

What's Inside

All meetings, programs and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation depending on health and safety considerations.



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Voters to Decide on Reducing Number of Signatures Required for a Special Election

The Littleton City Council has forwarded a ballot question to the registered electors at a scheduled Special Election on March 7 that, if approved, would amend the city charter reducing the number of signatures required for both citizen initiatives and referendums, as well as potentially shortening the time frame in which to conduct a Special Election. This is a result of a citizen-initiated petition that would decrease the number of signatures required for initiatives from 10-15 percent (depending on circumstances) to five percent of registered electors who voted in the last municipal election. It would reduce the number of signatures required for referendums from 10 percent to 5 percent. Finally, it would also require that a Special Election be held within 60-150 days following verification of petitions as specified in state statutes. If approved by voters, the result will be a reduction in the number of signatures required to place a question on the ballot as well as mandating a specific timeline for the city to conduct Special Elections.

As a Home Rule Municipality, state law gives Littleton the authority to adopt many of its own rules and requirements for holding Special Elections. This includes increasing the number of signatures required from the bare minimum set by state law of at least 5% to a higher number which Littleton set at 10%. The Charter can only be amended by a vote of regis-

tered electors. Special Elections are typically held off-cycle, have higher costs, and generally see lower voter turnout.

It is estimated that the March 7 election will cost upwards of \$165,000 which includes printing and mailing ballots, hiring election judges, rental of tabulation equipment, retention of election experts, and other operational costs. The city will utilize a mail ballot process and administer the election internally versus coordinating with Arapahoe, Douglas, and Jefferson County Clerks as the counties, due to other commitments, are not available to assist in coordinating the March 7 Special Election.

The Littleton City Clerk's office verified 3,628 signatures of qualified registered electors were submitted as required, 10 percent of the number of voters registered to vote on the date the intent to circulate petition was submitted, which compels city council to place the measure on the ballot.

Ballots should arrive in mid-February and can be returned by mail or dropped off at the 24-hour secured drop box located at the Arapahoe County Administration Building at 5334 South Prince Street, or the Littleton Center, 2255 West Berry Avenue Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Election Day, March 7, the drop box at the Littleton Center will be available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For further information call 303-795-3780.



Downtown Development Authority Takes Shape

The Littleton Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) is taking shape. Voters approved three ballot questions in November 2022 allowing the creation of the authority, which is a quasi-governmental entity that will provide financing and leadership for improving the downtown business district.

A DDA can utilize tax increment financing which allows future growth in property and sales tax to be reinvested to finance improvements within the downtown. DDAs can also

LDDA CONTINUED PAGE 3

Voter Approved Funds Start Flowing Into Projects

The City of Littleton is gearing up to support needed capital expenditures, address long overdue maintenance, and take on new opportunities to support community programs after Littleton voters in 2021 approved Ballot Issue 3A, a .75% sales tax increase dedicated to capital improvements.

The city began collecting this additional tax in January 2022, allowing for funding toward two grant-funded projects last year: studies to improve the intersection of Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue, as well as improvements to County Line Road.

Looking ahead, city staff created a separate fund and capital plan for these revenues and expenditures, with priorities based on the ballot language and direction from city council.

The 2023 budget includes \$17.7 million of funding from the Capital Improvement Fund into the following categories:

Street maintenance:	\$10.3 million
Fleet and facility technology upgrades:	\$1.3 million
Facilities capital maintenance:	\$1.8 million
Building construction/upgrades:	\$2.2 million
Citywide irrigation and medians:	\$500,000
Public safety/security:	\$525,000
Project management:	\$1.1 million

To ensure the use of Capital Improvement Funds is aligned with voter intent, city council created a Capital Im-



provement Sales Tax Committee, charter, and action plan. This committee, composed of eight Littleton residents serving two-year terms, will report back to city council annually. The membership will consist of one member each from the following city boards and commissions: Planning Commission, Transportation and Mobility Board, Arts and Culture Commission, Historical Preservation Board, Next Generation Advisory Committee, South Metro Housing Options Board, and two community members selected by city council. This committee will meet twice per year.

New Assistant City Managers Named

Littleton City Manager Jim Becklenberg announced the appointment of two assistant city managers December 14. Samma Fox, previously assistant to the city manager, and Kathleen Osher, previously community services director, were appointed to the positions to help advance city council goals. The new positions were created as part of recent reorganizations.

Fox will take a greater role in city strategic planning, budget development, and council workplan management. She will coordinate environmental policy; citywide diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; and will continue to direct the Littleton Municipal Court and city clerk operations.



Samma Fox

Osher will help strengthen Littleton's communications efforts and relationships with regional governments and boards, and lead housing policy efforts. Her role in citywide strategic planning and policy development will continue, while retaining day-to-day coordination with community and economic development staff until the vacant deputy city manager position is filled in coming months.



Kathleen Osher

Bookmobile Nearly Ready to Roll

Bemis Public Library's new bookmobile is on track to hit the road this spring! The bookmobile underwent outfitting in Fort Lupton over the winter, and in January received its "wrap" -- the exterior design selected by Littleton residents last year. The bookmobile will start with a soft launch visiting senior homes in February but keep an eye out for a big celebration and more programming this spring!



Littleton Named Among Denver's Best Family-Friendly Neighborhoods

Littleton was named among the five best family-friendly neighborhoods in the Denver area by *House Digest*, which noted the city's many high-quality offerings.

"Known for its genuine outdoor aesthetics, quality schools, sense of community, and local history, Littleton is an ideal neighborhood that offers a vast urban suburban living environment within minutes of downtown Denver," the listing says.

House Digest noted Littleton's stunning outdoor amenities, including South Platte Park, Writer's Vista Park, and the Littleton Museum's living history farms.



