Tax Expenditure Methodology

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Statutory Scope of Review in Colorado

- Required to review all 232 tax expenditure provisions
- Both structural and preferential
- Timing: Oldest first and any expiring provisions in time for the legislative session during which they would need to be renewed.



Key Evaluation Requirements

- A conclusion on whether the provision is meeting its purpose
- The economic costs and benefits of the expenditure
- Contact intended beneficiaries
- A comparison of the expenditure to other similar expenditures in other states
- Identify and review coordination with other programs or expenditures with similar purposes
- Identify data constraints and suggest changes to improve data collection



Considerations When Developing Scope/Methodology

- What type of purpose does the expenditure have?
 - Structural vs. preferential
- What are the most relevant measures for determining whether and expenditure is meeting its purpose?



Considerations When Developing Scope/Methodology

- What data are available?
 - Adapt performance measures to the data available
 - Report on data constraints
- What does a review of basic data on usage and cost (if available) show?



Considerations When Developing Scope/Methodology

- How much time would further analysis take?
- Have other sources performed analyses that we can use?

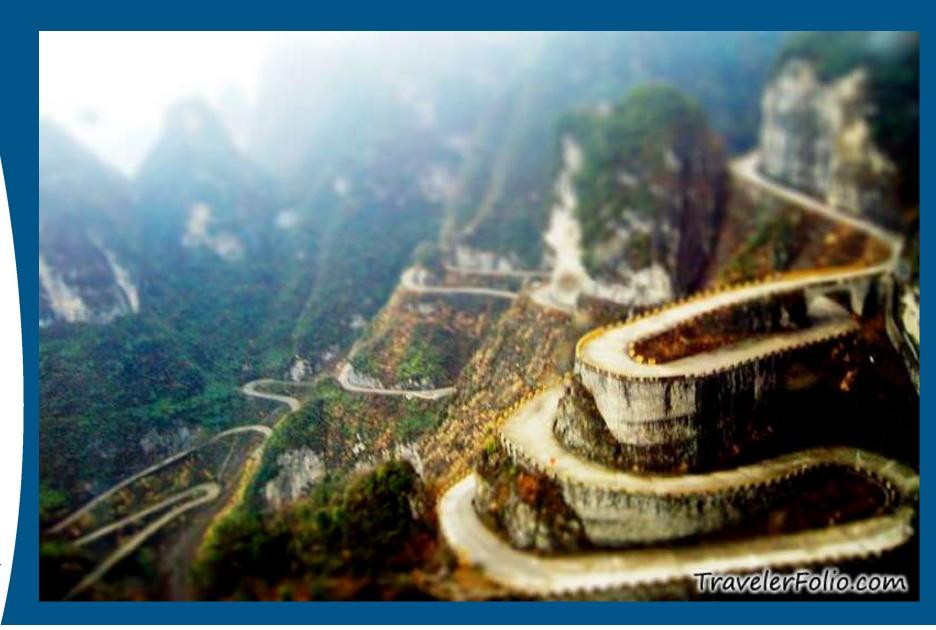


Typical Analyses Based on Purpose Type

Type of purpose	Key Approaches
Incentivize business activity	 Compare benefit to other influencing factors Survey/interview beneficiaries on decision-making Perform a cost/benefit analysis and/or breakeven analysis
Provide social benefits	 Compare benefit to costs of services for likely beneficiaries Assess cost effectiveness compared to other available programs
Structural	 Measure the usage rate Review administration/structure Review history



Historic Preservation Credit: The long and winding road





Background

- Two similar credits in Colorado intended to incentivize renovation projects on historic properties: one is older and used less often, one is newer and more frequently used (more beneficial)
- Both were set to expire after 2019.



Potential Performance Measures

- To what extent do the credits encourage historic property restoration by reducing taxpayers costs?
- To what extent have the credits caused increased economic activity and increased property values?
- Cost effectiveness: How does the economic activity caused by the credits compare to the impact of general state spending.



Cost Effectiveness

- Estimated the revenue impact to the state
- Began researching information related to potential impact on taxpayer decision making
- Developed IMPLAN models to estimate economic activity caused by investments incentivized by credits vs. through state spending



House Bill 18-1190

 The bill renewed only the newer credit and made substantial changes to it.





Cost effectiveness: Breakeven analysis

EXHIBIT 1.4.
HISTORIC PROPERTY CREDIT
COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS BY
INCENTIVIZATION LEVEL
TAX YEARS 2016 AND 2017

PERCENT OF QUALIFIED REHABILITATION EXPENDITURES INCENTIVIZED BY CREDIT	QUALIFIED REHABILITATION EXPENDITURES ATTRIBUTABLE TO CREDIT	ESTIMATED CREDITS CLAIMED	Cost to State per Dollar of Qualified Rehabilitation Expenditures Incentivized by the Credit	
5 percent	\$120,000	\$377,000	\$3.14	
10 percent	\$240,000	\$377,000	\$1.57	
15 percent	\$360,000	\$377,000	\$1.05	
15.7 percent (Break Even)	\$377,000	\$377,000	\$1.00	
20 percent	\$480,000	\$377,000	\$0.79	
25 percent	\$600,000	\$377,000	\$0.63	
30 percent \$720,000		\$377,000	\$0.52	

SOURCE: Office of the State Auditor analysis of History Colorado data.

Cost Effectiveness: Economic Impact

EXHIBIT 1.5.

IMPLAN ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF HISTORY PROPERTY PRESERVATION CREDIT TAX YEAR 2016 AND 2017

IMPACTS OF CREDIT PER INCENTIVIZATION RATE		IMPACTS OF CREDIT AMOUNT THROUGH TAX REFUND		IMPACTS OF CREDIT AMOUNT THROUGH STATE SPENDING		
PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURES INCENTIVIZED BY CREDIT	JOBS SUPPORTED	ECONOMIC VALUE- ADDED	JOBS SUPPORTED	ECONOMIC VALUE-ADDED	JOBS SUPPORTED	ECONOMIC VALUE-ADDED
5 Percent 10 Percent 15 Percent	3.0 4.5 6.0	\$246,000 \$367,000 \$488,000	3.6	\$291,000	6.0	\$474,000
15.7 Percent (Break Even)	6.2	\$505,000				
20 Percent	7.5	\$610,000				
25 Percent 30 Percent	9.0 10.5	\$731,000 \$852,000				







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