Join Colorado Humanities and Colorado State University's Regional Economic Development Institute for two free online conversations about the economic and demographic impacts on Colorado’s rural population from a hundred years of transition. Change in Rural Colorado offers small towns a chance to look at their own paths to highlight the changes that affected their fortunes over the past century and to creatively focus on new opportunities for growth and development.

Economic innovation and a focus on the cultural facets that make small towns unique, comfortable, and desirable have helped many communities create their own renaissance. The future is brighter for much of rural America as small towns embrace the notion that their citizens and their cultural uniqueness are important assets.

**Panelists will include:**
- Elizabeth Garner
  Colorado State Demographer
- Stephan Weiler
  CSU Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI)
- Katharina Papenbrock
  OEDIT – Rural Western Slope
- Greg Thomason
  OEDIT – Rural Eastern Plains and South Central
- Michael Seman
  CSU Arts Management and REDI

**Moderated by:**
- Dawn Thilmany
  Professor of Agricultural Economics,
  Co-Director of the Regional Economic Development Institute

**Upcoming Events • 6 – 8 p.m. Panel discussion with live Q & A**

**Wednesday, February 24**

**Economic Innovation and Resiliency in the COVID Era**

Rural Colorado has always faced challenges in economic innovation and resiliency, but never more so than during this COVID era. Although cities were hit hardest first, now rural areas are proportionally suffering the worst impacts. This online conversation will explore the challenges and opportunities created by this public health crisis, particularly in terms of leveraging local and regional assets to maximize both innovation and resiliency to generate inclusive growth in their community economies. Panelists will give short presentations, followed by discussion and audience Q&A.

**Tuesday, March 23**

**Our Water, Lands, and Parks: Investing in and Nurturing Colorado’s Most Loved Assets**

For more information contact:

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Register at coloradohumanities.org