informational meeting) to inform existing property owners of the proposed district arrangement.
- 4. Board of County Commissioners appointed Citizen Advisory Councils (CACs) should be actively considered as a means to allow a more formal role in the affairs of the Controlling Board of Directors, including, where appropriate, consideration of establishing the Chair of the CAC as either

an ex-officio or formal voting member of the Controlling Board of Directors.

5. If not initially required as a condition of Service Plan approval, and if so provided as part of such approval, at any time during the existence of the Controlling Board of Directors, the Board of County Commissioners, either on its own initiative or in response to citizen input, may exercise their prerogative to require the creation a Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) if it is determined to be in the best interest of the County, and/or the property owners within the service area. The Board may establish the Chair of the CAC as either an *ex-officio* or formal voting member of the Controlling Board of Directors.
6. Other than responsibility for the appointment process, the Controlling Board of Directors shall have responsibility for support of any CACs, which may be required.
7. In the event of insufficient interest in CAC membership, appropriate justification presented by the Controlling District Board of Directors, or for any other reason, the Board of County Commissioners, at its sole discretion, shall have the right to eliminate a prior requirement for a CAC.
8. Service plans which contemplate Master District arrangements shall include provisions to accommodate a transition back to a conventional district once the area served by the district(s) is fully developed.

H. Covenant Enforcement and Homeowner's Association Functions.

1. Any intent or reserved option to use the proposed District(s) for Homeowners Association (HOA) functions, including covenant enforcement or common area maintenance should be clearly described in the Service Plan. Such description should specify whether there is intent to use the District(s) in lieu of one or more HOAs or to contract with HOA(s) for provision of certain services.
2. Use of district(s) for ongoing covenant enforcement purposes should be specifically discouraged if there are expected to be no other ongoing needs for the perpetual existence of the District(s).

I. Service Plan Amendments & Material Modifications.

1. The Board of County Commissioners reserves the discretion to impose review standards and hearing requirements as deemed appropriate and

necessary for any application for amendment of an existing Service Plan, as otherwise allowed under State Statute.

2. In cases where one or more Major Amendments are proposed to be made to an existing Service Plan, a revised Service Plan submittal shall be required with hearings to be scheduled before both the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners consistent with the review of a Service Plan for a new district, except where these procedures may be clearly inapplicable. Final action on a Major Amendment shall consist of approval of the new Service Plan which will have the effect of replacing the previous one, and any conditions or notations which may have been imposed on that plan by the Board of County Commissioners.
3. In cases where one or more Minor Amendments are proposed to be made to an existing Service Plan, the submittal shall not normally require a complete new Service Plan, but only those materials necessary to support and justify the amendment as determined by the Development Services Department Director in consultation with the County Attorney's Office. The hearing or hearings addressing Minor Amendments shall be scheduled directly before the Board of County Commissioners. Final action on a Minor Amendment shall consist of approval of a resolution specifically amending the language included in the existing Service Plan or the conditions or notations imposed on that plan by the Board of County Commissioners.
4. Material Modifications may be processed as either Major or Minor Amendments at the discretion of the Development Services Department Director in consultation with the County Attorney's Office.
5. Administrative amendments to approved Service Plans shall only be approved administratively (by the Development Services Department Director in consultation with the County Attorney's Office) in those cases where this authority is expressly delegated by the Board of County Commissioners.
6. Determinations as to the use and applicability of the Major or Minor Amendment process, as outlined above, shall be made by the Development Services Department Director for all Service Plans

approved prior to the date of adoption of these policies, based on a determination of the need for and appropriateness of the Minor versus Major Amendment processes.

7. Any administrative decisions concerning IV. J. 2-6 above may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to applicable procedures as outlined in the El Paso County Land Development Code, or as otherwise provided for in State Statute.

V. **DEFINITIONS**

The following terms are defined specifically and solely for use in conjunction with these El Paso County Special District Policies. The definitions may or may not completely correspond with definitions in State Statutes, the El Paso County Land Development Code, or other relevant documents:

- Board – The Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, unless otherwise specified
- Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) – A five (5) member advisory board appointed by the Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of providing input to the Commissioners and to the Controlling Board(s) in the case of Master District arrangements.
- Complete Service Plan – A complete service plan filed in accordance with C.R.S. Title 32 and County requirements and these Polices, and specifically including a complete financial plan as well as a market study, if applicable
- Controlling Board of Directors – The board or boards of directors of that have the ability to directly influence the major financial decisions of a district or combination of related districts.
- Conventional Representative District – One or more Title 32 special districts, each of which is structured to allow all residents and property owners to participate in elections for the Controlling Board(s) of Directors, as otherwise allowed by Statute.
- County – El Paso County, Colorado, as represented by its Board of County Commissioners.
- Developer Funding Agreement – An agreement of any kind executed between a Special District (“District”) and a Developer as this term is specifically defined below, including but not limited to advance funding agreements, reimbursement agreements or loans to the District from a Developer, where such an agreement creates an obligation of any kind which may require the District to re-pay the Developer. The term “Developer” means any person or entity (including but not limited to corporations, venture partners,

proprietorships, estates and trusts) that owns or has a contract to purchase undeveloped taxable real property greater than or equal to ten percent (10%) of all real property located within the boundaries of the District. The term "Developer Funding Agreement" shall not extend to any such obligation listed above if such obligation has been converted to any bonds issued by the District to evidence the obligation to repay such Developer Funding Agreement, including the purchase of these bonds by a Developer.

