

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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# Quality of Life Remains High According to 2022 Resident Survey Results



The results of the 2022 Resident Survey have been tabulated and were presented to city council during the study session August 23. The survey has been conducted every two years since 2012 and serves as an important source of context for decision-making by the city. More than 700 Littleton residents completed the survey by mail or online this summer.

Resident Survey highlights:

Littleton residents continue to praise their high quality of life in the community. About 9 in 10 survey respondents gave high marks to the overall quality of life in Littleton; this rating has remained stable over the past 10 years. Littleton residents gave higher ratings to the overall quality of life in their community when compared to other communities across the nation, and much higher ratings compared to communities in the Front Range.

While residents continue to feel that Littleton is a safe community overall, concerns about crime prevention and policing have increased. Residents felt as safe or safer in Downtown Littleton during the day compared to other communities across the country and in the Front Range.

Safety ratings for neighborhoods at night were similar to the national average but much lower than the Front Range. Safety in parks, trails, and natural open space areas continues to be rated lower than both the national and Front Range averages.

When asked to identify the three most pressing issues facing the city in the next two years, 29% of survey respondents selected crime reduction as a top issue, which represented an 11% increase from 2020 to 2022.

Government performance is a resident priority, with some ratings declining over time. About three-quarters of residents felt the overall quality of services in Littleton was excellent or good, which was a significant decrease since 2020. When assessing both the quality and importance of various city-provided services, about 6 in 10 residents gave positive ratings to the quality of city management, while nearly 9 in 10 rated it as essential or very important. Typically, services that are rated relatively higher in importance and lower in quality represent potential priority areas for improvement for the city. In an analysis of quality versus importance, city management was identified as the top priority for the city.

For the results of all surveys going back to 2012, visit [www.littletongov.org/surveys](http://www.littletongov.org/surveys).

# Littleton Election 2022 Ballot Questions

Littleton City Council voted August 16 to send a series of ballot questions to voters in the November election:

**Ballot Question 3B** - A question that would create a 5% Lodger’s Tax at the city’s five hotels and two motels, and at short-term rentals occupied for fewer than 28 days. The proceeds would go towards supporting arts and culture organizations such as Hudson Gardens, Town Hall Arts Center, Bemis Public Library, the Littleton Museum, and other nonprofits, as well as grants for smaller arts organizations in the city. A portion would also go to tourism initiatives to support Littleton businesses and attractions. If approved, the tax would generate approximately \$975,000 annually. Littleton is one of the few cities in the metro area with hotels but no Lodger’s Tax.



**Ballot Question 3E** - A question that would modernize the City of Littleton’s competitive bidding threshold requirements to enable the award of contracts to vendors who provide the best overall value to the city. Many of these provisions have not been updated since 1959 and Littleton is one of few cities with a mandate to accept the lowest price and a bidding threshold that starts at \$5,000.

CONTINUED PAGE 2

# Vote for Your Favorite Bookmobile Design Concept

Littleton’s new Bookmobile will be ready to roll next year, but there’s one thing left to take care of: selecting the design!

The Bookmobile will support city council’s goal of Arts, Culture and Tourism and the objective to Increase Accessibility of Library Programs, and will be launched in early 2023.

The Bookmobile will allow for mobile library programs around Littleton, delivering hold items to those who have difficulty traveling to the library, and carrying a rotating collection of items including large-print, children’s, bilingual books, and other materials. Library staff also hope to bring the Bookmobile to summer festivals and events, to senior care facilities, and hold children’s storytimes around town.

CONTINUED PAGE 3

# Santa Fe Traffic Study Completed

Littleton and several partner agencies have concluded a groundbreaking study planning the future of Santa Fe Drive, identifying several short, medium, and long-term projects to improve the corridor.

The Santa Fe Drive Action Plan, formerly called the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, was a two-year effort to holistically examine traffic conditions and solutions along Santa Fe Drive from C-470 to I-25. The project was led by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), with collaboration from the cities of Littleton, Denver, Sheridan, and Englewood, as well as Arapahoe and Douglas counties. The bulk of the funding was provided by a federal grant, with Littleton contributing \$250,000.

The Action Plan was developed with substantial public outreach and data analysis. The report concluded with recommendations for improvement projects along the 11-mile corridor and adjacent trail and light rail systems.

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## BALLOT QUESTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**Ballot Questions 3F, 3C, 3D** - Three questions that would organize a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to finance improvements in Downtown Littleton focused on capital improvement and infrastructure projects. Only registered voters living, leasing, or owning property within the proposed DDA boundary will vote on these questions. A group of Downtown Littleton stakeholders, staff, and consultants have met for several years to consider the project. The first question would establish the DDA, the second would allow the DDA to retain all revenues in excess of current expenditures for future use towards projects, and the third question would establish a property tax to be paid exclusively by property owners within the district to fund operations such as public safety, maintenance, and marketing.

**Ballot Question 301** - Voters will also decide on a citizen-initiated ballot question on whether to repeal a 2021 council decision regarding zoning at Aspen Grove. Earlier this year, citizens submitted a petition with the number of signatures necessary to require city council to either repeal the decision or place it on the ballot for voters to decide. That plan would have allowed up to 2,000 new residential units in a single phase. Since that time, Aspen Grove submitted a revised plan under the new Unified Land Use Code that was approved by planning commission allowing less than 500 new residential units with a maximum height of 80 feet. Future phases allowing more residential units would require further public hearings and city approval.

This will be a mail ballot election coordinated with Arapahoe, Douglas, and Jefferson counties. Monday, October 17 is the first day ballots may be mailed to voters for the 2022 General Election. Monday, October 31 is the last day to apply to register to vote through the mail at a voter registration agency, a local driver’s license examination facility, or online.

