

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Wildfire Ready

A community member learns about wildfire resilience improvements for his property during a detailed home assessment with Boulder Fire-Rescue. See feature article, page 26.



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- Trail project updates
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Underway: A new hub for city services

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Wildfire ready

Explore the steps the City of Boulder is taking to mitigate wildfire risk, and what you can do to be wildfire ready.

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Message from City Manager Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde



Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde
City Manager

There's something special about the time between Thanksgiving and the New Year. For me personally, and as your city manager, it's a period that lends itself to gratitude and reflection about what has come before. As I look back on the work your city has done in 2024, I am filled with pride.

Like the community we support, city employees are passionate and tireless about making progress to achieve a vision of Sustainability, Equity and Resilience (SER). As a reminder, the concepts of SER guide our work, with seven focus areas that aim to ensure that Boulder is: safe; livable; healthy and socially thriving; accessible and connected; responsibly governed; environmentally sustainable; and economically vital.

While some of these areas may be more in the public eye as conditions warrant, a well-balanced local government makes advances in each — recognizing that collectively they represent a full picture of what our community expects of us.

As difficult as it is to highlight just a sample of accomplishments, I am going to try to do just that, if only to show the diversity of our work and the value of this framework. If there's something you're glad the city did this year, and I don't mention it here, I invite you to check out our 2024 accomplishments website at bldr.fyi/city-accomplishments. Let us know if anything's missing!

So, here it is, my top 12 list of 2024 accomplishments, organized by SER focus area:

Safe

- Public safety remains one of our most essential duties. This year, we opened a new, climate-friendly Fire Station 3 that meets modern needs. We also developed a multiyear funding strategy to replace aging fire engines, despite a constrained budget and rapidly escalating costs.
- Building on lessons from a somewhat tumultuous 2023 for the Police Oversight Panel, this important group regained stability this year, stepped up training, worked through a backlog of cases, and — led by our Independent Police Monitor — engaged with the Center for People with Disabilities to learn ways police can improve support for individuals with disabilities.

Livable

- We're working hard to create more affordable housing and to keep residents housed. In the first 10 months of 2024, our Community Mediation and Resolution Center assisted 845 households facing a potential eviction, which is more than in all of 2023. Eighty-five percent of the cases were resolved without eviction. In addition, between January and mid-October, the city provided \$142,562 in direct rental assistance to 62 households.
- With support from City Council and through an important partnership with All Roads Boulder County, we launched a Day Services Center for individuals experiencing homelessness. This resource filled a significant gap, giving unhoused community members a safe place and access to potentially life-changing services during the day.

Healthy & Socially Thriving

- We celebrated the naming of Primos Park, a 9-acre site along Violet Avenue between Broadway and 19th Street. The name was

chosen by young residents of the adjacent Boulder Meadows manufactured home community. “Primos” means “cousins” in Spanish, and reflects neighbors’ hopes of gathering with friends and family in the future park.

- In 2024, we distributed over \$1.3 million to Boulder community artists and performers through 157 Office of Arts and Culture grants and fee waivers. Over the past two years, this office has seen a 63% increase in applicants and a 47% increase in the number of awardees, with 21% of these being first-time recipients.

Accessible & Connected

- In July, we opened the long-anticipated North Sky Trail, a 3.5-mile stretch north of Boulder and west of U.S. Highway 36. The trail links the city’s Foothills North Trail to the Joder Ranch Trail. It’s open to hikers, bicyclists and equestrians.
- We improved transportation and mobility conditions along Baseline Road and received approval from City Council for an Iris Avenue redesign, intended to support the city’s Vision Zero safety commitment. Both are key roadways identified as part of the Core Arterial Network, or CAN, project.

Responsibly Governed

- While the SER Framework and City Council-identified priorities help shape our operational workplan, staff has never had a centralized strategic plan. That changed in 2024. Informed by significant feedback from departments, we created a Citywide Strategic Plan, identifying 15 strategies and 54 actions that, over the next two years, will advance each of the SER focus areas.
- In addition, we made considerable strides toward enhanced transparency and data-informed decision-making with the completion of a three-year effort to move toward outcomes-based budgeting. Every program across the organization has now

identified at least three desired outcomes and ways of measuring progress. This will allow us — and you — to monitor whether resources are having the intended effects.

Environmentally Sustainable

- We’ve intensified wildfire resilience efforts, leveraging the Climate Tax to increase home assessments and provide grants to eligible property owners for improvements that help protect us all. I’ve been especially proud of this team’s focus on equity, as there are lower-income communities adjacent to some lands with higher fire risk.
- In a long-awaited move that will save money, improve reliability, enhance safety and reduce carbon emissions, we completed the purchase this fall of over 4,400 streetlights from Xcel Energy. The plan is to convert the lights to more efficient LEDs in 2025.

Economically Vital

- We launched a new Affordable Commercial Grant Pilot Program to address the rising cost of space for small businesses. The pilot program strives to provide more affordable options for local small businesses, including women-owned and minority-owned businesses especially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We’re dusting off an outdated Economic Vitality Plan and creating a new one as a City Council priority, with a focus on nurturing the vibrancy of locally owned retail and restaurants, and addressing issues in Boulder’s business districts. Community engagement is already shaping what will be included in that plan.

As you can see, your local government provides a wide variety of services, and along with many of you, continues to take on significant issues with a spirit of collaboration and innovation. Our commitment is to carry this positive momentum through 2025. I look forward to what we can accomplish together!

A holistic approach to new year's resolutions

It's almost the new year and you may be feeling motivated. You might be considering setting new resolutions focused on feeling better in your body. That may mean staying committed to being more active and losing weight. The challenge with a weight-loss resolution may be the emotional residue from previous attempts (and failures) to be more active.

When we strive for a goal based on feelings, we measure our results against those feelings, which can make success nearly impossible.

What's the alternative? Accept your body at all stages of change, without judgment.

Boulder's Parks and Recreation Department (BPR) can help you establish wellness intentions designed to support the whole of you from the inside out. The Fitness and Wellness team can help you take a holistic approach to ensure you're physically healthier, as well as mentally and emotionally balanced.

Here's how to make your wellness intentions become actions:



- Sign up for BPR's Personalized Nutrition and Fitness Coaching 4-Week Combo Pack. It will put you on track to focus on health and wellness rather than the number on the scale and the size on the tag. Visit bldr.fyi/bpr-nutrition or scan the QR code.



- BPR's new winter session class, Yoga, Mindfulness, and Deep Relaxation, will support your overall well-being as it gently guides your mind and body toward peaceful alignment. Visit bldr.fyi/3AuYPUx or scan the QR code.

Revisit your plan after six to eight weeks and ask yourself:

- Am I feeling better in my body?
- Am I being mindful of how I feel?
- Am I celebrating my progress?
- Are my intentions being supported?

The answers will guide you to stay motivated, be mindful and feel good in your body. Remember, self-care is not a destination but a continuous journey!



Get to know your city with strolls and rolls

New maps for traveling around town

From walking and biking to tubing, Boulder offers enough sunshine all year for fun, active ways to travel. Check out our new and improved walk, bike and bus maps for convenient and comfortable routes to your favorite haunts — and to new adventures.

Find printable maps and view interactive versions online with the links and QR codes below.



Walk Map

The walking map can help you plan your route and find paths, stairs, benches, and points of interest like public art and trailheads— and even notable trees! The map also includes recreational routes designed by your neighbors who live in Boulder. Explore our city through these self-guided walking tours centered around public art, history, exercise, free little libraries and more.

bldr.fyi/walk-map



Bike Map

The bike map includes all bike lanes and multiuse paths in Boulder to help plan your route to neighborhoods, schools, parks, businesses and more. It now has new Recommended Crosstown Routes— the core north-south and east-west connections in Boulder that are low-stress routes — for all ages and abilities.

bldr.fyi/bike-map



Bus Map

See all of Boulder's bus stops and routes in one place! Filter to find route frequencies, service days, and regional, local and CU Boulder routes. Select a route to find the detailed service schedule, or select a bus stop to see which services can pick you up at that location.

bldr.fyi/bus-map

Circle all of Boulder

This summer, we installed markings on paths across Boulder to mark the route of our treasured Boulder B360 and B180 — biking routes that circle all of Boulder! Explore part of the tour, travel halfway around with the shorter, 12-mile B180, or take on the challenge of completing the full 24-mile loop around Boulder! Prefer walks? Try the Walk 360 or 180 instead. All routes are available on our new walk and bike maps (links above).



Boulder's youth take action for their well-being

Avery Stulbarg is a senior at Boulder High School and a member of the city's Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB) since August 2023. Through this board, she has taken a lead role in the Child Friendly City Initiative (CFCI), a partnership between the city and Growing Up Boulder.

"It is crucial for city leaders and policymakers to consider young voices in Boulder, especially when decisions are being made that will impact them," she says. "Most people don't realize the extent of issues that affect children and teenagers either directly or indirectly — whether they're about schools, parks, public transportation, etc. In my experience, when youth get a say in these issues, an outcome that people of all ages can get behind is produced. Young people have something valuable to add to any conversation, and even though we are not eligible to vote, we still deserve a seat at the table."

The Child Friendly City Initiative is a framework designed by UNICEF USA that seeks to bring local governments together with communities to prioritize the needs of children, and elevate their voices in local governance and decision-making. "Boulder's work with CFCI is groundbreaking and is paving a new path for children in the community," Stulbarg says. "I've enjoyed providing my own input and ideas as well as surveying other youth, which I believe speaks to the core purpose of CFCI: placing children at the center of decision-making."

Stulbarg and other YOAB members facilitated two Youth Action Plan workshops in October and November with the support of Growing Up Boulder and Mayamotion Healing. Youth, teens, parents and service providers explored what the data reveal about the state of youth in Boulder and determined which areas to prioritize in the CFCI process.

"As a Youth Opportunities Intern and member of YOAB, I have gotten the opportunity to influence which questions were on the well-being analysis questionnaire sent out to youth, parents and educators; I have facilitated discussions with youth about their opinions of Boulder's child-friendliness; and helped to interpret the data collected from these questionnaires and conversations, which inform the Youth Action Plan," she says.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Child Friendly City Initiative, visit the city's website for project information and engagement opportunities: bldr.fyi/cfci

"I cannot wait to see what is in store for Boulder's youth in the coming months and years," Stulbarg says, "but I am positive it will be made with their opinions, needs and well-being in mind."

Hear more from Avery on the Let's Talk Boulder podcast episode featuring child-friendly cities.



The graphic features a dark blue background with a yellow bar at the bottom. At the top left is the City of Boulder logo, a circular seal with a mountain and the text 'CITY OF BOULDER'. To its right is a white line graph showing an upward trend. The main text is in white and yellow, announcing a minimum wage increase starting Jan. 1 to 15.57/hr. The URL bldr.fyi/minimum-wage is underlined in yellow. The bottom yellow bar contains the text 'CITY OF BOULDER MINIMUM WAGE' in black, followed by three interlocking gears: one with a lightbulb, one with a dollar sign, and one with a person icon.

It's time for a raise!

Starting Jan. 1, the new minimum wage in the city of Boulder is going up to 15.57/hr.

bldr.fyi/minimum-wage

CITY OF BOULDER
MINIMUM WAGE

Parks and Recreation Department's planning and building for the future

The Parks and Recreation department (BPR) is working to serve the community today and in the future. Here are some projects in the works (and QR codes to learn more):

Future of Recreation Centers project

We want to make sure our recreation centers serve the Boulder community today and for years to come. Through this project, we invite the community to shape the future of BPR's community wellness hubs.

The project includes assessing all three recreation centers, and using community input and expert analysis from consultants to guide the process. This work will inform the East Boulder Community Center renovation project, which is funded through the voter-approved Community, Culture, Resilience and Safety tax.

This project will also influence the city's long-term financial strategy, which will inform the funding approach for future recreation center investments.

The Future of Recreation Centers project webpage has the latest updates, frequently asked questions, and a sign-up link to be notified of updates and future opportunities for community input. Thank you to all who have weighed in so far!

Project information: bouldercolorado.gov/projects/future-recreation-centers >



Civic Area Phase 2

At the heart of our downtown, we're rethinking urban park design for a strong connection to nature while cultivating recreation, community gathering, food and more.

We launched this project earlier this year with initial community engagement. Thank you for your input.

Here is a summary of what you told us is most important:

- Community activities and the arts, including family- and child-friendly areas, community and cultural events, and interactive public art spaces.
- A connection to outdoor culture and nature through enhancing green spaces, promoting outdoor activities and recreation, community gardens and edible landscapes.
- Equitable, inclusive and multicultural space that reflects Boulder's diversity, and has accessible and affordable activities.

Community members also mentioned:

- Not feeling safe in some of the park spaces due to unsocial behaviors. They also expressed a humanitarian concern and sadness for people experiencing homelessness. They said it would feel safer using the space if it were activated and programmed year-round.



- More opportunities for dining and picnicking, and interest in seeing the Farmer's Market expand its presence in the Civic Area. Community members discussed how food can bring people together and unite friends, family and communities in the space.

Read more about the feedback we heard in the first engagement window at: bldr.fyi/window1-feedback

We will continue to have opportunities for the community to provide input on this important project throughout the design process.

Project information: bouldercolorado.gov/projects/civic-area-phase-2 >



New Racket Sport Courts

Our Court System Plan has been finalized. We intend to invest in existing courts, develop new outdoor courts in several locations, and pursue possible partnerships for racket sport courts.

The first part of the new development is at East Boulder Community Park. We're currently analyzing the site and plan to build dedicated courts for both pickleball and tennis. In addition, we have partnered with CU Boulder to provide a new indoor tennis facility at the city-owned land south of East Boulder Community Park.

The project webpage for new racket sport courts at East Boulder Community Park includes information about scope, engagement opportunities and timelines.

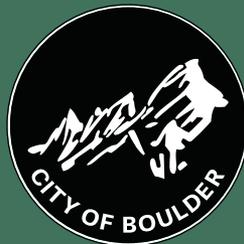
Project information: bldr.fyi/EBCP-racket-courts >



See yourself here.



View our **current openings** at:
bouldercolorado.gov/work-for-boulder





Shop, dine and access with ease Downtown Boulder holiday tips

'Tis the season for shopping, dining and experiencing all downtown Boulder has to offer. From discovering unique gifts at local retailers and sinking your teeth into farm-to-table dishes to attending many of downtown's magical holiday events, there are so many reasons to hit the bricks this season. Use these parking and access tips to ensure your holiday visits downtown are a success!

