

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



# Winter in Boulder

## INSIDE:

Get involved with local government

Reducing winter energy costs

Winter holiday event guide

## INTERIOR EN ESPAÑOL:

Participe en su gobierno local

Cómo reducir los gastos energéticos  
en el invierno

Guía de eventos para las fiestas de fin  
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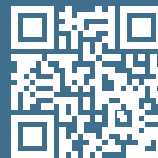
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



**NURIA RIVERA-VANDERMYLE**  
CITY MANAGER

One of my favorite things about serving as city manager of Boulder is how passionate our community is about so many of the services we provide, the issues we tackle together, and the importance of being responsive to pressing needs. As I look back on accomplishments of the past year, these themes surface repeatedly.

I'm incredibly proud of progress made in 2022 and am eager to call out a few examples of successes later in this column. But first, I want to explain the framework we use as a city organization when evaluating our workplan items.

For many years, the city organization has centered an approach called the Sustainability Framework. After the 2013 flood, we recognized resilience as a distinctive focus, so this became the Sustainability and Resilience Framework. Now, with the adoption of our Racial Equity Plan, we have evolved our approach again. We



now strive for alignment within a Sustainability, Equity and Resilience Framework, centering equity in all we do.

This means that our work – whether it be delivering core services, operationalizing City Council priorities, or choosing new staff- or community-driven initiatives – should be advancing one or more of these core pillars.

Within this framework are several focus areas that allow us to understand the impact we, as local government, have on the key community priorities. Through these, we commit to ensuring that Boulder is livable, economically vital, environmentally sustainable, healthy and socially thriving, safe, accessible and connected, and responsibly governed.

We group accomplishments by these focus areas to get a better sense of the full landscape of our work across departments. A list of all 2022 organization accomplishments is available at [bouldercolorado.gov/guide/city-accomplishments](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/city-accomplishments), and I invite you to review this more complete assessment.

Today, however, I want to celebrate a few of the examples under each of our primary pillars.

## **Sustainability**

As our framework has evolved, so, too, has our understanding of what sustainable government looks like. To me, sustainability in this context is about protecting the assets we have, ensuring that living in Boulder and participating in our programs is possible for all, and performing core services in a way that gives them stability and the promise of tomorrow.

Several of our 2022 accomplishments demonstrate a commitment to sustainability.

Many of these are public facing. Notably, the city:

- Initiated a City Council priority: the Core Arterial Network (CAN), which focuses investments and resources to design and construct improvements on 13 corridors over several years. Design and community engagement was started on six of the 13 CAN corridors, with construction anticipated to start between 2023 and 2024.
- Supported development of affordable housing for individuals currently priced out of housing in Boulder through projects at the Ponderosa Mobile Home Park, Mt. Calvary, 4775 Spine Road and Diagonal Plaza, as well as the acquisition of 2961 30th St.
- Provided roughly \$7 million in grants to community-based projects serving low-income community members as they struggle to meet day-to-day needs. These grants provided healthy food, economic support, health services, childcare, academic support, substance use prevention, and more.
- Adopted a Comprehensive Flood and Stormwater (CFS) Master Plan to improve stormwater management and help protect people, places, property and ecosystems. Informed by significant community engagement, the plan features a new way of prioritizing ongoing flood prevention work, focusing on the number of people in harm's way instead of the potential dollar amount of property loss.

Some of the accomplishments are more internal. In 2022, we:

- Addressed a significant staffing crisis, hiring more than 1,050 people since January to ensure we have capacity for ongoing work and to meet changing needs of our community.

- Created Boulder's first online budget book to give taxpayers more transparency and easier access so they can understand how the city's money is being spent.

I mention internal accomplishments because they represent a significant lift by many of my talented colleagues, and without strong staffing, it is incredibly challenging to sustain or achieve what our community already expects from us.

## **Equity**

I am particularly proud of our work in 2022 to understand the unique lived experiences, celebrate untapped talents and skills, and address specific needs within populations that have been historically excluded from local government. As we evaluate programs and spending decisions, our organization is seeking to prioritize racial equity, which in turn also supports equity among others, including lower income community members and individuals with disabilities.

Some noteworthy accomplishments in this category are as follows. In 2022, the city:

- Launched an Underserved Business Support Program to bolster participation in employment opportunities for minority, women, veterans, LGBTQ, service-disabled veterans, and others. Invested \$10.5 million in businesses in these categories.
- Provided financial aid to support 100% free access to recreation centers for eligible community members. In 2022, the program served more than 5,400 participants, who accessed centers nearly 25,000 times, accounting for 14% of visitations.
- Increased participation in citywide racial equity workshops. Among non-police personnel: 56% of city employees have completed Advancing Racial Equity: The Role of Government and 48% have completed Bias and Microaggressions workshops. Within the Police Department, 226 officers and civilian employees have been trained to address bias and micro-aggression in the policing context.
- Increased local government knowledge and capacity for participation within historically excluded communities through successful "Building Power & Raising Voices" training, created and led by Community Connectors-In-Residence.
- Supported meaningful and inclusive participation through community connectors and leveraged a best-practices Racial Equity Instrument to shape four significant planning efforts: the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Comprehensive Flood & Stormwater Plan, the East Boulder Subcommunity Plan, and ongoing Reimagine Policing work.
- Adopted a citywide Language Access Plan that provides guidance on the city's translation and interpretation requirements and defines a vision for enhancing accessibility to information in Spanish and other languages.
- Developed a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Teams Toolkit and created five new internal, departmental JEDI teams to assess practices and policies that should be retired, updated or created to support racial equity.

## **Resilience**

Resilience is always a characteristic to cultivate, but recent years have certainly made this pillar increasingly relevant and urgent. While the risk of COVID-19 has changed, it remains prevalent. In addition, natural disasters, continued economic stress, and other societal challenges have impacted our community, demanding that we remain attuned and find creative solutions.

Here are some examples that occurred under this pillar. In 2022, the city:

- Collaborated with nonprofits on inclusive economic recovery, providing resources to lift industries and sectors hardest hit by the pandemic.
- Scaled-up services for low-income older adults and families, providing more than \$76,000 to 104 older adults for medical, housing supports, transportation, dental, food insecurity, and other essentials. Partially re-opened the East Age Well Center to provide access to health and wellness, lifelong learning, fitness and other services at two locations.
- Kept Boulder community members housed, through services to avoid evictions. The Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance System (EPRAS) program served more than 400 clients. Data through spring indicates that 92% of clients avoided eviction.
- Secured 183 affordable housing units for community members, including some who have experienced homelessness.
- Launched a new program, in partnership with Boulder County, to help manufactured housing community members impacted by the December 2021 severe wind that also fueled the devastating Marshall Fire.
- As part of a countywide homelessness strategy, enabled 145 community members experiencing homelessness, to transition to housing. An additional 55 community members were assisted with reunification with family or other social support networks, and two people were connected to other long-term programming such as treatment for substance use disorders. The vast majority of these community members have direct ties to Boulder.
- Restored many recreation services impacted by COVID-19, with a focus on building community, relationships, and youth engagement. Achieved growth from 2019-2022: 28% in gymnastics; 38% Flatirons Golf Course visitation; 51% in Gonzo tennis and pickleball programming; and 223% in drop-in and registrations to fitness classes.

Believe me when I say there are so many more accomplishments, and I encourage you to check out the whole list. However, I hope this snapshot inspires you as much as it does me. I look forward to what we can accomplish together in 2023!



## Connect with us

Find the City of Boulder on social media.

Get the latest news, information and videos about what's happening in our community.



Facebook



Twitter



Nextdoor



Instagram



Vimeo



YouTube

# Your one-stop-shop for emergency preparedness

The city has a new digital resource containing everything you need to know in the event of severe weather in Boulder.

On our Emergency Preparedness Guide webpage, you can:

- Sign up to receive emergency alerts from the city and county to your mobile phone
- Learn how to put together a "go bag" and safety plan for your family
- Bookmark the Boulder Office of Disaster Management blog, where real-time updates are posted in the event of an emergency

Preparing for emergencies is critical in Boulder, where climate change and our city's unique geography make us highly prone to floods, wildfires, blizzards and other severe weather events.

In an emergency, you may have only minutes to react, so preparing can make all the difference.



Visit the Emergency Preparedness Guide at [bouldercolorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness)

## Water service disruption? There's a map for that.

Disruptions to your water service can be stressful. The city is hoping to remove some of that stress with a new online water outages map.

The map enables community members to quickly look up a water outage and determine whether it's been confirmed by the city or resolved, taking away some of the guesswork as crews work to repair the disruption.

"We recognized a gap in how we relay this information to the public," says Joanna Bloom, Utilities Deputy Director, "so this new map is designed to close that gap and improve our customer service."

The map displays planned and unplanned water service outages in the last 12 hours that city staff have confirmed. Restored outages are removed from the map after 12 hours. The water outages map is available in both Spanish and English. Bookmark it at [bit.ly/wateroutagesmap](https://bit.ly/wateroutagesmap)



2022-2023

# Snow and ice removal program



The City of Boulder strives to provide timely information and support safety for all modes of travel during winter storms. Our snow crews prioritize clearing emergency routes, primary and secondary streets, on-street bike lanes, streets with steep slopes, multi-use paths and designated bus stops.

