



Douglas County



SHERIFF

"A Tradition of Service"

Daniel J. Coverley
SHERIFF

May 14, 2026

To the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners:

As Sheriff of Douglas County, I am writing to express my support for the proposed stormwater utility and the establishment of a dedicated funding source for stormwater management and flood control infrastructure.

From a public safety standpoint, stormwater infrastructure is not optional. It is a critical component of emergency preparedness and response. During heavy precipitation events, flooding and drainage failures can directly impact emergency response times, restrict roadway access, and limit the ability of first responders to reach residents in need.

In Douglas County, our deputies, dispatchers, and emergency response partners regularly operate in conditions where weather and roadway conditions directly affect safety outcomes. When drainage systems are insufficient or overwhelmed, the risks to both residents and responders increase significantly.

A dedicated stormwater utility would provide the County with a stable and predictable funding source to maintain and improve drainage systems, reduce flood-related disruptions, and improve overall emergency access throughout the community.

This is a public safety investment. Reliable stormwater infrastructure supports law enforcement operations, fire response, emergency medical services, and the broader emergency management system that protects our residents.

I understand that establishing a new utility is a difficult policy decision. However, from a public safety perspective, the cost of inaction is higher over time, both in financial terms and in risk to life and property.

I encourage the Board to move forward with establishing a stormwater utility that ensures long-term infrastructure reliability and strengthens public safety across Douglas County.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Coverley
Sheriff

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