

What's Inside

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



Public Works Announces 'BIG Things' Initiative

From small to significant construction and capital projects, the City of Littleton's Public Works and Engineering Department is paving the way for major transportation improvements, economic growth, and innovation.

And that is largely thanks to voters who passed the city's first sales tax rate increase in nearly 50 years in November 2021. The new revenue is helping to tackle a backlog of capital and infrastructure projects, positioning the city to improve upon the already high quality of life that residents enjoy.

Visitors and residents alike will benefit from these improvements. In 2023, it is anticipated that construction will begin for about two dozen projects – ranging from road and bridge maintenance to pedestrian and cyclist safety to connections between Littleton's cultural gems.

Projects approved for 2023 include:

- Street maintenance and improvements: \$30 million
- Parks and open space: \$15 million
- Pedestrian and bike safety: \$12 million
- Drainage and sewer: \$5.75 million
- Technology upgrades: \$1.1 million
- Facilities and fleet updates: \$340,000

Building a Resilient Community and Local Economy

The \$64 million in projects approved to begin in 2023 are a critical investment in local mobility, technology, and community assets that will position Littleton for greater economic sustainability.

Because of the newly generated tax revenue, the city has new leverage to bring in about \$30 million in state and federal grants. For every \$1 the city spends, it brings about \$4 from outside the community. This long-term planning saves money and time.

What it Means for Residents

With any major infrastructure improvement comes minor inconveniences. The city takes seriously its role in communicating with residents throughout construction to mitigate surprises. Look for "BIG THINGS" in mailers, door hangers, and social media posts to signify an improvement project in progress.

For a detailed list of projects, to follow the status and progress, or to get in touch with public works and engineering staff, visit BigThingsLittleton.com.



2023 State of the City: A Busy Time in Littleton

Littleton Mayor Kyle Schlachter presented the 2023 State of the City address May 17 to 135 local leaders focusing on Littleton's accomplishments and challenges in the past year, as well as what's coming on the road ahead.

It's a busy time in Littleton. Building on years of planning and with strong support from voters, Littleton city government is taking on ambitious goals – and seeing results.



STATE OF THE CITY CONTINUES PAGE 2

Mike Gent Named Deputy City Manager

Littleton City Manager Jim Becklenberg selected Mike Gent to serve as the city's Deputy City Manager following a nationwide search that drew many highly qualified applicants.

Gent previously served as the Deputy City Manager of Surprise, Arizona, and boasts more than 12 years of municipal government experience. Gent served in the Marine Corps, and holds a doctorate in social work from the University of Southern California, a master's degree in public administration from Norwich University, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Western Washington University.

"Mike's depth of operational management experience, well-rounded background, enthusiasm for service to others, and positive energy enabled him to rise to the top of more than 120 applicants," Becklenberg said. "Mike brings needed complementary skills to the city manager's office and our entire organization."

Gent began his role in Littleton April 17. He directly supports community development, economic development, and information technology, as well as the Littleton Museum, Bemis Public Library, and several other high-level organizational initiatives. "I am excited and grateful to join the City of Littleton team," Gent said.

"It has been easy to recognize this is a very special community. It is a privilege and a pleasure to add my efforts to the many strengths already in place."

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, MIKE GENT



City offices will be closed on the following holidays:

Monday, June 19 | Juneteenth

Tuesday, July 4 | Independence Day

Homeownership Opportunities in Littleton Expanding

Colorado's housing affordability crisis is pushing homeownership out of reach for many working families. In Littleton, a local partnership is working to address the need.

South Metro Housing Options (SMHO), Littleton's housing authority, and Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver (Habitat), embarked on a partnership offering a first-of-its-kind affordable homeownership program.

The program empowers working individuals and families to buy their own homes. Through the partnership, 59 homes in the public housing sector are being renovated by Habitat and converted into affordable for-sale homes sold to buyers making up to 80% of the area's median income. So far, 19 homes have been sold under the program.

SMHO and Habitat see the partnership as a unique opportunity to add permanent, affordable for-sale homes to Littleton's housing stock. In a sought-after community like Littleton, it has historically been a challenge for nonprofits to expand affordable housing options because they are priced out due to the high demand for land and homes in the area.

"Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver is a great partner choice for us, and we couldn't be happier to be working with them," said Corey Reitz, executive director of SMHO. "Our organizations have aligned goals and strategic ways we can benefit each other, which will ultimately result in more benefits for the community. This is a win-win-win opportunity for all of Littleton."

Learn more about the program and view the homes currently for sale at habitatmetrodenver.org/homeownership.



Mobile Response Unit to Assist People in Crisis

Littleton is partnering with AllHealth Network to provide a Mobile Response Unit (MRU) to help Littleton Police better respond to people in crisis.

Already in use in Englewood, the MRU provides trauma-informed, client-centered care for calls that may not require a law enforcement response. The MRU team will help identify culturally-appropriate community resources, providing alternative options and potential long-term community support to best meet the needs of people in distress.

The MRU consists of a medical professional and a behavioral health case manager who can help on calls with issues such as loitering, panhandling, or aggressive behavior. Other calls might include assistance for people exhibiting mental health or addiction issues, people not wearing suitable clothing for the weather, or those in need of help with food or emergency shelter.

Littleton Police also partner with AllHealth on a co-responder program that assigns crisis specialists to accompany officers on certain calls.



Bemis Public Library Now Fine-Free

Bemis Public Library no longer levies fines for overdue items, following an April 4 city council resolution. As of April 5, all pending overdue fines are waived, and no new fines will be charged. The decision brings Bemis into alignment with the "fine-free" movement among libraries nationwide. Many of Littleton's neighboring libraries have eliminated fines, including Arapahoe, Denver, and Aurora. Libraries, including Bemis, often spend more funds collecting and processing fines than the revenue they generate. The fine-free movement builds on research showing eliminating fines increases library usage, increases social equity, improves customer service, and reduces collection loss. Community members spoke up to Bemis staff about how fines can create a barrier to accessing a beloved community service. Going forward, overdue notices will be sent as reminders to renew items so others may borrow them. The library will still charge replacement fees for items that are lost or damaged.