## BOULDER SNOW CREWS CLEAR:

**300+**  
miles of roads and paths

**52%+**  
of streets

**100%**  
of multi-use paths

**24/7**  
during storms

### STAY CONNECTED



### GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION AND INTERACTIVE SNOW ROUTE MAP

[bouldercolorado.gov/services/snow-and-ice-removal](http://bouldercolorado.gov/services/snow-and-ice-removal)

### REPORT AN ICY STREET, PATH OR SIDEWALK BY PHONE

303-441-3200  
303-413-7109\*

\*during snowstorms only

### REPORT AN ICY STREET, PATH OR SIDEWALK ONLINE

[InquireBoulder.com](http://InquireBoulder.com)

### VOLUNTEER TO SHOVEL A BUS STOP TO INCREASE SAFE ACCESS FOR ALL TRAVELERS

[bit.ly/shovel-a-stop](http://bit.ly/shovel-a-stop)

### CHECK ROAD CONDITIONS

303-442-4382  
or [COtrip.org](http://COtrip.org)



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

The snow has stopped falling or the wind has died down. Now it's time to see how the weather may have damaged trees. What a mess! Who will clean up these downed limbs?

The City of Boulder's response depends on each storm's severity. Our Parks and Recreation Department's forestry team manages approximately 51,000 public trees in city parks and street rights-of-way. Because only 25% of the trees in the city's urban canopy are publicly owned, we rely on property owners to dispose of the branches from both public and private trees on their property.

After a weather event, our focus is on public safety, i.e. fallen limbs and broken branches hanging in trees. We conduct a citywide survey to prioritize our response based on tree size; size of branch; if it's cracked or hanging; what it would hit if it fell; and how high the branch is in a tree or how low it is to the ground. Then we respond according to priority.

Generally, branches on the ground do not pose as high of a risk to public safety as

those in a tree, except for large fallen trees or portions of trees that block streets and/or sidewalks. The forestry team or Boulder Police will notify private property owners if they have a private tree that threatens public property, and it is the property owners' responsibility to mitigate the risk.

For most storms, here's who's responsible for what:

- The forestry team removes fallen limbs from public property trees that are 10 inches in diameter and larger.
- Community members should not pile additional downed limbs onto the branch pile. The city will not pick up piles of branches that contain private property tree limbs or other types of vegetation, such as grass clippings, leaves or brush.

Community members should manage limbs fewer than 10 inches in diameter. How?

- Move any downed branches out of the right-of-way, as you are able.
- Compost them or move them for pickup by your trash/compost hauling service.



- Bundle together branches that are less than 6 feet long and 3 inches in diameter. They can be placed into or next to curbside compost bins. These bundles cannot include other materials such as grass clippings, leaves, etc.
- Branches can also be taken to Western Disposal at 5880 Butte Mill Road.

If your private-property tree has broken or hanging branches, or if you need assistance hauling larger, downed branches, the city recommends using an arborist licensed with the city. A list of licensed arborists and tree contractors can be found at [boulderforestry.org](http://boulderforestry.org).



If a public-property tree has broken or hanging branches within the tree, or to report a fallen tree or large-diameter limb on the ground, please submit an Inquire Boulder request at [bouldercolorado.gov/report-issue](http://bouldercolorado.gov/report-issue) or call forestry at 303-441-4406.

In rare situations after a severe storm, the city may conduct a citywide branch collection. Citywide clean-ups are quite expensive, and most debris collected from past storms has been from trees on private property. The September 2020 snowstorm cost over \$900,000, with most of the cost going towards citywide branch pickup.

In addition to the high price tag, storm response work is extremely time intensive and may take city staff four months or more to address all safety issues. The September 1995 snowstorm took two-and-a-half years of contracted work to remove all broken branches.

Thanks to our combined efforts, we can keep our streets, sidewalks, and our urban canopy clean and maintained for our community, no matter what Mother Nature may throw our way!

# 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. The City of Boulder Communication and Engagement Department strives to share the latest information about your local government in a variety of different ways so you can choose the method that works best for you.

## VISIT THE CITY NEWSROOM



The City of Boulder's online newsroom is a one-stop destination for the latest city news and information, including articles, news releases, photos and videos.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



The City of Boulder is active on a variety of social media platforms. Follow the city or topic-specific accounts for news, photos, event information and more.

## SIGN UP FOR CITY E-NEWSLETTERS



Sign up for electronic newsletters to stay up to date on popular topics, including city planning, climate, open space, parks and recreation and more.

## WATCH BOULDER 8 TV



Boulder 8 TV is the city's government broadcasting station. Watch online or on Comcast for live City Council meetings and a weekly news show.

## READ THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Boulder's award-winning community newsletter keeps community members informed about city projects, plans and news. It is mailed to city residents twice a year and can be accessed online.

View these resources and learn more about our services by visiting [bldr.fyi/informed](https://bldr.fyi/informed)

# Five things you didn't know your library card could do



## Visit a state park!

Explore over 40 state parks by checking out an activity backpack from the library, which includes a free park pass provided by Colorado State Parks and Wildlife.



## Rent a bike.

Skip the Uber fees and rent a bike from Boulder BCycle! Anyone with a library card can check out a bike using the bike share program. The BCycle fobs are only available at the Main Library. There are 300-plus e-bikes for a seven-day use of unlimited 60-minute rides.



## Go to a cultural destination.

Reserve a culture pass on the library's website for free entry to family-friendly cultural destinations across Colorado, including the Butterfly Pavilion; Denver Museum of Nature and Science; Dinosaur Ridge; Museo de las Americas; and the Wow! Children's Museum.



## Get the internet or a Chromebook.

Is your internet service unreliable? Computer in the shop? Check out a Chromebook from the library or reserve a hotspot for those days you need portable tech.



## Check out a book anywhere, any time.

The library's digital resources make it easy to download an app and get the book, music, movie or audiobook you want — anywhere, anytime. The app Libby, by OverDrive, is easy to use and has a huge selection of books.

More information is available at [boulderlibrary.org](http://boulderlibrary.org). Librarians can help in person, or by phone at 303-441-3100; via text at 303-351-1955; or online at: [ask.boulderlibrary.org](mailto:ask.boulderlibrary.org)



# Compost right: Know before you throw

Compost programs are in trouble across the region and here in Boulder. Heaps of contaminants — from glass to diapers — are ending up at our local composting facility. When composted, pieces of these pollutants make their way into local soils and waterways, and eventually turn up in our food and water.

To protect the quality of finished compost, truckloads of contaminated compostable materials are rejected and sent to the landfill. There, organic waste is unable to break down and produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that fuels the growing climate crisis.

Help clean up our community's compost and keep organics out of the landfill by knowing what really belongs in the compost bin. Here are some simple practices to make a difference:

Cut out this quick guide to compostables and keep it on hand for reference.



## COMPOST RIGHT

### CORE COMPOSTABLES:



Food scraps of any kind



Plants, including yard trimmings



Food-soiled paper products like towels and napkins



Paper coffee filters and coffee grounds



BPI or CMA certified compostables

### FOOD IN, PLASTICS OUT. DO NOT COMPOST:



Products without BPI or CMA certification



Produce stickers and tags



Diapers and menstrual products



Plastic bags

## When in doubt, look it up.

Consult Eco-Cycle's A-Z Recycling Guide by visiting [bldr.fyi/ecocycle-a-z-guide](http://bldr.fyi/ecocycle-a-z-guide) or by downloading the app. The guide includes hundreds of common waste items and where they belong.

## In doubt and in a rush? Throw it out.

It feels good to compost as much as possible, but adding non-compostable materials to a compost bin can result in the whole thing ending up in the landfill. Do your research now so you know how to sort when on the go.

## Spread the word!

Share this article with friends and family and teach them about the core compostables. We need everyone on board to beat contamination.

## Compost quality matters

Composting gives organic matter a new life, turning carrot tops and coffee grounds into a nutrient-rich material that nourishes our soils. Compost also increases our soil's ability to absorb and hold water. It promotes a diversity of soil life, which removes and stores carbon dioxide — the most common greenhouse gas — from the atmosphere. However, these benefits depend on the quality of our community's compost.

**High-quality compost = healthy soils = a flourishing local food system**



**High-quality  
compost**



**Healthy soils**



**A flourishing local  
food system**

## Let's create a culture of reuse

Long term, a shift toward circularity and reusable products will address many of the systemic climate and waste management challenges we face today. This growing area of work moves beyond recycling and composting to focus on preventing waste in the first place. It also explores innovative ways to curb Boulder's collective consumption through reuse and repair.

Learn more about this shift in our city by visiting [zerowasteboulder.com](http://zerowasteboulder.com).



Check out Eco-Cycle's Dirty Dozen of Compost for other contamination culprits.  
[bldr.fyi/compost-dirty-dozen](http://bldr.fyi/compost-dirty-dozen)



Download the Eco-Cycle A-Z Recycling Guide as an app on Google Play or the Apple App Store.

