



## PLANNING MANAGER

**\$79,162 - \$111,973**

*Plus Excellent Benefits*

*Apply by*

**February 27, 2022**

*(First Review, Open Until Filled)*

***P*ROTHMAN**



## THE COUNTY



Gunnison County cherishes its sense of community and place. The County strives to preserve and promote the well-being of the County's citizens, natural environment, and rural character. The County will deliver

services and set standards that reflect its values and preserve the region's unique quality of life for present and future generations to enjoy. Gunnison County is governed by an elected three-member Board of County Commissioners serving four-year overlapping terms. In 2018 and 2019, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) acknowledged Gunnison County's commitment to data-driven performance management with consecutive awards of their Certificate of Excellence in Performance Management. In 2018, Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services was also recognized for the second consecutive year with a Distinguished Performance Award for its high success rates for cases managed in Gunnison and Hinsdale counties. The 2021 adopted budget for the County is \$127,447,509 and there are approximately 200 FTEs. County departments include Administration, Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport, Assessor's Office, Clerk & Recorder's Office, Community and Economic Development, Coroner, County Attorney, Emergency Management, Facilities & Grounds, Geographic Information Services, Health & Human Services, Juvenile Services, IT, Public Works, Sheriff's Office, and Treasurer's Office.



## THE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Community and Economic Development Department is to provide land use, building and environmental health services to property owners, developers and all community members so they can achieve a balance of economic development and environmental protection. The Gunnison County Community and Economic Development Department includes: Current Planning (land use permitting); Oil and Gas Projects; Long Range Planning; Building; Environmental Health; and Licensing Marijuana Cultivation, Manufacturing, and Testing. The Community and Economic Development Department includes eight FTEs and operates on a 2021 budget of \$978,784.

## THE POSITION

Under the general supervision of the Director of Community and Economic Development, the Planning Manager will focus on leading current land use planning, code updates and revisions, and supervision of planning and administrative staff in the Community Development department. This position will perform professional and technical work in the Community Development Department and will independently plan and implement long range planning projects and manage complex development applications. The Planning Manager will support the Director of Community Development and other staff in department activities, and perform a variety of routine and complex technical and professional work in current and/or long range planning of the county and the development and implementation of land use and related policies and regulations.

For a full job description that includes a full list of responsibilities, please view the attachment found [here](#).



## KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

1. The growth of the community and volume of applications following the pandemic have increased significantly. A candidate that works well under pressure and understand the needs of the customer balanced with the bigger picture and community needs is important. Supporting department staff in achieving customer service goals and professional development will be an important part of this position.

2. The County will be working on several different planning processes in the coming 1-3 years. The person selected for this position will help to support larger regional planning efforts related to comprehensive planning, recovery/resiliency planning and climate change adaptation and planning.

## JOIN A HIGH-PERFORMANCE ORGANIZATION

♦ **Managing for Results:** The County Manager has created an efficient business model approach to managing the County. The new Planning Manager will need to learn, understand, adopt, and promote this philosophy.

♦ **Supporting a Culture of Professionalism and Performance:** The new Planning Manager will play an integral role in continuing to shape a culture of professionalism and performance at the highest levels within the organization.



## IDEAL CANDIDATE PROFILE

### Education & Experience:

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a bachelor's degree in urban/regional planning, or a related field, a master's degree in urban or regional planning or a related field, and AICP certification is preferred. Candidates should have three (3) to five (5) years of professional planning experience and demonstration of increasingly responsible related experience in land use planning and local government administration. Candidates should also have three (3) to five (5) years of experience with direct contact and assistance to the public in a governmental or regulatory context. Any equivalent combination of related education and experience may be substituted for one year of experience.

### Necessary Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

- Considerable knowledge of federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and codes pertaining to a wide variety of planning topics.
- Ability to provide constructive and timely feedback, support, and coaching to supervisees.
- Ability to interact with the public in a positive, collaborative, non-confrontational manner. Capacity to manage conflict to an effective and positive outcome.
- Excellent organizational and record-keeping skills. Experience with oversight and responsibility for project approval of multiple complex projects. Effectively interprets data dealing with complex problems and situations. Demonstrate critical thinking and analysis capability, synthesizes complex facts and issues in order to propose successful solutions tailored to competing interests.
- The organizational savvy to build allies and relationships throughout the County organization and with related community partners.
- The ideal candidate will work with allies to build consensus and create results, be appropriately diplomatic, understand others roles and perspectives, and promote projects and ideas across the Department, County, and the western Colorado region.
- Experience with drafting and effectively presenting written and oral presentations to elected officials, commissions, or the public.
- The ideal candidate will understand the challenges and opportunities facing rural and resort communities and have a passion for community building and a desire to make a difference.