STATE OF THE CITY

The Littleton City Council affirmed its commitment to five guiding principles:

- Helping Littleton remain a vibrant community with a rich culture.
- Remaining a sustainable community with natural beauty.
- Maintaining a robust and resilient economy.
- Making sure Littleton is a safe community.
- Providing high-quality governance.

The work of meeting those goals is underway. Littleton recruited a new city manager in 2022. Jim Becklenberg, with more than 25 years of municipal leadership experience, is guiding Littleton into the future with a collaborative, community-focused approach.

Thanks to voter approval in 2021 of a sales tax measure to support capital projects, Littleton's Public Works team is embarking on the most wide-ranging infrastructure upgrades in decades. More than \$30 million, a portion of which is leveraged from state and federal grants, is earmarked for enhancements to roads, bridges, trails, fiber optics, and pedestrian safety.

Littleton's cultural offerings are well-positioned to draw visitors from across the region – both the Littleton Museum and Bemis Public Library saw the restoration of full staffing and operating hours.

Local amenities are getting upgrades. Littleton partnered with South Suburban Parks and Recreation District to update several parks last year, including Berry, Ida, and Southbridge – with more on the way. Reynolds Landing will soon undergo a multi-million-dollar upgrade to improve river accessibility.

Bemis Public Library's new bookmobile hit the road this spring, bringing library access to homebound seniors and underserved communities. Look for the Bemis Bookmobile at summer events!

Littleton is a leader in the Tri-Cities Homelessness Initiative, a coalition of governments and nonprofits working to address homelessness in the region. The group made big strides in the past year, including reducing veteran homelessness, providing vocational training, and partnering with local school districts to provide case management to keep vulnerable families in their homes. The Ready to Work program received \$1.5 million in support thanks to Congressman Jason Crow's advocacy.

Littleton Police are now outfitted with body-worn cameras, improving accountability and safety ahead of the state deadline by more than a year.

Voters continue to show their support for city efforts, including creating Littleton's first Downtown Development Authority, a citizen-led board focused on improving downtown – and with the tools to get it done. Voters also approved a measure modernizing Littleton's procurement policy, and soundly rejected a measure that would have complicated Littleton's elections.

Littleton will soon look even more colorful, thanks to a mural program enabling artists to beautify properties around town.

The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium secured a three-year commitment from Audi Denver, and became part of the American Criterium Cup – a nationally-renowned racing circuit, continuing its prestige as the premiere single-day cycling event in Colorado. The event just won the Governor's Award for Downtown Excellence as the Best Event in Colorado.

Residents can now access more government information and services online with the rollout of new websites for city government, Littleton Police, Bemis Public Library, the Littleton Museum, and a new Visit Littleton website to support businesses and increase regional tourism.

No wonder Littleton is getting recognized. Littleton earned numerous awards in 2022, including being named one of the top 100 cities in America by Livability.com, one of the best cities for families in Colorado by both Livability and Citytistics, one of the top eight day trips from Denver by Conde Nast, one of the safest small cities in Colorado by Moneygeek, and Littleton was also named a co-winner of the 2022 Climate Protection Award.

Littleton's collaborative, innovative, and forward-thinking spirit make it one of the best cities in Colorado.

Mayor Joins Flood District Board

Littleton Mayor Kyle Schlachter was appointed to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Mile High Flood District (MHFD), a collaborative group of local leaders who work to protect people, property, and the environment through preservation, mitigation, and education surrounding Denver-area waterways.

"Waterway management is vitally important to the entire Denver Metro area, and especially so to Littleton due to our proximity to and history with the South Platte River," Schlachter said. "Properly managing the flow of the river and its tributaries is important to our residents, businesses, recreational amenities, and natural environment."

Learn more at MHFD.org.





Littleton Police Department Recognizes Its Heroes

The Littleton Police Department (LPD) recognized the bravery and dedication of its officers with an award ceremony April 19.

Police Chief Doug Stephens presented department awards to more than two dozen officers, including Police Star Ribbons, Life Saving Medals, Purple Hearts, Medals of Valor, and one Medal of Honor, the department's highest award.

Because the COVID-19 pandemic prevented the department from issuing awards in recent years, the ceremony recognized actions from 2019 to the present.

"I am extremely proud of the daily dedication and commitment of our officers, who continue to go above and beyond," Chief Stephens said. "Events such as these highlight the great work of our department, made possible by the continued support of the Littleton community."

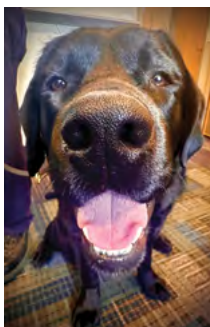


K9 Rudder Joins Littleton Police

The Littleton Police Department is excited to welcome K9 Rudder to the team! Rudder, an English black lab, is currently a field officer in training. He will work with School Resource Officer Rick Redmond as a youth support animal in Littleton Public Schools.

Rudder began his training with Guide Dogs of the Desert, initially training to become a guide dog for the blind. However, Rudder's trainers soon realized his social personality and love of people made him a perfect fit as a support dog.

Rudder will begin visiting Littleton Public Schools campuses this fall.



Congressman Crow Presents Ready to Work Funding

U.S. Representative Jason Crow joined local leaders in March to tour the future site of Bridge House Ready to Work in Englewood, after securing a \$1.5 million federal grant to support the program that will help people climb out of homelessness through job skills training.

The building at 4675 South Windermere Street is being converted into a residential facility that will house up to 50 people at a time for the year-long job training program. The facility will be the third Ready to Work location in the Denver area, with others in Boulder and Aurora.

The program, expected to launch in late 2023, is a significant step toward meeting the goals of the Tri-Cities Homelessness Initiative, a joint venture by Littleton, Englewood, and Sheridan to address regional homelessness.

"It's incredibly gratifying to see us taking such a big step," said Mike Sandgren, the coordinator for the Tri-Cities initiative. "This is real progress. It's going to change lives."