# Quickly get the care you need

## Boulder's new Nurse Navigation Program

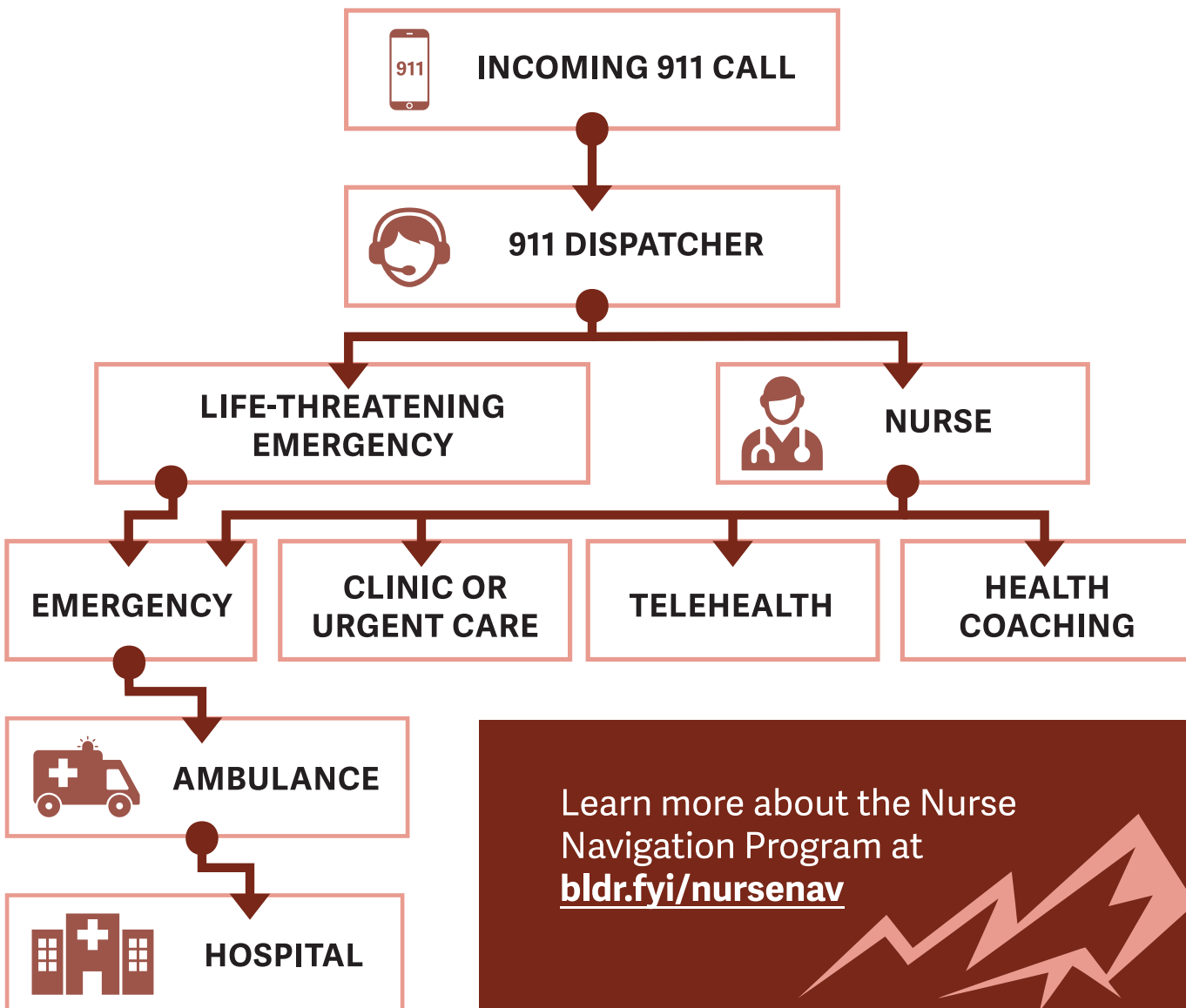
Our innovative Nurse Navigation Line ensures you quickly reach the most appropriate level of care based on your needs. This may include transportation to a local clinic, urgent care or hospital emergency department. You talk to a licensed nurse to make that decision, together.



Nurse consultation to determine caller's specific needs

Nurses quickly determine the appropriate care

Including local clinics, urgent care centers or treatment in place



Learn more about the Nurse Navigation Program at [bldr.fyi/nursenav](http://bldr.fyi/nursenav)



# ZONEHAVEN

Emergency evacuations happen quickly, so it is important to prepare. The City of Boulder now uses Zonehaven, an interactive mapping tool, to help evacuate community members in a disaster. Zonehaven provides pre-established evacuation zones, which helps streamline the evacuation process and provides community members easy access to check evacuation status.



1

## Make an emergency evacuation plan

Decide what you will need to evacuate safely and how you will prepare for an emergency.

### How to prepare

Boulder community members need to be ready to evacuate in certain emergency situations with or without notice from public safety officials.

- Pack a "go-bag"
- Choose evacuation routes
- Prepare your home

For more information and planning tools, visit:

[bouldercolorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness)

2

## Sign up for emergency alerts

In the event of an immediate threat to life, health or safety, government officials use Everbridge to send updates or instructions to affected community members.

Sign up at: [boco911alert.com](https://boco911alert.com)

3

## KNOW YOUR ZONE

Knowing how to look up your zone is critical to the evacuation process. If there is a wildfire or emergency situation, this is how you will check if you are in an impacted area.

Visit [community.zonehaven.com](https://community.zonehaven.com) to find your zone. Fill it in below and save it.



MY ZONE

[community.zonehaven.com](https://community.zonehaven.com)

# Earth-friendly ways to celebrate the holidays



Consumer culture often encourages us to buy more than we need during the holidays. But what we buy and how often we purchase new things has a large impact on our climate.

Everything we purchase contains embodied emissions: the greenhouse gas emissions produced when products are made and shipped. The city's circular economy report shows that embodied emissions in Boulder are larger than the total of all other local emissions combined, including emissions from electricity, transportation and natural gas. This means what we buy has a bigger environmental impact than what we drive and how we power our lives.

You can help curb these emissions and keep waste out of the landfill by reducing and reusing this holiday season. Here are some ideas to get you started.

## Reduce food waste

- Use online meal planning calculators to determine how much food to buy for guests and holiday gatherings. Check out [bldr.fyi/save-the-food](https://bldr.fyi/save-the-food) to get started.
- Consider preparing meals with local produce, making use of what's in season in Colorado and reducing the transportation impact of your food.
- Compost all food scraps in your backyard or curbside compost bin.
  - Learn what goes in the compost ([bldr.fyi/compost-right](https://bldr.fyi/compost-right)).
  - Remember to compost natural Christmas trees in your curbside bin or drop trees off at the Boulder County/City of Boulder Yard Waste Drop-Off Center located at Western Disposal's Materials Management Center. Cut your tree into smaller pieces if it doesn't fit in your curbside bin.

## Use reusables

- Set the table with reusable plates, cups, utensils and napkins.
- Wrap gifts in newspaper, fabric bags and reused gift bags.
- Repurpose old holiday cards, calendars and scrap paper as gift tags and cards.
- Swap decorations and costumes with friends and family, or buy used at thrift stores and consignment shops.




## Get creative with gift giving

- Buy gifts from thrift stores.
- Give memories instead of stuff. Gift experiences like museum tickets, art classes or dinner at a local restaurant.
- Share your skills. Bake sweet treats, knit a hat or give a music lesson.

## Dispose of holiday decorations the right way.

- From broken holiday lights to Christmas trees, Eco-Cycle's Holiday Guide ([bldr.fyi/ecocycle-holiday-guide](https://bldr.fyi/ecocycle-holiday-guide)) can help you find the best place to dispose of holiday leftovers — or, better yet, ways to give them new life.





# Shop and dine local this season

Shop and dine local this season (and year-round). Boulder's local businesses and services depend on local dollars.

The sales tax paid on purchases at local shops, restaurants and other businesses helps fund important city services and programs including arts and culture; first responders; human services; libraries; open space; parks; recreation facilities; transportation and more.

This season and throughout the year, enjoy the fun events, great food and impressive selection of retail shops throughout the city. Parking is free every Saturday and Sunday year-round in City of Boulder garages, and only \$3 from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. during the week.

For more information on local shopping, dining and events, visit [bouldercoloradousa.com](http://bouldercoloradousa.com).



BoulderPark

## A gift for you

Enjoy two hours of complimentary parking in one of the downtown City of Boulder parking garages. To use, insert your white gate ticket into the exit machine. Next, scan the QR code on this page to receive your discount. Expires 1/31/2023. No copies allowed. Good for one time use only. [BoulderParking.com](http://BoulderParking.com)



# Deconstruction of former Boulder Community Health Hospital enters final phase, with focus on climate goals

Deconstruction of the former Boulder Community Health Hospital will continue through spring 2023. One of the city's primary goals during deconstruction is to reuse as much material from the building as possible.

While sustainable deconstruction is a complex endeavor, it can also significantly contribute to the city's zero waste goals and circular economy initiatives. One way this focus has come to life is in repurposing the hospital's structural steel for new building projects, keeping thousands of pounds of building materials out of the landfill. Several city projects will incorporate the reclaimed steel, including the new Fire Station 3. In addition to the city, several other builders in the community are looking to incorporate the hospital steel into their designs.

The hospital deconstruction is part of a larger project in the Alpine-Balsam area that will provide new affordable and market-rate homes in a range of housing types, and



will be the future location of the western city campus to serve customers and house municipal functions. Once deconstruction is complete, the next priority for the project will be flood mitigation along Balsam Avenue.

The city has worked to minimize the impact of deconstruction on community members by ensuring work is done during business hours and in accordance with the city's noise ordinance. Learn more at: [bldr.fyi/AlpineBalsam](https://bldr.fyi/AlpineBalsam).

## Finding a home in Boulder just got easier with \$100,000 in down payment assistance

Many find themselves wanting to purchase a home in Boulder but lack the funds to cover a down payment. The city's House to Homeownership (H2O) Program provides first-time homebuyers a loan of up to \$100,000 to help cover the cost of a down payment on a market-rate home purchased in the city of Boulder. Buyers must work in the city of Boulder and meet specific income and asset limits to qualify for this program.