-  Parking is **free** in BoulderPark Garages on Saturdays, Sundays and city holidays.
-  If you plan on parking in a BoulderPark Garage and have not already signed up for Metropolis, register in advance by visiting app.metropolis.io from any web-enabled device. You do not need to download an app to sign up.
-  Scout out on-street parking spaces by viewing our interactive parking map at bldr.fyi/parkingmap. Remember that different blocks have different rates depending on their demand.
-  Parking on residential streets surrounding downtown is limited unless you have a permit. Always check the signs posted nearby.
-  Ensure your license plates are unexpired and properly displayed to avoid receiving a citation.
-  Vehicles cannot be parked on the same spot on a city street or in a city garage for more than 72 hours. After that, it may be considered abandoned.
-  Report an illegally parked vehicle or request maintenance for an on-street pay station by submitting a ticket to Inquire Boulder at bldr.fyi/inquireboulderparking.
-  Remember that parking revenues help fund special events, arts and culture initiatives, free EcoPasses for downtown and University Hill employees, and maintenance of downtown facilities.



Enjoy \$5 off parking in
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City of Boulder parking
garages!

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In the top left corner, click
on the menu and then select
promotions. Enter the code
WINTER2024.

Expires 4/01/2025. Good for
one-time use only. Happy
Holidays!



Encouraging sustainable commuting practices in Boulder



In April, the city and several local partners launched the Boulder Clean Commute pilot program. This program encourages Downtown Boulder and Boulder Junction employers and their employees to shift commuting behavior away from single-occupancy vehicle trips to more sustainable methods to get to and from work. As an incentive, employees receive city-matched financial rewards for each sustainable trip taken that can be spent at participating commercial district businesses.

The program supports many citywide goals, including:

- Investing financial incentives back into our commercial districts to support Boulder businesses and employees.
- Encouraging use of Boulder's many multimodal transportation options.

- Reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips and related greenhouse gas emissions.
- Decreasing traffic congestion.

The city will match employer-provided incentives up to \$1.25 per qualified work trip for a total of up to \$2.50 in city matching funds per day per employee who commutes sustainably. This means an employee can earn up to \$5 per day between employer and city funds. So, if an employee bikes to and from work five days a week, they will earn \$25 by Friday. That turns into \$100 a month, or \$600 for half a year. That's a big reason to return to the office – car free!

Encourage your employer to apply so that you can start taking advantage of the program.

To learn more, please visit: bldr.fyi/cleancommute.

Green up your holidays

Less stuff, more joy



With winter holidays arriving soon, consider these ways to reduce gift-giving waste.

Be In the Present: Give Experiences

Tickets to movies, musicals, planetarium shows or sports events all equal more memories and less packaging! Going big? Consider an annual museum membership or season tickets to a local theater. Tuck a note announcing the tickets in a handmade card or decorated box for gift-giving with a personal touch.

Give Your Time

Create and give coupons for free dog walks, childcare or running errands. Offering your time can be a big help for new parents, older adults or anyone who could use a little help with day-to-day life. (Couldn't we all?)

Eat It, Drink It or Rinse It Away

When you do give physical things, consider consumable gifts. Gift your favorite soaps, lotions or shampoo — perhaps in a refillable jar. Or go gourmet! Give sparkling cider, organic olive oil or a fresh fruit basket to balance out rich holiday fare.

Re-Gift!

Hosting a gift exchange? Focus on previously owned items. Check your own shelves or drop into Boulder's vintage clothing shops, used bookstores or other secondhand shops.

Wrap It Right

While shiny and bright, most commercial wrapping paper is pricey and not easily recyclable. Try wrapping gifts in a clean dish towel, bandana or textile remnant. Outdated maps and calendars also make standout wrapping. Still read a newspaper? The Sunday comics are a time-honored wrapping choice.

Boulder's Main Library and Meadows branches are offering reclaimed wrapping paper events in December. Check their calendars for details.





Guide to winter holiday events

For more information about Boulder events, visit boulderdowntown.com and bouldercolorado.gov/events

November

Switch on the Holidays, Sunday, Nov. 24, 5 p.m.

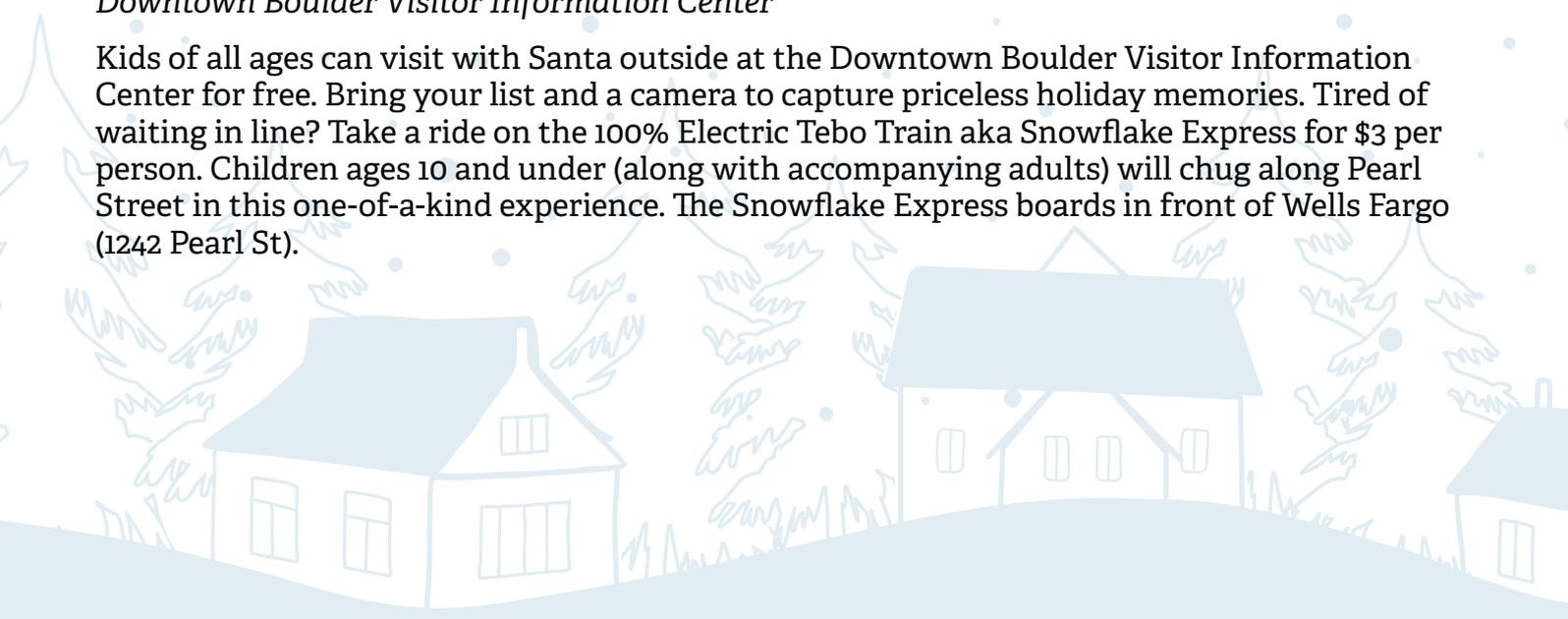
1300 Block of Pearl Street

Help us kick off the holiday season as we flip the switch that illuminates lights along the Pearl Street Mall, Civic Area and around the Boulder County Courthouse during Switch on the Holidays! Program starts at 5 p.m. and concludes with the flip of the switch at approximately 5:20 p.m. Visits with Santa at the Downtown Boulder Visitor Information Center until 7 p.m.

St. Nick on the Bricks, Friday, Nov. 29, and every Saturday from Nov. 30 through Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Downtown Boulder Visitor Information Center

Kids of all ages can visit with Santa outside at the Downtown Boulder Visitor Information Center for free. Bring your list and a camera to capture priceless holiday memories. Tired of waiting in line? Take a ride on the 100% Electric Tebo Train aka Snowflake Express for \$3 per person. Children ages 10 and under (along with accompanying adults) will chug along Pearl Street in this one-of-a-kind experience. The Snowflake Express boards in front of Wells Fargo (1242 Pearl St).





December

Colorado Chautauqua WinterFest, Dec. 5-7

Create unforgettable memories at Winterfest, Chautauqua's annual holiday celebration! Enjoy festive food and drinks, live music, horse-drawn carriage rides, and a variety of family-friendly activities. From exploring the holiday market to crafting ornaments, there's something for everyone. chautauqua.com/event/winterfest-2024

Lights of December Parade, Saturday, Dec. 7

6 p.m. parade starts at 15th and Walnut streets and heads west to Broadway

Spectators are invited to enjoy floats created and decorated by local businesses, churches, schools, community groups and nonprofits. The grand finale includes an appearance by the jolly old man himself - Santa Claus!

Freezie Fest, Saturday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pearl Street Mall and beyond

A celebration of winter and all things snowmen! This snowman extravaganza includes free train rides (weather permitting), visits with Santa and Reindeer Games (crafts and other activities) for all.

Chanukah on Pearl, Wednesday, Dec. 30, from 5:30-7 p.m.

1300 block of Pearl Street

This annual outdoor event on the 1300 block of Pearl Street Mall is open to the entire community and has become a holiday ritual for many local families. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. and include a Menorah lighting, music, traditional food, hot chocolate and Chanukah favors. This event is co-sponsored by the Boulder Jewish Community Center and the Boulder County Center for Judaism.

Give back to the earth this holiday season

Composting for healthier soil

As the holidays approach, many of us are thinking about giving — whether to loved ones or our community. One simple yet impactful way to give back this season is by composting. Composting your food scraps and other organic materials is an easy way to create healthier soil and reduce waste, especially as Boulder works toward its zero-waste goals.

Winter might seem like an off-season for composting, but keeping your compost pile active during the colder months can have major benefits. By continuing to compost holiday meal scraps, vegetable peelings and fallen leaves, you're diverting waste from the landfill while creating nutrient-rich compost that will prepare your soil for spring planting.

Many critters depend on fallen leaves for protection during winter, so instead of bagging everything, gather some into piles, or leave a thin layer on the ground to support insects and other wildlife. When tidying up this fall, leaving a few leaves behind creates a safe and cozy haven while also enriching your soil. It's a simple step that benefits both your garden and the ecosystem!

Composting during winter also contributes to Boulder's environmental goals by reducing landfill emissions. Food waste in landfills produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas. By composting, you're helping to cut down on this pollution and enriching our local soils at the same time.

Healthy soil is essential for resilient ecosystems, especially in Boulder's dry climate. It helps retain moisture, supports plant growth and prevents erosion, creating a more robust landscape for our native plants and trees. When spring rolls around, your compost will be ready to nurture your garden or local green spaces, ensuring they thrive in the warmer months.

This holiday season, let's make composting part of our gift to the planet. Whether you're composting through curbside collection or managing a backyard pile or bin, keeping organics out of the landfill helps nourish the soil and contributes to a sustainable future for our community.



Winter magic

Cultivate sow bags for a merry spring

Adapted "How to Prepare Winter Sow-Bags" (CoolBoulder.org) by Andrea Montoya, Pollinator Advocate Program lead

Winter is the perfect time to embrace nature and give back to the planet with a simple, budget-friendly gardening project: sow bags. Imagine mini-greenhouses you can easily create in the comfort of your home, helping seeds germinate during the colder months. Sow bags offer a meaningful way to nurture the earth while preparing for a vibrant spring bloom. Plus, they make thoughtful, eco-friendly gifts for fellow garden lovers!

What Can You Grow?

Winter sow bags are suitable for a wide variety of plants, from native perennials and annuals to cool and warm-season vegetables. For this activity, we concentrate on native flowers and grasses. The same method can apply to your vegetables, but keep in mind that warm-season veggies like tomatoes, peppers and melons should not be started until late March when night temperatures are consistently around 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Cool-season vegetables like broccoli, carrots and spinach can be sown as early as January or February.

To start, you'll need:

- Gallon-sized zipper-lock plastic bags (preferably with sliders)
- Potting mix (without added fertilizers or chemicals)
- Native seeds
- Watering can or spray bottle
- Wooden skewers and clothespins
- Masking tape and a marker for labeling

The potting mix will fill about a third of each bag, providing the necessary medium for



germination. Avoid garden soil, as it's too heavy and doesn't offer the right conditions for your seeds to thrive.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Find a location: Identify an outdoor space where you want to place your sow bag. Insert a wooden skewer in the soil to help prop the bag open and prevent it from collapsing under snow or wind.
2. Prepare the bag: Cut small drainage holes in the bottom of the bag to prevent excess water buildup. Fill the bag halfway with potting mix, ensuring it remains loose enough for air circulation. Thoroughly wet the soil until water begins to drain from the bottom, but avoid creating puddles.
3. Plant the seeds: Scatter a generous number of seeds on the soil's surface. Native seeds naturally germinate in dense clusters, so don't worry about spacing them out too much. Lightly cover the seeds with soil, but ensure they still have some exposure to sunlight for germination.



4. Ventilation and structure: Attach a clothespin to one corner of the bag to keep it slightly open for air circulation.

Moisture maintenance: It's crucial to keep the soil moist but not waterlogged. Methods include adding snow into the bag, placing it in a shallow tray of water or using a spray bottle to gently mist the soil.

Leave them outside: Place your sow bags outside in a sunny spot, allowing them to experience the natural cycles of winter. The bags should stay moist and resemble tiny greenhouses, with condensation on the inside.

Seedling Care

As the weather warms, seeds will sprout. Begin gradually exposing the seedlings to wind by folding down the bag's top, allowing airflow to harden the stems. Once seedlings have two true leaves, they're ready to transplant into the garden. Wait until the threat of frost has passed, usually around early May in Colorado.

Preparing for Transplanting

When transplanting, don't overwhelm the young plants with direct sunlight or extreme temperatures. Place them in dappled shade or cover them with a light fabric for protection. Water at the base to avoid damaging delicate leaves and stems.

Final Tips

Not all seeds will germinate, and that's normal. Some may not sprout at all in the first year, but the effort is worth it for the benefits they provide to local ecosystems, including attracting pollinators and supporting biodiversity.

Winter sow bags are a rewarding, off-season gardening project that offers an opportunity to connect with nature, even in the colder months. With patience and attention, you'll have beautiful, native plants ready to enhance your garden and support your local environment. Happy planting!



How to protect your home during a winter power outage

As winter approaches, potential power outages can accompany snowstorms, cold snaps and high winds. Power outages during winter pose unique challenges, especially when it comes to keeping your home warm and safe. Here are some tips to help you protect your home and stay comfortable when the power goes out.