The Littleton Center is not a ballot drop-off location. Visit [arapahoevotes.gov](http://arapahoevotes.gov), [douglasvotes.com](http://douglasvotes.com), or [jeffco.us](http://jeffco.us) for more information.

Visit [www.littletongov.org/voters-guide](http://www.littletongov.org/voters-guide) for more information on Littleton ballot questions.

## SANTA FE TRAFFIC STUDY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Two near-term projects are already under design in Littleton, with funding provided by CDOT: an access control and safety improvements project at the Santa Fe Drive/Crestline Avenue intersection; and a safety, capacity, and multimodal improvements project associated with the Santa Fe Drive/Prince Street intersection.

The final step in the action plan is to spend the remainder of the funding on Phase 2, beginning design on several of the other near-term and longer-term projects. This phase includes three projects within Littleton, including a multimodal improvement at the Mineral Light Rail Station, an evaluation of congestion mitigation alternatives at the Santa Fe Drive/Bowles Avenue intersection, and a C-470 to Mineral Avenue trail alignment analysis.

A city council study session has been scheduled for October 11, where the project management team will present final outcomes of the project.

# Keep an Eye on Progress With City Council Work Plan Dashboard

The 2022-2023 two-year City Council Work Plan contains eight goals, each closely connected to the Envision Littleton Comprehensive Plan.

Council discussed the proposed eight goals during its February 2022 council retreat, again at the April 12 study session, and adopted them on May 17.

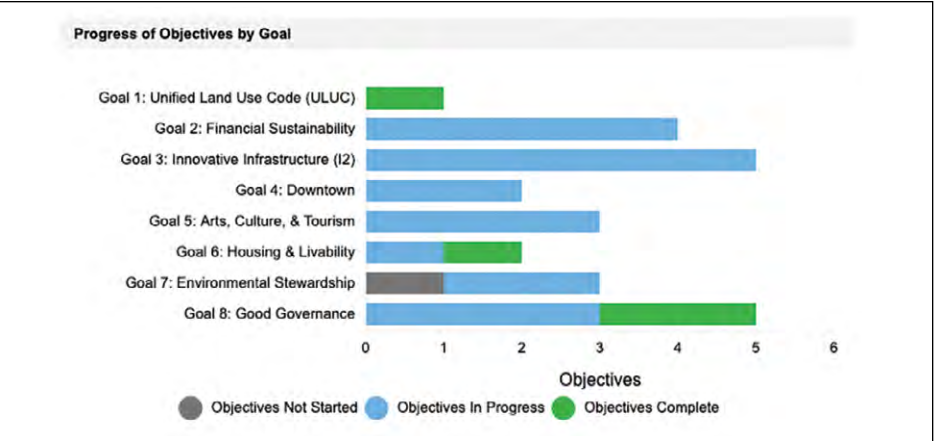
The goals are:

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Unified Land Use Code     | 5 Arts, culture and tourism |
| 2 Financial sustainability  | 6 Housing and livability    |
| 3 Innovative infrastructure | 7 Environmental stewardship |
| 4 Downtown                  | 8 Good governance           |

The city has created an online dashboard to provide insight on goal progress and upcoming opportunities for public engagement.

The dashboard breaks down specific action steps under each goal, with timelines for completion.

Find a link to the dashboard at [www.littletongov.org/council-goals](http://www.littletongov.org/council-goals).



## Like the news in the *Littleton Report*?

Get more news, more often by subscribing to the *Littleton Report Online* at [littletongov.org/news](http://littletongov.org/news).

# Judge Ethan Feldman Announces Retirement



Presiding Municipal Judge Ethan Feldman notified the city council of his intention to retire effective September 30, 2022.

“It has been a great honor and privilege to have served the City of Littleton since 2013. I have great affection for Littleton,” Feldman said. “I first worked in Littleton in 1973 and I have lived in Littleton since 1977. I raised my family in Littleton and my children attended Littleton Public Schools.”

The Presiding Municipal Judge is a position appointed and supervised by city council along with the positions of city manager and city attorney.

Feldman expressed his appreciation to the city council and staff. “One of the best aspects of being a judge in Littleton has been the relationship with city council and the city administration. Council has always been very supportive of me personally and, more importantly, the court. Yet, every council has been scrupulous in respecting the independence of the court. This has fostered an atmosphere in which the citizens of Littleton have been able to have confidence that they have a just and fair judiciary in their city. Of course, this aspiration could not be reality unless we had a friendly and efficient court staff which has been dedicated to serving the citizens.”

The city council has embarked on a process to recruit the next municipal judge.

## City Budget Shows Improvement

The City of Littleton released its 2023 Proposed Budget, continuing a conservative approach to adding new expenditures as the country continues to recover from the pandemic.

The budget focuses on continuing to restore service levels citywide, while staying cautious amid an economy of increasing inflation and concerns of an impending recession.

Through June 2022, the city’s General Fund revenues were higher by 13% and expenditures were 7% higher than the previous year, and expenditures are estimated to remain within budget. This year’s revenue results are higher than projections as a result of the economy recovering from COVID-19. The city’s largest revenue source, sales and use taxes, increased by 17% year-over-year through June 2022.

The budget would increase the number of full-time city employees from 309 to 317 (7.35 full-time equivalent positions or FTEs) in the General Fund, and adds one FTE in the 3A Sales Tax Capital Improvement Fund.

The budget includes a focus on investment in infrastructure, thanks to voters’ approval of a sales tax rate increase of 0.75% in November 2021.