### Find out if you qualify today!

H2O Program funds are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified applicants, and are not designed to be used with the city's Permanently Affordable Homes Program.



Learn more and apply at [bit.ly/BoulderH2O](https://bit.ly/BoulderH2O)



## BOULDER PUBLIC LIBRARY 2022 **WINTER READING**

Proudly presented by Boulder Library Foundation



[boulderlibrary.org/winter](http://boulderlibrary.org/winter)

### **Cozy up with books and play the Winter Reading Challenge**

For kids (ages 6–11), teens and adults. Read three stories to complete the challenge.

#### **To Play:**

- Anyone age 6+ can join!
- Program runs Dec. 18 through Feb. 28.
- Read three stories: Books, magazine articles and audio books all count.
- Play online or pick up a bingo card at an open library location.

Each week one winner will be drawn for each age category (children and teen/adult).  
Winners receive a tote bag filled with a gift card to Boulder Book Store and winter goodies.



## All three city recreation centers feature something new for you

Have you been to one of the city's three recreation centers lately? There's so much that's new!

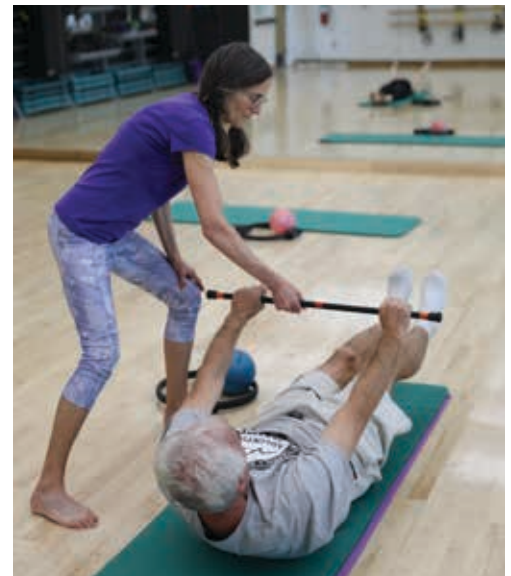
At South Boulder Recreation Center, a new gymnasium floor has been installed. The gymnasium is now open for our community to use for many different sports. We've also created a new community room for parties and as a fun place to hang out, and a ninja obstacle room to test your skills. The pool has been repaired and is now open, too!

At East Boulder Community Center (EBCC), we've started 12 new fitness classes, including Ride and Strength, Barre Intensity and Beginner Power Yoga. See the new classes at all our rec centers at [bprfitness.org](https://bprfitness.org). In addition, the Age Well center reopened at EBCC in September. The center serves the educational, social and fitness needs of older adults through community connection, fitness and wellness.

At North Boulder Recreation Center, we resurfaced the outdoor courts and painted new lines for four tennis courts; for tennis players 10 and younger; and for eight pickleball courts. Learn about all city pickleball updates at [bouldercolorado.gov/services/pickleball](https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/pickleball).

These rec center investments were done in accordance with our new Master Department Plan. We are working to take care of what we have for our community now and for years to come.

Make those health and wellness goals, and let's achieve them together at a Boulder rec center!





# BRING A BUDDY FOR **FREE** TO THE REC CENTER

- Work out with your friends
- Have fun
- Each of you will be entered to win prizes!

Offer valid Dec. 1 - 15 for current Annual or Monthly Passholders.

Visit [BoulderColorado.gov/buddy](https://BoulderColorado.gov/buddy) or scan QR code for details:



## Measuring Boulder's climate impact

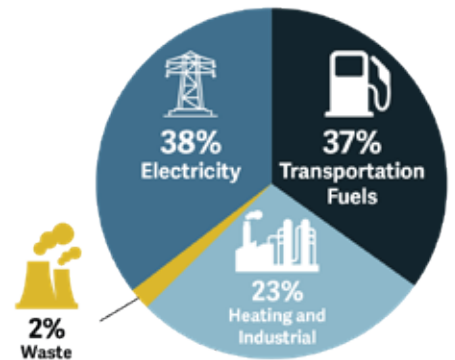
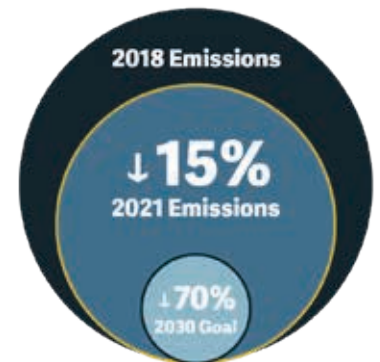
When released into the atmosphere, greenhouse gasses (GHGs) like carbon dioxide and methane trap heat in earth's atmosphere and cause climate change.

By measuring GHGs, the city can understand our community's contribution to climate change. Each year, the city measures how many GHGs our community emits and recently released its 2021 report.

In 2021, emissions rose slightly from 2020, largely due to vehicle travel returning to pre-pandemic levels. Still, emissions are 15% below the 2018 baseline. To meet our goal to be net zero by 2035, our community must continue to step up efforts to reduce emissions.

You can help reduce emissions! Learn more at: [bouldercolorado.gov/government/departments/climate-initiatives](https://bouldercolorado.gov/government/departments/climate-initiatives)

Dive deeper into the city's GHG inventory at: [bouldercolorado.gov/projects/community-greenhouse-gas-inventory](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/community-greenhouse-gas-inventory).



# Simple steps to make your home more efficient

This winter, residential energy bills could rise as much as 54% over last year. According to data from the Colorado Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate, Xcel Energy bills for the average household are projected to be about \$177 in December, up from \$115 last year. Here are a few easy steps you can take to make your home more efficient:



Learn more about home energy efficiency at [bldr.fyi/3WjTchV](https://bldr.fyi/3WjTchV)



Use a programmable thermostat



Turn down your thermostat and dress in layers



Turn down your water heater to 120 degrees



Avoid using hot water unless needed



Maintain your furnace for efficiency



Support air circulation in your home



Harness sunshine using shades and blinds



Seal cracks in windows, doors and baseboards

# Utility rates are increasing – do you know where your utility money goes?

Utilities are key to the safety and health of the Boulder community. The money you pay for your city utility bill each month funds the operation of a multi-billion-dollar infrastructure system, including projects to preserve and sustain the quality of life in Boulder.

Each year, Boulder utility rates are reviewed and adjusted to keep up with the cost to improve aging infrastructure, provide clean drinking water, keep our wastewater facility running, maintain sewers, water mains and the stormwater system and build flood mitigation projects.

Rate increases go into effect in January. For 2023, the average residential utility bill will rise by \$7.60 per month. By paying your utility bill, you are supporting the Boulder community and funding the vast array of critical needs such as:

- Safe, clean low-cost drinking water, which is essential to public health and community vitality.

- Wastewater treatment, which is necessary for public health and environmental protection.
- Stormwater and flood management to support infrastructure, water quality and education programs. Boulder has the highest flood risk in the State of Colorado. The city recently updated the Comprehensive Flood and Stormwater Master Plan with a framework to prioritize flood projects, including a focus on equity.

Learn more about where your utility money goes at [bit.ly/utilitymoney](https://bit.ly/utilitymoney)

If you are experiencing financial hardship or find it difficult to pay your utility bill due to COVID, assistance is available. Learn more at [bit.ly/ARPAUtilityBilling](https://bit.ly/ARPAUtilityBilling)

## Get involved with local government

In Boulder, we know that local government works best when the community participates. We want to make that easy.

Be Heard Boulder is the city's online engagement platform. Through Be Heard Boulder, you can contribute ideas and ask questions about featured city projects, at times that work best for you. This online platform offers a variety of interactive tools, including discussion forums, polls, questionnaires and crowdsource mapping.



Featured projects are updated regularly, so check back often for the latest opportunities to get involved in your local government.

We look forward to hearing from you!  
[beheardboulder.org](https://beheardboulder.org)

# Leading the way on inclusive government

## From Community Leader to Commissioner

Carlos Valdez takes pride in serving the community. Between shifts at a local grocery store's produce department, Valdez is busy finding ways to support his neighbors. "When somebody needs help, I always say yes," he says.

On a typical day, he's advocating for fellow manufactured home residents, serving as a Community Connector and as an Emergency Response Connector, or meeting up with other Latinx community members to explore Boulder's vast network of trails through Explorando Senderos de Boulder.

"Working with the Community Connectors opened a lot of doors," said Valdez. Engaging with his community to provide feedback on the city's COVID-19 response, police oversight, library and parking projects helped Valdez see that he had a lot to offer.

A community servant at heart, Valdez was looking to make the leap into an official city board or commission, but there was a catch: his preferred language is Spanish, and typical commission meetings are conducted in English. Fortunately, Valdez wasn't the only person thinking about how to make the city more inclusive.

In the months prior to board and commission recruitment, the city's Office of Human Rights had created a Spanish board and commission application and redoubled their efforts to reach out to a variety of community organizations, hoping to attract new voices.

The efforts paid off. Valdez applied to the Human Relations Commission (HRC). Earlier this year, City Council appointed him to the

HRC, making Valdez one of the few Boulder commissioners who primarily speaks a language other than English.

In the first months of his five-year appointment, the city is learning how to make its boards and commissions more inclusive, giving way to deeper institutional and systemic changes that are necessary to move equity work forward. By challenging "business as usual" thinking, the city, alongside community members, can create spaces in which everyone is welcome at the decision-making table.