1. Prepare a Winter Outage Kit

Have an outage kit and know how to use the items in it before a winter storm to keep you calm and prepared. Your kit should include:

- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Warm blankets, sleeping bags and extra layers of clothing
- A battery-powered radio for updates
- Non-perishable food and bottled water
- First aid supplies
- Hand-crank or battery-powered phone chargers
- Firewood or alternative heat sources

2. Maintain Heat

Staying warm is essential during a winter power outage. Here's how:

- Seal your home: Close doors to unused rooms to conserve heat, and block drafts under doors with towels or rugs. Make sure windows are closed and locked to prevent heat from escaping.
- Use alternative heat sources: If you have a wood-burning stove or fireplace, now is the time to use it. Ensure there is proper ventilation to avoid carbon monoxide buildup. Portable heaters can be useful, but never use gasoline or propane heaters indoors unless they're designed for indoor use.

3. Prevent Frozen Pipes

When temperatures drop, one of the biggest concerns is frozen pipes. Burst pipes can cause expensive damage, so it's essential to keep them from freezing:

- Let faucets drip: Keep a slow stream of water running in faucets connected to exposed pipes. This helps prevent freezing.

- Open cabinet doors: Allow heat to circulate around plumbing, especially in kitchens and bathrooms.
- Shut off exterior water sources: Disconnect and drain garden hoses, and shut off water to outdoor spigots to prevent freezing.

4. Stay Informed and Connected

- Sign up for alerts: Stay updated with weather and outage alerts by signing up for emergency notifications through Boulder's Emergency Alert system at boulderodm.gov.
- Charge devices: Fully charge your phone and portable chargers when a storm is in the forecast.
- Check on neighbors: Look out for your neighbors, especially older adults or people with disabilities, to ensure they're safe during an outage.

5. Know When to Leave

If your home becomes too cold or unsafe, consider relocating to a friend's house or a designated warming shelter. Knowing your options and planning ahead can help prevent discomfort or danger.

Boulder's Resources and Support

The City of Boulder is committed to helping the community through winter emergencies. Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for updates and resources.

Stay safe and warm! And remember, preparation is key to ensuring a resilient home, no matter what winter throws your way.



Where does your water utility money go?

We all pay our utility bills, but do you know where that money goes? Revenue from utility bills funds the operation of a multibillion-dollar infrastructure system, including projects to preserve and sustain the quality of life in Boulder.

Utilities are key to the safety and health of the Boulder community. Each year, City Council reviews utility rates to ensure the city can support the increasing costs to improve aging infrastructure; provide clean drinking water; keep our wastewater facility running; build flood mitigation; and maintain water mains, sewers and the stormwater system.

Check out a few of the major projects we're working on!

Flood Mitigation Projects

The South Boulder Creek Flood Mitigation project is part of the City of Boulder's efforts to minimize the damaging effects of a major flood.

The project aims to enhance the safety of community members and safeguard areas in the city prone to severe flooding from the South Boulder Creek drainageway. The city is finalizing the design for flood mitigation, with construction anticipated to begin in 2025. Visit southbouldercreek.com to learn more.



Some of our other flood mitigation projects include key waterways such as Gregory Canyon Creek, Upper Goose Creek and Twomile Canyon Creek. By upgrading infrastructure, restoring natural waterways and implementing innovative, nature-based design, we not only protect our community but also promote healthier local ecosystems.

Importantly, these flood mitigation efforts can lead to savings on your flood insurance. By participating in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), Boulder adopts practices that effectively lower flood risks and improve our CRS rating. A higher rating can result in discounts on flood insurance premiums, benefiting both homeowners and businesses.

Your investment is essential in building a safer, more resilient Boulder.



Main Sewer Improvement

The Main Sewer Improvements project is enhancing the condition and capacity of the city's primary sewer line, which carries 80% of the city's wastewater to its wastewater treatment plant. The project is vital to the resilience of our water system, especially when it rains. This year we've worked on constructing a pipeline from the Valmont and Butte Mill area to the treatment plant at 75th Street and Jay Road, to help prevent Boulder Creek from flooding. This phase of the project is scheduled to be completed in 2025. Visit bldr.fyi/MSIProject to learn more.



63rd Street Waterline Replacement Project

We are replacing two aging waterlines that supply drinking water to the community along 63rd Street between CO 119 (Diagonal Highway) and Jay Road.

To continue providing safe, clean water and to improve water distribution resilience, we must replace aging infrastructure once it reaches the end of its useful life. This project will install newer, more easily maintained waterlines to meet our community's needs. You can expect traffic impacts throughout the project, which is scheduled to be completed in 2025. Visit bldr.fyi/63rd-waterline to learn more.

63rd Water Treatment Facility

The city is nearing completion of improvements at the 63rd Water Treatment Facility, including upgrades to the electrical system, replacement of aging equipment and the addition of emergency safeguards. These improvements are part of the city's commitment to provide clean, safe and great-tasting drinking water to our community. The project is scheduled to be completed in early 2025.



Action needed by city water customers!

Beginning next year, the city is moving to paperless billing and updating billing systems for its water customers to help make paying your bill quick and easy. The January 2025 bill you receive in the mail will be your last paper bill, as the city moves toward an all-digital billing system.

Here is what you need to do to prepare for this change:

- Find your customer number and account number – this is located on your water bill.
- Create a new account on the Customer Service Billing Portal at boulderwater.net.

Create your new account and get ready for paperless billing, beginning February 2025! Learn more at boulderwater.net.



Be flood aware

Boulderites know to be prepared for floods and emergencies year-round. Boulder has a high risk of flash flooding due to its location at the mouth of several canyons. Take these steps to make sure you're ready:

- Sign up for free emergency alerts at [bocog11alert.com](https://www.bocog11alert.com). You can receive alerts via home, work and cell phones, text messages and email.
- When a flood watch or warning is issued for your area, find more information by turning into local news and visiting [boulderodm.gov](https://www.boulderodm.gov).
- Have an evacuation plan if there is a flood in your area.
- Prepare an emergency kit.
- Ask your insurance agent about flood insurance.
- Be Flood Smart. Visit [floodsmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov).

Learn what you need to know to be safe, resilient and protect your property at [boulderfloodinfo.net](https://www.boulderfloodinfo.net). You can check if your property is in a floodplain, learn how to ensure building improvements are compliant with city code, how to protect natural floodplain functions and more.

Emergency Go Bag Essentials The 7 Ps

-  **People**
-  **Pets**
and pet food
-  **Papers**
Important documents
-  **Prescriptions**
including eyeglasses
-  **Pictures**
Irreplaceable memorabilia
-  **Personal computers**
and phones
-  **Plastic**
Credit/debit cards and cash

— Cut here ><

2024-2025

Snow and Ice Response Program



The City of Boulder strives to support multimodal travel and accessibility for all people by focusing on equity, safety, mobility and customer service before, during and after it snows. We prioritize clearing emergency routes, priority streets, on-street bike lanes, streets with steep slopes, multiuse paths and designated bus stops.

BOULDER SNOW CREWS CLEAR:

300+
miles of
city streets
and paths

24/7
during
storms



Learn more about how the City of Boulder responds to winter weather.

**STAY
CONNECTED**



**REPORT AN ICY
STREET, PATH OR
SIDEWALK**

InquireBoulder.com
303-413-7109*
**during snowstorms only*

**GENERAL PROGRAM
INFORMATION AND
INTERACTIVE SNOW
ROUTE MAP**

[bouldercolorado.gov/services/
snow-and-ice-response](https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/snow-and-ice-response)

**VOLUNTEER TO
CLEAR SNOW**

bldr.fyi/shovel-a-stop

**CHECK ROAD
CONDITIONS**

COtrip.org

When weather brings down tree limbs, who cleans them up?

25% of the trees in the city are publicly owned, so we rely on property owners to dispose of the branches from both public and private trees on their property.

Who's responsible for what?

- The city removes fallen limbs from public property trees that are 10 inches in diameter and larger.
- Community members manage limbs less than 10 inches in diameter
- Report a fallen tree or a large diameter limb on the ground via Inquire Boulder at bouldercolorado.gov/report-issue



City of Boulder
Parks & Recreation



Committed to safe drinking water

The city consistently provides high-quality drinking water that meets water regulations, and our water sampling program goes above and beyond requirements.

This year, we completed an initial inventory of drinking water service lines in our service area. The inventory, which is required by state and federal regulations, began in 2022 with the goal of ensuring that no customers receive drinking water from lead service lines. We are pleased to report that no lead lines were found in the inventory.

To conduct the inventory, we followed state guidance, reviewed thousands of historical records and visually inspected service lines. Using a statistical approach approved by the state, we were able to classify service lines as non-lead based on records review and visual verification.

Community participation was a large part of the inventory process, as 900+ community



members identified the material of the service line coming into their property and shared that information with us.

Although no lead lines were found, a small number (less than 60) of service lines require further investigation and possible replacement, due to the lack of historic records at these locations. City staff will contact these community members directly to verify service line material and determine a plan for replacement, as needed.

For a map of the inventory, along with more information about the project, visit bldr.fyi/waterinventory.

How do you give back to your community?

Volunteering for the city 22%

Helping neighbors/friends 30%

Supporting a nonprofit 33%

Volunteering at a school 14%

Giving back can take many forms- from volunteering to simply lending a hand to a neighbor. When we give, we make our community strong and more resilient.



GivePulse



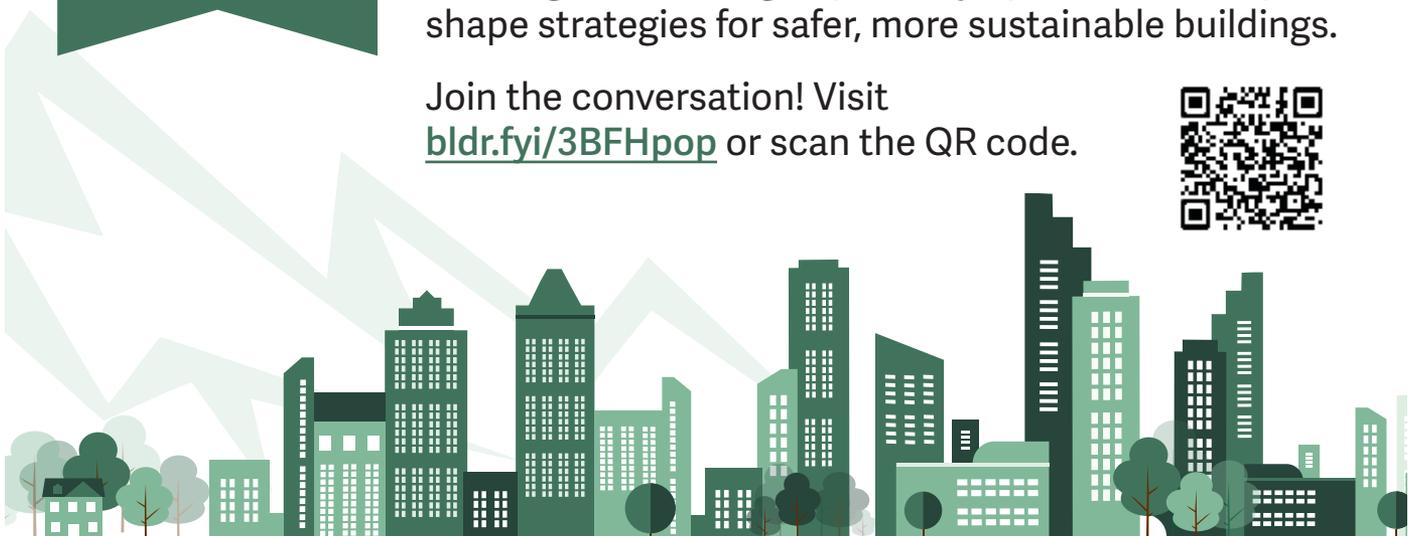
Find volunteer opportunities at the city and around Boulder through GivePulse.

Healthy Buildings, Stronger Community

Roadmap

We aspire to build healthier, more resilient spaces for a stronger future. Sign up to stay updated and help shape strategies for safer, more sustainable buildings.

Join the conversation! Visit bldr.fyi/3BFHpop or scan the QR code.





(Pictured)
A community member gets more information about being in a high risk area from a wildfire specialist

New opportunities in wildfire resilience thanks to the Climate Tax initiative

Find everything at bouldercolorado.gov/wildfireready.

While Boulder is a beautiful place to live, work and play, the same natural lands that make it special also put the community at significant risk for wildfires. Fire is a necessary part of the evolution of forests and grassland. Strategic and coordinated mitigation can help us honor its role while preventing devastation to our community.

Wildfire preparedness is a shared community responsibility, and the opportunities we have today allow us to shape a new generation of wildfire resilience for our community.

What is the city doing?

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is an assessment of recommended strategies for reducing the risk of hazardous fuels, enhancing public outreach and education, lowering the ignitability for structures, and improving fire-response capabilities. The CWPP contains specific recommendations for the improvement of our wildfire resiliency. This initiative included community sessions for input and feedback, as well as the cooperation of multiple city

departments and regional partners. Funded by Boulder’s Climate Tax, passed by voters in November 2022, the CWPP will serve as a guiding document that will assist the city and property owners in making informed decisions with respect to wildfire preparation and management.

Detailed Home Assessments

The detailed home assessment (DHA) is a free assessment of homes, conducted by Boulder Fire-Rescue. Each DHA is done by a specialist and helps homeowners understand wildfire resilience at their residence. This free program offers a two-hour walk-through of the home and property, as well as a report on recommended improvements to their home/property to make it more wildfire resilient.

Wildfire Resilience Assistance Program (WRAP)

For homeowners who have received a DHA, some home-improvement items may be eligible for funding from the city through the Wildfire Resilience Assistance Program (WRAP). The City of Boulder’s Wildfire Resilience Assistance program provides up

to \$1,000 to eligible property owners in high wildfire risk areas to make improvements to their property. Additional funding may be provided to income-eligible property owners as well. Like the CWPP, funding for WRAP also comes from the City's Climate Tax.

Open Space Wildland Urban Interface Mowing Program

In 2024, OSMP launched a pilot Perimeter Mowing Program, an initiative identified in the CWPP, to reduce wildfire risks near residential areas. The program focuses on mowing 30-foot strips of open space adjacent to four neighborhoods. The areas were selected based on wildfire risk mapping, open-space ecological data and proximity to homes. This mowing effort reduces grass vegetation to a safer height of 4 to 6 inches, helping create defensible space and limit fire spread. OSMP is working with partners and private property owners to develop comprehensive strategies for reducing wildfire hazards throughout the Wildland Urban Interface in Boulder.

Livestock Grazing

OSMP partners with local ranchers to conduct prescribed livestock grazing on city-managed open space south of the National Center for Atmospheric Research. Livestock grazing helps reduce non-native grasses and invasive weeds that can fuel wildfires and harm native species that are more resilient to fire. Livestock grazing also occurs on an additional 13,000 acres of OSMP-managed agricultural lands east of Boulder. Long-term monitoring of cattle grazing, which is the most cost-effective tool to manage vegetation in the rocky open space area, has reduced invasive weeds that can fuel wildfires. As part of OSMP's Wildland Urban Interface Program, OSMP wildfire and vegetation staff are piloting strategic and targeted grazing, in addition to mowing, to reduce risk to communities.