Ready to Work trainees are provided housing in a drug and alcohol-free setting, employment in a field such as food service or outdoor work like sanitation or landscaping, and ongoing case management. Trainees graduate the program after they achieve full-time employment, permanent housing, and fulfill program requirements of sobriety and workforce development training.

Rep. Crow said the facility is a fulfillment of the promise of America. "A community is not judged by the height of its skyscrapers or the number of lanes in its highways," Crow said. "It's judged by the answer to the question: how did we treat each other?"



Council Redistricting Plan Nears Completion

Littleton's four city council districts are undergoing a citizen-led redistricting effort, with the results taking effect this summer. The City of Littleton is required by its charter to redraw its city council district map every 10 years following the U.S. Census.

The process is carried out by the Littleton Election Commission, a volunteer body appointed by the city council and who has sole responsibility for the final decision. The guidelines for redistricting are set out in the city's charter and require that the four districts be contiguous, compact, nearly rectangular, and have at most, no more than a five-percent difference in population. The commission may consider other factors, such as diversity and natural boundary dividers like rivers, but that is not required. Following a public outreach process in May, the final council district recommendation is scheduled to be presented to city council Tuesday, June 20.

For more information, go to LittletonCO.gov and search for "redistricting." The redistricting page includes detailed maps of new districts, and a tool to determine which addresses will change districts ahead of the November 2023 election.

New Tourism Website Launching Soon

Progress continues on a new website focusing on the wonderful things to see and do in Littleton. The Visit Littleton website, scheduled to launch in June, will highlight Littleton's wonderful shopping, restaurants, events, parks, trails, lodging, and cultural and entertainment venues.

The goal of the city's tourism strategy is to promote visits to Littleton's many amenities, encouraging local and out-of-town visitors to linger longer in Littleton: have lunch or dinner, do some shopping, see a show, and visit the museum or a park.

In 2022, Littleton voters approved a 5 percent lodger's tax. The revenues from this tax will support local arts and cultural organizations as well as tourism initiatives like the Visit Littleton website. After launch, find the new website at VisitLittleton.org.



Meet Greet & Eat Events Return this Summer

Join the Littleton City Council at three Meet Greet & Eat events this summer! Meet Greet & Eat events allow city council members and other city department leaders to mingle with residents at Littleton parks each summer. Attendees can munch free pizza and ice cream (while it lasts), enjoy activities for children, and chat with city officials about local issues.

- All three events this summer will be held on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m.:
- June 21: Geneva Lodge Lawn / Littleton Center, 2255 West Berry Avenue
 - July 19: Southbridge Park, 7791 South Windermere Avenue
 - August 30: Promise Park, 233 West Powers Place



Littleton City Council



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Criterium Wins Best Event Award



The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium took home the Best Event award in the 2023 Governor's Awards for Downtown Excellence, presented in April by Downtown Colorado, Inc.

The awards recognize outstanding projects and people in Colorado that demonstrate creativity in the face of challenges, unlikely and enduring partnerships, and dedication to the community to further downtown initiatives.

The Criterium returns August 5! Learn more at LittletonCrit.com.

Western Welcome Week Seeks Donors, Volunteers

Western Welcome Week, Littleton's signature community celebration, returns for its 95th year August 11 to 20 – and it's up to the community to make it great!

Founded in 1928, Western Welcome Week is a nine-day extravaganza celebrating Littleton's community spirit with dozens of family-friendly events and activities. Western Welcome Week (WWW) is a wonderful way to meet neighbors, have fun, and deepen appreciation for Littleton's friendly spirit.

Many events are free to attend. The festivities kick off with the Opening Night Concert and laser show at Sterne Park on Friday, August 11. Events continue throughout the week, including a kids' fishing derby, pancake breakfast, car shows, plays, concerts, dinners, pig roast, and art exhibits. WWW Festival Day, the celebration's main event, is on Saturday, August 19, and includes the WWW Grand Parade, a delightful old-school parade down Main Street featuring floats, marching bands, horses, performers, and much more.

Western Welcome Week is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization relying on the generosity of local donors and volunteers who work hard to keep Littleton's hometown spirit alive. Residents and businesses who want to see this hometown tradition continue to thrive are invited to take part!

For more information, visit WesternWelcomeWeek.org.

Calling All Shutterbugs for Littleton Calendar Photo Contest

It's time again to start thinking about fun and beautiful photos for Littleton's annual calendar photo contest! Winners will see their photos included in the 2024 *Littleton Calendar and Annual Report*, distributed citywide in December.

Each photographer may submit up to five photos. Winners receive \$25, 10 calendars, and publicity via news releases and distribution of approximately 8,000 calendars to the community.

The deadline for submissions is Friday, September 15. For more information, search "Annual Calendar Photo Contest" at LittletonCO.gov.



Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium Returns August 5

The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium returns to Downtown Littleton Saturday, August 5, bringing professional bicycle racers from around the country for high-speed races on a tight course through downtown. The race is the eighth stop in the ten-race American Criterium Cup series, a national criterium series formed in collaboration with USA Cycling. The Criterium kicks off at 2:45 p.m. and offers excitement for all ages, including a beer garden, food trucks, Kid Zone, and live music.

Everyone is welcome to hit the course on their favorite bike, trike, unicycle, or bicycle-built-for-two during the Cruiser Ride at 5:25 p.m. Kids can bring their own bike (and a helmet!) and try the Strider Obstacle Course. There will be a DJ from 3 - 7 p.m. with the live music of That Eighties Band, on stage from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Businesses can support this popular event, contribute to the success of the community, and grow their brand by becoming a sponsor. Visit LittletonCrit.com for more information.



Stay Involved with Broadway Corridor Study

Broadway between I-25 and Highlands Ranch Parkway is a vibrant corridor. This 11-mile stretch provides local and regional connections through Arapahoe and Douglas Counties, and the cities of Denver, Englewood, Littleton, and Centennial.



The City of Littleton is partnering with these agencies to study the corridor's transportation and land use conditions. The study will establish a vision for the corridor's future that will celebrate and connect the unique identities of the surrounding communities, foster economic vitality, provide safe and comfortable spaces, and support mobility options for all.