Bemis Library Director Nancy Trimm.

Two New Citizen Committees Provide Insight to City Council

The City of Littleton has two new citizen committees in 2023, bringing the total number of boards, commissions, and authorities to 13.

The Capital Improvement Sales Tax Committee (CISTC) is an advisory committee that provides input to city council on the use of revenues as a result of 2021 Ballot Measure 3A. This body will meet two times each year, in April and May, and will provide a report of funding recommendations to city council at a study session in June of each year.



The Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC) is an advisory committee that provides input to city council and staff on natural environmental stewardship priorities in support of city council's goal of improving Littleton's environmental sustainability.

Applicant interviews for these, and the other city boards, commissions and authority vacancies will take place in mid-February with appointments effective April 1.

City Launches Four New Websites

On December 1, Littleton launched four new websites: the city's primary website, plus three new sub-sites:

The Littleton Museum: LittletonMuseum.org

Bemis Public Library: BemisLibrary.org

The Littleton Police Department: LittletonPolice.org

The city's main website also changed its domain name to LittletonCO.gov. Switching to the .gov domain provides added security for government agencies, as well as other benefits: the official .gov domain signals trust and credibility; only U.S.-based government organizations are eligible for .gov domains which makes them harder to spoof.

The city has many goals for its new websites: Easier access and expanded online city services, ADA compliance, multi-lingual, "mobile-first" modern design, and a content management system that allows many city departments to manage and maintain their content.

Presidents' Day Closure

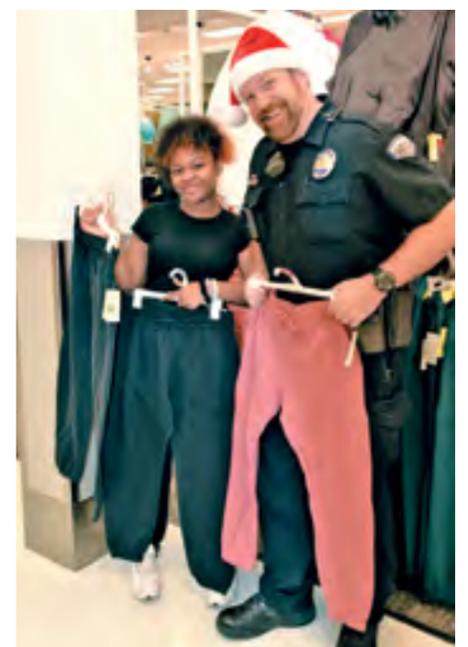
All city offices will be closed Monday, February 20 in honor of the Presidents' Day Holiday.

Shop with a Cop

The Littleton Police Department (LPD) took 50 children on a holiday shopping spree at Target November 30 for the annual Shop with a Cop event. Each child received a \$200 gift card thanks in part to a generous donation from an anonymous benefactor.

LPD extends its thanks to everyone involved in making the holidays brighter

Each child was anonymously nominated by a school counselor who recognized a family in need. LPD extends its thanks to everyone involved in making the holidays brighter for local families -- and officers!





Chamber Growing with City Help

The Littleton Business Chamber (LBC) hosted its holiday party at McKinner's Pizza December 15, as the growing organization works to build a strong support system for Littleton businesses.

Thanks in part to funding from the City of Littleton, the Littleton Business Chamber is working to become a more robust organization, including hiring Korri Lundock as its first executive director. Lundock is well-qualified to represent the LBC, with a career spanning several fields and leadership roles for women in business.

The LBC has acquired office space at Shift Workspaces in Downtown Littleton, with plans to host trainings, conferences, and networking events year-round.

The LBC is ramping up its 2023 agenda, including plans to update its website to allow for easier event and membership payments, to provide an updated calendar of events, and provide more content from committees.

Learn more at LittletonBusinessChamber.org.

Downtown – LDDA

seek authorization from those affected for up to a five mill increase in property taxes to fund operations including public safety, maintenance, and marketing. DDAs have been in existence since the 1980s in more than two dozen Colorado cities, including Castle Rock, Golden, and Longmont.

Littleton City Council voted December 6 to approve the ordinance forming the LDDA, then appointed the inaugural members of its board: John Matthews, Rob Stieg, Greg Reinke, Catharina Hughey, Pablo Underraga, Brett Murphy, Krista Falkenstine, Ruth Graham, and Cheryl Calhoun.

Appointees are residents, business owners, or property owners within the LDDA boundary. Council Member Pat Driscoll, whose district includes the LDDA, will serve as a non-voting member.

LDDA's first meeting was held December 28 and included a public hearing to adopt a placeholder budget that will be amended after an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) can be considered by city council. The IGA and the five-year plan of the LDDA will be considered by city council this spring.

Littleton Embarks on Redistricting Process

Littleton's four city council districts will undergo a redistricting process in 2023, on the heels of the 2020 United States Census. Redistricting is a process to change the boundaries of council districts to ensure they represent equally proportionate populations, as required by law following a Census.

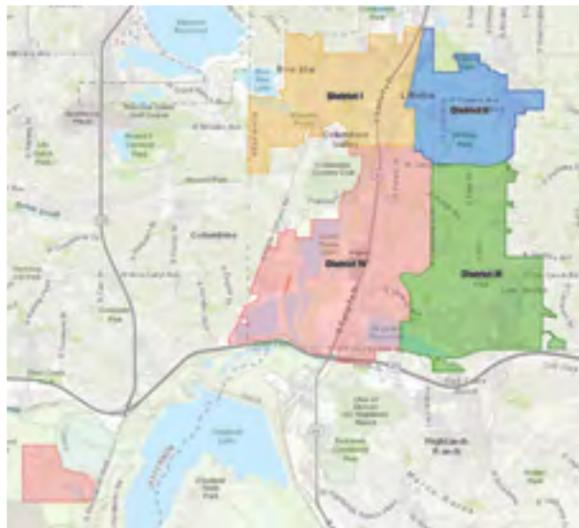
In Littleton, the city clerk's office, in conjunction with the election commission, geographic information specialists, and communications staff will collaborate on the redistricting process for completion in advance of the 2023 November election.