Forest Thinning

Since the adoption of the Forest Ecosystem Management Plan in 1999, OSMP has actively



thinned forests by selectively cutting trees and branches, mimicking natural fire processes. OSMP evaluates forest ecosystems to guide its ongoing tree-thinning efforts, with OSMP prioritizing fuel mitigation work next to residential neighborhoods. In 2024, a team of 13 staff members continued this important work. This year, OSMP partnered with Four Mile and Boulder Rural Fire Protection Districts on collaborative tree-thinning work, which occurred on both OSMP and private land to expand the area of improved forest conditions, and to reduce the likelihood of uncontrolled wildfire spreading from the west towards the City of Boulder.

Prescribed Burns

Collaborative OSMP and Boulder Fire-Rescue work restores the natural balance for Colorado's fire-adapted ecosystems by conducting prescribed burns, which remove excess vegetation that can fuel wildfires, and help improve plant and wildlife habitats. The city also conducts prescribed burns to help maintain agricultural properties, including ditches that provide water for open space farming and ranching operations. If a burn can't be done safely or meet city burn goals and state-mandated guidelines, it won't be carried out.

Weed Management

Native plant communities in Boulder's open spaces are more resilient to fire, but they are threatened by invasive species. OSMP uses an integrated weed management approach combining mechanical, biological, cultural and chemical methods—to manage noxious weeds and support native plants. In 2024, OSMP treated over 6,000 acres for invasive weed species, contributing to healthier and more fire-resistant landscapes.

What can you do?

- Understand how to make your home and property more wildfire resilient** by getting a detailed home assessment (free) and making the recommended improvements.
- Create better landscape resilience** on your property by cleaning up leaves and debris, and cutting branches that overhang your structure.
- Recreate responsibly** when you are on your property or on the city's open space. This means following fire restrictions, and never having an open burn or setting off fireworks.
- Familiarize yourself with the city's burn regulations.** The City of Boulder has year-round fire regulations and burn restrictions.

Emergency Alerts and Preparedness

- Sign up for emergency alerts and instructions** from safety officials at [bocoalert.org](https://www.bocoalert.org). BOCO Alerts sends alerts for destinations of your choosing to your cell phone, home phone or emails.
- Receive text updates with additional information** related to any active emergency by texting **BOCOinfo** to **888777**. The request only needs to be made once. The service is free, but data usage charges might apply.
- Do not wait to be advised to leave** if you feel your safety is compromised. If advised to leave your home/area, please do so immediately.

- Understand the following alerts.**
 - Advisory: Used to share information about an emergency situation that is likely to impact communities.
 - Warning: Used to prepare you to take action or take immediate action if you need extra time to mobilize.
 - Order: Used when you need to take immediate action due to an imminent life-safety threat.
- Understand the following actions in relation to wildfire:**
 - Evacuation: A directive to leave the area immediately.
 - All Clear: Follow-up information issued after officials have determined the hazard no longer presents a threat to the community.

Start your wildfire-ready journey today:

- Clean up the leaves** from around your property, your roof and home attachments.
- Clear your gutters** of debris.
- Apply** for Detailed Home Assessment.
- Cut back tree limbs** that overhang your home or other structures on your property.
- Already completed a DHA?** Apply for Wildfire Resilience Assistance Program (WRAP) money to help complete your resiliency projects.



Community photo spotlight



City staff and members of City Council participate in festivities celebrating the naming of Primos Park in North Boulder. Pictured, from left: Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Lauren Folkerts, Ali Rhodes, Tina Marquis, Tara Winer, Aaron Brockett, Taishya Adams, Nicole Speer

Danza Estrella de Guadalupe (Star of Guadalupe), a Boulder music and dance group, performing for community members. The group is from Zacatecas, a state in Mexico. They performed several dances for the attendees of What's Up Boulder.



Community members take a look inside Boulder Police Department's SWAT vehicle during the What's Up Boulder event. They climbed inside to see BPD's equipment, hold a shield, and poke their head out the top! Thanks to city staff for the opportunity to show how they're keeping community members safe.



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Learn more at printreleaf.com



OSMP completes major trail projects More coming in 2025

Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Department has completed several important trail and trailhead projects to help community members enjoy and protect shared open space. Learn more about finished trail and trailhead projects; work that is underway or expected to begin this fall; and important projects we're planning to start in 2025.

OSMP highly encourages community members to learn about current trail closures by visiting osmptrails.org.

Completed Trail and Trailhead Projects

- **North Sky Trail:** OSMP finished construction of the new 3.5-mile trail north of Boulder and west of U.S. Highway 36 in June. The trail provides an important connection beyond Boulder, linking the city's Foothills North Trail in north Boulder to the Joder Ranch Trail near U.S. Highway 36 and Neva Road.
- **Vesper Trail:** OSMP has completed construction of the new Vesper Trail, a 1.5-mile trail section on Gunbarrel Hill near the intersection of 75th Street and Lookout Road. OSMP thanks community members for respecting a closure along the new Vesper Trail, which helped two burrowing owl couples raise eight owlets.
- **Eagle and Sage Trails:** OSMP conducted extensive maintenance on the eastern sections of the trails north of the city. These trails provide important connections into Boulder from neighboring communities and areas north of the city.
- **Royal Arch and Mount Sanitas Trails:** OSMP improved the Royal Arch Trail by installing additional timber stairs near the end of the trail. Maintenance work on the Mount Sanitas Trail included replacing old trail infrastructure, new steps and repairs to reduce soil erosion.

Trail and Trailhead Projects this Fall

- **Western Boulder Valley Improvements:** OSMP is conducting several trail improvements in the Boulder Valley Ranch area. These projects aim to improve outdoor experiences, increase trail sustainability and increase bicycling trail access while protecting wildlife and plant habitats in the area. As part of this work, OSMP will open more trails in the area to bicyclists.

- **South Boulder Creek Trail:** OSMP trailhead repairs along the soft-surface trail next to South Boulder Creek will focus on helping improve accessibility for visitors experiencing disabilities. Work will include trail surface repairs, removing vegetation along the trail corridor, and new retaining walls.
- **Chapman Drive Trailhead:** OSMP plans to install a new pedestrian bridge connecting Boulder Canyon Trail to the Chapman Drive Trailhead across Boulder Creek. The department also will improve trailhead parking, increase the number of bike racks and add a new picnic table.
- **Sawhill Ponds Trailhead:** OSMP also plans to construct a new fishing pier, enhance bus parking, add a short trail loop and upgrade a bird blind to help visitors observe wildlife. The department will also improve parking and access to the Sawhill Ponds Trail for community members experiencing disabilities.

2025: Looking Ahead

- **Mount Sanitas:** OSMP will leverage a federal grant to conduct significant trail repairs on Mount Sanitas and construct two new short trails to help the community enjoy the area. OSMP has partnered with the Boulder Open Space Conservancy—the department’s official philanthropic partner—to further leverage additional fundraising opportunities to support grant-funded trail improvements and ecological restoration work on Mount Sanitas.
- **Shale Trail Construction:** OSMP plans to construct this new trail in the spring/summer of 2025. It will connect the Boulder Valley Ranch Trailhead to the Eagle Trail and provide access to the mesa in the area. This trail will be open to hikers and equestrians to provide a non-bike route to the top of the mesa.



A BOULDER FUTURE

We are updating the **Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP)**, which guides how our community will look and feel, the mobility networks that connect us and how we approach changes to our natural and built environments for years to come.

Get involved!

Between now and 2026



A Boulder Tomorrow

Winter & Spring 2025

Tell us your dreams for Boulder and what is important to you

A Boulder Today

Fall 2024

Tell us how you would like to be involved in the project

A Boulder Direction

Summer & Fall 2026

Share what you would like the city to do to achieve the community's vision

A Boulder Future

Spring & Summer 2026

Tell us if the draft plan reflects our shared community vision, values and priorities for the Boulder Valley



Visit:
ABoulderFuture.org



BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan update

Celebrate 50 years since the adoption of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan

If you haven't heard of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) it's a good time to get up to speed! The City of Boulder and Boulder County are updating the BVCP, which guides how the Boulder Valley evolves over time. It informs things like the city's budget and capital improvement program; it also includes a Future Land Use Map to help the city make choices about things like parks and open space, transportation and walkable neighborhoods.



Community members interact with staff at the BVCP Update Kickoff event.

History

The first BVCP was adopted in 1977 and set the stage for managing where development and city services would be concentrated in the Boulder Valley, while still supporting local natural resources and the environmental features that make Boulder such a special place. The greenbelt of open space surrounding the city center is still studied as a model of urban planning today.

A Boulder Future

The city conducts a major update to the BVCP every 10 years, and considers changes and updates to plan policies and future land use designations. These major updates represent a unique opportunity for the city, county and community to come together to share their vision for the future of the Boulder Valley, and make an impact on what the city will look and feel like in the next 20 years. Over the next year, community members will have multiple opportunities to engage with city and county staff to discuss our future, challenges, strengths, opportunities and big ideas.



How to Get Involved

We are planning many ways for our community to learn about the update and have their voices heard, including open houses, online questionnaires, pop-up events, an innovative Community Assembly and more. Community voices are vital in this process, and we want to hear from you about where we are today, and where you want the Boulder Valley to be 20 years from now. Visit boulderfuture.org or scan the QR code to learn more, sign up for events and share your thoughts.

Cultural grantee stories

The Office of Arts and Culture awards over \$1.3 million of grant funds to hundreds of Boulder artists and arts organizations each year. These grants afford opportunities for individuals, organizations and classrooms to cultivate rich creative experiences. From exhibitions and performances to workshops and field trips, funding from the Boulder Arts Commission strives to make artistic expression more accessible for all members of our community.

In addition to creating enriching experiences, the impact of arts funding can also be felt on the local economy. The nonprofit arts and culture industry generates \$115.1 million in annual economic activity in Boulder, supporting 2,451 jobs and generating \$21.9 million in local, state and federal government revenues, according to the Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 national economic impact study. Grant funding supports Boulder's thousands of professional artists and creative workers - a sector that has become key to our economy in everything from tech to tourism. Attendees of cultural events in Boulder totaled over 1.8 million in 2022-23, bringing locals and visitors alike into our business communities.

Behind every cultural grant in Boulder, there is a story.



"If you create something with your hands, you are a maker. Art Parts gives more members of our community the opportunity to experiment with art. We also provide people with a place to sustainably get rid of supplies that are no longer wanted. Maybe you are moving or cleaning out your grandma's sewing closet. Bring your materials to us and we can reimagine them into new supplies for others."

- Megan Moriarty, Executive Director of Art Parts Creative Reuse Center

"We live in a state where people like to climb mountains and then ski down them. When we started the company, we really wanted to meet people where they were in terms of interests. So, we decided to bring theater to nontraditional spaces like farms and breweries and Open Space. Grant funding helps make these special experiences happen."

- Amanda Berg Wilson, founder of The Catamounts



"East Window Gallery offers its space to many different artists. Our curatorial choices showcase our solidarity for facilitating critical thought and action within local communities. The work chosen to be displayed invites us to look at difficult subject matter, accept discomfort and to celebrate its revelations."

- Edward Herman, founder and director of East Window Gallery





“Orchestral music and the arts overall serve as a platform to discuss larger societal issues. Music is a way to capture the time and place of a moment – to tell the story of our community. Hearing live music also contributes to your overall quality of life. Having a creative class as part of our society is very important.”

- Mimi Kruger, Executive Director of Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra

“Murals can provide a gentle way to have tough conversations about topics including race, gender and environmentalism. There is also an equity component of mural artwork being accessible to all. It’s an inherently democratic art form that doesn’t require viewers to step into a retail space or museum.”

- Leah Brenner Clack, Executive Director of Street Wise Arts

To read more cultural grantee profiles, visit boulderarts.org or scan the QR code below.



Applications for 2025 Boulder Arts Commission Cultural Grants opened Nov. 15, with opportunities ranging from cultural field trips to arts education workshops. As a result of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Tax, and guided by the community’s input, expanded funding is available for 2025 General Operating Support Grants. Over the next year, the arts team will be conducting a comprehensive engagement process to determine how to utilize the additional funding. This new plan, called the Boulder Arts Blueprint, will help guide the next iteration of the city’s Community Cultural Plan.



To stay up to date with the latest news from the Office of Arts and Culture, including information on the Boulder Arts Blueprint, sign up for our newsletter by visiting bldr.fyi/4burbMw or follow us on social media @[boulderartsculture](https://twitter.com/boulderartsculture).

Fostering Connection Through Creativity

The Creative Neighborhoods Mural Program, which re-launched earlier this year, builds upon the Office of Arts and Culture’s ongoing efforts to bring artwork into local communities. The program provided resources for community members to work with a local artist to create a mural in their neighborhood.

Over 14 murals will be installed in neighborhoods including South Boulder and Crossroads during the course of next year. Keep your eye out for the new artwork that will pop up throughout the city on garages, fences and other unique places!



Image Credits: Mural artwork by AJ Davis, 2024.



Underway: A new hub for city services

Wondering what happened to the old hospital building on Alpine Ave. and Broadway St.? Get ready for a new city building and campus that provides a central place to do all of your city business, engage on city projects and initiatives, and enjoy a central plaza for outdoor activities.

With construction starting this winter, the Western City Campus will be a new centralized location for several city customer-service functions and staff offices. Situated on 2.4 acres of the original 8.8-acre Alpine-Balsam site, the Western City Campus will feature a range of essential city services, office space, a variety of community spaces and a parking garage.

Why make this big change to city buildings?

The development of the Western City Campus is driven by several critical needs.

1. Energy efficiency and building maintenance:

The City of Boulder expanded into leased spaces, leaving services and staff scattered across the city. The current buildings are in disrepair and require substantial investment to maintain. Costly repairs have limited value as these buildings continue to decline. In the city's current buildings, we are not able to meet our climate action plan goals to electrify buildings because our capital and emergency funding is spent on fixing the failing infrastructure. Redirecting funding to the Western City Campus enables the city to address failing infrastructure while also meeting city climate and resilience goals, and aligning with our social values.

The Alpine-Balsam site is on track to be a global leader in low carbon redevelopment. For the Western City Campus, the city adaptively reused all three existing structures on the site of the former Boulder Community Hospital and gave new life to old buildings that possessed a large amount of embodied carbon in their concrete structures. The campus will be comprised of all-electric buildings designed to consume very little energy.