What's next for the Broadway Corridor Study? The City of Littleton hosted a self-guided on-line public meeting in March that drew nearly 800 visitors. The meeting collected feedback on the study's draft vision and goals, user experience, and potential improvements. The feedback was analyzed and incorporated into the final vision that will be presented in the next self-guided online meeting and two in-person open houses in June.

Key takeaways from more than 200 survey responses were generally positive about the study and provided recommendations for improvements. Most respondents were concerned about safety, limited bicycle and pedestrian options, unpredictable driving conditions, and access to businesses. Respondents generally believe transportation-related improvements were important, with sidewalk and crosswalk improvements ranking the highest.

Details on the upcoming public engagement in early June will be posted on the City of Littleton's website at BroadwayCorridorStudy.com. Keep an eye out or join the distribution list to be notified.

Traffic Signal Replacement Project

Public Works crews and contractors are busily replacing aging traffic signals and poles at nine intersections in Littleton, part of efforts to improve traffic safety.

The replacements follow a 2019 assessment that identified the poles as structurally deficient. At some intersections all four poles will be replaced, while at other intersections it may be only one or two poles. The intersections include:

- Broadway and Powers Avenue
- Broadway and Orchard Road
- Broadway and Broadway Estates
- Broadway and Easter Avenue
- Bowles Avenue and Coventry Lane
- Bowles Avenue and Bellflower Drive
- Bowles Avenue and Middlefield Road
- Mineral Avenue and Southpark Terrace
- Mineral Avenue and Pennsylvania Street

The project is expected to be completed this fall.

Raised Pedestrian Crossings to be Built Downtown

Downtown Littleton will get three raised pedestrian crossings this year, improving pedestrian safety and mobility.

The city contracted with KECI Colorado, Inc. to construct three raised pedestrian crossings at Main Street on the north side of Bega Park, on Alamo Avenue on the south side of Bega Park, and on Prince Street at the Little's Creek Trail crossing adjacent to the RTD Littleton/Downtown Station.

Street closures will be required, and vehicular detours will be posted. Construction on the first crossing began in mid-May. The Alamo Avenue crossing will begin immediately following the Main Street phase. The Prince Street crossing is anticipated to be constructed in September and October.

Raised pedestrian crossings enhance pedestrian safety by calming traffic speeds, increasing pedestrian visibility in drivers' sight lines, and eliminating the need for sloped crossing ramps. For more information, search "Downtown Raised Crosswalks" at LittletonCO.gov.

2023 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

6:30 - 9:30 PM • AT STERNE PARK IN LITTLETON

SAT., JUN. 3

REWIND

MUSIC OF THE 70's - 90's

SAT., JUL. 15

TUNISIA

CLASSIC ROCK AND MOTOWN

SAT., AUG. 12

THE PETTY NICKS EXPERIENCE

SAT., SEPT. 16

DEJA BLU

70's - 90's AND TOP 40

FREE LIVE MUSIC

FOOD TRUCKS

ADULT BEVERAGES

Littleton ROCKS .COM

Denver Water Inspecting Service Lines

As part of Denver Water’s Lead Reduction Program, the agency is conducting lead service line investigations in Littleton beginning in July. Affected addresses will be notified directly by Denver Water.

For this work, Denver Water’s contractor will make a hole above the customer’s service line, an action called potholing, in multiple locations. This allows the crew to visually inspect the materials of the service line bringing water to the property. Potholing will occur on both sides of the property’s water meter -- one toward the water main in the street and the other toward the building. The work is generally performed rapidly and with minimal disturbance to the property or street traffic. The potholing investigation results will confirm the service line material type, which will assist Denver Water in verifying the properties that will be involved in the Lead Reduction Program.

Denver Water will send postcards to customers who are directly impacted by the potholing work, including customers with suspected lead service lines, as well as adjacent customers for awareness.

For more information, search “lead reduction” at DenverWater.org.

Water Resources Master Plan Taking Shape



Littleton is making headway on its first-ever Water Resources Master Plan, which seeks to identify all immediate and long-term water needs for the city.

The first phase of the project, completed in January, looked at the city’s water rights, current usage of water rights, and estimated future demand. The next step will estimate the costs of projects needed to meet supply and demand curves.

Once this stage is complete, public engagement for the city-wide Water Resources Master Plan will begin. This will include a public open house, online tools to review and submit comments, as well as a city council study session.

Among other goals, the project will develop supply and demand models for the ponds at Ketrang, Geneva, and Ridgeview Parks. The plan will also incorporate work completed over the past two years regarding the irrigation of city-maintained land.

Following public engagement, the city will prepare a recommended action plan which will outline how water will be allocated, what supplemental water is needed or available, and a recommended list of projects and costs to implement the plan.

For questions regarding the City of Littleton’s water plan, contact Keith Reester, Director of Public Works, at kreester@littletongov.org or 303-795-3863.

Roadway Medians Get Native, Low-Water Plants

Littleton’s Public Works staff is partnering with Denver Botanic Gardens to convert numerous landscaped medians along thoroughfares to native, drought-tolerant, and pollinator-friendly plants.

Five medians along Littleton Boulevard from Windermere Street to Court Place were converted to low-water native landscaping this spring, with more planned in the future. The conversions follow the successful overhaul of a large median at the west end of Main Street in 2022, which required initial watering but is now thriving without supplemental water.

Prepare for Flood Season

In Littleton, the typical flood season is from mid April to mid September, due to spring rains or high-intensity summer thunderstorms. Flash flooding from heavy rain can cause rapid runoff in just a few minutes, often causing flooding in streets and low-lying areas. Littleton’s numerous small streams, such as Little’s Creek, Lee Gulch, and Slaughterhouse Gulch, are subject to this common type of flooding. At roadway crossings of these creeks, the road surface could flood. Never attempt to cross a flooded road, or walk or bike across a flooded trail.