## Conversations that Shape the Vision

The City of Boulder has 20 boards and commissions that help shape projects and policy on issues ranging from land use and housing, to special districts and open space. The Human Relations Commission's mission is unique. It seeks to foster mutual respect within the community and build friendly relationships across cultures. In the past, the HRC has helped develop Indigenous Peoples Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations. It also helps enforce the city's Human Rights Ordinance.

For the HRC, inclusivity on the board goes beyond symbolic importance. It also can lead to better outcomes, says interim Chair, Lindsey Loberg.

One telling example took place a few years ago when the HRC set out to rewrite outdated, gendered language in the city's Human Rights Ordinance. Loberg, who is trans, leaned on their personal experience and passion to move the effort forward, along with Out Boulder County.



## Removing language barriers

When the city passed its first Racial Equity Plan in 2021, it cemented its intention to expand the influence of community members of color through inclusive and responsive engagement. Providing access in multiple languages is a step toward this vision.

While English is the dominant language in the Boulder area, more than 40,000 people in Boulder County speak other languages, and it's important that government meets their needs. In Boulder, Spanish is the second-most spoken language, with more than 1,700 Spanish speakers also identifying as Limited English Proficient, a term that refers to a person's ability to speak, read, write and/or understand the English language at a level that allows them to interact effectively with the City of Boulder.

"When we talk about language access, what we mean is that language is not a barrier for people to access information or services, or to participate in the democratic process," said Manuela Sifuentes.

As the city's Language Access Program Manager, Sifuentes developed the city's first Language Access Plan, which includes procedures to help the city meet its legal requirements and aspirations to make government programs and services available in other languages.

For the HRC meetings, this meant involving specialized staff: Spanish-English simultaneous interpreters.

At the meetings, conducted online for now, commissioners and staff choose their preferred language and carry on their meeting as usual. When the discussion is in English, Valdez hears the Spanish interpretation, and when he speaks, other commissioners hear the English interpretation.

So far, the process is working well, says



Board Secretary Ingrid Castro-Campos: "The interpreter goes back and forth and makes it run very smoothly."

The impact of interpretation is already growing beyond Valdez' participation. At a recent public hearing, a participant was able to present her Indigenous Peoples Day proposal in her native Spanish.

## Looking Ahead

Interim Chair Loberg wants to see efforts to boost accessibility and representation spread beyond the dais of the HRC. After all, the HRC only gets to weigh in on a small set of issues impacting Boulder, and its power to implement changes is constrained as an advisory board to City Council. "If representation doesn't factor into policy, the impact is limited," said Loberg.

Loberg argues that all the city's boards and commissions — especially those overseeing key issues in Boulder — should strive to be more representative of the broader community. "If these practices were spreading, that would be more impactful," said Loberg.

Human Relations Commissioner Carlos Valdez agrees, seeing his participation as just the start. "If the city can offer [interpretation], maybe we can bring in more commissioners that don't speak English," said Valdez. "I think I am opening the door to other people."



# Guide to winter events



## **St. Nick on the Bricks, Friday, Nov. 25, and every Saturday from Nov. 26 through Dec. 24**

*1300 block of Pearl Street*

Kids of all ages can visit with Santa outside on the 1300 Block of the Pearl Street Mall for free. Bring your list and a camera to capture priceless holiday memories. Tired of waiting in line? Take a free ride on the 100% Electric Tebo Train, aka Snowflake Express. 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 the Capital One Cafe. The last train leaves the station at 2 p.m.



## **Snow Much Fun Holiday Lights and Augmented Reality Experiences, through Jan. 31**

*North and east of the Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.*

Explore holiday lights both real and virtual throughout downtown! Check out twinkling lights near the library and take a self-guided, augmented reality (AR) tour throughout the district. Meet a snowman, polar bears, narwhal and more as you scan QR codes and journey around the East End, Pearl Street Mall, West End to the Civic Area and library. Take selfies and use Instagram filters as you follow this winter wonderland trail!



## **Lights of December Parade, Saturday, Dec. 3**

*6 p.m. parade starts at 15th and Walnut streets and heads west to Broadway*  
Spectators will enjoy floats created and decorated by local businesses, churches and civic groups. Crowds will enjoy marching bands, brightly lit fire engines, holiday carolers and much more. The grand finale includes an appearance by the jolly old man himself - Santa Claus!



**Freezie Fest, Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

*Pearl Street Mall*

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



**Colorado Chautauqua WinterFest, Dec. 9-11**

The Colorado Chautauqua presents a weekend of holiday festivities in Boulder's most magical setting. Events include the WinterFest a tree lighting ceremony, horse-drawn carriage ride, Santa's Cottage, a historic cottage tour, festive market, guided hikes and more! [chautauqua.com/winterfest-22](http://chautauqua.com/winterfest-22)



**Chanukah on Pearl, Monday, Dec. 19, from 5:30-7 p.m.**

*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 the 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.



For more information about Boulder events, visit [boulderdowntown.com](http://boulderdowntown.com) and [bouldercolorado.gov/events](http://bouldercolorado.gov/events)

# Reimagining policing in Boulder

The Boulder Police Department is updating its strategic plan to guide department actions for the next 3-10 years, in the Reimagine Policing project.

Let's look at where we've been.

The outdated model for policing has the following attributes. It is:

- Reactionary, punitive
- Random, often uninformed by crime science principles
- Dispatches police in ways that don't always prioritize the most important needs
- Places emphasis on enforcement and "locking bad people up"
- Hard to understand by the public it serves
- Known to cause harm to historically marginalized and vulnerable populations
- Fails to take into account failures of social systems that contribute to crime
- Places disproportionate number of community members of color into a system that does not serve them



Now let's consider where we could go.



Reimagine Policing envisions a new future – one that will take time but is both achievable and replicable.

This vision has the following attributes. It is:

- Based on solid data and practices that have been proven to achieve positive outcomes
- More inclusive and less biased
- Prevention-focused
- Emphasizes collaboration and problem-solving
- Transparent and accountable
- Has more lasting benefit to multiple communities
- Creates trust and relationships
- Keeps people, when possible, out of the criminal justice system

To be sure, there are times when strong police response with officers who are well trained and equipped in confronting conflict and violence is necessary. There is no one magic solution that will eliminate all crime in Boulder. And it will take time to turn the culture, processes, policies, technology, training, and practices that have been built over decades.

But a shared vision that transforms policing to:

- Better meet modern-day and emerging expectations
- Bring more justice and equity to a problematic system
- Create positive change in communities most in need
- Reduce harm

is possible.



Visit [bouldercolorado.gov/projects/reimagine-policing](https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/reimagine-policing) to find out more about the project and public participation opportunities.



## Sign up for Boulder County's Emergency Alert System

One of the best ways to prepare for an emergency is to sign up to receive notifications for emergencies in your area. If you haven't signed up already, now is the time to register for emergency notifications for your home address. You can also register to receive notifications about events affecting other addresses including your workplace, family's schools, etc.

Boulder County's emergency alert notification system is run by Everbridge. You can sign up for any Boulder County address at: [boco911alert.com](https://boco911alert.com)



## Access to timely crime information in your neighborhood

This summer, the City of Boulder created a new, digital crime blotter to share information with the community in nearly real time.

The updated crime blotter was a joint project between the City of Boulder's Innovation and Technology and Boulder Police departments to ensure the public could receive timely information on crime in their neighborhoods and protect victim privacy.

"I'm incredibly proud of this additional layer of transparency we've created to share more information with our community," says Boulder Chief of Police Maris Herold. "It's right in line with the goals outlined in our new draft Reimagine Policing plan. This was a direct result of our community members telling us they missed the old crime blotter and wanted more information about public safety incidents in their neighborhoods."

Jennifer Douglas, chief innovation and technology officer, concurred: "Enhancing public safety and increasing government transparency are cornerstones of our efforts to further the city's mission of service excellence for an inspired future through technology," she says.

The crime blotter is streamlined and updated automatically in both the blotter dashboard and a dedicated Twitter account, depending on when they are reported and reviewed. Though other large agencies in the country have created crime-specific Twitter accounts, Boulder Police is the first agency to do so in Colorado. Unlike the primary Boulder Police Twitter account ([twitter.com/boulderpolice](https://twitter.com/boulderpolice)), the blotter Twitter account is not monitored for questions. Follow the blotter at [twitter.com/bpdblitter](https://twitter.com/bpdblitter).

The new BPD Blotter can also be found on our crime dashboard page at [bouldercolorado.gov/crime-dashboard](https://bouldercolorado.gov/crime-dashboard). The blotter differs from the crime dashboard in that it provides a narrative about each event and only includes reports with a crime. That means one blotter incident can have multiple offenses. For example, a robbery can also be a trespass. In the offense dashboard, both offenses would show as separate records.

For more information on a specific incident, request reports from BPD Records at [bouldercolorado.gov/services/request-crime-reports-or-records](https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/request-crime-reports-or-records).

# Boulder Fire-Rescue shares preparation procedures for red flag days



Boulder Fire-Rescue works hard every day to prepare for potential wildfire starts in the area, but special attention is paid to high wind and Red Flag days. Red Flag warnings happen when the National Weather Service predicts conditions that could lead to wildfire growth. When these days are declared, be especially cautious with any activities that could start a fire, such as mowing your lawn or parking your car in tall grass. Open burning is never allowed within city limits, but on Red Flag days, open burning becomes prohibited in additional areas nearby, such as the entirety of Boulder County.