The Littleton Election Commission is responsible for redistricting and will make all final determinations on district structure. City council will be engaged throughout the process to help ensure the effort is transparent and engages as much of the community as possible.

The community will be asked to provide feedback on proposed redistricting changes through a multi-faceted engagement effort with physical map locations where people can provide written feedback, virtual engagement opportunities, and an open house with the election commission and staff.

Following formal adoption of the new districts in June, a public outreach campaign will inform citizens of the boundary line changes. Targeted outreach will notify all addresses that experienced a change in district. The city clerk's office will notify the county clerks of any changed boundaries to ensure accurate ballot distribution based on council seats eligible in 2023.

The new districts will be in effect for the November 7 municipal election.



Littleton local Channel 8 or 880



Littleton 8 is broadcast in HD to all Comcast Xfinity customers in Littleton on channel 880. The live stream and playback schedule are also available online at

LittletonCO.gov/channel8



Mural Program Kicks Off

Littleton's mural program is ready to kick off in 2023, with \$20,000 set aside to fund mural painting around town.

Businesses can apply for funding to offset the cost of having a mural painted on their building. Murals must be within the city limits. More information can be found under the Public Art tab on the Littleton Museum's website at LittletonMuseum.org.

Town Hall Arts Center will be the program's first recipient, after the center's Executive Committee selected muralist Michael Ortiz to beautify the historic building's alley-facing wall.

The mural will join 21 others already in downtown, which were the focus of the first Mural Crawl walk in December. Jared Ozga of Tell Me More Tours led participants on a walking tour of downtown's murals. More Mural Crawls are planned for April and May. Visit LittletonMuseum.org for more information.

Council Member Grove to Host Community Meeting April 8

Littleton residents and business owners are invited to attend a community meeting hosted by Council Member Pam Grove Saturday, April 8. The meeting will include information on topics relevant to the city, an interactive group discussion, and time for questions and answers.



When: 10 to 11:15 a.m., Saturday, April 8.

Where: Downstairs meeting room, Bemis Public Library, 6014 South Datura Street.

Donuts will be served. For questions, contact Council Member Pam Grove at pgrove@littletongov.org.

Like the news in the *Littleton Report*?

Get more news, more often by subscribing to the *Littleton Report Online* at LittletonCO.gov/news.

Littleton City Council



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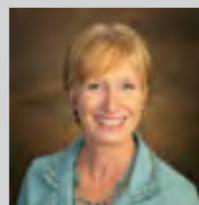
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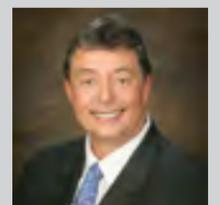
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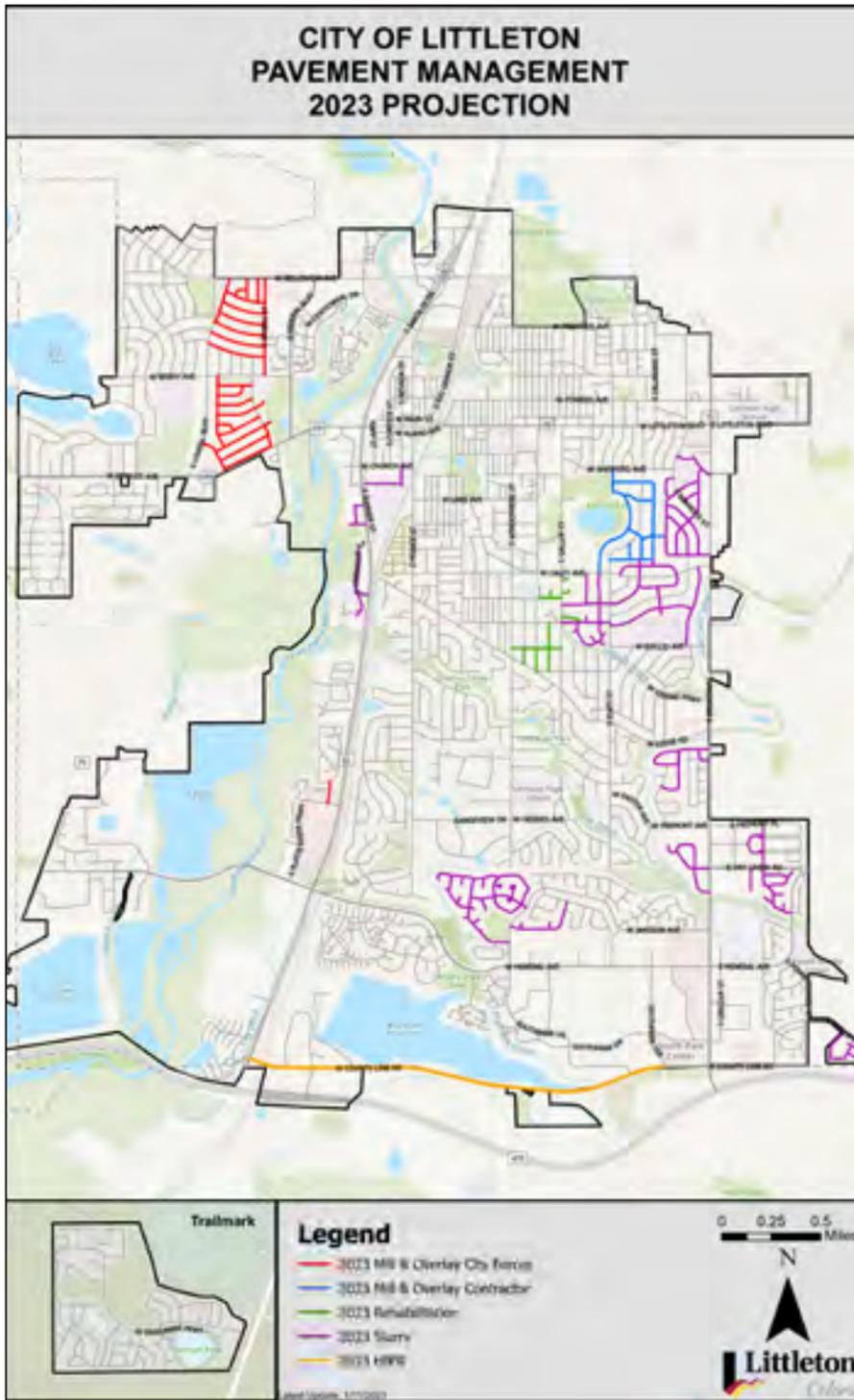
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Trail Connectivity Study

