EMERGING CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- **AWARENESS OF WATER ISSUES** - It is increasingly important for all Coloradans to be aware of local and state water challenges. Encouraging active outreach to existing stakeholders and increasing communication and access to engage new communities across a diverse range of people including tribes, acequias, members of minority or lower income communities, and those traditionally under-represented in public processes will be a priority.

- **INCREASED ADAPTIVE PLANNING** - As the climate warms the impacts are being increasingly felt, especially as it relates to shifting hydrologies and more extreme weather events. These impacts are often disproportionately impacting the poorest communities. Understanding and supporting creative adaptation measures and projects that support all Coloradans is critical.

- **INCLUSIVE COLLABORATION & FUNDING** - Ensuring that collaboration continues to involve regional representatives across the state is a hallmark of Colorado water planning. However, the essence of a grassroots process is striving for ever greater levels of inclusion across different sectors, cultures and perspectives in ways that are truly representative of Colorado. This collaboration must be coupled with equitable access to water management dialogue, funding opportunities and grant support.

- **SUPPORTIVE GOVERNMENT** - Communities need government to work toward streamlined permitting and supportive regulatory change for emerging technologies. Laws and policies need to be flexible enough to accommodate creative solutions but strong enough to protect Colorado’s water and people’s beneficial use of it.

Learn more and about the Water Plan update and provide your thoughts at engagecwcb.org.