2. Provide efficiency and connection for both community members and city staff:

The Western City Campus will allow city staff to work more efficiently, and move away from being spread across multiple locations. By consolidating many services in one location, we

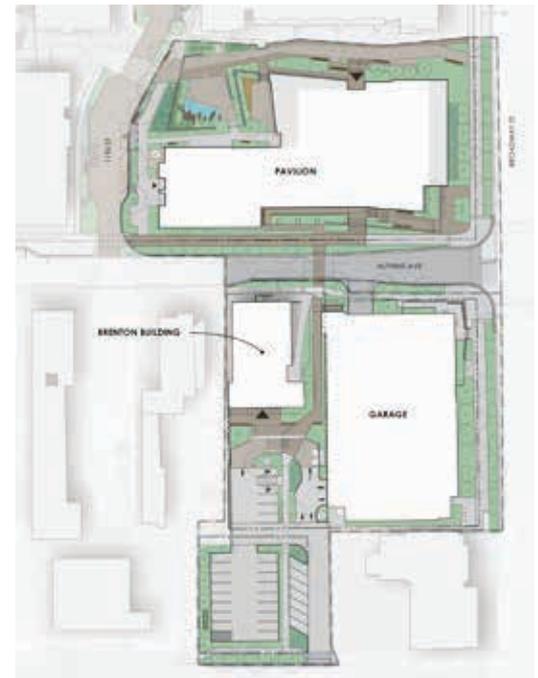
aim to create a better space for public engagement and provide the community with a consistent, reliable destination for accessing city services.

Keep an eye out for project milestones

- Early 2025: Groundbreaking on building site
- 2027: Campus grand opening

Stay up to date

Sign up for the Western City Campus newsletter to be in the know about construction impacts, project elements and how you can get involved with the building development. Visit bldr.fyi/WCC or scan the QR code.



Small business resources

Looking to start a small business; need connections to financing or other resources for your business; or just looking for one-on-one consulting with someone who's been there? We're here for you! Most of the businesses located in Boulder are small businesses. In fact, 90% of businesses in the city have fewer than 20 employees.

We care about our small businesses. Here are some ways local business-support organizations can help.

Connect with these local organizations to find business coaching, networking, workshops, connections to financial and other resources, and more!



- **Boulder Chamber:** Works with a wide range of businesses, providing information on doing business in Boulder including local market and economic information; connections to resources; policy and advocacy efforts; and networking and learning opportunities.



- **Downtown Boulder Partnership (DBP):** Partners with the city to cultivate a clean, safe and vibrant downtown community, and preserve its historic and cultural character. The organization supports downtown businesses in a number of ways including providing information and connections to resources; hosting networking and community events; and sponsoring promotional campaigns to generate business opportunities. DBP also provides year-round advocacy on issues that directly affect small businesses.



- **The Latino Chamber of Boulder County:** Provides programs to help build, strengthen and promote the interests of BIPOC businesses. The Latino Chamber offers business assistance, connections to resources, networking opportunities, training programs, and more.



- **Small Business Development Center (SBDC):** Works with aspiring entrepreneurs and small businesses in a wide range of industries. The SBDC offers free confidential business advising; no- or low-cost workshops; connections to financing and other resources; and disaster preparedness, response and recovery assistance. Some programming is available in both English and Spanish.

Need funding for your small business?

The Boulder Microloan Program, a partnership of the City of Boulder and Colorado Enterprise Fund, provides loans up to \$50,000 and one-on-one business coaching to qualified businesses that can repay a loan but may not be able to obtain financing through traditional sources. For more information or to apply, contact Colorado Enterprise Fund at bldr.fyi/enterprise-fund.



Keep learning: Find workshops and classes that help your business succeed.

- **"Doing Business with..." Workshop Series:** Learn about different organizations' procurement processes to gain the tools and knowledge to do business with government organizations like the city or county.
- **Contract Opportunities Fair:** This full-day event enables agencies and organizations with upcoming contracting needs to connect with small businesses that may be a qualified match.

See all upcoming workshops and events at coloradosbdc.org.

Sharing unheard perspectives with council earlier Developing the Economic Vitality Strategy

At a recent Community and Council Forum, council members, city staff, city partners and community members gathered to discuss the Economic Development Plan and Program Enhancements. Brian Lewandowski—from University of Colorado's Leeds School of Business—and city staff provided background information on current economic conditions and trends, and on Boulder's economic strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities. Participants used this information and their personal experiences to guide conversations around the city's updated Economic Vitality Strategy.

Participants also provided insight into four potential focus areas for the Economic Vitality Strategy: equity, vibrancy, resilience and innovation. The following themes were heard during the forum and will help shape action items within the strategy:

- **Equity:** Participants emphasized the need for greater support of microbusinesses, including sole proprietors, home-based businesses and BIPOC-owned businesses. This feedback will be used to shape efforts within the strategy to promote an inclusive economy that benefits all community members.

- **Vibrancy:** Infrastructure improvements, such as expanding broadband access, were highlighted as critical to supporting business growth and enhancing the city's vibrancy. Participants also raised concerns about commercial vacancies and the impact on the local economy. Broader issues like transportation, housing and city budgeting, while not specifically addressed within the strategy, were also raised as important community issues that impact the economy and that will continue to be addressed in other ways.
- **Resilience:** There was strong support for initiatives that promote environmental sustainability in business practices, reinforcing the need to prioritize resilience in the strategy.
- **Innovation:** Participants recognized the economic potential of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, and stressed the importance of balancing innovation with Boulder's unique character and quality of life.

Additionally, program enhancements will be explored to support small businesses by increasing access to resources and improving the city's permitting processes. The city will also consider how its own spending and procurement policies can bolster the local economy, while updates to the retail strategy will aim to meet the needs of residents, visitors and students, generating revenue to support city services.

This feedback is invaluable in creating a strategy that strengthens Boulder's economy while aligning with the community's vision for a vibrant, resilient and inclusive future. Learn more about the Economic Vitality Strategy and engagement opportunities at bldr.fyi/Econ-vitality

At a glance

The Community and Council Forum was launched to offer meaningful community engagement earlier in City Council's decision-making process.

This forum was part of the city's ongoing efforts to ensure community voices are heard, and to address the need for greater inclusivity and engagement in city governance. To help us gauge its success, we asked participants to provide feedback after the forum.

How did we do?

- **77%** of community, council and staff reported that community perspectives were included sooner in this city and council decision-making process.
- **81%** of council and staff heard community perspectives they hadn't heard before or infrequently hear.
- **54.5%** of participating community members were new to a City of Boulder engagement event.
- **100%** of community participants rated their experience as 'good.' (In fall 2023, just 48% of community members rated their experience participating in city council meetings as 'good.')

This pilot forum gave the city a preview of how council engagement may be expanded to include different and earlier opportunities for community feedback.



Affordable housing in Boulder

A key to stronger, healthier communities

Affordable housing is a vital component of a thriving community. Research shows that stable, affordable housing is crucial to a community's health, environment and overall well-being.

The City of Boulder is committed to maintaining diverse housing options for all people, regardless of their income, and has a goal for 15% of all homes to be affordable for low-, moderate- and middle-income households by 2035. As of December 2023, we were more than halfway to that goal, and we'll be updating our progress with 2024 figures soon.

Affordable housing helps service workers, first responders, teachers and laborers live in the community where they work. The city actively works to ensure there are safe and affordable places to live in Boulder. Today, there are more than 4,000 affordable homes in Boulder, and one in 11 Boulder residents lives in an affordable home.

Affordable Homeownership Opportunities

The City of Boulder is committed to making home ownership attainable for a variety of people. Learn more about homeownership assistance programs at bldr.fyi/homeownership.

- **Permanently Affordable Homes Program:** Permanently affordable homes are sold at below market-rate prices to income-eligible buyers who intend to live in the home.
- **Solution Grant:** Assists with downpayment and closing costs for people who want to buy a Permanently Affordable Home or a Thistle Communities Land Trust home, who would not otherwise be able to afford it.
- **H2O: Down Payment Assistance Loan Program:** Provides a zero-interest second loan of up to \$100,000 on market-rate



homes purchased in the City of Boulder to help low-income homebuyers afford downpayment costs.

- **Middle Income Down Payment Pilot:** Provides interest-bearing down payment assistance to help middle-income home buyers purchase a market-rate home. In exchange, the homeowner agrees to make that home permanently affordable through a deed restriction.

Keeping People Housed

With the cost of living increasing, some people are having a hard time making ends meet. The city supports community members in various ways to help as many people as possible stay housed in Boulder.

Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance

The city's Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Services Program (EPRAS) provides rental assistance, mediation and legal services for people facing a potential eviction.

In 2023, EPRAS:

- Distributed \$364,545 directly to 175 households
- Distributed \$350,000 to 214 households through a partnership with Emergency Family Assistance Association
- Provided legal services to 133 tenants

Learn more about the city's eviction prevention services at bldr.fyi/eviction-prevention.

Preserving Manufactured Housing

The preservation of existing affordable housing is one way the city is working to meet affordable housing goals. Manufactured housing is one of the most affordable market-rate homeownership options in Boulder, and Boulder is home to around 1,350 manufactured homes located in five mobile home parks. The city is committed to preserving this type of housing through programs that ensure manufactured homes are affordable and safe to live in.

The city's Manufactured Housing Strategy, scheduled for an update next year, addresses concerns for safe and accessible housing, and ensures compliance with the state Mobile Home Park Act. The strategy has elevated resident voices, and inspired additional supportive resources and grants to address wind damage and other repairs.

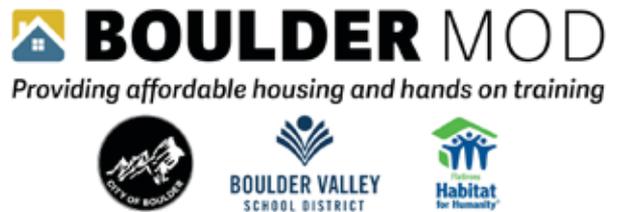
As part of its commitment to preserve affordable housing, the city purchased the Ponderosa Mobile Home Park in 2017. The park is undergoing stabilization and redevelopment efforts to replace older homes that are no longer structurally sound with permanently affordable, foundation-built homes; minimize displacement; preserve long-term affordability; reduce flood risk to the community; and introduce new energy-efficient affordable housing options.

Learn how the city supports manufactured home communities at bldr.fyi/3BCZyTN.

Boulder Mod

Innovation is a hallmark of Boulder's approach to housing. Boulder Mod will produce modular homes for Boulder Valley residents and workers while providing workforce training for Boulder Valley School District students.

A modular home is a prefabricated building fully constructed and finished in a factory, then delivered to its permanent location. The modular structures can be either a standalone home or placed side-by-side,



end-to-end or stacked, allowing for a variety of configurations and styles.

Many of the manufactured homes at Ponderosa need replacement. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the city is utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funding to enable first and second mortgage services to help current Ponderosa homeowners transition from outdated manufactured homes to new modular homes. New modular homes produced at Boulder Mod will be healthy, energy efficient, permanently affordable and allow residents to build wealth.

While Boulder Mod has the capacity to build up to 50 homes each year; in the first years, the factory is expected to produce 12 to 15 homes per year. Boulder Mod is earmarked to build up to 61 new homes for Ponderosa residents.

This initiative will help achieve city and regional housing goals, and will be key to creating affordable homeownership opportunities as outlined in the Middle Income Housing Strategy. View the strategy at bldr.fyi/MiddleIncomeStrategy.

Learn more about Boulder Mod at bldr.fyi/BoulderMod.



Pathways to progress

Addressing homelessness in Boulder

Homelessness is a complex issue that affects communities nationwide. Addressing homelessness at a local level continues to be a top concern for Boulder community members, and the city remains committed to implementing programs and services in this area that show positive results.

From 2023 to 2024, the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative's Point in Time Count reported a significant decrease in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Boulder County. This decrease can and should be seen as a success, but we must acknowledge that the number of individuals living unsheltered in our city remains a significant concern.

Boulder's Approach

The city's comprehensive Homelessness Strategy is built around the belief that all Boulder community members should have a safe and stable place to live. The strategy integrates national evidence-based best practices with local values for a plan that sees beyond short-term services to connect people to real, sustainable solutions.

Addressing the root causes of homelessness, with a strong focus on housing, has proven successful in exiting people out of homelessness and keeping them housed. Housing individuals as quickly as possible and providing newly housed community members with necessary support leads to better outcomes for those facing homelessness and their community.

Making an Impact

The city offers homelessness prevention services and helps unhoused community members obtain and maintain housing. Key recent successes include:

- More than 2,000 individuals in the City of Boulder have transitioned from homelessness to housing since October

2017, with 149 people exiting homelessness between January and August 2024.

- In 2023, evictions were prevented in 96% of cases for people who appeared at court and engaged in the city's Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Services program.
- \$364,545 in direct rental assistance to help keep 175 families housed was distributed in 2023.
- In 2023, the city launched Building Home, a program for newly housed community members that offers peer interactions, daytime services and housing retention support.

Learn more about homelessness services in the city at bldr.fyi/homelessness-services.

Building bridges through day services

In June 2024, the city and All Roads opened the Homelessness Day Services Center located at All Roads Shelter at 4869 Broadway.

The Homelessness Day Services Center provides basic needs and engagement with a variety of service providers in a single location. Many of the services focus on housing, with the goal of exiting people from homelessness.

Between June 16 and October 10, 2024, the Homelessness Day Services Center served 383 unique clients with an average of 67 visits per weekday. Of these 383 clients, 134 received housing-focused services such as coordinated entry, housing list access, vital document procurement and mental health referrals.

Since its opening, the center has seen an increase in individuals who had not previously engaged with services being connected with resources, illustrating the transformative potential of this project to help more people out of homelessness.

Police Oversight Panel

A conversation on why we serve

The following is an excerpt from a conversation between Victor King and Luna Rosal, two members of the Police Oversight Panel (Panel). Luna is a student Panel member in her first term and Victor is the longest-serving Panel member whose final term ends soon. It has been edited for brevity and clarity.

Luna: Ok! We're here. So how long have you been with the Panel?

Victor: Since the very beginning of the Panel, 3-4 years. I didn't protest during the George Floyd thing, I'm not a protester anyway, so here I am instead.

Luna: How was that summer for you?

Victor: You know, I lived in LA during Rodney King incidents. It was full blown National Guard, riots, police brutality on video- the fact that officers were found not guilty given the video evidence... George Floyd wasn't new to me the way it was for some people.

Luna: So this is your way to engage and really do something in the community.

Victor: Yeah, tangible versus intangible, right? Intangible is watching the protest. Tangible is, you know, spending some time with the people you say you hate to see what they really have to do to provide a level of comfort that we're all accustomed to.

Luna: That was a big learning for me, with my background in activism. There's a big stigma around cops, especially with young, politically engaged people. It's polarizing. What's it like for you working with the police?

