

PAID INTERNSHIP



Paid Internship at State Capitol:

- **Colorado Channel Intern for 2026** - Assist in the live television broadcast of the floor sessions of the Colorado Senate and House of Representatives.

[Visit Open Media for more information and to apply.](#)

GOVERNMENT

Cortez, CO on Open Media



Cortez Colorado

Cortez, Colorado is the county seat of Montezuma County, situated in the southwestern corner of the state. The city was laid out in 1886 by the Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company on a site historically used by the Navajo and by earlier peoples for seasonal activities. The driving force behind its founding was agricultural: irrigation tunnels, ditches and flumes were constructed to divert water from the Dolores River into the Montezuma Valley to enable farming in the region's red-soil terrain. (britannica.com)

The city sits at about 6,181 ft in elevation and covers roughly 16.25 km² of land. As of the 2020 Census, Cortez had a population of approximately 8,766 people. More recent estimates place the population around 8,900 residents, with a median age of about 38.9 years and a median household income in the vicinity of \$51,300. (wikipedia.org)

Cortez enjoys a strategic location near major cultural and natural attractions, making it both a gateway and a destination in its own right. Notably, Mesa Verde National Park lies just to the southeast and features remarkable cliff dwellings and Ancestral Puebloan sites. The city also offers a robust recreation system: over 250 acres of parks and open space for its size, an 18-hole golf course, BMX track, skating park, and many trails. Within town, the Cortez Cultural Center (in a historic 1909 building) serves as a hub for arts, heritage and community gathering. (cortezculturalcenter.org)

Cortez emphasizes open governance and makes materials available for public review. The city's official website includes a Financial Transparency section featuring annual audits, sales & marijuana tax reporting, and other fiscal documents. Moreover, agendas and minutes for the Cortez City Council and a wide range of boards and commissions are published online. Live streams and archived videos of Council meetings are also accessible, demonstrating the city's commitment to making public meetings visible and accessible. (cortezco.gov)

[Watch Cortez Public Meetings Live and On Demand](#)



Cortez Homepage

Advocacy and Engagement

From Camera to Compliance: Tech Requirements for Streaming Public Meetings

For many municipalities, the biggest **barrier to streaming public meetings** is simply knowing what technology is required to get started. Fortunately, today's hardware options are more affordable and capable than ever. A basic setup typically begins with a reliable camera — anything from a high-quality webcam for a small conference room to a professional PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) camera for larger council chambers. Add clear audio using boundary or ceiling mics tied into your existing sound system, and a stable internet connection with a minimum of 10 Mbps upload speed to ensure a smooth, uninterrupted broadcast. From there, an encoder — either a physical device or built-in software — converts your audio and video into a stream-ready format. Even with modest budgets, cities and districts can put together a configuration that **meets accessibility needs** and creates a clear, watchable experience for the public.



Once the hardware is in place, software becomes the key to transforming a live video into a compliant public record. This includes the tools used to schedule, stream, caption, and archive meetings in a way that aligns with Sunshine Laws and accessibility requirements. Platforms like **Open Media streamline every step** — allowing staff to switch sources, manage metadata, and ensure recordings are automatically archived and easily accessible to the community. Optional features such as automated transcripts, multilingual captions, and agenda-linked archives help expand engagement and make meetings more **searchable and ADA-friendly**. Whether a municipality is upgrading a full broadcast system or starting with a single camera and a laptop, the right streaming platform ensures that technology isn't just capturing a meeting — it's protecting the public's right to see, understand, and stay engaged with their government.

WEB SERVICES



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CAREER ENGINE



Our **Open Media Career Engine** is a service offered to Employers in the Media & Journalism sector to help you find and hire more diverse jobseekers. This program has helped over 40 employers in Colorado's Media & Journalism field hire POC jobseekers at more than double the industry average. We help craft your job description to appeal to diverse applicants, post it to over 20 job boards proven to generate more diverse jobseekers, and manage the screening process so that even the smallest HR team can afford a broad and inclusive hiring process developed by industry leaders.

Email careers@openmediafoundation.org to explore how the OMCE can help you with your next hire.

Join an Open Media Committee

Fundraising Committee - Contact Tony Shawcross at tony@openmediafoundation.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Catch the Glow Parade (Estes Park, Nov 28)

This annual holiday-kickoff parade in Estes Park features more than 40 units including locally crafted floats, marching bands and other specialty vehicles, drawing large crowds as the town moves into the holiday season.

[Visit 'Visit Estes Park' for more information](#)



Denver Arts Week (Nov 7–16)

This ten-day city-wide arts celebration in Denver spotlights local galleries, live-art events, public installations and creative neighborhood pop-ups, offering an accessible way for communities, municipal partners and local media to engage with the city's visual and performing-arts scene.

[Visit 'Visit Denver' for more information](#)

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