Help improve local trails by getting involved with the Littleton Linkages trail study. Local trails throughout Littleton provide neighborhood access to parks, destinations, and regional trails. They also provide recreational opportunities and can be an excellent way to get to work, school, shops, and dining.

The Public Works department is seeking community input! Join the conversation to share ideas about future local trail enhancements that will improve accessibility, connectivity, safety, and comfort.

There are many upcoming opportunities to get involved. Learn more at www.littletonco.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works-Engineering.

2023 Event Schedule

Get ready for another year of exciting community events! Keep an eye on the city's social media channels for details, but here's a look at what's happening in 2023:

- May 17:** State of the City breakfast. City officials will share updates on Littleton's accomplishments and future plans.
- June 3:** Little Jam #1 at Sterne Park. Little Jam is a series of four free summer concerts featuring some of the region's top bands.
- June 8:** Boards and Commissions Dinner. The Littleton Museum hosts a lively outdoor dinner for those who volunteer on the city's boards, commissions, and authorities.
- June 21:** Meet Greet and Eat #1 at Geneva Park. Meet Greet and Eat offers an opportunity to chat with Littleton's elected leaders and city officials, all while eating free pizza and ice cream!
- July 15:** Little Jam #2 at Sterne Park.
- July 19:** Meet Greet and Eat #2, location to be determined
- August 5:** Littleton Twilight Criterium. The hottest race on two wheels returns to Downtown Littleton, featuring some of the nation's top bicycle racers as they compete for the American Criterium Cup.
- August 12:** Little Jam #3 at Sterne Park.
- August 30:** Meet Greet and Eat #3 at Powers Park
- September 16:** Little Jam #4 at Sterne Park
- November 24:** Candlelight Walk. Santa Claus is the guest of honor at a charming candlelit parade down Main Street, featuring carolers, holiday entertainment, and lots of hot cider.

Public Works Lays Out 2023 Capital Projects

The City of Littleton's Public Works Department laid out plans for a record \$36 million in capital improvement projects in 2023, with more than a third of the funding coming from the 2021 voter-approved 3A sales tax ballot question.

Here's a look at some of the projects in the works in the coming year:

Pavement Management Projects: \$6.1 million

- Surface sealing: 25 lane miles
- Mill and overlay: 10.8 lane miles
- Hot in-place recycling: 8.5 lane miles
- Miscellaneous concrete mill and overlay: 4 lane miles
- Rehabilitation: 2 lane miles

Traffic Infrastructure Projects: \$3.7 million

- Traffic signal pole replacements
- Fiber optic installation on Broadway
- Raised pedestrian crossings

Transportation Improvement Projects: \$20.2 million

- Slaughterhouse Gulch trail connection
- Improvements at the intersections of Church and Prince Street, Mineral and Platte Canyon, and Bowles and Platte Canyon
- Mineral Station East mobility improvements
- Santa Fe and Mineral operational improvements (quad road)

Storm Sewer Projects: \$1.7M

- Storm sewer repairs
- TrailMark underdrains

Downtown Mobility Streetscape Improvement Project

The future of Downtown Littleton will be the focus of the Downtown Mobility & Streetscape Improvement Plan, which will take shape over the course of 2023.

The plan comes on the heels of the Littleton Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Master Plan, which identified high community priorities for downtown: multi-modal connectivity, pedestrian-oriented safety improvements, clear wayfinding, streetscape enhancements, and parking constraints.

Meanwhile, Denver Water has identified several hundred feet of main line in need of rehabilitation in Downtown Littleton due to the age of the pipes, high number of emergency repairs, as well as significant leaking. With this water main replacement project on the horizon, Littleton leaders are using the project as a catalyst to implement downtown improvements.

The plan will allow investments in the focus area to be more strategic and guide prioritization of all improvements while also balancing:

- Preservation of downtown's historic character
- Economic vitality
- Fiscal constraints
- Evolving trends and technologies
- Urban design and stormwater management best practices

The plan focus area will primarily concentrate on the downtown core; however, it will consider additional nearby subareas as well to foster connectivity and other improvements while preserving the dynamic heritage of Downtown Littleton.

One additional component will incorporate green infrastructure goals seeking to enhance downtown by reducing runoff, averting flooding, and providing for urban forest components.

Public engagement will be a critical component of the plan's development. Keep an eye out for opportunities to participate in the second half of 2023.