One way to mitigate for the impacts of a flood is to have flood insurance. Premiums can vary depending on the risk at a particular property. Littleton participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which makes flood insurance available to any property in city limits. Flood insurance is available and might be a good idea, even if a property or house is not located within a mapped floodplain, because there can still be flood risk. Properties located in a FEMA floodplain with a federally-backed mortgage are required to carry flood insurance. Littleton also participates in the Community Rating System (CRS) program which provides discounted flood insurance premiums for residents.

Information on flooding is available from the Public Works Department/Engineering staff and the city website. Search “flood information” at LittletonCO.gov, or call 303-795-3865 and ask for the Floodplain Administrator. Available information includes:

- Flood risk at a specific property (information can be retrieved based on an address).
- FEMA floodplain and floodway maps, flood zones, flood elevations, and flood depths.
- Regional map data such as community number, panel number, and effective dates.
- Mile High Flood District (local, non-FEMA) floodplain maps, elevations, and depths.
- Upon request, city staff can conduct site visits to a property to evaluate flooding concerns in-person, and offer suggestions for ways to reduce flooding issues.
- Flood insurance information.
- Financial assistance for certain flood mitigation projects.
- Special flooding situations or history of flooding.
- Whether a property is located in a special natural area that should be preserved such as wetlands or valuable habitat.

Stay informed and stay safe!



Main Street Tree Removal to Begin in June

Of the 81 trees that flank either side of Main Street in Downtown Littleton, 64 are thornless honey locusts, many of which are more than 40 years old. City of Littleton foresters have determined all 64 are suffering from thronectria canker, a fungal disease compromising the trees’ structural integrity. Unfortunately, all 64 must be removed to protect against breaking or falling limbs.

Of these, 49 trees will be removed, and 15 will be sculpted into works of art. The small number of pear and oak trees along Main Street will not be affected. The removals are expected to begin in June.

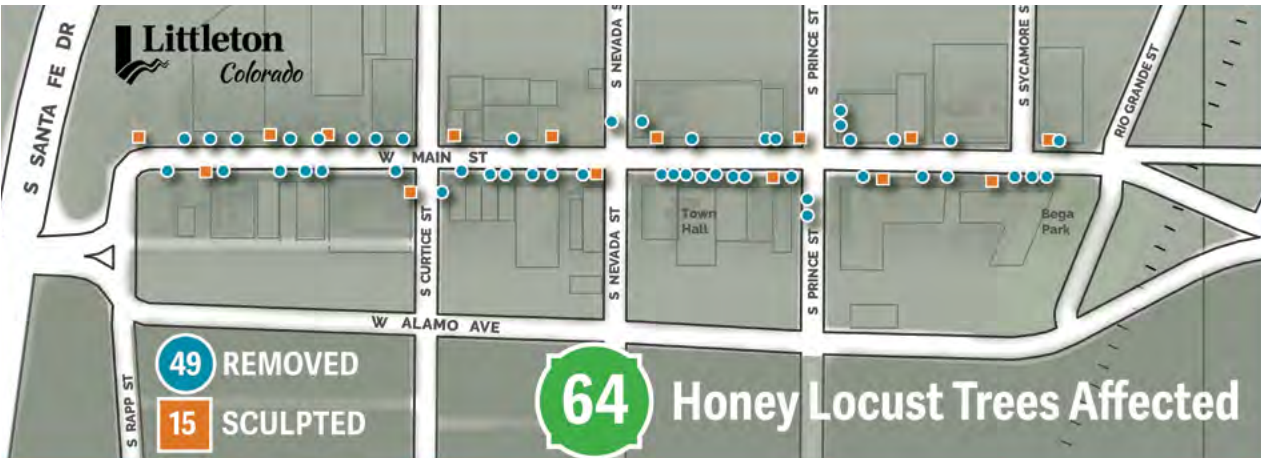
Replanting will not take place at this time. The Downtown Mobility and Streetscape Improvement Plan is kicking off this summer, and Main Street’s future landscaping will be determined during that planning and design process. With the likely desire to plant trees along Main Street as part of the future streetscape, proper infrastructure to support the longevity of those trees, such as irrigation and healthy soil, will need to be considered in addition to species diversity and appropriate spacing.

The future of holiday light displays or other decoration strategies along Main Street will go through a public engagement effort and involve the Littleton Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) to determine an interim solution. A long-term strategy for holiday displays will be part of the future streetscape design.

The Candlelight Walk will not be canceled, but it will look different for the next few years. The festivities will remain the same, but the holiday display will be new.

For more details about the tree removals, search “Main Street Trees FAQ” at LittletonCO.gov.

For questions related to the tree removal project, contact Kelsey Stansfield, Littleton grounds, open space and natural resources manager at 303-795-3766 or kstansfield@littletongov.org.



Englewood Announces City Ditch Piping Plan

Littleton, Englewood, and nearby agencies are collaborating on plans to improve water quality by converting open-channel segments of the historic City Ditch to underground pipe.

The City Ditch is part of Englewood’s primary water supply system. Water travels from Chatfield Reservoir through Littleton in underground pipes, overhead flumes, and an open-channel ditch before reaching the Allen Water Treatment Plant near Bellevue Park. While Englewood’s water meets safe drinking water regulations, the source of the water can affect taste, odor, and hardness. The City Ditch Piping Project is one of many projects Englewood has planned to improve its drinking water. Most of the roughly 6.5 miles of City Ditch between Chatfield Reservoir and the treatment plant is already piped. Working in partnership with neighboring agencies, Englewood plans to convert the remaining 2.5 miles of open channel ditch to buried pipe.

Various alignments are being evaluated and vetted for technical suitability, cost, and public interest issues. Permitting, compliance, and detailed design will occur this year. Construction is planned to begin in early 2024, with anticipated completion in 2025. For more information, visit Engaged.EnglewoodCO.gov and click on “City Ditch Piping Project.”

Free Concerts, Events Abound at Littleton Museum

The Littleton Museum Summer Concert Series returns Wednesdays in June and July! All concerts are free and begin at 6:30 p.m. on the lawn adjacent to the museum's main entrance. For more information, visit LittletonMuseum.org.