Victor: Yeah, this work is very personal to me. I can see both sides of it. I've had multiple arrests, I've been in the jail, that was all when I was homeless. And now, I've worked with unhoused people and doing advocacy. It's not a hobby for me. I'm navigating these multiple levels, compared to someone who it might not be so personal for. Like the feelings a person



may have when they walk into the police station and all they see are pictures of white male police chiefs from the past for like, 12 feet. I also feel a weight on my shoulders walking in a space that would never have been afforded to my grandparents who were raised in the deep south. The legacy of the relationship with police is different two generations later.

Service on the Panel provides the opportunity for diverse members of the community to bring their lived experience to inform the policies and procedures of the BPD.

All members of the public deserve to feel confident and comfortable that the Boulder Police Department (BPD) will treat them with respect and fairness. To learn more about the Panel, report a grievance with the police, or sign up for our newsletter, please visit bldr.fyi/oversight-panel or scan the QR code here.



The Panel wants to meet you! We would love the chance to speak to your community or organization about the work of the Panel. Please reach out to policeoversightpanel@bouldercolorado.gov to contact members of the Panel.

Thank you to the City of Boulder Emergency Response Connectors!

Emergency Response Connectors (ERCs) are community leaders living in Boulder's manufactured home and subsidized rental communities. This team convened for the first time on April 3, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the disaster unfolded, it was clear that some community members would experience disproportionate impacts due to job losses, financial vulnerability and a historical distrust of public health systems. Together, this team helped the City of Boulder reach an estimated 1,000 households to help mitigate those impacts.

Over the course of four years, this team:

- engaged in regular direct dialogue with city staff to lift issues, concerns and questions from their neighborhoods;
- advised on logistics, and supported implementation of pop-up testing and vaccination clinics in their neighborhoods;
- helped neighbors with information and resources to keep their families safe and thriving, including distributing more than 3,000 free masks and COVID at-home tests; and
- supported ongoing disaster preparedness, response and recovery, including alerting city staff to damaging straight-line winds in conjunction with the Marshall Fire.

As their work together concludes, city staff celebrates these leaders and the enduring lessons they taught us about providing better service to everyone in the Boulder community.

Current ERCs:



Margarita Estrada



Saroj Gaudel



Kathy Schlereth



Lucita Luz Galicia



Bernardo Padilla



Carlos Valdez



Lety Garcia



Isabel Sánchez



Lorena Zavala

Emergency Response Supporters:



Magali Botello



Sonia Sarabia



Dinesh Kumar Karki



Ivan Montes Vaquera



Miriam De Santiago

ERC Volunteers:

Timothy Bennett
David Ensign
Lieschen Gargano
Christine Hawley
Renee Hummel
Andrea Montoya
Margi Ness
Margaret Rogers
Callie Weiant

ERC Alumni:

Martha Cavallos
Lenora Cooper
Jan DeCourtney
Ana Karina Casas Ibarra
Marguerite Martin
Jesús Salazar
Claudia Sánchez
Celeste Smitz
Britten Spence



Learn more about the city's Community Connector Program, which includes Emergency Response Connectors, by visiting bldr.fyi/connectors.

Understanding municipal court

A Q&A with Judge Jeffrey Cahn

> *What is the role of municipal court and how does it differ from state or county court?*

A municipal court is a local court focused on issues of local concern. Our court has jurisdiction over municipal code violations, including parking, traffic, misdemeanor and petty offenses; animal and code violations; and civil matters such as violations of the city's rental license provisions and bear trash ordinance. The state courts address more serious violations, including misdemeanors and felonies. Charges involving assault, possession or sale of drugs (such as methamphetamines or fentanyl), sexual assault and homicide are handled by the state courts. The Boulder Municipal Court's mission is to provide a forum for the resolution of cases in a fair, humane and speedy process. We are a problem-solving court, focused on identifying and addressing the root cause of behavior, reducing harm to both the defendant and the community.



Judge Jeffrey Cahn

Municipal Court

- Municipal code violations
- Civil matters, such as violations of the city's rental license provisions and bear trash ordinance



State Courts

- Misdemeanors
- Felonies
- Assault, possession or sale of drugs and homicide



> *Why do you believe having a municipal court is important to our community?*

Having a local court allows for a more tailored approach to community issues. One example is the way that our court approaches quality-of-life violations (parties, noise disturbances and consumption of alcohol). These types of offenses have a significant impact on the quality of life of those living on The Hill or other neighborhoods surrounding the University of Colorado. Over the past two decades, our court has partnered with the University, and both the Boulder and CU police departments, to create a program that addresses these violations. We jointly created a holistic approach designed to prevent the violations from occurring and, when such violations do occur, to address the behaviors through a restorative justice process. The Municipal Court and City Attorney's Office worked with our partners to develop the Community Living Class, the CU Restorative Justice Program and the Party Registration Program. These programs have dramatically reduced the number of quality-of-life violations occurring in these neighborhoods. This type of collaboration requires flexibility that may not be easily achieved in the state court setting.

> *What does success look like for someone going through the court system?*

Achieving a successful outcome requires an individualized approach. In our court, the prosecution has the flexibility to create plea agreements that are tailored to the individual's circumstances. Prosecutors and court staff work with defendants to identify

the circumstances in that person's life that have led to the unlawful behavior. Sentencing and diversion options focus on those underlying issues, thereby reducing repeated criminal activity and harm to the community. Success must also involve repairing harm that may have impacted the community or a community member. Principles of restorative justice are the cornerstone to that success. In questionnaires conducted by our court, defendants who participate in a restorative justice approach report far greater satisfaction with their case—and are less likely to commit another crime—than those who have received traditional consequences such as paying fines, performing community service or serving jail sentences. When the harm caused is repaired and ongoing harm is reduced, success is achieved.

> *What is a day in the life of a judge?*

The great part about this job is that each day is unique. During a typical week, I will be on the bench conducting traffic or criminal arraignment sessions, accepting pleas and imposing sentences in animal or code cases, or conducting virtual court with our Community Court defendants. Approximately half of a judge's time is spent in court, with the other half spent responding to motions from the parties, attending meetings and crafting policies for the administration of the court. I enjoy being on the bench. You simply never know what will happen during a court docket. This keeps the work fresh and my brain stimulated!

Did you know you can watch court proceedings? Tune in to the City of Boulder Municipal Court YouTube channel to watch court proceedings and jail sentencing live. Visit bldr.fyi/bldr-court for more information.

Traffic serious bodily injury/fatal crash dashboard

Follow the investigation of a serious traffic incident on the new SBI Dashboard. (Information shared does not compromise active investigations.)

The Boulder Police Department has launched a new dashboard to keep the community informed about traffic crashes that involve deaths and serious bodily injury.

The new dashboard, a collaborative effort by the city's Innovation and Technology and Police departments, shows the community when and where the crash occurred; what type of drivers/operators were involved; a brief description of what happened; the weather conditions; if tickets or charges were filed; and the case status.

"The community has told us that while they appreciate all the information we release when a traffic-related crash first occurs, they want to know what happens as the investigation moves forward and once a case concludes," Boulder Police Chief Stephen Redfearn

* New dashboard on website! *

says. "This dashboard provides additional information without compromising an active investigation."

Boulder Police will update case statuses with new information with the goal of increasing transparency. This new dashboard focuses on the most serious of crashes and supplements our current overall Traffic Crashes dashboard.

"One traffic death or serious bodily injury crash is one too many, and our Traffic and Patrol teams work diligently to both prevent and investigate crashes in the city," Redfearn says. "I hope this increased information will help the community be more aware of their surroundings as they walk, run, ride and drive in our great city."

You can find the dashboard and other public safety-related data at bouldercolorado.gov/crime-dashboard.

Stay informed

Whether in print, on TV or online, there are many ways to stay up to date on the latest Boulder news and information.



Visit the city newsroom for the latest articles, news releases, photos and videos.
bouldercolorado.gov/news



Follow us on social media for news, photos, event information and more.



Sign up for city e-newsletters to stay up to date on popular topics, including climate, open space, parks and recreation and more.
bldr.fyi/e-news



Watch Boulder 8 TV for live City Council meetings and a weekly news show.



Read the twice-yearly community newsletter to stay informed about city projects, plans and news.

Video spotlight

Looking for more City of Boulder content? Add these videos to your watchlist!



On the Job with Edgar Chavarria
bldr.fyi/edgar-c



On the Job with Kate Doering
bldr.fyi/kate-d

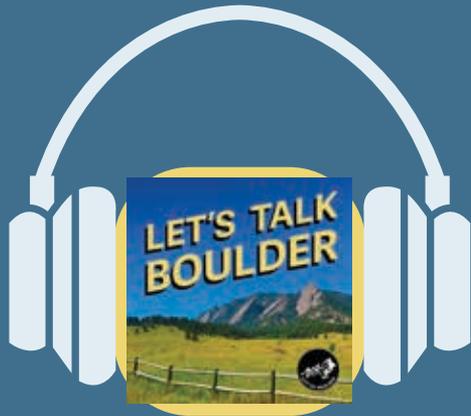


On the Job with Calvin Wing
bldr.fyi/calvin-w



Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off
bldr.fyi/kickoff-video

TUNE IN TO LET'S TALK BOULDER



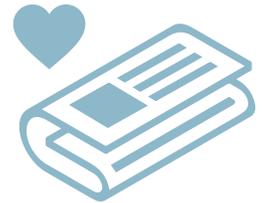
A City of Boulder podcast exploring our community, one conversation at a time.



Available on all podcast apps!

More Boulder news

Check out these articles that didn't make it to print. For even more Boulder news, visit boulder.colorado.gov/news



City Rolls Out New Storm-Size Framework for Snow and Ice Response

bldr.fyi/cnews-winter



City Stories, On-the-Go: City of Boulder Podcasts

bldr.fyi/podcasts



Guide to Winter in Boulder

bldr.fyi/winter-guide



City Opens New Vesper Trail After Burrowing Owls Reproduce Successfully

bldr.fyi/3NpVnxc



Boulder Completes 3 New Grant-Funded Crosswalk Projects

bldr.fyi/safer-streets



More City of Boulder Guides

bldr.fyi/guidepages

Mensaje de la gerente municipal

El tiempo entre el Día de Acción de Gracias y el Año Nuevo tiene algo especial. Para mí, personalmente y como su gerente municipal, es un periodo que se presta a la gratitud y la reflexión sobre lo acontecido. Si miro lo que el gobierno de la ciudad ha llevado a cabo durante el 2024, me lleno de orgullo.



Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde
City Manager

Al igual que la comunidad que respaldamos, los trabajadores municipales avanzan sin descanso y con pasión hacia una meta de Sostenibilidad, Equidad y Resiliencia (SER). Me gustaría enfatizar que los conceptos de la visión SER guían nuestra labor, con siete campos de actuación cuyo fin es garantizar que Boulder sea una ciudad: segura; habitable; sana y socialmente próspera; accesible y conectada; gobernada de manera responsable; sostenible desde el punto de vista medioambiental; y económicamente vital.

Aunque algunas de estas características reciben quizá más atención pública, un gobierno local bien equilibrado debe hacer progresos en cada una, reconociendo así, que, colectivamente, representan la visión completa de lo que la comunidad espera de nosotros.

A pesar de que resulta difícil hacer una selección de logros, aquí voy a intentar hacer sencillamente eso, aunque solo sea para demostrar la diversidad de nuestro trabajo y el valor de este marco de acción. Si hay algo que el gobierno local hizo este año que fue de su agrado y yo no menciono, le invito a que eche un vistazo a nuestra página web de resultados de 2024. Visite bldr.fyi/city-accomplishments. ¡Díganos si falta algo!

Aquí va mi lista de los 12 logros más importantes de 2024 organizados según campos de actuación:

Seguridad

- La seguridad pública sigue siendo uno de nuestros deberes esenciales. Este año inauguramos la Estación de Bomberos 3, una estación que satisface las necesidades actuales y que es respetuosa con el medio ambiente. También desarrollamos una estrategia de financiación multianual para reemplazar los camiones de bomberos obsoletos, a pesar de contar con un presupuesto limitado y un incremento rápido de los costos.
- A partir de las lecciones que aprendimos del Panel de Supervisión Policial en el algo tumultuoso año 2023, este grupo clave recuperó estabilidad este año, intensificó los entrenamientos, redujo la cantidad de casos pendientes y –dirigido por nuestro monitor independiente de la policía– colaboró con el Centro para Personas con Discapacidades para aprender maneras en que la policía puede incrementar el apoyo a los individuos con discapacidades.

Habitable

- Nos estamos empleando a fondo en la creación de viviendas más asequibles y en evitar que los habitantes de la ciudad pierdan su techo. En los primeros 10 meses de 2024, nuestro Centro Comunitario de Resolución y Mediación asistió a 845 hogares que se enfrentaban a un posible desalojo, una cifra mayor que la de todo 2023. El ochenta y cinco por ciento de los casos se resolvieron sin desahucio. Además, entre enero y mediados de octubre, la ciudad proporcionó \$142,562 en ayudas directas para el alquiler a 62 hogares.

- Con ayuda del Concejo Municipal y a través de una importante colaboración con All Roads Boulder County, lanzamos un Centro de Servicios Diurno para individuos sin hogar. Este recurso cubre un vacío importante, al ofrecer a miembros sin techo de la comunidad un lugar seguro durante el día y acceso a servicios que pueden potencialmente cambiar sus vidas.

Sana y socialmente próspera

- Dimos nombre al parque de 9 acres situado junto a Violet Avenue, entre Broadway y 19th St., y lo celebramos. El nombre, Primos Park, lo eligieron los residentes jóvenes de Boulder Meadows, la comunidad contigua de casas rodantes. La palabra “primos” refleja la esperanza que tienen de poder reunirse con amigos y familiares en el futuro parque.
- En 2024 distribuimos más de \$1.3 millones a artistas y actores de la comunidad de Boulder a través de las 157 subvenciones y exenciones de la Oficina de Artes + Cultura. Durante los dos últimos años, esta Oficina ha visto un incremento del 63 % en solicitantes y del 47 % en agraciados, siendo un 21 % de estos últimos beneficiarios nuevos.

Accesible y conectada

- En julio, inauguramos el tan esperado North Sky Trail, un sendero de 3.5 millas al norte de Boulder y oeste de la autopista 36. Este sendero une el Foothills North Trail con el camino Joder Ranch Trail. Está abierto a caminantes, ciclistas y jinetes.
- Mejoramos las condiciones de transporte y movilidad a lo largo de Baseline Road, y el Concejo Municipal aprobó rediseñar Iris Avenue con el objetivo de apoyar el compromiso con la seguridad del proyecto Visión Cero. Ambas son vías esenciales identificadas como parte del proyecto CAN (o red arterial central).