On days where there is an increased risk of wildfire growth, the city intentionally increases its staffing of wildland-capable firefighters and engines. Boulder Fire-Rescue works closely with agencies throughout the county to coordinate response capabilities in case an incident grows to the size where a department needs additional help. On these days, you may see fire personnel patrolling neighborhoods in wildland firefighting trucks or moving engines to different locations to best meet response needs. Increasing staffing also helps ensure the department will have firefighters ready to respond to all emergency calls in the city that may occur on any given day.

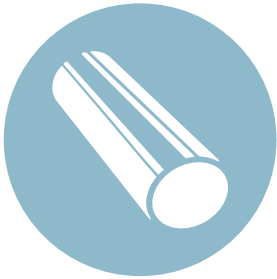
Community members can do their part by paying attention to information distributed by local agencies such as Boulder Police, Boulder Fire-Rescue, Boulder County Sheriff's Office and Boulder Office of Disaster Management (ODM). The city strongly encourages signing up for address-specific evacuation notices on Everbridge at [boulderoem.com](https://www.boulderoem.com).

Know what you would grab and where you would go if you had to evacuate. If you are feeling unsafe due to a fire nearby, leave and move to a place where you feel safer.

For more information on preparing for and mitigating fire risk at home and in the community, visit Boulder Fire-Rescue's wildland fire guide at: [bouldercolorado.gov/guide/boulder-fire-rescue-department-wildland-division](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/boulder-fire-rescue-department-wildland-division)

## WINTER HOME PREP

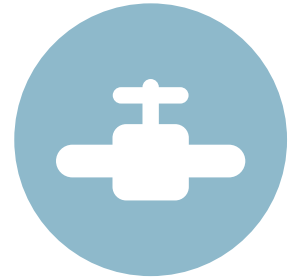
# Prevent frozen pipes



**Insulate pipes**



**Let faucets drip**



**Learn how to shut off**

**Nov. 20  
thru  
Jan. 23**

## Snow Much Fun lights up Boulder

And it's an augmented reality experience, too!  
Visit the Civic Area next to the library to see the amazing holiday light displays and use your smartphone to see and experience:

- Morphing snowflakes • A friendly narwhal
- Marching penguins • Spinning ice skaters

**See all locations and instructions  
at [bldr.fyi/Snow-Much-Fun](https://bldr.fyi/Snow-Much-Fun)**



# Three winter hikes to check out during the colder months



We are moving into the season of chillier outdoor adventures. With appropriate hiking gear, winter can be a wonderful time to experience many of the 155 miles of trails Boulder offers.

**Flagstaff Summit.** Hike the Ute, Boy Scout, Tenderfoot and Chapman trails, and the Sensory Trail, where you can explore nature without using your eyes. Every snowstorm changes the summit road and parking areas into a cross-country ski experience with gentle grades, no cars — and lots of beauty.

**Sawhill Ponds.** These ponds, on 75th Street near Valmont Road, are an extraordinary place to experience winter's calm. The trails are flat and smooth, providing a break from the steep icy trails of the mountains.

**Enchanted Mesa/Kohler Mesa Loops.** Enchanted Mesa provides a variety of trails winding among ponderosa pine forests and small meadows, while providing stunning views of the Flatirons. The adjacent Kohler

Mesa offers many options to lengthen your hike. These trails are relatively flat, and many are usually free from slippery ice — but take strap-on boot traction, like Yaktrax or MICROspikes, just in case.

Winter hiking can present challenges. Here are a few tips to keep in mind before hitting the trail.

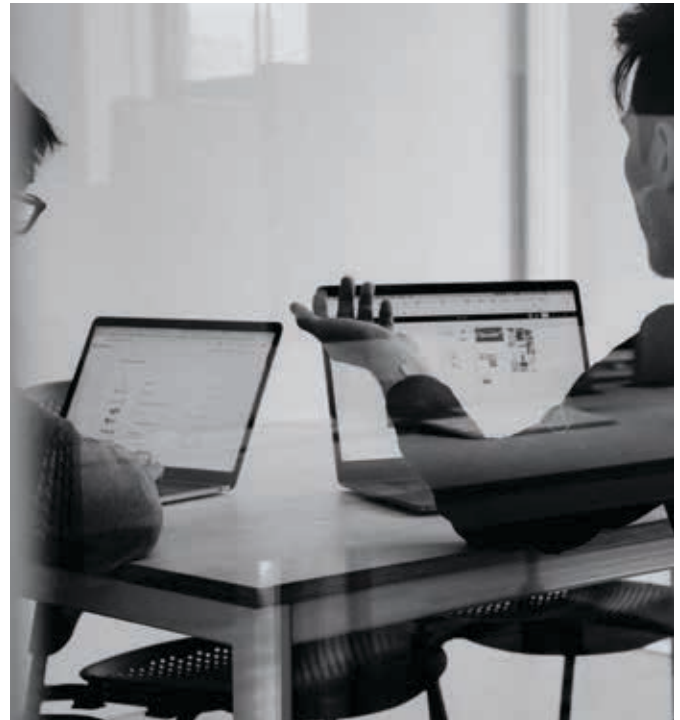
- Always practice responsible recreation.
- Wear proper footwear. Trails can be slick from snow and ice during the winter months. To avoid an accident on the trail, use strap-on boot chains for extra traction.
- Get muddy: When trails are muddy or icy, walk right through the mud without leaving the trail. Off-trail detours to avoid muddy spots causes enormous damage to the trails and plants that grow alongside.
- Announce yourself when passing others from behind.
- Remove your trash and pick up after your dog.

# City reactivates youth opportunities program internships

The City of Boulder's Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) is reactivating the Youth Opportunities Internship Program for summer 2023 after a two-year hiatus.

The YOP promotes youth civic engagement and leadership development; organizes community events; and provides youth perspective and recommendations on city and community projects, issues and initiatives.

"Not only does this program help youth develop professional skills and find their voices, but it also elevates youth perspective on public issues and city operations," says Mario Martinez-Varelas, Youth Opportunities Program Manager. "Program participants bring diverse viewpoints that help strengthen city government."



## What to expect

During this six-week paid summer internship, interns will be matched with a city department to gain experience in city government. In addition to supporting their assigned department, interns will take part in weekly career readiness sessions hosted by YOP staff, where they will develop and enhance professional skills that will help them succeed in their post and in future endeavors.

Internship opportunities are open to students attending high school in the City of Boulder who will be entering their junior year in fall 2023. Interns must commit to working 20 hours a week during June and July 2023. Specific schedules will depend on intern's departmental placement and off-site group activities.

## How to apply

Applications open January 2023. Be the first to know when applications are available by signing up for the Housing and Human Services newsletter at [bldr.fyi/HHS-Newsletter](mailto:bldr.fyi/HHS-Newsletter).



# Connect with city staff at the Customer Service Hub

The Customer Service Hub, located at 1101 Arapahoe Ave., provides community members with one convenient location to connect with city staff from both Housing and Human Services and Planning and Development Services. The hub is open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



## Human services and housing support

At the Customer Service Hub, you can speak with Housing and Human Services staff to learn about available resources and engage with community programs, including:

- **Homeownership programs.** Meet with staff to learn more about these programs, and to drop off and pick up program applications.
- **Community mediation.** Provides mediation, restorative justice, meeting facilitation, landlord-tenant information and more.
- **Eviction prevention.** Connects people facing a potential eviction with legal and financial services.
- **Financial assistance.** Provides financial assistance through the Child Care Subsidy, Rental Assistance and Food Tax Rebate programs.

## Planning and development services

Visit the Customer Service Hub for help navigating Planning and Development Services. Assistance is offered with applications processes, online services and more. By-appointment services include:

- Development review planning
- Contractor and rental licensing
- Building and right-of-way permitting and inspections
- Process questions (no appointment needed)

Check out our guide to connecting with Planning and Development Services at [bouldercolorado.gov/guide/how-connect-planning-development-services](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/how-connect-planning-development-services)

# Participate in city government meetings

## City Council Meetings and Study Sessions

Boulder City Council holds two types of public meetings to accomplish city business.

Meetings include periods of public participation to gather feedback from community members. These meetings are now fully hybrid, which means the public can choose to attend in person or participate online.

The second type, called study sessions, gives City Council the chance to work on a particular topic or set of issues. While council may provide direction to city staff during a study session, no votes are cast. Community members are welcome to watch study sessions, but there is no opportunity for public comment. The sessions are virtual only, with all council members and staff participating online.



Here's how to participate:

- Find dates for upcoming City Council dates online at [bouldercolorado.gov/events](https://bouldercolorado.gov/events). Note whether the calendar item is a meeting or study session.
- If it is a regular meeting, council provides an opportunity for the public to share input for any issue that is not on that evening's agenda. This is called Open Comment. You must sign up in advance at [bouldercolorado.gov/services/participate-city-council-meetings](https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/participate-city-council-meetings). The sign-up form will open at 8 a.m. the Friday prior to the meeting and will close at 2 p.m. the Wednesday before the meeting. Open Comment is limited to 20 people with remarks of two minutes each. If there are more people interested than there are slots, you may not get selected. You are welcome to try again a different week. The clerk's office sends out the randomized speaker list for each meeting late Wednesday and at the very latest Thursday morning. If there are more than 20 people signed-up to speak two emails are sent. The first email goes to everyone that signed up to speak and includes the list of speakers. The second email is sent to those selected with the meeting link. You will receive it in your email, using the address you provided. The speaker list is also posted online in the calendar event for the meeting.
- If you have feedback about an item that is scheduled as a public hearing, you will need to sign up to speak. You must sign up in advance at [bouldercolorado.gov/services/participate-city-council-meetings](https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/participate-city-council-meetings). The sign-up form will open at 8 a.m. the Friday prior to the meeting and will close at 2 p.m. the Wednesday before the meeting. The clerk's office sends out the randomized speaker list and meeting link meeting late Wednesday and at the very latest Thursday morning. There is no limit to the number of people who can testify at a public hearing. Depending on the interest in the topic, however, community members will receive two to three minutes each.