The city continues to transfer funds of over \$3 million a year from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund to address street maintenance needs and to preserve its existing streets and transportation improvements, as a direct result of the voter-approved inclusion into South Metro Fire Rescue in 2019.

While city officials have discussed diversifying revenues, the reality is that municipalities receive the majority of their operational revenues from sales, use, and, to a lesser degree, property tax. Sales and use taxes will comprise 85% of the total General Fund operating revenues in 2023, resulting in an “economically sensitive” resource base to fund daily operating functions.

To review the 2023 Proposed Budget in its entirety, visit [www.littletongov.org/budget](http://www.littletongov.org/budget).



## Berry Park's New Playground Celebrated

Littleton City Council and members of the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Board joined Berry Park friends and neighbors to celebrate more than \$900,000 in upgrades to Berry Park on August 24. Residents checked out the park’s new playground, which now features greater accessibility for those with disabilities.

## Sewer Bills Due October 15

Outstanding sewer/stormwater utility bill balances are due in the city’s finance office by 5 p.m. October 15. Balances remaining after October 15 will be sent to the county for collection via property taxes. Payments may be placed in the drop box located outside the front doors at the Littleton Center at 2255 West Berry Avenue, or mailed to City of Littleton, P.O. Box 1258, Englewood, CO 80150-1258. Include the account number with payment.

Credit card payments (VISA/MC/AMEX/Discover) and eCheck payments may be made online at [www.littletongov.org/utilitypayments](http://www.littletongov.org/utilitypayments).


A portal administration fee of \$0.75 per transaction plus 2.25% of the total transaction amount applies for all credit card payments. A \$1 fee applies to each eCheck transaction.






**BOOKMOBILE VOTE!** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Two design concepts are being considered for the Bookmobile's exterior. Visit [www.littletongov.org/bookmobile-design](http://www.littletongov.org/bookmobile-design) or scan the QR code below, to vote for your favorite. The deadline to vote is Friday, October 14 at 5 p.m.



**DRIVEN TO READ**



SCAN TO VOTE ONLINE FOR EITHER CONCEPT BY OCTOBER 14 AT 5 P.M.

Bookmobile Poll



**RAINING BOOKS**

**Development Moving Ahead at Ensor Property**

Plans are moving forward to develop the properties at the southwest corner of Mineral Avenue and Santa Fe Drive, historically referred to as the Ensor property. Evergreen Development Company purchased the northern 33 acres in 2017. Toll Brothers purchased the southern 77 acres earlier this year. Both properties fall under a Planned Development Overlay zoning district, meaning they are subject to the regulations of the Santa Fe Park development plan adopted by city council in 1985.

Evergreen plans to develop its property with a mix of apartments and commercial development. It has applied for a master development plan, a process by which it can use the regulations of the underlying Commercial Mixed zoning district instead of the Santa Fe Park planned development, if approved by planning commission. The company anticipates building an apartment development in the northwest corner of the property and various commercial developments on the eastern and southern portions of the property. The site will also be home to a “quadrant road,” intended to help alleviate traffic congestion at the intersection of Mineral Avenue and Santa Fe Drive. The city will participate in the construction of the quadrant road, with partial funding from Evergreen, and state and federal agencies.

Toll Brothers plans to develop 260 single-family detached homes on its property in the initial phase, using the existing Santa Fe Park planned development zoning. It has a site development plan under review by city staff and outside referral agencies. In addition, Toll Brothers is planning a multifamily development with roughly 200 residential units in a subsequent phase. Other parts of the property may be developed or sold. Toll Brothers recently agreed to preserve and



relocate the historic Canary Barn on the property, although the exact location and use has not been determined at this time.

Both properties will require extensive infrastructure work including installation of water and sewer and fiber lines, roads, curb, gutter, sidewalk, multimodal paths, ditch undergrounding, new traffic signals, and widening of Mineral and Santa Fe. This infrastructure work will most likely begin late this year and continue for several years.



**Littleton Named Among Best Places to Live in U.S.**

Littleton was named one of the “2022 Top 100 Best Places to Live” by Livability.com, outpacing more than 2,300 cities with populations between 20,000 and one million in this data-driven ranking.

Livability.com said, “Littleton residents enjoy Colorado living at its finest in this suburb just south of Denver. Commuter rail lines that zip into downtown Denver, a historic downtown filled with cute boutiques and buzzy restaurants, plus lots of parks with kid-approved playground equipment make Littleton one of the best places to live in the U.S. On top of all that, Littleton has a strong economy and intelligent residents, with aerospace and aviation among the top industries. On the weekends and after work, you’ll often find locals (and horses) along the picturesque High Line Canal trails. Did we mention Littleton’s hops culture? There’s a brewery located along a river that you can tube to on summer days.”

Livability’s listing also took note of Littleton’s strong economy, with local employers including the aerospace industry, telecommunications and financial services.

Littleton’s recreational amenities stood out, including Hudson Gardens, which features 30 acres of gardens, public art, ponds, and native Colorado plants.

Livability summed it up well: “A strong economy, friendly residents and a unique, historic downtown make Littleton a best place to live in Colorado.”

**Littleton Named Among Best Places for Families**

Littleton was also listed among Colorado’s top 10 “Best Places to Live in Colorado for Families” by Citytistics. The website’s listing reads in part:








“The city is located only 20 minutes from Denver which makes it a fantastic place to live and raise a family in the suburbs whilst being easy enough to commute to work in a big city. Additionally, the cost of living fares better than the average which also helps. There is also plenty to offer in this city from galleries to bars — enough to keep you occupied!”