South Platte Renew Lands Water Cleanup Grant

South Platte Renew (SPR), the wastewater treatment plant serving Littleton, Englewood, and the surrounding area will improve its water treatment process this year thanks to a federal grant.

Starting in 2023, SPR will meet more stringent state requirements for phosphorous removal before releasing water back to the South Platte River. SPR will enact a new chemical phosphorous removal process thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Bureau of Reclamation.

The new process will allow SPR to reduce chemical usage, optimize chemical costs, and improve process resiliency and efficiency. SPR will utilize existing infrastructure to pilot this additional treatment process. Learn more at SouthPlatteRenewCO.gov.



Littleton Tree Planting Program Returns in April



The City of Littleton is celebrating Arbor Day in April by continuing its annual tree-planting program, with 20 species of trees available this year. The goal is to increase the canopy area and diversity of the urban forest.

City staff and volunteers will distribute 205 trees to residents Saturday, April 15. Program participants will pay \$70 for trees, which must be planted within the Littleton city limits.

Online ordering is now available! Residents can use a secure, online form that will allow them to choose and pay for their desired trees. Trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information and the online order form, visit LittletonCO.gov/trees.

Coffee with the Chief Brews Up Community Connections

Littleton's finest met with residents and business owners for Coffee with the Chief at Starbucks at the Woodlawn Shopping Center January 12, giving the public an opportunity to speak with Littleton Police Chief Doug Stephens and officers about topics like crime trends, homelessness, and volunteer opportunities. Officers also met with baristas, and even took a turn at the drive-thru window!

Events like these build the relationship between the Littleton Police Department (LPD) and the public, part of the department's goal of increasing transparency and community engagement. LPD is thankful for the community support and looks forward to hosting similar events in the future.

For more information about LPD, visit LittletonPolice.org.



Arapahoe County Becomes Valued Partner with City to Transform Reynolds Landing

Arapahoe County will kick in over a third of the cost to begin transforming Reynolds Landing along the South Platte River, part of long-term plans to turn the riverside park into a standout recreational destination.

Littleton will receive \$3.9 million from the Arapahoe County Open Space Fund, covering roughly 37% of "base project phase" costs. Littleton will cover the remaining \$6.6 million.

The funds will cover improvements to the river and trail network, and the former Superchi Property site. Elements of the project include realignment of the Mary Carter Greenway, interpretive signage, gathering areas, landscaping, additional parking, outdoor education and gathering space, and improved stormwater drainage and utilities.

River-focused elements will include overlooks, terraced seating areas, river access trails, water put-ins, beach areas for wading, and creation of a "river loop trail" to allow floating of the river downstream with walking back upstream to float again.

Following years of public outreach and planning, the plan for Reynolds Landing's future focuses on four goals: connecting people to water, river health and habitat restoration, trails and reduced conflicts, and diverse recreation.

Construction is expected to begin in late 2023.



Mumford House Named Local Landmark

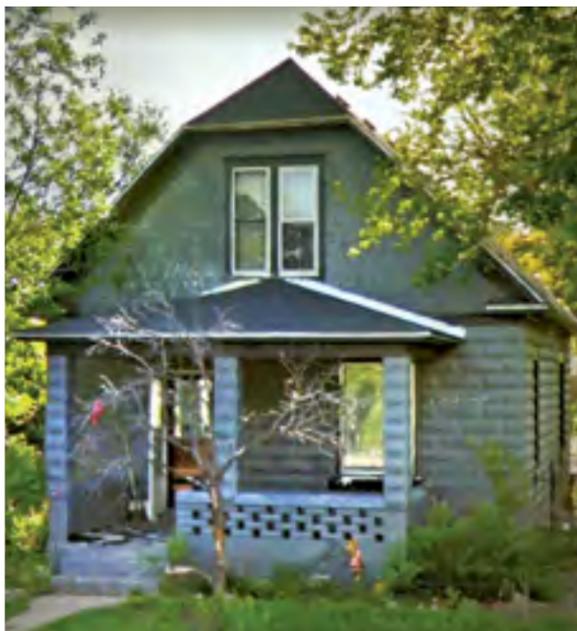
Littleton has a new historic landmark, after the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) named the Mumford Residence at 5622 South Cedar Street historically significant in 2022.

Constructed in 1921, the Mumford House was originally the home of Elmer Mumford, a plumber, and his wife Anna. The home is a Late Victorian/Edwardian style single-family home, featuring many original architectural elements including a clipped front gable and overhanging eaves.

The HPB recognized the Mumford Residence as a good example of housing that was constructed in Littleton in the first two decades of the 20th century north of Littleton Boulevard. The neighborhood contains a variety of popular residential architectural styles of the era in which they were built.

The Mumford Residence joins more than two dozen other city-designated historic landmarks, including Geneva Lodge, the First Presbyterian Church, and the Littleton Post Office. Littleton is also home to six sites or districts on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Mumford Residence's current owners plan to restore the home to its 1920s appearance, including work on its unique leaded glass windows.

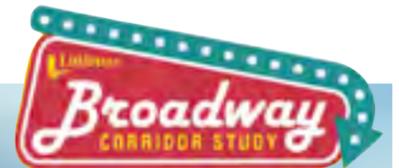


Broadway Corridor Study Seeks Feedback

The City of Littleton kicked off the Broadway Corridor Study that will establish a cohesive vision for the corridor's future between I-25 and Highlands Ranch Parkway. The purpose of the study is to identify improvements that will celebrate and connect the unique identities of the surrounding communities, foster economic vibrancy, provide safe and comfortable spaces, and support regional mobility options for all.