- If you are signed up to speak either in Open Comment or a Public Hearing, or both, you may either attend in person or participate as an attendee in the virtual meeting space. If you prefer to participate online, please look for the link to join the council meeting in your email inbox late Wednesday and at the latest Thursday morning. As an attendee, you cannot turn your video on or unmute yourself until you are called on by the mayor. Once your name is called, a meeting facilitator will enable your ability to unmute yourself so you can testify. Council permits audio-only testimony online. If you are not signed up to speak, you have two choices. You can attend the meeting in person, or you can watch the livestream online at [bouldercolorado.gov/government/watch-council-meetings](https://bouldercolorado.gov/government/watch-council-meetings) or on Boulder 8 TV on Comcast in high definition on channel 880 or standard definition on channel 8. If, for any reason, these platforms are not working properly, you can also access the live meeting via YouTube at [bldr.fyi/COBCityCouncil](https://bldr.fyi/COBCityCouncil)
- Past City Council meeting videos are always available on the City's YouTube channel ([bldr.fyi/COBCityCouncil](https://bldr.fyi/COBCityCouncil)) or using this QR code:



## Board and Commission Meetings

Boards and Commissions are appointed by City Council and are responsible for examining specific topics to help shape the future of Boulder.

These meetings are transitioning to a hybrid model. Between now and the end of 2022, members of boards and commission and staff are starting to return in person. Community members must still participate online. As soon as additional equipment is in place in an appropriate number of rooms, the public will have the same choice they have for council: to attend in person or participate online.

Here's how to participate:

- Find dates for board and commission meetings online at [bouldercolorado.gov/events](https://bouldercolorado.gov/events).
- Information to join the meeting by phone or from your computer is posted 24 hours in advance of the meeting on the event listing online at [bouldercolorado.gov/events](https://bouldercolorado.gov/events). For now, this is the only way to participate in real-time. The city is working hard to set up rooms to welcome back individuals who prefer to attend in person.
- Most boards and commissions do not require advance sign ups to speak, but we encourage you to check the webpage for the board or commission you are interested in to familiarize yourself with its practice.
- While board and commission meetings are no longer livestreamed, they will all be recorded. Meeting recordings can be found on each board and commission webpage and can also be found on the city's Boards and Commission Playlist on its YouTube channel at [tinyurl.com/9r3fwsnm](https://tinyurl.com/9r3fwsnm). New videos will be posted within three business days of each meeting.



# More Boulder news

Check out these articles that didn't make it to print. For even more Boulder news, visit [bouldercolorado.gov/news](https://bouldercolorado.gov/news)



City's racial equity training model inspiring other cities



PACE launches program to accelerate business climate action



How to be a zero waste host



Community engagement guide



City of Boulder ARPA funds in action



City Council approves change to noise ordinance



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# Mensaje de la gerente municipal



**NURIA RIVERA-  
VANDERMYDE**

Gerente  
Municipal

Entre las cosas que más me gustan de mi trabajo como administradora municipal de Boulder es la pasión que tiene nuestra comunidad por los muchos servicios que prestamos, los problemas que

abordamos juntos y la importancia de responder a las necesidades más urgentes. Al reflexionar sobre los logros de este año, estos son los temas que resaltan más.

Me siento increíblemente orgullosa del progreso que hemos logrado en 2022 y quiero mencionar algunos ejemplos más adelante en esta columna. Pero primero quiero explicar el marco que utilizamos como organización municipal al evaluar aspectos de nuestro plan de trabajo.

Durante varios años, el gobierno municipal se ha centrado en un enfoque llamado Marco de Sostenibilidad. Después de la inundación de 2013, reconocimos que la resiliencia debe ser un enfoque distinto, por lo que se convirtió en el Marco de Sostenibilidad y Resiliencia. Ahora, al haber adoptado el Plan de Equidad Racial, ha vuelto a evolucionar nuestro enfoque. Ahora nos esforzamos por alinearnos dentro de un Marco de Sostenibilidad, Equidad y Resiliencia, centrando la equidad en todo lo que hacemos.

Esto significa que nuestro trabajo, ya sea la prestación de servicios básicos, poner en práctica las prioridades establecidas por el Concejo Municipal o la selección de nuevas iniciativas impulsadas por el personal o por

la comunidad, debe promover uno o varios de estos pilares fundamentales.

Dentro de este marco hay varias áreas de atención que nos permiten comprender el impacto que tenemos, como gobierno local, en las prioridades clave de la comunidad. A través de estas áreas de reflexión, nos comprometemos a garantizar que Boulder sea un lugar habitable, económicamente viable, ambientalmente sostenible, saludable y socialmente próspero, seguro, accesible, bien conectado y gobernado de manera responsable.

Agrupamos los logros del año por estas áreas de atención para así darnos una mejor idea del panorama completo de nuestro trabajo en cada uno de los departamentos. Una lista de todos los logros de este año está disponible en [bouldercolorado.gov/guide/city-accomplishments](https://bouldercolorado.gov/guide/city-accomplishments), y les invito a revisar esa recopilación más extensa.

Hoy, sin embargo, quiero celebrar algunos de los ejemplos de cada uno de nuestros pilares principales.

## Sostenibilidad

A medida que ha ido evolucionando nuestro marco, también lo ha hecho nuestro entendimiento de lo que es un gobierno sostenible. Para mí, la sostenibilidad en este contexto consiste en proteger el patrimonio que tenemos, garantizar que vivir en esta ciudad y participar en sus programas sea posible para todos, y realizar los servicios básicos de manera que sean estables y una promesa para el mañana.

Muchos de nuestros logros de 2022 demuestran un compromiso a la sostenibilidad.

Muchos de ellos son visibles por el público, en particular, nuestro gobierno:

- Impulsó una de las prioridades del Concejo Municipal: la red arterial principal (Core Arterial Network o CAN, por sus siglas en inglés), que concentra inversión y recursos para diseñar y construir mejoras en 13 corredores de esta ciudad, a lo largo de varios años. El diseño y la participación comunitaria ya inició en seis de esos 13 corredores, y se prevé que la construcción inicie entre 2023 y 2024.
- Dio apoyo al desarrollo de viviendas asequibles para personas que actualmente no tienen acceso a una vivienda en Boulder. Esto se logró mediante proyectos en Ponderosa Mobile Home Park, Mt. Calvary, 4775 Spine Road y Diagonal Plaza, así como la adquisición de la propiedad ubicada en 2961 30th Street.
- Proporcionó cerca de \$7 millones en subvenciones a proyectos comunitarios que prestan servicio a la comunidad de bajos ingresos. Estas subvenciones permiten ofrecen alimentos saludables, apoyo económico, servicios de salud, cuidado infantil, apoyo académico, prevención del uso de sustancias y más.
- Adoptó un Plan Maestro Integral para Inundaciones y Aguas Pluviales (CFS, por sus siglas en inglés) para mejorar la gestión de aguas pluviales y ayudar a proteger a personas, propiedades y ecosistemas. El plan, basado en una importante participación de la comunidad, presenta una nueva forma de priorizar los trabajos de prevención de inundaciones, centrándose en el número de personas que se encuentran en peligro y no en el potencial costo en número de dólares por la pérdida de bienes.
- Creamos el primer libro presupuestario en línea que ha tenido nuestra ciudad para dar a los contribuyentes más transparencia y mejor acceso para que puedan entender cómo se gasta el dinero.

Menciono estos logros internos porque representan un importante esfuerzo por parte de muchos de mis colegas, y sin una fuerte dotación de personal, es muy difícil mantener o lograr lo que nuestra comunidad ya espera de nosotros.

## Equidad

Me siento especialmente orgullosa de nuestro trabajo en 2022 para comprender las experiencias singulares de las personas que pertenecen a poblaciones que han sido históricamente excluidas del gobierno local, así como poder celebrar sus talentos y habilidades y abordar sus necesidades específicas. A la hora de evaluar los programas y las decisiones de gastos, el gobierno municipal está tratando de dar prioridad a la equidad racial, lo cual fomenta la equidad entre otros grupos, como las personas con menores ingresos y personas con discapacidad.

Algunos logros dignos de mencionar:

- Lanzamos un programa de apoyo a empresas para reforzar la participación en oportunidades de empleo de minorías raciales, mujeres, veteranos, la comunidad LGBTQ y otros. Hemos invertido \$10.5 millones a empresas en estas categorías.
- Proporcionamos ayuda financiera para que personas en nuestra comunidad que llenan ciertos requisitos puedan acceder a nuestros centros recreativos completamente gratis. En 2022 este programa atendió a más de 5,400 participantes, representando unas 25,000 visitas a los centros.
- Logramos aumentar la participación de empleados municipales en los talleres de equidad racial. Dentro del Departamento de Policía, 226 agentes y empleados civiles han recibido formación para abordar los prejuicios y las microagresiones dentro

Entre los logros que no son visibles al público se encuentran:

- Haber abordado una importante crisis de personal al contratar a más de 1,050 nuevos empleados para garantizar que tenemos la capacidad para el funcionamiento ininterrumpido y para satisfacer necesidades emergentes de nuestra comunidad.



del contexto policial. Entre el personal no policial, más de la mitad a completado el taller Avanzando la equidad racial: el rol del gobierno.