**Denver Water Rate Increase Discussed**

Denver Water, which serves Littleton, proposed a rate increase in late August. The organization’s board will meet to approve new rates at its October 12 meeting, and the adopted rates will be effective for meters read on or after January 1, 2023. For more information visit [denverwater.org](http://denverwater.org).



**Littleton City Council**

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## Town Hall Arts Center Fall Season Announced



Town Hall Arts Center is launching its 40th season with two beloved movie-musicals-turned-stage-musicals.

Up first is *Xanadu*, a stage adaption of the cult-classic film starring the late Olivia Newton John, about a handsome, dimwitted street artist who is visited by the Greek muse, Clio. Clio comes down from Mount Olympus, disguised in legwarmers, roller-skates, and of course sporting an iconic Australian accent to provide a little divine inspiration (and a lot of divine '80s tunes).

*Xanadu* plays Littleton's historic Town Hall Arts Center through October 16.

Next on Town Hall Arts Center's entertainment schedule is a staged concert celebrating one of the American Musical Theater's most prolific creators. *Putting It Together – Words and Music by Stephen Sondheim* is a limited engagement featuring some of Sondheim's best-known work, as well as a few never-before-published pieces.

*Putting It Together* can be seen at Town Hall Arts Center October 27 through 30.

The holiday offering is Disney's high-stepping dance musical *Newsies*. Inspired by actual events surrounding New York City's newsboy strike of 1899, this modern-day David and Goliath story is perfect for the entire family and is a delightful change from traditional holiday fare.

*Newsies* plays at Town Hall Arts Center November 18 through December 30.

For more information and a full schedule, visit [townhallartscenter.org](http://townhallartscenter.org) or call 303-794-2787.



## Candlelight Walk

Friday, November 25

5:30 pm - Main St. Festivities; 6:30 pm - Parade

## 2023 Littleton Twilight Criterium Thrills Thousands

The Littleton Twilight Criterium saw its largest crowds to date on August 6. Despite brief rainstorms during the men's and women's pro races, thousands stayed to the end to cheer on the nation's top bicycle racers in their quest for the American Criterium Cup.

The American Criterium Cup's first Black-owned team, L39ion from Los Angeles, dominated both the men's and women's pro races, taking the first two spots in the women's race, and the top three spots in the men's race.

Kendal Ryan took first place in the women's pro race, and Alec Cowan won the men's pro race.

Hometown favorites Conor and Kevin Mullvery, twins from Littleton, placed 11th and 16th respectively in the men's pro race.

Spectators grooved to tunes from the band Thumpin', and the Cruiser Ride was well-attended by more than 100 cyclists of all ages. Many stores in downtown reported strong sales, with the General Store reporting a 10 to 15% increase in sales over a normal Saturday. Devil's Cup Coffee reported their best weekend sales to date.



## Mural Program Will Beautify Walls in 2023



Littleton could become home to some creative new art, as the city gets ready to launch a mural program in 2023.

The city council approved \$20,000 a year to help pay artists to turn blank walls into works of art, with an application process expected to launch early next year. Property owners, artists, or community groups who would like to add a mural to an exterior wall will need letters of support from neighbors.

"The city recognizes the value of using art as creative placemaking," said Littleton Museum Curator Jenny Hankinson, who is helping spearhead the program. "We can beautify an area or activate an alleyway. This is a way to take public art beyond a bronze sculpture or a painting hanging indoors."

The city also hopes to conduct outreach efforts showcasing Littleton's more than two dozen existing murals, Hankinson said.

## Partnership With Bird Scooters Discontinued

Littleton has ended its partnership with Bird, the company that deployed e-scooters in downtown in 2021 — and city officials would like the public's help tracking down missing scooters.

Bird's local fleet manager tasked with collecting, charging, and servicing the scooters appears to have stopped doing so in mid-June, leaving many of the scooters with dead batteries, and therefore impossible to locate remotely.

Now, public works staff is asking residents to be on the lookout. Those who find a scooter should email [traffic@littletongov.org](mailto:traffic@littletongov.org) with the location.



The one-year Bird pilot program began in August 2021 to explore whether dockless e-scooters could provide "micromobility" — an additional mode of travel for Littleton residents to replace short vehicle trips, especially in the downtown neighborhood.

Bird was allowed to distribute up to 125 scooters at a time, but no more than 80 were deployed. The City of Littleton collected an initial \$1,000 licensing fee from Bird, which covered the cost of software used by city officials to track scooters, as well as 10 cents per ride to cover the administrative costs of city staff.

The pilot program was scheduled to end August 18, but Bird decided to end the program in late July.

A survey of Littleton residents this summer found that 75% of respondents had not used an e-scooter in Littleton, and 65% of respondents were somewhat or very against the addition of e-scooters in Littleton, while 20% were somewhat or very supportive.

Arapahoe County plans to conduct a county-wide transit and micromobility study in the near future, with Littleton as a partner agency. Future micromobility programs in Littleton will wait until the study is complete.

## Watch Out for Illegal Drainage

With a few exceptions, it is illegal to dump or discharge any substance that is not rainwater or snowmelt into storm drains, pipes, creeks, or rivers. Hazardous waste is just one example of an illicit discharge, but it is not the only thing prohibited from being dumped into storm drains. See something suspicious? Report it to the city stormwater hotline at 303-734-8299 or contact the Public Works/Engineering Department at 303-795-3836.

Remember: only rain down the drain!