This 11-mile stretch of Broadway provides local and regional connections through the City and County of Denver, Arapahoe County, cities of Englewood, Littleton, and Centennial; and Douglas County. The city is partnering with these agencies to study the transportation and land use conditions along this section of Broadway. The Broadway Corridor Study will identify long-term multimodal transportation improvements and short-term, quick-win improvements to address critical issues, as well as potential land use, zoning, and economic development changes that would enhance the corridor's character and appeal.

Throughout the study, which will carry through the end of 2023, the city will provide several collaboration opportunities for community members to share ideas on how to improve the Broadway corridor. Visit the website at LittletonCO.gov/Broadway-Corridor-Study to learn more and sign-up for the distribution list.



Denver Water Project in Goddard Neighborhood



Denver Water crews are continuing their work in the Goddard neighborhood for a project to replace over 11,000 linear feet of aging water mains underneath the road. Denver Water does not anticipate encountering any lead service lines as part of this project.

Work began in December and is expected to continue into the spring. Denver Water will make every attempt to complete this project within the timeframe; however, as with any construction project, unforeseen circumstances, such as weather conditions, material shortages, and crew availability may extend the completion of work. Emergency work may also take priority. Working hours are typically Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Some night or weekend work may be required.

Neighbors with questions about the project should contact Denver Water Customer Care at 303-893-2444.

Littleton Immigrant Resources Center Here to Help

Littleton provides low-cost immigration legal assistance through the Littleton Immigrant Resources Center, located in the lower level of Bemis Public Library. The center provides help to documented people applying for U.S. citizenship, assistance with Green Card renewals, Employment Authorization Cards, DACA, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence, TPS, Certificate of Citizenship, and general immigration inquiries.

Need help? Call the LIRC office at 303-795-3968.



El Centro de Recursos para Inmigrantes de Littleton, ubicado en el nivel inferior de la Biblioteca Pública de Bemis, ayuda a las personas que solicitan la ciudadanía estadounidense. Pero el centro ofrece muchos otros servicios: asistencia con la renovación de la Tarjeta Verde, Tarjetas de Autorización de Empleo (EAD), DACA, Petición para Eliminar las Condiciones de Residencia, TPS, Certificado de Ciudadanía y consultas generales de inmigración.

¿Necesita ayuda? Llame a la oficina de LIRC al 303-795-3968.

Voices West

The Voices West choral group will present "Starry, Starry Night," a concert inspired by the paintings of Vincent van Gogh, in two performances in March.

When: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 18
at Littleton United Methodist Church,
5894 South Datura Street.

When: 2 p.m., Sunday, March 19,
at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church,
1401 East Dry Creek Road, Centennial

Since 1978, Voices West has had a long tradition of choral excellence through creative and engaging concert programming for audiences along the Colorado front range. Voices West's 60-member roster includes a wide variety of avocational singers including teachers, realtors, scientists, engineers, and stay-at-home parents and caregivers.

For more information, visit VoicesWest.org.

Littleton Police Citizen Academy Starts March 9

Want to learn more about the inner workings of the Littleton Police Department? Submit an application for the Littleton Police Citizen Academy! The academy is a series of classes covering the who, what, why, and how of police work. Each topic is taught by Littleton police officers or staff, each an expert in their field. Some classes include practical exercises, including the opportunity to ride along with an officer or spend time in the communications center.

This year's session starts Thursday, March 9. Applications are due by Friday, February 24.

Find more information or apply by visiting LittletonPolice.org and click on "Citizen Academy."



Hudson Gardens Director Rich Meredith Retires

Rich Meredith, who led Hudson Gardens for 22 years, retired at the end of 2022. Meredith helped elevate Hudson Gardens to one of the premiere garden and event destinations in the Denver metro area.

South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD), owner of Hudson Gardens, will assume management of the 30 acres of family-friendly garden exhibits, trails, open spaces, and event venues. Meredith will remain in a consultant role for South Suburban.

"It's been an honor to serve as the executive director at Hudson Gardens for more than 22 years," Meredith said. "Creating a vision that enhanced the community's access to nature, open spaces, and healthy living has always felt like a passion, not just a job. I'm thankful to everyone who contributed to the growth of Hudson Gardens and look forward to celebrating its future success."

To learn more about Hudson Gardens, visit HudsonGardens.org.



Littleton Museum Events

The Littleton Museum has several exciting events coming up! For more information, visit LittletonMuseum.org or call 303-795-3950.

Nature's Blueprints: Biomimicry in Art and Design

Opening Reception

Free, no RSVP necessary.

Ages 21 and up. 5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, February 2

Exhibit dates: February 3 to March 15

REinterpreting REcreating Nature

Opening Reception

Free, no RSVP necessary. Ages 21 and up.

5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, February 16

Exhibit dates: February 17 to May 14

Artist Talk: Christopher Warren, creator of

Nature's Blueprints: Biomimicry in Art and Design

Free, no RSVP necessary. For all ages.

4 to 5 p.m., Friday, February 17

Warren will give a 50-minute talk in the gallery about his recent body of work and how he began to explore nature



through the making of 3D topographic map sculptures. The talk will be followed by a light reception with cookies and coffee in the lecture hall and an opportunity to ask the artist questions.

Divine Bovine

Celebrate the journey of milk! See demonstrations of cheesemaking and butter churning; and learn about the dairy and cattle industry in 19th century Colorado.

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 25



2023 Spring Catalog & Summer Camps

The South Suburban Spring 2023 Catalog is live, and the printed version will hit mailboxes in early February. Summer camp registration opens February 10! View and register for spring programs at register.ssprd.org.

Art on Loan 2023: Call for Artists

Artists can show off their work and bring art to community spaces with South Suburban's Art on Loan program. Local artists are invited to apply for the 2023 program by March 20.

