Strategic Policy Initiatives

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has identified several strategic policy initiatives for FY 2016-17 and beyond. For this performance evaluation, the Department has updated progress on the initiatives identified in the FY2017 Performance Plan that capture the Department's strategic and operational priorities, and reflect the overall direction as identified by Department leadership. The updates reflect data as of June 30, 2017.

Additional detail for these, and other, strategic policy initiatives is available in the Department's Performance Plan, which may be accessed here.

SPI 1 Strategies to Improve Disaster Coordination

Recent trends indicate a growing reliance on the domestic response capability of the Colorado National Guard within the State. The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has proven resilient in the face of adversity and capable of meeting the significant challenges posed by natural disasters, to include fires and floods. It is the goal of the Department to learn from these experiences and constantly update the response provided to the state in such a way that is both proactive and generates greater coordination and cooperation with intra-State agencies as well as local and national partners.   The Joint Staff of the Colorado National Guard will continue to integrate elements of the Colorado National Guard into realistic training exercises partnered with other State and Federal agencies.

SPI 2 Expand Services Provided to Underserved Veterans through Planning

Serving Colorado's veterans remains a cornerstone of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' efforts. Rural and student veterans stand out as being underserved within the state. By providing grants which support transportation for veterans to appointments and counseling services, both the Veterans Trust Fund and the Veterans Assistance Grant provide support to veterans across the state. The Department seeks to improve awareness amongst recently separated veterans by contacting them at their residence, thus increasing the likelihood of awareness amongst those veterans who reside outside the major metropolitan spheres of marketing influence. The Division of Veterans Affairs will send direct-mail information to recently separated military members.

SPI 3 Provide Low-Cost Disaster Mitigation Services

The Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol provides a low-cost aviation capability that can be utilized by law enforcement, local responders and other entities before, during, and after a disaster strikes. The goal of the Division is to raise statewide awareness and recognition of the full scope of the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol's skills and abilities within the first responder community.

SPI 4 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Program
The Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol provides a structured opportunity for growth within a STEM-focused curriculum that relates primarily to aeronautics. In recent years this curriculum has added Cyber Security and related educational opportunities. The goal of the Division is to continue fostering the cadet program and create awareness among educators of the value that the STEM based curriculum provides and expand the opportunities for STEM related competitions it competes in and grow the number of cadets that participate in such programs and competitions.

Operational Measures

Describe SPI 1
Major Program Area – Strategies to Improve Disaster Coordination
Process – National Guard and State programs encompass activities to provide both the federal government and the Governor of Colorado with a trained and ready National Guard force for execution of assigned federal and state missions. The Department ensures that the Colorado National Guard has the necessary personnel and equipment on hand, as well as the training to ensure optimum response coordination.

Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	Q4 FY17	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Colorado National Guard – Man the Force						
Army NG Personnel On-Hand Authorized	4107	3928	3832	3814	3832	3832
Army NG Personnel On-Hand	4044	3931	3940	3770	3449	3832
Army NG Personnel Percentage of Authorized	98%	100%	102%	98%	90%	100%
Air NG Personnel On-Hand Authorized	1500	1561	1559	1559	1559	1559
Air NG Personnel On-Hand/Assigned	1450	1548	1523	1516	1550	1550
Air NG Personnel Percentage of Authorized	96%	99%	97%	97%	99%	99%
Colorado National Guard – Equip the Force						
Army NG Equipment Authorized	22429	22429	22429	28000	30596	30596
Army NG Equipment On-hand	21369	21369	21369	25788	27536	27536
Army NG Equipment Percentage of Authorized	95%	95%	95%	92%	90%	90%

Describe SPI 2

Major Program Area – Expand Services to Underserved Veterans through Planning

Process - The Division receives DD214 forms for separating military members with a home of record in Colorado. This process allows the Division to easily identify inbound veterans and reach out to them via direct mail.

Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	Q4 FY17	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Division of Veterans Affairs - Outreach		112	143	134	120	360
Number of veterans in Colorado eligible to receive service	390824	395616	413271	407616	413271	413271
Number of veterans in Colorado receiving service (avg.)	7464	9132	19057	29435	20000	20000
Number of Targeted Communication events/distributions	93	76	120	134	80	80
Number of CVSO's	78	78	78	78	78	78
Number of CVSO's Trained	67	69	68	70	70	70
Percentage of CVSO's Trained	86%	88%	87%	90%	90%	90%

Describe SPI 3

Major Program Area – Provide Low-Cost Mitigation Services

Process - The Division of the Civil Air Patrol seamlessly integrates into the incident command structure that is utilized by all domestic first responder agencies. Their active participation in training and the presence of a Wing duty officer allows them to be reached in a timely manner commensurate with emergency operations.

Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	Q4 FY17	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Civil Air Patrol – Fly and Train						
Available Aircraft	16	16	16	**14**	16	16
Total Hours Flown	1973	1905	2160	**2418**	2320	2320
Hours Flown per Aircraft	123.4	119.1	135	**177**	145	145
Civil Air Patrol – Fly in Response to Potential Threats						
Hours flown in a "Response" status	478	458	404	135	400	400
Appropriated FTE and Operating Budget	1/58638	1/58638	1/58638	1/58638	1/58638	1/58638
Number of meetings for Outreach conducted		10	16	15	14	14

Describe SPI 4

Major Program Area – Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Program

Process – STEM is embedded in the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education (AE) curriculum 1 hour each month for all cadets. Cadets are further encouraged to participate in STEM related activities outside of the AE curriculum, to include STEM programs offered through public and private educational organizations

Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	Q4 FY17	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Civil Air Patrol – Fly and Train						
Available Competitions	0	0	0	1	3	5
Cadets Participating in STEM Program	0	0	0	78	50	65