# Littleton Police Officer Receives Respect for Law Award



Littleton Police Officer Austin Rodriguez has been awarded the Russ Oberlin Respect for Law Award. The Littleton Optimist Club annually recognizes individual members of local law enforcement agencies through this award for their service to the community, youth, and youth projects.

Officer Rodriguez has been with the Littleton Police Department (LPD) for five years. Rodriguez, who goes by A-Rod among his peers, has been a school resource officer for Heritage High School for the past two years.

“Aside from being at the school to provide a safe environment for students and staff members, he serves as a mentor, counselor, protector, and a leader to all the students in the building,” said Littleton Police Chief Doug Stephens. “Austin embodies the Optimist Club’s values and mission of providing hope, a positive vision, and bringing out the best in the youth and community of Littleton.”

Along with his many positive contacts with the students of Heritage, the school has recently reached out to him and asked if he would use his experience and the positive relationships he has built to assist with coaching the varsity football team. Rodriguez will serve as an assistant coach on the school’s varsity football team and was one of the instructors for this summer’s Junior Police Academy, a week-long academy for middle school students.



# Historic Littleton Inc. Celebrates Littleton's Oldest Building

Historic Littleton Inc. would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate the 150th birthday of the J.D. Hill Store on Rapp Street, Littleton’s oldest building in July! Mayor Pro Tem Gretchen Rydin, who helped emcee the bash, got some kisses from Littleton’s Honorary Dog Mayor Murdoch.

Built in 1872, the store was Littleton’s first general store and post office. Volunteers gave a presentation on Littleton’s pioneer days and handed out free coloring books and prints of Littleton’s historic buildings.



# Get to Know Littleton’s Land Use Code

Littleton’s newly adopted land use code is based on the city’s shared values and aspirations outlined in the Envision Littleton Comprehensive Plan. As the culmination of a process spanning more than three years, the land use code and zoning were updated and adopted in 2021 — the first holistic updates since 1976. This process involved input from thousands of Littleton residents and business owners.

Littleton has experienced significant growth since its founding in 1890. In fact, in the 1950s, Littleton’s population grew by more than 300% as Martin Marietta and Marathon Oil moved into the area. Everyone who grew up in Littleton in the 1960s was raised in a town that had more than three times the population than it had at the end of World War II.



While many things have changed since the late 1970s, Littleton’s unique community character is still central to every land use decision. Littleton’s land use code identifies several character areas throughout the city, such as established older neighborhoods and highway corridors. The code provides for planned and orderly development in each area, consistent with the constitutional rights of property owners balanced with important considerations like the economic health and sustainability of the city.

A land use code in some ways protects the rights of owners to use their property. Some people feel strongly that government should be small and limited, and the rights of individuals should be respected, but also that their local city council should hold the power to approve or deny every property sale and construction project. Imagine if it were up to the neighbors nearby or across town or to city council whether a shed or carport could be added to a private home. Zoning is intended to streamline development according to predetermined limitations.

For each district, the code specifies which land uses are permitted, conditional, temporary, accessory, or not allowed. The code also includes regulations on signs, lot sizes, minimum setbacks, proportion of a lot allowed to be developed, open space, parking; and the location, height, and size of buildings. Zone districts include uses that are by right — meaning the property owner has the right to build predetermined uses, while protecting surrounding property owners from adverse effects on their health and property values. Most homeowners do not want a garbage facility next to their home, for instance.

The city works with local businesses, and those seeking to move to Littleton. These business owners have told city officials that traditional stand-alone or strip mall retail spaces don’t succeed like they used to. With the abundance of online shopping, brick-and-mortar retail is declining. Business leaders say that there is an approach that works much better: mixed-use development. It helps provide a readymade clientele for businesses with proximity to public transit. A successful business community is important to Littleton — the city relies on sales tax revenue for the bulk of its budget.

Meanwhile, the Denver metro area’s housing shortage is a serious threat to the community. Rising rents and home prices have significantly outpaced income growth in the last two decades, and especially the last two years. A report from the Metro Denver Homelessness Initiative found that high housing prices have supercharged homelessness. The city’s 2020 housing study found the number of families in Littleton is declining, and that most young families can no longer afford to live in Littleton. Only 9% of respondents to the 2022 Resident Survey indicated housing and rental rates are affordable, a decline of 7% since 2020. Littleton Public Schools has indicated that this decline in young families is driving the closure of local elementary schools.

While new market rate housing helps alleviate the pressure caused by a lack of housing inventory, Littleton City Council is also exploring an inclusionary housing ordinance that could help ensure housing needs are met across a range of income levels.

The city’s land use code provides a framework that protects single-family neighborhoods and allows greater ability to build a more diverse housing stock on already busy corridors. The zoning now in place that promotes housing along transit corridors is an opportunity to give Littleton the tools to head off a glut of declining retail areas and build a mix of residential and retail proven to work. Diverse housing stock also supports the goals of Littleton’s Transportation Master Plan by giving more residents the opportunity to live in walkable, bikeable neighborhoods close to bus and light rail lines — among the steps necessary to address traffic congestion.

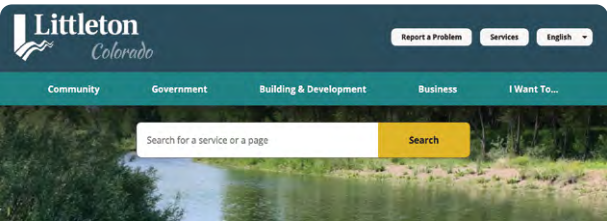
Littleton’s land use code protects neighborhoods. It protects the business sector. It protects the rights of landowners. It provides ongoing stewardship to plan for future housing and general development needs while honoring established neighborhoods for decades to come.