## THE REGION

Surrounded by the 1.6 million-acre Gunnison National Forest, Gunnison County is considered the “unspoiled heart of Colorado.” The area encompasses some of the wildest and most beautiful terrain in the world, including Colorado’s largest body of water, Blue Mesa Reservoir, as well as Black Canyon National Park, Curecanti National Recreation Area, and 2,000 miles of trout streams. Over 85% of Gunnison County is under public ownership, which provides year-round outdoor recreation opportunities, including kayaking, boating, rafting, fishing, hunting, hiking, mountain biking, rock-climbing, camping, and skiing.



Gunnison County has a population of about 17,200 residents and covers 3,259 square miles. Over 60% of the dwelling units in the County are second homes and vacation rentals, so the permanent population number is a bit misleading as the services and complexities are more akin to a larger jurisdiction. Located in the Rocky Mountains at 7,700 feet above sea level, Gunnison enjoys warm summers and cold winters with moderate snowfall. The economic base is primarily tourism, followed by education, ranching, and natural resource extraction. Gunnison County is rich with mineral deposits and grazing lands, allowing ranching to still play a prominent role in the economy, lifestyle, and character of Gunnison County. The Elk Mountains dominate the County, topping out in the northeast at 14,000 feet with the peaks that form the Continental Divide. The Crested Butte Ski Area opened in 1963, making Gunnison a popular destination for snowboarders and downhill skiers looking for a world-class ski experience and challenging slopes.

Gunnison County is a wonderful place to raise a family and otherwise be part of a vibrant, close-knit, interconnected community representing a variety of viewpoints and interests. Crested Butte Community School is one of the highest ranked public high schools in Colorado and the United States, according to *U.S. News and World Report*, and the Gunnison public school district, which includes the schools in Crested Butte and Gunnison, is ranked among the top 15 districts in the state.

In 2010, Gunnison County ranked first nationally for highest life expectancy for men (82 years old) and fourth nationally for women (84 years old), according to data from the U.S. Health Map. Gunnison County also benefits from a highly educated population, with over half of the County’s population age 25 having obtained a bachelor’s degree or higher. In addition, the area offers some of the best outdoor recreation opportunities in the nation if not the world, including downhill and backcountry skiing, Nordic skiing, dog sledding, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, ice fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding, boating, fly fishing, hunting, rafting, kayaking, hiking, backpacking, trail running, and camping.



Gunnison is also home to Western Colorado University, one of the state’s top four-year fully accredited undergraduate institutions has also been hailed as a “Top Adventure School in the West” by *Elevation Outdoors* magazine. Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport serves the valley with both commercial airline and general aviation flights. Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority operates bus service between Gunnison and Crested Butte serving Western Colorado University and Crested Butte Mountain Resort. Bus service to Denver from the Gunnison Valley is also available.

## COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

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- **\$79,162 - \$111,973 DOQ**
- Medical and dental coverage
- Flexible Work Schedule
- Vacation Leave: based on years of service starting at 6.67 hours/month
- Sick Leave: 8 hours for each month of service
- 11 paid holidays
- Dependent Care FSA
- Medical, dental, and vision FSA
- Life insurance
- Supplemental Life and AD&D Insurance, including spouse and children
- County 401(a) Retirement Program
- 457 Deferred Comp Plan Match Program
- Employee Assistance Program

For more information on  
Gunnison County, please visit:  
[www.gunnisoncounty.org](http://www.gunnisoncounty.org)



Gunnison County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by **February 27, 2022** (first review, open until filled). Applications, supplemental questions, resumes and cover letters will only be accepted electronically. To **apply online**, go to [www.prothman.com](http://www.prothman.com) and click on "**Open Recruitments**", select "**Gunnison County, CO – Planning Manager**", and click "**Apply Online**", or click [here](#). Resumes, cover letters and supplemental questions can be uploaded once you have logged in.



[www.prothman.com](http://www.prothman.com)

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