June 7: Miguel Espinoza Fusion

Miguel Espinoza Fusion twists jazz, flamenco, Cuban, and classical Indian musical forms into intoxicating journeys that thrill audiences.

June 14: Slopeside

An expansive blend of alternative rock and pop, with a mix of blues and country flavor, playing original music and well-known songs.

June 21: Juice O' The Barley

Contemporary versions of pub classics and current Irish folk, pop, and rock. "Irish music with an attitude."

June 28: 17th Avenue Allstars

Colorado's premier a cappella group singing a wide variety of pop harmonies spanning the decades.

July 5: no performance – Happy 4th of July Week!

July 12: After Midnight

Hard-driving swing from a sextet whose sound and style is refreshing and infectious, inspiring dancers and bringing toe-tapping joy to listeners of all ages.

July 19: Delta Sonics

A Chicago Blues base seasoned with swing, Delta, N'awlins R&B, and some early rock 'n roll.

July 26: Dakota Blonde

Acoustic folk that's part bluegrass, part acoustic rock, part singer/songwriter, and sometimes even Celtic!

Upcoming Museum Events

Worldwide Knit in Public Day

9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, June 10

Bring fiber arts projects, including knitting, embroidery, sewing, crochet, mending, felting, spinning, and weaving, and work on them in great company. The event is outdoors, so bring a hat! No RSVP necessary.

A Colorful Dream Exhibit: June 16 to August 9

Opening reception: 5:30 p.m., Thursday, June 15

"A Colorful Dream" is a family-friendly, interactive exhibition by contemporary fine art photographer Adrien Broom. Designed to evoke and capture a sense of childhood fantasy, "A Colorful Dream" tells a simple coming-of-age story in rich, symbolic language that takes the viewer on a journey through the entire spectrum of the rainbow.

Draft Animal Day

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, June 17

See the power of mules and oxen at work! See oxen plowing a field, watch chuckwagon cooking demonstrations, try pulling a plow, and more.

Below the Surface - How Mining Altered Colorado's Social and Cultural Landscape

Exhibit: July 14 to October 27

Opening Reception: Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Mining for precious metals and other resources exploded in the Colorado Territory in the 1860s. Explore romanticized notions of people braving the Wild West to seek out fortunes, striking gold, and making a rich and fruitful life for themselves. While there are certainly success stories, there are many examples of struggles and failure.

For more information, visit LittletonMuseum.org.

Economic Development Strategy Think Tank Seeks Feedback

The City of Littleton's Economic Development team is seeking participants for a think tank workshop to guide the city's economic future.

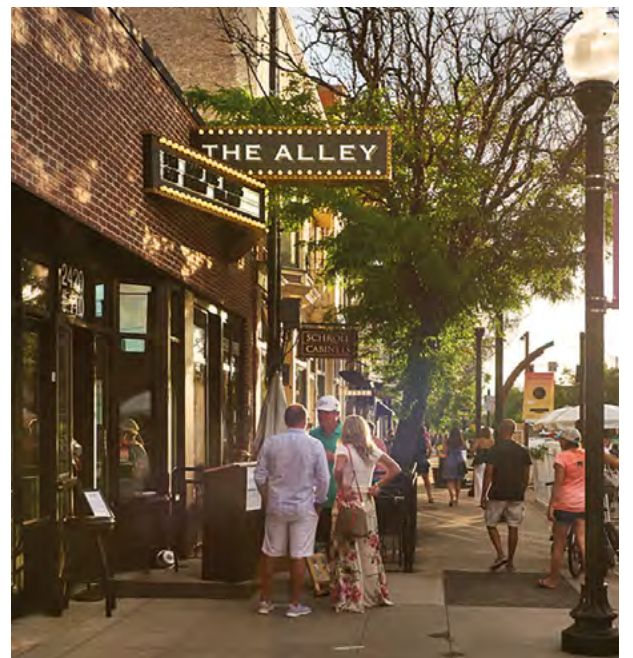
The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Project will provide a basis for developing economic development priorities and initiatives specific to Littleton. The resulting strategic plan will become the guiding document for Littleton's economic development priorities and programs over the next decade. The goal is to position the city on a continued path of a diverse, resilient, and vibrant economy that allows people of all backgrounds to thrive.

Residents are invited to register for a two-session Think Tank workshop to explore future economic development scenarios.

When: 3 to 6 p.m., Saturday, June 17

9 a.m. to noon, Sunday, June 18

Where: Bemis Public Library, 6014 South Datura Street



Space is limited so register early! To learn more about Littleton's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan Project and to register for the Think-Tank, visit the project portal at bit.ly/Littleton-CEDS.

Littleton Linkages Trail Study Takes Next Steps

The Littleton Linkages Trail Study will take its next steps in June, as city planners seek feedback on ideas for improving local trails.

The study builds on a 2022 local trail assessment that found gaps in connectivity, poor or limited access points, and segments and connections with functional issues. Surveys conducted over the winter helped planners develop a list of projects to enhance the safety and connectivity of Littleton's local trail network, including street crossing upgrades, new trail connections, and improvements to existing trails.

Throughout June, city planners will share draft recommendations, and ask the public which are the most important and valuable. Visit the project web page at LittletonCO.gov/LinkageStudy.



Littleton Golf and Tennis Clubhouse Replacement

Construction is underway at the new Littleton Golf and Tennis clubhouse at Federal Boulevard and Bowles Avenue. The new clubhouse will include six tennis courts, a pro shop, a larger kitchen and bar area, and outdoor seating. Visit gameplan.ssprd.org for updates as this project progresses, and look forward to a new facility in late summer 2023.

South Suburban Race Series

Learn more and register for summer races at ssprd.org/raceseries.

Pancake Stampede 5K 8 a.m., Sunday, August 13

Work up an appetite for a deluxe breakfast at the Pancake Stampede 5K! The race takes place on the Mary Carter Greenway along the South Platte River, and is part of Littleton's Western Welcome Week celebration.

For more information, visit SSPRD.org/RaceSeries.