- District(s) – Any district or districts duly organized or contemplated to be organized under C.R.S. Title 32.
- Dominant Eminent Domain – Condemnation action undertaken by one governmental entity with respect to property owned by another governmental entity.
- External Financial Advisor – A consultant that: (i) advises Colorado governmental entities on matters relating to the issuance of securities by Colorado governmental entities, including matters such as the pricing, sales and marketing of such securities and the procuring of bond ratings, credit enhancement and insurance in respect of such securities; (ii) shall be an underwriter, investment banker, or individual listed as a public finance advisor in the Bond Buyer's Municipal Market Place; and (iii) is not an officer or employee of the District for which External Advisor Services are being rendered, and (iv) has not been otherwise engaged to provide services in connection with the transaction related to the applicable Debt.
- Full Service District – A 32 district which may be a metropolitan district and which provides a substantially full range of facilities and services to normally include central water and sewer, along with a combination of other purposes which may include road improvements, parks and recreation, and drainage. A Full Service District may contract or otherwise arrange with other entities to provide some of these facilities and services.
- Gallagher Adjustment – An allowed adjustment to the Maximum Debt Service Mill Levy, Maximum Operational Mill Levy, or Maximum Special Mill Levy intended to offset the effect of adjustments to the ratio between market value and assessed value of taxable property within the applicable District that would cause a reduction in the revenue otherwise produced from such Maximums based on the ratio between market value and assessed value as of January 1 in the year in which the applicable District's organizational election is held.
- Limited Service District – A Title 32 district that may be a metropolitan district and which provides a more limited range of facilities, services or purposes than a Full Service

District, such that either other entities or the individual property owner are responsible for providing a significant share of the facility and service needs of the development.

- Local Public Improvements – Facilities and other improvements which are or will be dedicated to the County or another governmental or quasi-governmental entity for substantially public use, but which do not qualify under the definition of Regional Public Improvements. Examples would include local streets and appurtenant facilities, water and sewer lines which serve individual properties and drainage facilities that do not qualify as reimbursable under adopted drainage basin planning studies.
- Major Amendment – An amendment to an existing approved Service Plan which is considered substantial enough to warrant the submittal of a revised Service Plan and the requirement for hearings by both the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners, as determined by the Development Services Department Director in consultation with the County Attorney's Office. Such Amendments specifically include but are not limited to those amendments which are expressly stipulated as being Major Amendments, either in the text of the existing Service Plan or in the conditions or notations attached to its approval.
- Material Modification – Any variance or deviation from an existing approved Service Plan which meets the definition of this term as it is defined in C.R.S. 32-1-207 (2) and/or any other variance or deviation which is specifically identified as a Material Modification either in the text of the existing approved Service Plan or the conditions or notations attached to its approval. The procedure for Board of County Commissioners approval of Material Modifications may involve either a Minor or a Major Amendment as addressed in these policies.
- Master District – Any arrangement of districts with the intent of using one or more small directors parcels for the purpose of retaining control of the key financial decisions of the districts such that the majority of future property owners who will receive facilities and/or services of the district(s) will not be eligible to participate in the election of the Controlling Board of Directors.
- Maximum Debt Service Mill Levy Cap – The maximum Gallagher-adjusted ad valorem mill levy the district, or combination of districts which are part of a consolidated service plan, may certify against any property within the district(s) for the purpose of servicing any debt incurred by or on behalf of the districts (s).
- Maximum Operational Mill Levy Cap – The maximum Gallagher- adjusted ad valorem mill levy the district, or combination of districts which are part of a consolidated service

plan, may certify against any property within the district(s) for the purposes providing revenues for ongoing services, administration or any other allowable activities other than the servicing of debt.

- Maximum Combined Mill Levy Cap – The maximum combined Gallagher-adjusted ad valorem mill levy the district, or combination of districts which are part of a consolidated service plan, may certify against any property within the district(s) for any purposes.
- Minor Amendment – An amendment to an existing approved Service Plan which is not considered substantial enough to warrant the requirement for submittal of a complete revised Service Plan and the requirement for hearings by both the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners, as determined by the Development Services Department Director in consultation with the County Attorney's Office. Such Amendments specifically include but are not limited to those amendments which are expressly stipulated as being Minor Amendments either in the text of the existing Service Plan or the conditions or notations attached to its approval.
- Model Service Plan – The applicable standardized format and content for a service plan as currently adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.
- Multiple Districts – Any combination of two (2) or more districts as part of a consolidated service plan for the purpose(s) of phasing the relinquishment of control by a developer-controlled board of directors and/or phasing the issuance of debt in accordance with phased land use plan and/or accommodation of differential mill levies within the consolidated service area.
- Planning Commission – The El Paso County Planning Commission.
- Regional Public Improvements – Facilities and other improvements which are or will be dedicated to the County or another governmental or quasi-governmental entity for substantially public use, and which serve the needs of the region.
- TABOR and deTABOR – “TABOR” is an acronym which refers to the Taxpayer Bill of Rights found in Article 10, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution.
- Underlying Land Use Approvals – Any pre-existing approvals by the Board of County Commissioners of one or more sketch plans, generalized planned unit development (PUD) Plans, site-specific PUD plans, conventional rezonings, preliminary plans, final plats, or any combinations of the foregoing which are consistent with and support the development assumptions included in the Service Plan.