Gobernada de manera responsable

- Aunque las prioridades identificadas por el Concejo Municipal y en el marco SER ayudan a configurar nuestro plan operativo, el personal municipal nunca ha contado con un plan estratégico centralizado. Esto cambió en 2024. A partir de comentarios y sugerencias procedentes de distintos departamentos, creamos el Plan Estratégico de la Ciudad, que identifica 15 estrategias y 54 iniciativas que, durante los próximos dos años, impulsarán cada uno de los campos de actuación de la visión SER.
- Además, hemos avanzado de manera notable hacia una mayor transparencia y una toma de decisiones basada en datos, coronando un esfuerzo de tres años cuyo fin es presupuestar según resultados. Todos los programas ya tienen identificados tres resultados idóneos y maneras de medir el progreso hacia ellos. Esto nos va a permitir –y a usted– controlar si los recursos están surtiendo los efectos esperados.

Sostenible desde el punto de vista medioambiental

- Hemos intensificado los esfuerzos de prevención de incendios, utilizando el impuesto climático para aumentar la evaluación de hogares y proporcionar subvenciones para propietarios elegibles con el fin de que hagan mejoras que nos beneficien a todos. Me siento especialmente orgullosa del énfasis de este equipo en la equidad, ya que existen comunidades de bajos ingresos junto a zonas con mayor riesgo de incendio.
- Gracias a una muy esperada iniciativa, este otoño finalizamos la compra de más de 4,400 farolas a Xcel Energy, lo cual nos ahorrará dinero, aumentará la fiabilidad y reducirá las emisiones de carbono. El plan es instalar luces LED en todas estas farolas durante 2025.

Económicamente vital

- Lanzamos un programa piloto de subvenciones que aborda el costo creciente de los espacios comerciales para las pequeñas empresas. El programa pretende proporcionar opciones más asequibles a las pequeñas empresas, entre ellas, las pertenecientes a mujeres y minorías, especialmente aquellas afectadas por la COVID-19.
- Estamos desempolvando un Plan de Vitalidad Económica obsoleto y creando uno nuevo como prioridad del Concejo Municipal, enfocándonos en el fomento de tiendas y restaurantes de propietarios locales y abordando problemas de los distritos comerciales de Boulder. La participación de la comunidad ya está moldeando lo que será incluido en el plan.

Como puede ver, su gobierno local proporciona una gran variedad de servicios, y junto a muchos de ustedes, continúa acometiendo la resolución de problemas desde la colaboración y la innovación. Nuestra meta es mantener este impulso positivo a lo largo de 2025. ¡Estoy entusiasmada con lo que podemos conseguir juntos!

Boulder se mueve Transitamos la ciudad con mapas nuevos

Ya sea a pie o en bici, Boulder tiene suficientes días de sol para que uno pueda desplazarse de manera activa y divertida. Eche un vistazo a nuestros nuevos y mejorados mapas con rutas prácticas y cómodas para ir a pie, en bici o en autobús a sus lugares favoritos o en busca de nuevas aventuras. Hay versiones imprimibles e interactivas en línea.



Mapa de rutas caminando

Este mapa puede ayudarle a planear su ruta y localizar caminos, escaleras, bancos y puntos de interés, como obras de arte público, comienzos de senderos ¡e incluso árboles notables! El mapa incluye también rutas recreativas diseñadas por sus vecinos de Boulder. Explore la ciudad a través de estas visitas autoguiadas, centradas en muestras de arte, historia, ejercicio, minilibrerías públicas y mucho más.

bldr.fyi/walk-map



Mapa de rutas en bicicleta

Este mapa incluye todos los carriles bici y multiuso de Boulder para ayudarle a planear su camino a barrios, escuelas, parques, tiendas y muchos más lugares. Muestra nuevas rutas para cruzar la ciudad –las conexiones básicas norte-sur y este-oeste de Boulder con menos estrés– para todas las edades y habilidades.

bldr.fyi/bike-map



Mapa de rutas en autobús

¡Vea todas las paradas y rutas de autobús en un solo lugar! Filtre las respuestas para averiguar frecuencia, días de servicio y rutas regionales, locales y de CU Boulder. Seleccione una ruta para averiguar su horario en detalle o una parada de autobús para ver qué líneas ofrecen servicio en ese punto.

bldr.fyi/bus-map

Novedades del Plan Integral del Valle de Boulder

Celebramos el cincuentenario de la adopción del Plan Integral del Valle de Boulder

Si nunca oyó hablar del Plan Integral del Valle de Boulder o BVCP, ¡ahora es el momento! La ciudad y el condado de Boulder están actualizando este plan, cuyo propósito es guiar la evolución del Valle de Boulder. Aborda cuestiones como el presupuesto y el programa de mejora de capital inmobiliario de la ciudad; también incluye un mapa de usos futuros del suelo para ayudar al gobierno local a decidir acerca de cosas como parques y espacios verdes, transporte y zonas peatonales.



Historia

El primer BVCP se adoptó en 1977 y preparó el camino para gestionar la urbanización y distribución de servicios municipales en el Valle de Boulder, teniendo en cuenta los recursos naturales e hitos medioambientales que hacen de Boulder un lugar extraordinario. El cinturón verde que rodea el centro de la ciudad sigue estudiándose hoy como alternativa de planificación urbana.

El futuro de Boulder

La ciudad realiza una actualización significativa del BVCP cada 10 años y considera cambios y reajustes para planear políticas y clasificaciones futuras de los usos del suelo. Estas modificaciones significativas brindan una oportunidad única para que el gobierno municipal, el del condado y la comunidad se reúnan y compartan su visión de futuro para el Valle de Boulder, e influyan en cómo se verá y se sentirá la ciudad en los próximos 20 años. Durante el próximo año, los miembros de la comunidad gozarán de muchas ocasiones para dialogar con representantes de los gobiernos municipal y regional sobre retos, puntos fuertes, oportunidades y cambios significativos futuros.



Cómo participar

Tenemos pensadas muchas maneras para que la comunidad sepa de esta actualización y haga oír su voz, entre ellas, sesiones de puertas abiertas, sondeos electrónicos, eventos espontáneos y asambleas comunitarias. Las voces de la comunidad son vitales en este proceso, y queremos saber dónde piensa que nos encontramos hoy y dónde quiere que el Valle de Boulder se halle en 20 años. Para obtener más información, participar en eventos y aportar sugerencias y comentarios, visite aboulderfuture.org.

¡Necesitamos la actuación de todos los consumidores de agua potable!

A partir de este año que viene, el gobierno municipal implantará el recibo electrónico y actualizará los sistemas de facturación para los consumidores de agua potable con el fin de hacer más fácil y rápido el pago del recibo. En consecuencia, el recibo de enero de 2025 será el último en papel que obtendrá por correo postal.

A continuación, le indicamos lo que necesita hacer para prepararse para este cambio:

- Identifique su número de cuenta en su recibo del agua.
- Cree una nueva cuenta en el portal de facturación de servicios al cliente boulderwater.net.

Una vez creada, ¡esté atento al recibo electrónico de febrero de 2025! Para más información, diríjase a boulderwater.net.



¡Es hora de un aumento de salario!

A partir del primero de enero, el salario mínimo en la ciudad de Boulder aumentará a \$15.57 por hora.

bldr.fyi/aumento-salario-minimo



**SALARIO MÍNIMO DE LA
CIUDAD DE BOULDER**



Cómo proteger su casa durante un apagón en invierno



A medida que se acerca el invierno, las tormentas de nieve, las caídas súbitas de temperatura y los fuertes vientos pueden venir acompañados de apagones. Los cortes de electricidad durante el invierno presentan retos únicos, sobre todo cuando hay que mantener la vivienda caliente y segura. Aquí tiene algunos consejos para proteger su casa y su confort en caso de un apagón.

1. Tenga lista una caja para cortes de electricidad

Y sepa cómo usar los artículos de la caja antes de la primera tormenta de invierno, para así estar listo y tranquilo. En esa caja debe haber:

- Linternas y pilas extra
- Cobijas gruesas, sacos de dormir y ropa de abrigo
- Una radio a pilas para estar al tanto de avisos y alertas
- Alimentos no perecederos y agua embotellada
- Un botiquín de primeros auxilios
- Cargadores de teléfono a pilas o con manivela
- Leña u otras fuentes alternativas de calor

2. Conserve el calor

Permanecer caliente es esencial durante un corte de electricidad en invierno. Cómo puede lograrlo:

- Cierre herméticamente la casa: Cierre puertas de habitaciones que no use para conservar el calor y bloquee corrientes de aire con toallas o alfombras en la parte inferior de las puertas. Asegúrese de que las ventanas están cerradas herméticamente para impedir que el calor se escape.
- Utilice fuentes alternativas de calor: Si tiene un horno de leña o una chimenea, ahora es el momento de usarlos. Asegúrese de poseer la ventilación adecuada para evitar una acumulación de monóxido de carbono. Los calefactores portátiles pueden ser útiles, pero nunca use estufas a gasolina o propano en el interior de la vivienda, a menos que hayan sido diseñadas para uso interior.

3. No deje que se congelen las tuberías

Cuando las temperaturas caen, existe el riesgo de que las tuberías se congelen. Si las tuberías explotan, pueden causar daños muy costosos, así que es crucial evitar que se congelen.

- Deje que los grifos goteen: Deje correr

un flujo lento de agua por los grifos que conectan con tuberías expuestas. Esto ayudará a evitar la congelación.

- Abra las puertas de los armarios de la cocina y el baño: Deje que el calor circule por el alrededor de las tuberías en la cocina y el baño.
- Desconecte las fuentes exteriores de agua: Desconecte y drene las mangueras de jardín y cierre el agua que alimenta los aspersores para prevenir la congelación.

4. Permanezca informado y conectado

Apúntese para recibir alertas: Esté al tanto de advertencias meteorológicas y cortes de electricidad apuntándose al sistema de alertas para emergencias de Boulder en boulderodm.gov.

- Cargue los aparatos de la casa: Cargue completamente el teléfono y los cargadores portátiles cuando la predicción del tiempo indique que se acerca una tormenta.
- Compruebe la situación de sus vecinos: Vaya a ver a sus vecinos, sobre todo los más mayores o aquellos con alguna discapacidad, y asegúrese de que permanecerán a salvo durante un corte de electricidad.

7. Sepa cuándo abandonar la casa

Si su casa se vuelve demasiado fría o resulta arriesgado quedarse, considere la posibilidad de trasladarse a casa de un amigo o a un refugio establecido por la ciudad. Conocer sus opciones y planear por adelantado puede ayudarle a prevenir incomodidades y peligros

Recursos y apoyo en Boulder

El gobierno municipal se compromete a ayudar a la comunidad durante emergencias invernales. Esté atento a nuestra página web y medios sociales para enterarse de novedades y recursos. ¡Manténgase abrigado y seguro! Y recuerde, para lograr una vivienda que aguante todo lo que un invierno puede echarnos, lo más importante es estar preparado.



Preparados para incendios forestales

Encuentre toda la información pertinente en bouldercolorado.gov/wildfireready

Aunque Boulder es un lugar maravilloso para vivir, trabajar y distraerse, los mismos espacios naturales que la hacen tan especial ponen a la comunidad a riesgo de incendios forestales. El fuego es un elemento necesario en la evolución de bosques y praderas. Una mitigación coordinada y estratégica puede ayudarnos a celebrar su función sin caer en la devastación.

Prepararse para la posibilidad de un incendio forestal es responsabilidad de todos, y las oportunidades que tenemos hoy nos permiten configurar una nueva categoría de resistencia al fuego para nuestra comunidad.

¿Qué está haciendo el gobierno municipal?

Plan Comunitario de Protección contra Incendios Forestales

Este Plan (CWPP) evalúa estrategias recomendadas de reducción de riesgos provocados por combustibles peligrosos, incrementando la comunicación y educación de la comunidad, reduciendo la inflamabilidad de las construcciones y mejorando la capacidad de respuesta a los incendios. El CWPP contiene recomendaciones específicas para incrementar la resistencia al fuego. Esta iniciativa cuenta con sesiones comunitarias para sugerencias y comentarios, así como con la cooperación de múltiples departamentos del gobierno local y colaboradores regionales. Financiado mediante el impuesto climático y aprobado por los votantes en 2022, el plan CWPP servirá de documento guía que ayudará a la ciudad y a los propietarios de inmuebles a tomar decisiones informadas con respecto a la gestión y prevención de incendios.

Evaluaciones detalladas de las viviendas

Una evaluación detallada de la vivienda consiste en un examen gratuito de su hogar realizado por los bomberos de Boulder. Cada evaluación la realiza un especialista con el fin de ayudar al propietario a entender cómo hacer que su casa sea más resistente al fuego. Este programa gratuito consiste en un examen de dos horas del hogar/propiedad, así como un informe sobre mejoras recomendadas para que el riesgo de incendio de dicho lugar sea mucho menor.

Programa de Ayuda para Prevención de Incendios (WRAP)

A través del Programa de Ayuda para Prevención de Incendios, los propietarios que han recibido una evaluación detallada pueden ser elegibles para recibir fondos del gobierno municipal para algunas de las mejoras recomendadas. Este programa ofrece hasta \$1,000 a propietarios elegibles en áreas con alto riesgo de incendio forestal para que lleven a cabo mejoras en su propiedad. Hay también algunos fondos adicionales para propietarios elegibles de acuerdo con sus ingresos. Al igual que el plan, la financiación del WRAP procede también del impuesto climático.



Programa de Interconexión entre Zonas Urbanas, Espacios Abiertos y Áreas Naturales

En 2024, el departamento de espacios abiertos y parques de montaña (OSMP) lanzó un programa piloto, en respuesta a una de las medidas identificadas en el CWPP, que corta la vegetación a lo largo del perímetro de las áreas residenciales para reducir su riesgo de incendio. El programa siega franjas de 30 pies de pradera natural contiguas a cuatro barrios. Las áreas se seleccionaron de acuerdo con el mapa de riesgo de incendio forestal, datos ecológicos y proximidad a las casas. Esta poda reduce la vegetación hasta una altura segura de 4 - 6 pulgadas, ayudando así a crear un espacio barrera y limitar la propagación del fuego. El OSMP está colaborando con otras entidades y propietarios individuales con el fin de desarrollar estrategias integrales para reducir la siniestralidad a través de este Programa de Interconexión.