Jackass Hill Park Improvements Announced

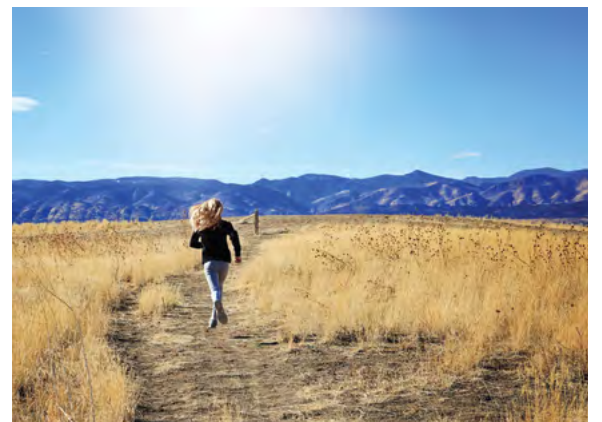
South Suburban Parks and Recreation District announced its plans to update Jackass Hill Park this spring, following a year-long public outreach campaign.

Surveys and public feedback showed a strong desire to maintain the park's natural feel and wildlife habitat while improving accessibility, safety, privacy concerns, and maintenance.

The new plans include numerous elements:

- Embrace natural environments
- Provide pathways to invite more controlled public use
- Provide pathways for better ranger and police access
- Provide seating/viewing areas that draw visual lines away from nearby homes
- Add a nature play area
- Limited and defined on-street parking and ADA parking
- Interpretive features

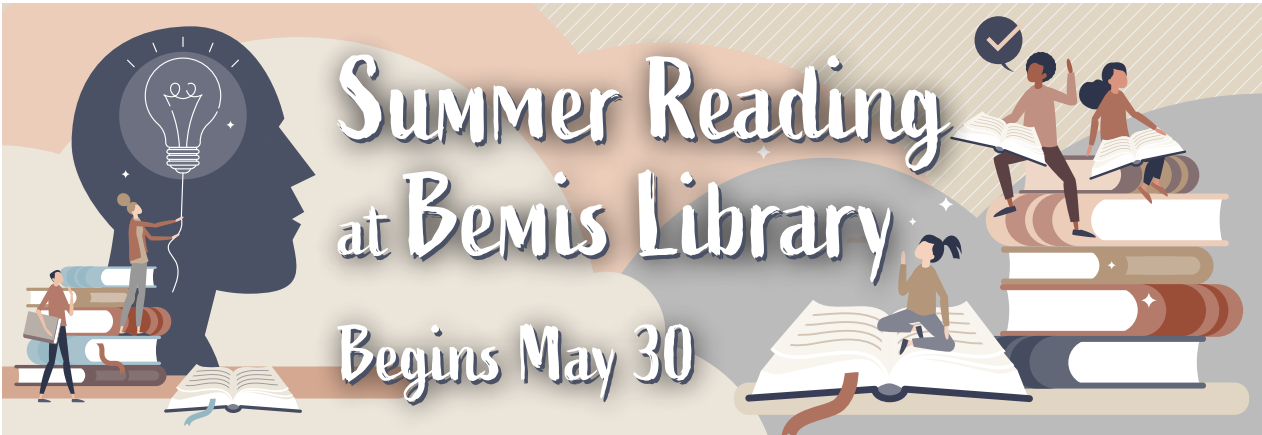
Construction on the improvements will take place beginning in 2023. For more information, search "Jackass Hill Park Site Plan" at SSPRD.org.



BEYOND BOOKS

EVENTS AT BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | BemisLibrary.org



Summer Reading Bargain Book Sale

Saturday, June 3, 2023 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

To kick off Summer Reading, the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum will host a Bargain Book Sale with high-quality adult, teen, and children's materials, including books, large print books, DVDs, and CD audiobooks. All items will be priced at \$2 or less, cash only.

Sign up for the Summer Reading Program to receive a free book from the sale. Come early for the best selection. Stay late for special deals.

Adult Summer Reading Program

May 30 – August 31 | For Adults of All Ages

Pick up the official Adult Summer Reading Bingo Card at the library for chances to win gift cards from local restaurants and merchants.

Tour the Bookmobile at City of Littleton Meet, Greet, & Eat Events

June 21 at Geneva Park, 4 – 6 p.m.
July 19 at Southbridge Park, 4 – 6 p.m.
August 30 at Powers Park, 4 – 6 p.m.



3rd Annual Community Art Project

Create a piece of art for the *Cabinet of Curiosities*, a partnership between the Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum, sponsored by the Littleton Fine Arts Board. All members of the community are invited to participate, and everyone is creative enough to take part. Pick up information at the information desk, and watch for workshops and pop-up art hours in July and August.

Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art*

June 29 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | For adults of all ages
Attend a hands-on workshop about BMOCA's current exhibition, and create a piece of art inspired by the show.

Volunteer Opportunities

Get involved at Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Immigrant Resources Center. Deliver books to homebound patrons, raise funds to support programming, or help an immigrant on the path to citizenship. Contact the library for more information.

OUTDOOR CONCERTS

The Last Note Singers

June 10 | 2 – 3 p.m. | All ages

A toe-tapping trip of romantic songs through the decades performed by a local a capella group.

SaZon

July 22 | 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. | All ages

The music of SaZon adds spice, flavor, and liveliness to a unique mix of Jazz, Latin, and American Standards, along with original works.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Summer Reading

May 30 – July 31 | For Grades 6 – 12

Register for Summer Reading and participate in events for a chance to win weekly prize drawings and earn entries into the Big Prize drawing for one of two \$50 gift cards or the Grand Prize of a \$150 book shopping spree!



Teen Summer Reading Events*

Wednesdays | 2 p.m. | For Grades 6 – 12

- June 7 Yoga
- June 14 Dungeons & Dragons: Goblin Heist**
- June 21 All Together Art
- June 28 Trivia
- July 5 Ultimate Werewolf
- July 12 Puzzle Race
- July 19 Escape Room**
- July 26 Bingo

**Multiple times

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

All Together Now Summer Reading Program

May 30 – July 31
For Infants – Grade 5

Pick up a reading log to track summer reading progress and collect prizes, including free books and merchant coupons.