# Littleton Names New Human Resources Director

Tracy Hooker has been named the City of Littleton’s new Human Resources Director, effective October 10. Hooker’s 14-year career in human resources includes numerous leadership roles in the University of Colorado system, most recently a position as assistant vice president of human resources.

Hooker earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s degree in education, both from Colorado State University.

“I grew up in the Littleton area and am very excited for the opportunity to bring my skills and experience to a community I’m so passionate about in the HR director role,” Hooker said. “I’m truly looking forward to working with all of the amazing people of the City of Littleton and seeing what we can accomplish together.”



# City Launching Four New Websites Soon

The City of Littleton will unveil four new websites early this winter. Not only will the city’s main web site, Littletongov.org, look new and refreshed, but the Littleton Museum, Bemis Public Library, and the Littleton Police Department will also launch new sites. A team consisting of members from all city departments has been working behind the scenes to create accessible, informative, and elegant websites. The new sites will be service-focused and ADA compliant with a fresh, new modern look.





## Join the Friends and support the Library and Museum

The Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum's 600 members directly support the Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum, which combined see more than 400,000 visitors annually.

Entering its 57th year, the "Friends" is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization. While much of the library and museum funding comes from tax dollars, the group's fundraising and volunteer work provides many of the extras that makes these two institutions so special to Littleton.

Events sponsored by the Friends include summer concerts, summer/winter reading programs, speaker and activity programs, One Book One Littleton, the Friends Craft Fair, Harvest Festival, Holiday's Evening, Creative Writing Contest, Easter Egg Hunt, and the Used Book Sale. The group also helps purchase equipment and supplies not provided for in the city budget, including coal and steel for the museum's blacksmith shop and supplies for the library's makerspace. The organization even funded training for Julie, the museum's mule!

To celebrate National Friends of the Libraries Week October 16 to 22, everyone who joins the group in October will receive either a \$5 coupon for the Library Used Book Sale or a blacksmith-made keychain. Membership applications are available at [friendslittleton.org](http://friendslittleton.org), and at both the library and museum.

Annual Friends membership is \$15 for individuals/senior households or \$25 for non-senior families. For more information visit [friendslittleton.org](http://friendslittleton.org).

## Dispose of Used Oil and Grease December 3

Dispose of used grease and oil safely, for free! Residents within South Platte Renew's service area, which includes the cities of Littleton and Englewood, as well as 19 connecting sanitation districts, are invited to drop off up to 10 gallons of used oil and grease per household.

- When: 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, December 3  
Where: 2900 South Platte River Drive, Englewood
- Disposal Prep:
- Cooking oil and automotive oil must be separated into different containers and be free from contaminants such as fuels, solvents, or water.
  - Cooking oil should be liquid and free of food debris.
  - Oil filters, antifreeze, or oil from commercial businesses will not be accepted.

Learn more by visiting [SouthPlatteRenewCO.gov/Community-Events](http://SouthPlatteRenewCO.gov/Community-Events) or email [SPRCommunications@englewoodco.gov](mailto:SPRCommunications@englewoodco.gov).

## Channel 8 Littleton

Did you know that the city of Littleton has its very own TV channel? Littleton 8 is a national award-winning access channel, broadcasting city programs, city council and board meetings, and PSAs, as well as programs from local partners such as South Metro Fire Rescue, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Red Rocks Amphitheater, and more. 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 [www.littletongov.org/channel8](http://www.littletongov.org/channel8).



# Littleton Museum Events

The Littleton Museum's annual Harvest Festival returns October 8 with a pumpkin patch, wagon rides, an 1890s carnival, an Oddities Tent, and other fun activities. Games, refreshments, and wagon rides require tickets, which can be purchased at the event or bought online in advance. Pumpkins can be purchased with cash or check.  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 8

"škhé: it is said" is an early-career body of work by Denver artist Danielle SeeWalker, an enrolled Citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. SeeWalker works across multiple disciplines to explore the intersections of Native American stereotypes, microaggressions, and colonialist systems, both historically and in contemporary society.  
Drawing on au courant color palettes, expressionistic art strategies, and her Lakota traditions, SeeWalker spins her work into a contemporary vision to elevate historical perspectives as told from the side not often heard.  
Exhibit closes Sunday, October 9

The City of Littleton Fine Arts Board is proud to present the 57th "Own an Original" juried fine art exhibition. The competition features artists residing in Colorado working in any medium except photography. This year's exhibition theme is "Labyrinth" and will be juried by Molly Casey from the art consulting firm, NINE dot ARTS.  
Exhibit: November 4 to December 31  
Opening reception: 5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, November 3, 2022

Holiday's Evening returns December 11, featuring traditional holiday celebrations on the museum's living history farms. Enjoy wagon rides, snack on cornbread and cookies, sip hot cider, or kick back by a bonfire. Costumed interpreters will bring the past to life with historical demonstrations about life in Littleton in the 1800s.  
5:30 to 8 p.m., Sunday, December 11  
Tickets go on sale for Friends of the Library and Museum members Saturday, November 12  
Tickets go on sale for the general public Saturday, November 19



**Littleton Golf and Tennis Clubhouse Construction**  
Construction on the new Littleton Golf and Tennis clubhouse has begun. The former air-supported structure is being replaced with a pre-engineered metal building. The new clubhouse will include six tennis courts, a pro shop, a larger kitchen and bar area, and outdoor seating. Visit [ssprd.org/Construction-Detours](http://ssprd.org/Construction-Detours) for updates as this project progresses, and look for the new facility to open in 2023!