Pastoreo

El OSMP colabora también con ganaderos locales para que lleven ganado a pastar a espacios abiertos gestionados por el gobierno municipal al sur de NCAR. El pasto de estos animales ayuda a reducir especies no nativas e invasoras que pueden acelerar los incendios forestales y dañar las especies nativas que son más resistentes al fuego. El pasto también se da en 13,000 acres agrícolas adicionales gestionados por el OSMP al este de Boulder. El monitoreo a largo plazo del pasto de estos ganados, que es la herramienta más eficiente para manejar la vegetación en los espacios abiertos rocosos, ha reducido las especies invasoras susceptibles de acelerar los incendios forestales. Como parte del Programa de Interconexión del OSMP, el personal dedicado a los incendios forestales y a la vegetación está poniendo a prueba un pastoreo estratégico y específico, además de la siega, para reducir el peligro para las comunidades.

Aclarado del monte

Desde la adopción del Plan de Gestión del Ecosistema Forestal de 1999, el OSMP ha aclarado bosques cortando selectivamente árboles y ramas, imitando los procesos naturales del fuego. El OSMP examina los ecosistemas forestales para determinar el aclarado, priorizando las labores de reducción de combustible junto a zonas residenciales. En 2024, un equipo de 13 trabajadores continuó esta importante labor. Este año, el OSMP ha unido esfuerzos con los equipos de protección contra incendios de los distritos Four Mile y Boulder Rural para

aclarar los montes, lo que tuvo lugar tanto en áreas privadas como gestionadas por el OSMP, para aumentar el área de bosque en mejores condiciones y reducir la probabilidad de una propagación incontrolada del fuego desde el oeste hacia la ciudad de Boulder.

Quemas prescritas

El trabajo del OSMP y de los bomberos de Boulder restaura el equilibrio natural de los ecosistemas de Colorado adaptados al fuego por medio de las quemas prescritas, que eliminan el exceso de vegetación susceptible de alimentar los incendios forestales y ayudan a mejorar los hábitats de la flora y fauna silvestres. El gobierno municipal también lleva a cabo quemas prescritas para ayudar a mantener propiedades agrarias, lo que incluye acequias que proporcionan agua para actividades agrícolas y ganaderas. Si una quema no puede llevarse a cabo sin riesgo alguno o no satisface los objetivos de la ciudad o las directrices del estado, no se realizará.

Gestión de malas hierbas

Las comunidades de plantas nativas de los espacios naturales de Boulder son más resistentes al fuego, pero están amenazadas por especies invasoras. El OSMP aplica un enfoque integral de gestión de la maleza combinando métodos mecánicos, biológicos, químicos y de cultivo para manejar la maleza nociva y apoyar las plantas nativas. En 2024, el OSMP trató las especies invasoras de más de 6,000 acres, contribuyendo así a la creación de paisajes más saludables y resistentes al fuego.

¿Qué puede hacer usted?

- Averiguar cómo hacer que su vivienda y su terreno sean más resistentes al fuego mediante una evaluación (gratuita) de su hogar y llevando a cabo las mejoras recomendadas.
- Crear en su propiedad un paisaje más resistente al fuego, limpiando hojas y restos orgánicos y podando las ramas que cuelguen por encima de su casa.
- Diviértase de manera responsable en su finca o en las áreas naturales públicas. Esto significa obedecer las restricciones y nunca iniciar quemas al aire libre o fuegos artificiales.
- Familiarícese con los reglamentos municipales. La ciudad de Boulder tiene normas para prevención de incendios y restricciones para quemas durante todas las estaciones del año.

Alertas de emergencia y cómo estar listo

- Apúntese en [bocoalert.org](https://www.bocoalert.org) para recibir alertas e instrucciones por parte del personal de seguridad. BOCO Alerts envía alertas a su celular, teléfono de casa o correo electrónico en relación con los lugares de destino que usted elija.





- Reciba por texto las últimas noticias, con información adicional relacionada con cualquier emergencia activa, enviando el texto BOCOinfo al 888777. Solo necesita solicitarlo una vez. El servicio es gratuito, aunque es posible que incurra en gastos de telefonía por uso de datos.
- No espere a que lo alerten sobre la necesidad de marcharse, si piensa que su seguridad está en riesgo. Y si le advierten que abandone su casa/área, hágalo de inmediato.
- Entienda el significado de los siguientes mensajes de alerta:
 - Aviso: Se usa para compartir información sobre una situación de emergencia que es probable que afecte a su comunidad.
 - Advertencia: Se usa para prepararlo para que actúe, o para que actúe de inmediato si necesita tiempo extra para ponerse en marcha.
 - Orden: Se usa cuando necesita actuar inmediatamente a raíz de una amenaza inminente a su vida/seguridad.
- Comprenda los siguientes mensajes en relación con los incendios:
 - Evacuación: Orden de que abandone el área inmediatamente.
 - Fin de la alerta: Seguimiento de los representantes del gobierno municipal tras determinarse que el incendio ya no representa una amenaza para la comunidad.

Comience a prepararse contra incendios hoy:

- Limpie de hojas su propiedad, su tejado y cualquier otra estructura contigua a su casa
- Limpie las canaletas
- Solicite una Evaluación Detallada de su Vivienda
- Pude las ramas que cuelgan por encima de su casa o de cualquier otra construcción en su propiedad
- ¿Ya ha realizado una Evaluación Detallada de su Vivienda? Solicite fondos WRAP para llevar a cabo sus proyectos de protección contra incendios.

¡Gracias a los conectores de emergencias de la ciudad de Boulder!

Los conectores de emergencias son líderes ciudadanos que viven en comunidades de casas rodantes o de alquiler subvencionado en Boulder. Este equipo se reunió por primera vez el 3 de abril de 2020 en respuesta a la pandemia de la COVID-19. A medida que la tragedia tomaba forma, quedó claro que algunos miembros de la comunidad iban a acusar un impacto desproporcionado de la pandemia, al perder el empleo, ser más vulnerables económicamente y por una desconfianza histórica en los sistemas de salud pública. Juntos, este equipo ayudó al gobierno municipal de Boulder a conectar con alrededor de 1,000 hogares y mitigar los efectos.

Durante el transcurso de cuatro años, este colectivo:

- estuvo en contacto directo y periódico con representantes municipales para comunicar problemas, preocupaciones y preguntas de sus barrios;
- aconsejó acerca de la logística y apoyó la instauración de centros provisionales para la administración de test y vacunas en sus vecindarios;
- proporcionó información y recursos a sus vecinos para que sus familias continuaran sanas y operativas, lo que incluyó, entre otras cosas, la distribución de más de 3,000 mascarillas y test de COVID; y
- respaldó la preparación, respuesta y recuperación en situaciones de emergencia, como cuando alertó a los representantes municipales de los dañinos vientos fuertes en línea recta durante el incendio Marshall.

A medida que concluye su labor como equipo, los representantes municipales deseamos honrar a estos líderes y las lecciones que nos transmitieron sobre cómo proporcionar un mejor servicio para todos en Boulder.

Conectores actuales de Atención a Emergencias:



Margarita Estrada



Saroj Gaudel



Kathy Schlereth



Lucita Luz Galicia



Bernardo Padilla



Carlos Valdez



Lety Garcia



Isabel Sánchez



Lorena Zavala

Ayudantes de Atención a Emergencias:



Magali Botello



Sonia Sarabia



Dinesh Kumar Karki



Ivan Montes Vaquera



Miriam De Santiago

Voluntarios de Atención a Emergencias:

Timothy Bennett
David Ensign
Lieschen Gargano
Christine Hawley
Renee Hummel
Andrea Montoya
Margi Ness
Margaret Rogers
Callie Weiant

Antiguos Conectores de Atención a Emergencias:

Martha Cavallos
Lenora Cooper
Jan DeCourtney
Ana Karina Casas Ibarra
Marguerite Martin
Jesús Salazar
Claudia Sánchez
Celeste Smitz
Britten Spence



Para más información sobre el Programa de Conectores Comunitarios, que incluye el de Conectores de Atención a Emergencias, diríjase a bldr.fyi/connectors.

Vivienda asequible en Boulder

Una clave para lograr comunidades más fuertes y sanas

La asequibilidad de la vivienda es uno de los componentes vitales de una comunidad próspera. Los estudios de investigación demuestran que el acceso a una vivienda asequible y estable es crucial para la salud, el entorno y, en general, el bienestar de una comunidad.

El gobierno municipal está comprometido con el mantenimiento de opciones diferentes de vivienda para todos los habitantes sin importar su capacidad adquisitiva, y tiene como objetivo que un 15 % de todas las viviendas de Boulder sea asequible en 2035 para hogares de bajos, moderados e ingresos medios. En diciembre de 2023, ya nos hallábamos más allá de la mitad del camino.

Una vivienda asequible ayuda a los trabajadores de servicios, los de primeros auxilios, los maestros y los obreros a vivir en la comunidad en donde trabajan. El gobierno local está luchando para garantizar la existencia de lugares seguros y asequibles para vivir en Boulder. Hoy en día, hay más de 4,000 viviendas asequibles en Boulder y 1 de cada 11 residentes vive en una de ellas.

Oportunidades para la adquisición de vivienda asequible

El gobierno municipal está comprometido con hacer que la adquisición de la vivienda sea algo factible para una gran variedad de personas. Para más información sobre programas de asistencia para la compra de vivienda, diríjase a bldr.fyi/homeownership.

- **Programa de viviendas permanentemente asequibles:** Las viviendas permanentemente asequibles se venden a precios por debajo de los del mercado a compradores que cumplen ciertos requisitos y cuya intención es vivir en ellas.
- **La subvención Solución:** Esta subvención ayuda con el pago inicial al contado y los gastos de escrituración a las personas que desean comprar una vivienda permanentemente asequible o perteneciente a Thistle Communities Land Trust, y que de otra manera no podrían hacerlo.



- **H2O o Programa de préstamos para el pago inicial:** Proporciona un segundo préstamo de interés cero de hasta 100,000 dólares para la compra de una vivienda a precio de mercado en la ciudad de Boulder, ayudando a compradores de bajos ingresos a pagar la entrada o pago inicial.
- **Programa de ayuda para el pago inicial dirigida a compradores de ingresos medios:** Proporciona asistencia para la entrada o pago inicial a compradores de ingresos medios para la compra de una vivienda a precio de mercado. A cambio, el propietario se compromete a mantener la casa como permanentemente asequible a través de una restricción en la escritura.

Queremos que las personas conserven su vivienda

Con el aumento del costo de vida, es muy difícil para algunas personas tener suficiente dinero para todo aquello que necesitan. El gobierno municipal apoya de varias maneras a los miembros de la comunidad con vistas a que el máximo número de personas posible conserve su vivienda.

Prevención de desahucios y ayuda para el alquiler

El programa de servicios para prevención de desahucios y ayuda para el alquiler (EPRAS) del gobierno local proporciona ayuda para el pago de la renta y servicios de mediación y legales para gente que se enfrenta a un desalojo potencial.

En 2023, EPRAS:

- Distribuyó \$364,545 directamente a 175 hogares
- Distribuyó \$350,000 a 214 hogares en colaboración con la organización Emergency Family Assistance Association
- Proporcionó servicios legales a 133 inquilinos

Para más información sobre los servicios de prevención de desahucios de la ciudad, diríjase a

bldr.fyi/eviction-prevention.

Conservación de las casas rodantes

Conservar las viviendas asequibles actuales es una de las maneras en que el gobierno municipal pretende alcanzar los objetivos de asequibilidad. Adquirir una casa rodante es una de las maneras más asequibles de convertirse en propietario a precio de mercado en Boulder, y en Boulder hay alrededor de 1,350 casas prefabricadas localizadas en cinco parques de caravanas o casas rodantes. El gobierno municipal está comprometido con la preservación de este tipo de vivienda mediante programas que garantizan que estas casas sean asequibles y seguras.

La Estrategia de la Vivienda Prefabricada del gobierno de la ciudad, cuya revisión está programada para el próximo año, aborda cuestiones de seguridad y accesibilidad de este tipo de vivienda y garantiza el cumplimiento de la ley estatal de parques de casas rodantes. La estrategia ha elevado la voz de los residentes e inspirado recursos adicionales de apoyo, además de subvenciones para acometer daños causados por el viento y otras reparaciones.

Como parte del compromiso de la ciudad en preservar viviendas asequibles, el gobierno local compró en 2017 el parque de casas rodantes Ponderosa. El parque está siendo estabilizado y hay esfuerzos de reconstrucción para reemplazar viviendas antiguas que ya no son óptimas estructuralmente por otras asequibles permanentemente y con cimientos; minimizar los traslados forzosos; preservar su asequibilidad a largo plazo; reducir el riesgo de inundación; e introducir opciones asequibles de vivienda eficiente desde el punto de vista energético.

Si desea saber más sobre cómo el gobierno local apoya las comunidades de casas prefabricadas, visite bldr.fyi/3BCZyTN.

Boulder Mod

La innovación es una característica clave del enfoque de Boulder hacia la vivienda. Boulder Mod producirá casas modulares para los residentes y trabajadores del Valle de Boulder proporcionando al mismo tiempo formación laboral para los estudiantes del Distrito Escolar del Valle de Boulder.

Una casa modular es un edificio prefabricado completamente construido y terminado en fábrica y luego trasladado a una ubicación permanente. Las estructuras modulares pueden situarse por separado, una al lado de otra, el final de una junto al final de otra o una encima de otra, lo que permite una gama variada de configuraciones y estilos.

Muchas de las casas rodantes de Ponderosa necesitan ser reemplazadas. En colaboración con Habitat for Humanity, el gobierno municipal está utilizando fondos del Plan Americano de Rescate para ayudar, facilitando primeras y segundas hipotecas, a que los propietarios actuales hagan la transición de casas rodantes obsoletas a viviendas modulares nuevas. Las nuevas casas modulares producidas por Boulder Mod son seguras, eficientes desde el punto de vista energético, permanentemente asequibles y permiten a los residentes aumentar su capital.

Aunque Boulder Mod tiene capacidad para construir hasta 50 casas al año; durante los primeros años se espera que la fábrica produzca de 12 a 15 viviendas. Boulder Mod tiene programado construir hasta 61 viviendas nuevas para los residentes de Ponderosa.

Esta iniciativa ayudará a alcanzar objetivos locales y regionales, y será clave para la creación de oportunidades para la compra de vivienda asequible, tal como apunta la estrategia para la vivienda dirigida a familias de ingresos medios. Consulte la estrategia en

bldr.fyi/MiddleIncomeStrategy.

Si desea saber más sobre Boulder Mod, visite bldr.fyi/BoulderMod.

 **BOULDER MOD**
Providing affordable housing and hands on training





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This community newsletter is created by the City of Boulder to share local government news, information, initiatives and events with community members.

We welcome your feedback!

If you have suggestions, please email us at:

**communitynewsletter@
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**Important City of Boulder
 Phone Numbers**

Non-emergency
 dispatch line

303-441-3333

Emergency

911

City Operator

303-441-3388