Weekly Entertainers

Tuesdays | 11 a.m. | Families with Children Ages 3 and Up

- June 6 The Work Together Comedy, Magic, and Juggling Show
- June 13 Dogs in the Wild!
- June 20 Istari World Percussion
- June 27 Talewise: Science Heroes Saving Earth Together
- July 11 Amazing Dave Elstun: Magic Out Loud!
- July 18 LocoMotion: The Science and Circus Arts Show
- July 25 Puppet Tales with Magic Dave



School Age Programs*

Thursdays | 11 a.m. | Grades 1 – 5

- June 8 The Founders of Littleton and Life as a Pioneer by the Littleton Museum
- June 15 Draw Together Now Group Art**
- June 22 Arapahoe County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol**
- June 29 Littleton Police Department: Drone Demonstration
- July 6 Carson Nature Center Presents Animal Communities
- July 13 Bubble Lab**
- July 20 Local Author/Illustrator Ethan Long
- July 27 Japanese Fish Kites by the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys

**Second session at 3 p.m.

Visit BemisLibrary.org for more information about everything happening at the library this summer, including book clubs, storytimes, technology classes, and more.

* Registration required.
Call 303-795-3961 or sign up through the Events Calendar at BemisLibrary.org/calendar





Stuttgart Auto Body

Got a bent Bentley? Stuttgart Auto Body plans to open a new location in Littleton this year, specializing in auto body and collision repair services for European imports and Teslas. The Littleton location, following locations in Arvada and Englewood, will be the company's largest yet. The shop will feature high-tech paint booths and mechanical equipment, EV charging stations, a passenger/freight elevator, car elevator, oversized paint booths for oversized vehicles, and underground parking.

The new location will be at 8301 Southpark Lane. An opening date has not been announced. For more information visit StuttgartAutoBody.com.



Redstone Bank

For those tired of banks where customers are just a number on a spreadsheet, check out Redstone Bank. Locally owned and operated, Redstone Bank was founded by local business leaders in 2008. The bank's first branch in Centennial was followed by a Littleton location in 2020, with a third branch opening in Parker this year – all offering a full array of personal and business banking services. Redstone is deeply invested in Littleton, supporting Western Welcome Week, Inc., as well as working with the Littleton Business Chamber, the Historic Downtown Littleton Merchants Association, Littleton Rotary, Elks Lodge, and the Optimist Club. Recently, Redstone earned a Bauer Financial 5-Star Superior Rating.

Redstone Bank is located at 5350 South Santa Fe Drive, Suite G. For more information, call 303-317-2899 or visit RedstoneBankCO.com.



Number Thirty Eight

Littleton will have a new place to party down when food and entertainment venue Number Thirty Eight opens its second location in Littleton Village in summer 2024. Number Thirty Eight's first location opened in Denver's RiNo neighborhood in 2020, featuring nightly live music, loads of games, and dozens of Colorado craft brews, wine, and spirits. The new location will be housed in an 8,500-square-foot mass-timber building featuring excellent mountain views. The name honors Colorado's status as the 38th state to enter the Union.



The new location will be built at 7390 South Broadway. An opening date has not been announced. For more information, visit nmbr38.com.

Littleton Learning Lab

What do toymaking, Minecraft, Dungeons & Dragons, and wine have in common? They're all topics of camps and classes hosted by Littleton Learning Lab, a new event space on Prince Street from the owners of PlayForge on Main Street. PlayForge has made a name for itself in Downtown Littleton for its makerspace, classes, and huge selection of eclectic games, toys, and puzzles. Now the company is branching out, offering multi-day camps for kids on topics like making toys, creating escape rooms, mastering Dungeons & Dragons, and more. The Lab also offers classes for grown-ups, like wine tasting lessons.

Littleton Learning Lab is at 5524 South Prince Street. For more information, call 720-304-5971 or visit LittletonLearningLab.com.



Littleton Downtown Development Authority Selects Director



Jenny Starkey took the helm as director of the Littleton Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) this spring, with plans to help local leaders and businesses continue building on downtown's success.

Created by voters last fall, the LDDA provides both financing and leadership for improving the downtown business district.

Starkey is the president of Starkey Strategies, a business consulting firm. She has previously held roles with the Cherry Creek North Business Improvement District, the Downtown Denver Partnership, and Engineers Without Borders. She holds a master's degree in public relations from the University of Denver, and a Leader in Place Management certification through the International Downtown Association.

Starkey said in her role as LDDA director, she plans to finalize the organization's plan of development as well as evaluate and implement priorities for Downtown Littleton focusing on cleanliness and safety, improving parking, creating a beautiful and welcoming environment, and ensuring a well-connected, business-friendly, and vibrant downtown.

"This is a unique opportunity to support a city I love with the unique skill set that I have," Starkey said. "To be able to bring my experiences and industry passion to a city that is so near and dear to me is incredibly special. I am excited to be a part of a very important piece of Littleton's history."

Town Hall Arts Center Unveils New Mural

Muralist Michael Ortiz joined Littleton leaders to cut the ribbon on a new Downtown Littleton mural, adorning the alley-facing wall of Town Hall Arts Center.

Titled "A Celebration of the Performing Arts," the mural features towering figures dancing, singing, and playing musical instruments, surrounded by bright geometric forms.

The mural joins numerous others in Downtown Littleton and is part of a new initiative to expand murals citywide. Littleton's mural program offers funding to property owners and muralists looking to beautify drab walls.

"Murals are a form of art accessible to anyone," said Littleton Museum Curator Jenny Hankinson, who helps oversee the mural program. "They help beautify the city and give people a sense of identity and place."

Ortiz said he hopes his mural serves as a catalyst to inspire others.

"I hope it helps invigorate the community," he said. "Town Hall Arts Center brings so much creativity and expression to Littleton, and I'm proud I get to help reflect that."

For more information, search "mural program" at LittletonMuseum.org.