**Final Public Hearing for 2023 SSPR Budget**  
District residents are invited to learn more about South Suburban's major goals for next year and provide input on projects and priorities at the final public hearing for the 2023 budget.

- When: 7 p.m., Wednesday, October 12  
Where: Board room, Sports Complex, 4810 East County Line Road
- Residents may also submit their feedback by mail or email to Dotsy Moroney, South Suburban Parks and Recreation, 4810 E. County Line Rd., Littleton, CO 80126, or at [DMoroney@ssprd.org](mailto:DMoroney@ssprd.org). Label correspondence "2023 South Suburban Budget."

For additional information, call the South Suburban Administration Office at 303-798-5131, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Play and Explore at Thanksgiving and Winter Break Camps**  
Kids can learn, play, and stay active during school breaks at South Suburban camps! Registration is open now for fall break and Thanksgiving break camps. Registration for all winter camps, classes, and programs opens at 9 a.m. Tuesday, October 18. Activities at full-day camps include games, crafts, swimming, and more. Campers can also discover new interests at one of the specialty sports, arts, or enrichment camps. Visit [register.ssprd.org](http://register.ssprd.org) to view a full list of camps.

**Enchanted Forest**  
The forest has been enchanted once again! Experience South Platte Park like never before at the annual Enchanted Forest event. Enjoy nature and wildlife along with the charm of fairies, Celtic music, performers, and live birds of prey.  
South Platte Park  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 15

**Pumpkin Plunge**  
Take a plunge to find a perfect pumpkin. Swimmers of all ages are invited to dive for pumpkins in the Buck Recreation Center pool and turn them into spooky masterpieces at a decoration station.  
Buck Recreation Center  
5 to 7 p.m., Friday, October 21

Visit [ssprd.org/news-and-events](http://ssprd.org/news-and-events) for more information.



# 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](https://bemis.marmot.org)

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### Monthly Children's Story Time Line-up

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

- **Baby:** For caregivers with babies birth to 1 year. **Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.**
- **Toddler:** For caregivers with toddlers. Walkers up to age 3 years. **Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.**
- **Preschool:** Ages 3 years and older. **Fridays at 10:30 a.m.**
- **Books and Blankets Outdoor:** All ages family story time. **Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** Thirty minutes of stories and songs, shared while socially distancing outside on the lawn at the library. Story time will be held outdoors unless temperatures are below 45° or in the case of high winds, snow, or rain. When this occurs, story time will be held inside.

#### Paws to Read—Second Saturday of Every Month 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. For kids in grades K–5\*

Kids can 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.



#### LEGO Club—October 8 and November 5, 3–4 p.m.

**For all ages—children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult**  
Design, construct and create fantastic LEGO creations. Kids can build from a theme or use their imagination to make a brand-new creation.

#### Sensory Story Time

**October 11 and November 8, 3:30–4:15 p.m.**  
**Caregivers and children of all abilities are welcome**  
This inclusive and interactive story time is designed for children who are neurodivergent and/or have sensory needs. Light and sound are decreased. Sensory toys, fidgets and noise canceling headphones are provided for anyone who needs them.

#### Drop-In Discovery Art

**Third Saturday of every month, 1–3 p.m.**

**Grades 5 and under**

Drop in each month and explore different art materials and techniques in the Children's Room. The library will provide materials and inspiration. Kids can create an original piece of art.

#### Annual Halloween Costume Parade

**October 27 and 28, 11 a.m.\***

Come either day for the library's annual outdoor Story Time Costume Parade for children of all ages. Kids can show off their Halloween outfit, enjoy some entertaining Halloween songs and collect treats along the path. Space is limited. \*Call 303-795-3961 or stop by the Children's desk to register beginning October 13.



#### Books Are Cool Winter Reading Program

**November 19–January 9**

**for kids in grade 5 and younger**

It's cool to read. Pick up a reading log in the library beginning November 19, complete the challenges and record what is read. Finishers will receive a free book to keep in addition to other surprises.

#### Dial-A-Story

Call 303-795-3960 anytime to hear a picture book read by one of the Bemis Children's Librarians. Stories change weekly.

### TEEN PROGRAMS

#### Ultimate Werewolf—October 5, 5–6:30 p.m. for grades 6–12\*

Protect the village from a pack of ravenous werewolves in this game of social deduction.

#### Teen Advisory Group—for grades 6–12

**October 12 and November 9, 5–6 p.m.**  
Help plan programs, choose new books and games, make friends and have fun while earning community service credit. Participants are invited to special Laser Tag events. Snacks will be served.

#### Tweensday: Hocus Pocus Movie Party October 19, 5–7 p.m.—for grades 6–12\*

### GENERAL PROGRAMS

#### An Introduction to the Harp October 4, 6–7 p.m.

**For all ages**

Listen to an enchanting selection of harp music, and then try strumming the strings of this beautiful instrument.



#### Senior Social Club

**Thursdays 9:30–10:30 a.m.—for ages 50 and up**  
Weekly chat for seniors in Sophie's Place at the front of the library.

#### Stitch Circle—11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.—for all ages October 6 and 20, and November 3 and 17

Join Stitch Circle in TheStudio@Bemis. Bring in projects or come to learn the basics of knitting, crocheting or embroidery.

#### Medicare 101—October 10, 2–3 p.m. for adults of all ages

Learn about the ABCs and Ds of Medicare from Allen McGirl of McGirl Insurance.

#### Tech Class: Google Docs Basics

**October 13, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.**

**For adults ages 18 and up\***

Learn to use Google's free online word processor. This class will cover how to create documents, format text and save work. Prerequisites: familiarity with a computer and internet browser.



#### Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art—October 13, 2–3:30 p.m. for ages 18 and up\*

Join BMOCA Educator Melinda Laz for a hands-on workshop about BMOCA's current exhibition and create a piece of art inspired by the show.

#### Board Games @ Bemis

**October 14, 5–7 p.m.—for all ages**

Drop in after-hours for board games. Pizza and snacks will be served.

#### Crafts at the Library—for ages 10 and up 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 2–3:30 p.m.\*

- **October 15—Tricky Treats Craft**  
Decorate a candy jar with spooky decals and stencils created on TheStudio's Cricut Maker.
- **November 19—Cozy Crafts**  
Finger knitted mug cozies, miniature holiday scenes and glowing "candles" in a jar make a home snug in the cold weather.

**Bemis Public Library will be closed for staff development on Friday, November 11.**

**Gardening in Colorado—6–7 p.m.—for all ages**  
Presented by a Master Gardener with the Arapahoe County Colorado State University Extension Office.

- **October 18—Fall Bulbs**  
Late fall is the perfect time to plan and plant bulbs for a beautiful flower display next spring.
- **November 15—Houseplants**  
Keep the winter blues at bay with happy, healthy houseplants.



**Active Minds—2–3 p.m.—for adults of all ages**

- **October 24—Colorado Ballot Issues**  
Hear an objective review of the current issues on the Colorado ballot this fall. Active Minds will present arguments on both sides.
- **November 28—Coffee**  
Join Active Minds to trace the history of coffee from its origins in Ethiopia to the Starbucks around the corner.



#### Dungeons & Dragons—for ages 10 and up October 26 and November 23, 5–7:30 p.m.\*

Players of all experience levels are welcome. Experienced Dungeon Masters can earn thank you gifts and community service credit for running tables. Pizza and snacks will be served.

**Concerts at the Library—2–3 p.m.—for all ages**

- **October 29—Four Shillings Short**  
Rooted in Celtic and American Folk, the husband and wife duo of Four Shillings Short will perform a Samhain/Halloween concert. Enjoy music, stories and folklore to celebrate the Celtic bonfire festival of Samhain.
- **November 12—Voices West**  
Littleton's own chorale society will present classic songs and interesting arrangements, showcasing the beauty of the human voice.



### BEMIS BOOK CLUBS

Attend one of the fantastic groups to discuss thought-provoking books. The Senior Book Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month. The Evening Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month. Both groups are in-person/virtual events. Attend at the library in the downstairs conference room or join on Zoom. Links to the Zoom meeting can be found in the All Events Calendar at the Bemis home page at [bemis.marmot.org](https://bemis.marmot.org).

- **Senior Book Group—for ages 50 and up October 5, 1–2 p.m.\***  
*We Were Never Here* by Andrea Bartz  
**November 2, 1–2 p.m.\***  
*Damnation Spring* by Ash Davidson
- **Evening Book Club—for ages 18 and up October 19, 6:30–7:30 p.m.\***  
*Siracusa* by Delia Ephron  
**November 16, 6:30–7:30 p.m.\***  
*Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka

**\*To register, participate, or join any of these programs go to the All Events Calendar from the Bemis home page at [bemis.marmot.org](https://bemis.marmot.org).**





# COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Bringing the Bites

Looking to elevate party food beyond potato chips and cheese cubes? Bringing the Bites offers “interactive cooking parties” hosted by chef and owner Connie Lamb. Guests learn to prepare custom gourmet menu items, including charcuterie boards, appetizers, and desserts. Lamb provides all the ingredients and cooking implements. Lamb also hosts public events at local breweries and boutiques.

For more information call 720-404-3344 or visit [bringingthebites.com](http://bringingthebites.com).



## Capitol Pizza

Capitol Pizza is now open at the Woodlawn Shopping Center at Windermere Street and Littleton Boulevard. The Littleton location is the second for the local, family-owned pizza restaurant, with another location in Thornton.

Capitol Pizza specializes in fresh dough made on-site daily, homemade sauce, all white-meat chicken, and fresh-cut

veggies. The menu ranges from classics like Margherita pizza to new twists like a jalapeno popper pizza topped with raspberry sauce. Tempting desserts like tiramisu, cannoli, and baklava round out the menu.

Capitol Pizza is located at 1500 West Littleton Boulevard, #126. Hours vary. For more information call 720-459-8049 or visit [itscapitolpizza.com](http://itscapitolpizza.com).



## Economic Development Update

Littleton's Economic Development specialists spent the summer visiting businesses citywide. The goal of these visits is to help facilitate local business retention and expansion, to provide the business with statistics on current trends such as hiring and wages, and to connect businesses with critical resources to help them thrive. The economic development department collects general data from businesses that will help paint a more precise picture of the state of the Littleton business community.

Contact Economic Development:  
303-734-8094 or  
[economicdev@littletongov.org](mailto:economicdev@littletongov.org)

## Littleton School of Music

Littleton School of Music celebrated its new home in the Broadridge shopping center on September 10, with plans to educate the next generation of musicians for years to come. The school specializes in private and group lessons on a wide variety of instruments, as well as voice training, toddler music classes, and instrument rentals for curious youngsters.

Founded in 2006, Littleton School of Music now hosts more than 400 students a week. Director Stephan Hume said learning to play music improves children's lives many ways. “It teaches confidence, and it's been proven to improve test scores in other subjects,” he said. “And it's just plain fun.”

Littleton School of Music is located at 6905 South Broadway, Suite 99. For more information call 303-972-7625 or visit [littletonmusiclessons.com](http://littletonmusiclessons.com).



Always Littleton