- El programa Conectores Comunitarios desarrolló e impartió un taller llamado “Desarrollando Nuestro Poder y Alzando Nuestras Voces” para aumentar la capacidad de participación en procesos de gobierno local por parte de comunidades históricamente excluidas.
- Usando el instrumento de equidad racial, logramos la participación inclusiva y significativa de la comunidad en cuatro importantes iniciativas de planificación urbana: el Plan Maestro para Parques y Recreación, el Plan Integral para Inundaciones y Aguas Pluviales, el Plan de la Subcomunidad de East Boulder y el trabajo, aún en curso, de Reimaginando la Policía
- Aprobamos un Plan de Acceso Lingüístico que explica los requisitos de traducción e interpretación que tenemos como gobierno local y ofrece una visión para mejorar el acceso a información y programación en español y en otros idiomas.
- Desarrollamos un conjunto de herramientas de justicia, equidad, diversidad e inclusión (JEDI) y creamos cinco equipos JEDI internos para evaluar nuestras prácticas y políticas de manera que apoyen la equidad racial.

## Resiliencia

La resiliencia es siempre una característica a cultivar, pero los últimos años la han transformado en un pilar cada vez más relevante y urgente. Aunque el riesgo de COVID-19 ha cambiado, sigue siendo vigente. Además, las catástrofes naturales, el constante estrés por la economía y otros retos sociales afectan a nuestra comunidad y nos exigen que sigamos atentos y encontremos soluciones creativas.

He aquí algunos ejemplos de resiliencia en nuestra ciudad:

- Colaboramos con organizaciones sin fines

de lucro en cuestiones de recuperación económica inclusiva, proporcionando recursos para ayudar a levantar a los sectores y las industrias más afectadas por la pandemia.

- Aumentamos los servicios para los adultos mayores y las familias de bajos ingresos, proporcionando más de de \$76,000 a 104 adultos mayores para cubrir gastos médicos, dentales, de vivienda, transporte, alimentos y otras necesidades esenciales.
- A través del programa EPRAS (Prevención de Desalojos y Sistema de Ayuda con Pago de Alquiler), logramos atendimos a más de 400 clientes, y el 92% de ellos pudieron evitar ser desahuciados de sus hogares.
- Aseguramos 183 viviendas asequibles para nuestra comunidad, incluyendo para algunas personas viviendo en situación de calle.
- Lanzamos un nuevo programa, en colaboración con el gobierno del condado de Boulder, para ayudar a quienes viven en comunidades de viviendas prefabricadas y cuyas casas fueron afectadas por el fuerte viento de diciembre de 2021, el mismo viento que provocó el incendio Marshall.
- Nuestros esfuerzos lograron que 66 personas en nuestra ciudad (y otras 79 en otras partes del condado) pudieran hacer la transición de vivir en la calle a tener un techo donde vivir. Otras 43 personas pudieron reunirse con familiares o se conectaron con otras redes de apoyo social y dos de ellos se inscribieron en programas de tratamiento para el uso de sustancias. Este trabajo se realizó colaborativamente con el condado de Boulder y mediante un esfuerzo regional concertado.
- Logramos restaurar muchos servicios recreativos que fueron impactados por COVID-19, con un enfoque en desarrollar comunidad y la participación juvenil.

Créanme cuando digo que hay muchos más logros, y los animo a que consulten la lista completa. Sin embargo, espero que este resumen los inspire tanto como me ha inspirado a mí. Estoy ansiosa por ver lo que logramos conseguir juntos en 2023.

# Todo lo que necesita saber para prepararse para una emergencia

El gobierno municipal cuenta con un nuevo recurso digital que contiene todo lo que necesita saber durante un evento de clima extremo en Boulder.

En nuestra Guía de Preparación para Emergencias en línea, puede:

- Inscribirse para recibir alertas de emergencias que ocurran en la ciudad o el condado de Boulder directamente en su teléfono móvil
- Aprender a preparar una bolsa de viaje y un plan de seguridad para su familia
- Marcar como favorita la página web de la Oficina de Gestión de Desastres de Boulder, donde se publican actualizaciones en tiempo real en caso de una emergencia

Prepararse para las emergencias es fundamental en Boulder, ya que el cambio climático y la singular geografía de nuestra ciudad nos hacen muy propensos a las inundaciones, incendios forestales, tormentas de nieve y otros fenómenos meteorológicos de gran magnitud.

En caso de emergencia, es posible que sólo tenga unos minutos para reaccionar, por lo que la preparación puede marcar la diferencia.



Visite la guía de preparación para emergencias en [boulder.colorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness](https://boulder.colorado.gov/guide/emergency-preparedness)

## Ahora es más fácil encontrar casa en Boulder con el programa de asistencia de \$100,000 para la cuota inicial

Muchas personas que buscan comprar casa en Boulder no tienen los fondos para cubrir el monto de la cuota inicial. El programa H2O (por las siglas de su nombre en inglés: House to Homeownership) proporciona a las personas que compran casa por primera vez, y a precio de mercado dentro de la ciudad de Boulder, un préstamo de hasta \$100,000 para cubrir el costo de la cuota inicial. El programa tiene algunos requisitos sobre el límite de ingresos y activos que puede tener una persona, pareja o familia, así como también la condición que el trabajo de la persona que compra la propiedad este ubicado en la ciudad de Boulder.

**¡Averigüe si llena los requisitos hoy mismo!** Los fondos del programa H2O son limitados y se van otorgando conforme se solicitan. Solamente las personas que llenan los requisitos del programa pueden recibir estos fondos. Además, no se permite usar los fondos para el Programa de Viviendas Permanentemente Asequibles.



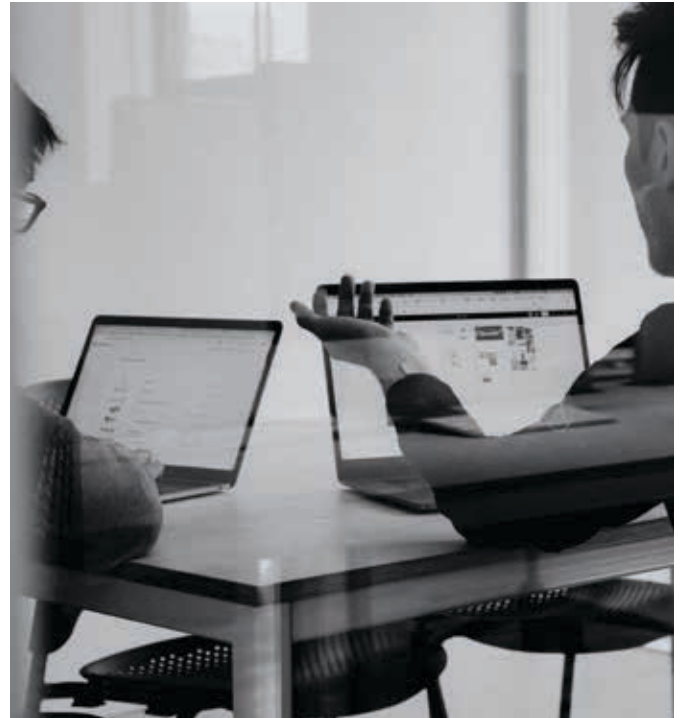
Para más información, y para llenar una solicitud, visite [bit.ly/BoulderH2O](https://bit.ly/BoulderH2O)

# El gobierno municipal reactiva el programa de pasantías para jóvenes

El Programa de Oportunidades para la Juventud (YOP, por sus siglas en inglés) de la ciudad de Boulder reactiva las pasantías para jóvenes, que se llevará a cabo durante el verano de 2023, tras una pausa de dos años.

El YOP promueve el compromiso cívico y el desarrollo del liderazgo entre los jóvenes, organiza eventos comunitarios y permite que los jóvenes compartan sus opiniones y recomendaciones sobre varios proyectos, asuntos e iniciativas.

"Este programa no solo ayuda a los jóvenes a desarrollar habilidades profesionales y a encontrar su voz, sino que también les permite compartir su perspectiva sobre los asuntos públicos y programas municipales", dice Mario Martínez-Varelas, gerente del programa. "Los jóvenes aportan diversos puntos de vista que ayudan a fortalecer el gobierno de la ciudad".



## De qué se trata el programa

La pasantía dura seis semanas y es pagada. Cada pasante será asignado a un departamento municipal, para así adquirir experiencia en lo que respecta al gobierno local. El personal del YOP también organiza sesiones semanales de preparación laboral con la intención que los pasantes desarrollen y mejoren sus habilidades profesionales para ser exitosos tanto en su pasantía, como en futuros emprendimientos.

Para poder calificar para el programa de pasantías es necesario asistir a una escuela preparatoria (high school) ubicada en la ciudad de Boulder y estar por comenzar el 3er año (junior year) en el otoño de 2023. Los pasantes se comprometen a trabajar 20 horas por semana del 10 de junio al 31 de julio de 2023. El horario de cada pasante dependerá del departamento al que sea asignado y de las horas en que se agenden actividades grupales.

## Cómo presentar una solicitud

El proceso de solicitud abre en enero de 2023. Suscríbase al boletín de noticias de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos en [bldr.fyi/HHS-Newsletter](https://bldr.fyi/HHS-Newsletter) para ser de los primeros en enterarse cuando se abra el proceso de solicitud.





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