Selected sculptures will be displayed at Goodson Recreation Center or Hudson Gardens for a year, and artists will receive a \$500 honorarium. The sculptures are selected by the Public Art Committee through a competitive process and approved by the South Suburban Board of Directors. Visit ssprd.org to learn more and view the application.

South Suburban Game Plan:

New Planning and Engagement Site

Need updates about a South Suburban construction project? Want to help shape the future of the community? South Suburban has a new tool for planning updates and public input!

On the new South Suburban Game Plan site, residents can view all ongoing construction details, learn more about future plans, and share feedback on projects large and small. Visit gameplan.ssprd.org to view current projects.

2023 South Suburban Board of Directors Election

The next regular election for the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Board of Directors will be held May 2. Two board positions will be filled, each to serve a four-year term. Self-nominations are being accepted. More information including polling locations, important dates, and instructions for receiving an absentee ballot are available at ssprd.org/election.

South Suburban Race Series

To learn more and register for races, visit ssprd.org/raceseries.

Rockin' on the River 5k

When: Sunday, April 16

Where: Mary Carter Greenway

Take in the view along the beautiful South Platte River on the Mary Carter Greenway for this annual 5K, which starts and ends at Hudson Gardens.

42nd Annual High Line Canal Run 5k & 10k

When: Saturday, May 6

Where: High Line Canal Trail

A local favorite! Runners of all ages and abilities are invited to participate in the 42nd Annual High Line Canal 5K and 10K along the scenic High Line Canal Trail.

BEYOND BOOKS... WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BEMIS LIBRARY?

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | Web Catalog: bemis.marmot.org

Adult Winter Reading February 1–28 For Ages 18 & Up

Pick up a Passport to Winter Wonder at the library during February and explore a sense of wonder. Return the completed passport by the end of the month to be entered in a prize drawing.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Weekly Story Times

Join one of the weekly story times which are geared toward individual age groups:

- **BABY:** Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. For caregivers with babies birth–age 1 year.
- **TODDLER:** Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. For caregivers with toddlers. Walkers up to age 3 years.
- **PRESCHOOL:** Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Ages 3 years and older.
- **ALL AGES:** Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. A family story time for all ages.

LEGO Club—February 4 and March 4, 3–4 p.m.

For All Ages—Children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult
Design, construct and create LEGO creations. Build from a theme or use imagination to make a brand-new creation.



Paws to Read—Second Saturday of Every Month February 11 and March 11 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

For Children in Grades K–5*
Practice reading to a furry friend. *Call 303-795-3961 to register for a 20-minute spot. Presented by Denver Pet Partners and The Delta Society.



Sensory Story Time

February 14 and March 14, 10:30–11:15 a.m.
Caregivers & Children of All Abilities Are Welcome
Join an inclusive and interactive story time designed for children who are neurodivergent and/or have sensory needs. Light and sound are decreased, and the library provides sensory toys, fidgets, and noise canceling headphones for anyone who needs them. Story time includes songs, stories, and rhymes with time to socialize at the end.

Construction Zone February 24, 2–4:30 p.m. For Ages 3 and Up

Drop-in to the Children's Room for a chance to don a hard hat and build with the library's new big wooden blocks. Large muscles and imaginations are hard at work when children build with these jumbo construction blocks. *Caregiver supervision is required to participate.



Fort Building—Saturday, March 11, 1–3 p.m. Grade 5 and Younger

Drop by the Children's Room to help construct a box fort, then decorate it and enjoy some imaginative play.

SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES

- **Bemis Scavenger Hunt—March 24–April 2**
Ages 3 years to Kids in Grade 5
Explore the library's many features through the Bemis Scavenger Hunt. Complete the activity, learn more about the library, and earn a prize.

- **Wayne Francis & Wingnut**
March 27, 11–11:45 a.m.
For Families with Children of All Ages

Join ventriloquist Wayne Francis and his large cast of life-sized puppets in this performance filled with comedy and music. It's a wild and crazy romp through the imagination.



- **Cartooning for Kids—March 28, 3–4 p.m.**
For Grades 1–6*

Learn to draw impossible animals like a Platypussycat, a Bengalbunny, a Koalabird, and even a Kangorillapig. Step-by-step instructions with award-winning cartoonist, Rick Stromoski, and interactive, virtual fun along the way. *Registration required beginning March 14.

- **Movie Matinee: Frozen Sing-Along**
March 30, 3–5 p.m.

Join a magical showing of *Frozen* on the library's big screen and sing along with all the favorite songs. This is a perfect occasion for dress up. Princess attire is encouraged. Popcorn and drinks will be served.



TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Takeover—5–6:30 p.m.—For Grades 6–12

- **February 1:** Hang out and participate in the movie craft. The library will provide projects to work on and share or participants can bring their own. Snacks will be served.
- **March 1:** Create Shrinky Dinks and play card games or bring projects to work on and share. Snacks will be served.

Teen Advisory Group—5–6:30 p.m.

February and March 8—For Grades 6–12
Help plan programs, choose new books and games, make friends, and have fun while earning community service credit. Participants are invited to exclusive programs like Laser Tag and holiday events. Snacks will be served.

Tweensday—5–6:30 p.m.—For Grades 5–12*

- **February 15: The Chocolate Games***
Happy Chocolate Games. Join the sugar-filled fun and play games of skill and luck for delicious candy prizes.
- **March 15: How To Play Dungeons & Dragons***
Learn the basics of creating a character and how to play this tabletop roleplaying game.

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Senior Social Club—For Ages 50 and Up Every Thursday, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Weekly chat for seniors.

Genealogical Research: Expanding Your Search February 8, 1–3 p.m.—For Adults of All Ages*

Join Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society (CGHS) to learn about resources and practices to take research to the next level. The fee for this workshop includes a one-year membership in CGHS as well as workshop materials. Fee for the class is \$35/individual or \$45/family. Current 2023 CGHS members may attend for free. *Registration required. Call 303-795-3961 to register.

TheStudio@Bemis: Stitch Circle
2nd and 4th Thursday, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Bring in projects or come to learn the basics of knitting or crocheting.

Board Games @ Bemis

February 10 and March 10, 5–7 p.m.—For All Ages
Drop in after-hours for board games.

Concert: Jerry Schillinger—February 11, 1–2 p.m. For All Ages

Guitarist Jerry Schillinger will play an eclectic blend of styles from across the eras.

Crafts at the Library—For Ages 10 and Up*

- **February 18, 2–3:30 p.m.—Cardmaking***
Create unique cards and envelopes to add a touch of old-world charm to modern life.
- **March 18, 2–3:30 p.m. Vegetable Stamping***
Use farmer's market staples to decorate tea towels and cotton tote bags.



Active Minds—For Adults of All Ages

- **February 20, 2–3 p.m.—History of Movies**
Join Active Minds as they roll out the red carpet and tell the story of movies.
- **March 27, 2–3 p.m.—Marie Curie**
Born in Warsaw, Poland in 1867, Maria Sklodowska would become one of the greatest scientists of her era and the winner of two Nobel Prizes. Active Minds will examine the remarkable life of Marie Curie.

Dungeons & Dragons—For Ages 10 and Up

February 22 and March 22, 5–7:30 p.m.*
Roll the dice, join a group and let the imagination soar with this popular tabletop roleplaying game. Players of all experience levels are welcome.

Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art—March 23, 2–3:30 p.m.—For Ages 18 and Up*

Join BMOCA Educator Reid Portscheller for a hands-on workshop and create a piece of art inspired by BMOCA's current exhibition. *Registration required.

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

Bemis is proud to launch live-



streamed discussions with bestselling authors presented by Library Speakers Consortium. *Visit <https://libraryc.org/bemis> to register for upcoming events and to watch previously recorded author discussions. Presentations are for all ages.

- **February 9, 5–6 p.m.—Lana Harper, author of *Back in a Spell****
- **February 16, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.—Grace M. Cho, author of *Tastes Like War****

BEMIS BOOK CLUBS

Attend either at the library or on Zoom.

- **Senior Book Group—For Ages 50 and Up**
February 1, 1–2 p.m.
This Time Tomorrow by Emma Straub
March 1, 1–2 p.m.
Maid by Nita Prose
- **Evening Book Club—For Ages 18 and Up**
February 15, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
There There by Tommy Orange
March 15, 6:30–7:30 p.m.*
All Blood Runs Red: The Legendary Life of Eugene Bullard—Boxer, Pilot, Soldier, Spy by Phil Keith

The library will be closed on February 20 for Presidents' Day.

*To register, participate or join any of these programs go to the All Events Calendar from the Bemis home page at bemis.marmot.org.



COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Social Lounge

Those who appreciate old-school cool will get a kick out of Social Bar & Lounge, an upscale bar and cocktail lounge that opened its second location in December at the Littleton Village community at Broadway and Dry Creek Road.

Social's first location at Bowles Avenue and Lowell Boulevard has become a beloved community fixture since opening in 2019. Now, owner Steve Cominsky is excited to add a second location, featuring roll-up garage door-style windows to enjoy glorious Colorado days and nights.

Social Bar & Lounge boasts a clever menu of craft cocktails, including the Pain Killer: rum, coconut cream, fresh orange juice, pineapple juice, and grated nutmeg. The menu also features a mighty collection of Colorado craft and domestic beers and wines.



Social Bar & Lounge's two locations are at 3625 West Bowles Avenue and 240 Village Park Drive. For more information visit SocialBarLounge.com.

ElseWear Collective

From humble beginnings in a tiny studio in the Santa Fe Arts District, ElseWear Collective hit its stride on Littleton's Main Street – and is ready to grow again.

ElseWear Collective features handmade luxury knitted apparel, produced in-house by Littleton High School graduate Kelsey Johnson. Garments are crafted on a hand-powered knitting machine, made with ethically sourced merino wool, cashmere, cotton, and alpaca yarn.

ElseWear is reopening this spring in a space on Prince Street that's triple the size of the shop's old location next to ViewHouse Tavern. Johnson said she's excited to expand the shop's classes and events in the larger space. The space also offers more room for displays of jewelry and décor by local artisans.

ElseWear Collective is located at 5654 South Prince Street Unit C. For more information visit ElseWearCollective.com or call 720-364-3031.



Black+Haus Tavern

Black+Haus Tavern co-owners Jen Black and Brent Niedringhaus didn't plan to open a second location so soon after opening in Parker in 2020, but when Niedringhaus spotted an available storefront on Littleton's Main Street, they knew they had to jump on it.



spring, bringing the elements that have made the Parker location a hit: fine dining takes on tavern food like hamburgers, steaks, fresh fish, and weekly specials from expert chefs. Oh, and an extensive wine list – and more than 200 bourbons.

The husband-and-wife team behind Black+Haus (pronounced "blackhouse") also want the Littleton location to be a community asset, with events like charity nights and wine-paired dinners led by local winemakers.

Black+Haus Tavern is located at 2429 West Main Street. For more information visit BlackHausTavern.com.

"Littleton has history and depth, but it's fun and growing too. ...It's got a great community feel, and that's exactly where we want to be."

Black+Haus Tavern co-owner JEN BLACK

"Littleton has history and depth, but it's fun and growing too," Black said. "It's got a great community feel, and that's exactly where we want to be."

Black+Haus Tavern plans to open in Littleton this

