Where Your Water Bill is Going in 2020

Everyone knows that safe, reliable drinking water and wastewater service is important, but have you ever wondered how the Westminster uses the money collected from water and sewer rates? The city is required by our Home Rule Charter to set rates based on the annual cost to operate the water and sewer systems. Rates are also set to be “fair” — meaning that rates generate enough revenue to cover the annual cost of operating and maintaining the city’s water and sewer systems. Rates are also set to be “equitable” — meaning that each class of customer is paying its fair share of the costs (no more and no less) according to their impact to the system. In 2020, 56% of your water bill will be invested in the repair and replacement of aging infrastructure through construction projects in 2020, debt payments on past projects and investment in an emergency project fund.

A large portion of Westminster’s infrastructure was built in the late 1970s and early ‘80s during a period of growth in the city. All of this infrastructure is past projects and investment in an emergency project fund. Please see WATER BILL on page 6

Tails are Wagging for Dog Park Renovations

The park had gone to the dogs. Both literally and figuratively. The Big Dry Creek dog park located at 128th Avenue between Federal Parkway and Huron Street had seen better days. It had dead and dying grass, areas with poor drainage where water collected, and other areas of disrepair. Enter Dingo Diner and its partnership with the City of Westminster.

“The park regularly has about 300-400 people visit on the weekends with their dogs and we saw that it was in need of some TLC,” said Dingo Diner Owner and President Cashe Pawlik. “I had already been coordinating volunteer events every quarter to come clean up the park, so I contacted the city to talk about a possible renovation collaboration.”

Dingo Diner is a family-owned and operated pet supply and dog groomer business located near Federal Blvd and 120th Ave.

“Partnering with a private company to help renovate and maintain the park was the first of its kind for the city,” said Open Space Foreman Matt Moritz. “We worked together to plan the park’s renovation.”

Over five days this summer, city staff removed the weeds and grass, corrected grading issues to fix drainage problems, reset benches, repaired fences and spread out 900 tons of crusher fine, a pulverized granite.

“The crusher fine is better in a dog park because dog pee is highly acidic and kills grass when present in large quantities, like a dog park,” said Moritz. “Plus it’s easier to see dog poop on this material.”

Dingo Diner staff polled park visitors on what they wanted at the dog park, which resulted in a wheelchair accessible porta potty installed near the park entrance.

“Since our business is close by we feel like we’re a conduit for the public to learn about the park, so we feel a sense of responsibility to dog owners who bring their furry friends there to run around,” said Pawlik.

After the renovations, dog park patrons were very happy with the results and excited to bring their pups to the park.

Looking forward, Dingo Diner and the city hope to install a community message board, new signage, and shaded benches, in addition to the existing shaded shelter.

“The city wants to engage with dog owners who visit Big Dry Creek dog park,” said Moritz. “If the humans and their four-legged friends are happy, we’re happy.”

WEAR THE HELMET IN THE CITIZEN’S FIRE ACADEMY

Westminster residents are invited to participate in a free, 13-week course to learn about the wide-range of services the fire department provides as well as the logic behind the emergency services system. Each session covers a different aspect of the department – such as fire prevention, hazardous materials or fire extinguishers – and includes classroom time and hands-on activities. Classes are held on Thursday evenings, 6-10 p.m., Feb. 28 to May 23.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and are subject to a background check.

CPR certification is $25, if desired. The session is limited to 20 participants and preference is given to Westminster residents.

Registration forms are available at the Westminster Fire Department, 9110 Yates St. or on the city’s website: www.cityofwestminster.us/fire. Applications are due Feb. 21.

For more information, contact Public Education Officer Sherrie L. Guerrero at 303-658-4536, or sguerrero@cityofwestminster.us.
Beneath Sheridan Boulevard

City Awarded Grant to Construct Underpass Beneath Sheridan Boulevard

The city will receive $6.5 million in federal and state funding to construct an underpass beneath Sheridan Boulevard. The Denver Regional Council of Government awarded the city a grant in the amount of $5.5 million. In addition, the Colorado Department of Transportation dedicated $1 million to support the project.

A core benefit of this project is the underpass installation, located at approximately West 89th Avenue, routing the heavy-traffic U.S. bikeway beneath Sheridan Boulevard.

The new route for the U.S. 36 bikeway will increase safety for these commuters by removing one of the final street crossings in this regional trail. The project will also include an additional southbound lane from the U.S. 36 Bridge to Turnpike Drive to improve traffic operations on Sheridan Boulevard. This additional lane will produce a six-lane roadway with a concrete median and create a consistent lane configuration for the highway.

Construction is scheduled to begin in 2022 and is anticipated to be complete in 2023. The city will provide additional information and engagement as the project progresses and prior to the start of construction.

Affordable Senior Community to be Built near Church Ranch and Wadsworth Boulevards

In 2016, a housing needs assessment for the city documented that 3,500 seniors were eligible to apply for affordable housing units, of which there were only 70 available. Since that report, two new affordable senior housing developments have opened their doors.

Hidden Lake Homes, located near West 73rd Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard, provided 72 new units of affordable senior housing when it opened in August 2017, and the Vistas at Panorama Pointe, located at West 84th Avenue and Alcott Street, opened in December 2018, providing an additional 69 units of senior housing.

Both properties serve residents qualifying from 30% to 80% of the area median income range and accept ‘Housing Choice’ vouchers. A third affordable senior community is also in the works, and once completed, it will bring the number of affordable units for qualifying senior residents to 346 built since 2016. That community will be known as the Legends of Church Ranch and will be located at the former Church Ranch historic home site at Church Ranch Boulevard and Wadsworth Boulevard. The development will have 205 units of senior housing.

The development will serve income- and age-qualified tenants for an affordability period of at least 30 years. A one-bedroom, one-bath apartment will rent for $552 to $1,360, depending on household income. A two-bedroom, two-bath apartment will range from $627 to $1,634. The developer, Dominium, will also preserve the historic barn and silos. The barn will provide space for offices and community functions for the residents.

Dominium’s team worked diligently with city staff to meet numerous objectives, which included integration with the surrounding open space and a bike trail connection.

The total cost for the Legends of Church Ranch project is estimated at just over $61 million, of which approximately $35.2 million will be for construction costs. The city is providing assistance in the form of rebates on development fees and sales tax on construction materials, representing approximately $800,000. As construction gets underway in 2020, more information will be available at Dominium’s website: dominiumapartments.com.

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City Prohibits Trailered Boating on Standley Lake

The City of Westminster will prohibit trailered boating on Standley Lake to prevent the risk of a zebra and quagga mussel (ZQM) infestation.

This decision was made in response to the growing threat of ZQM infestation in Colorado waters from trailered boating. Colorado Parks and Wildlife reports that the number of intercontinental boats carrying ZQM has more than tripled since 2017. Months of discussion and deliberation preceded this decision, involving a community-driven liberation preceded this decision, in which staff and a citizen taskforce worked closely to create and review potential solutions. Unfortunately, no acceptable solutions were found.

“The city’s number one priority is to protect the drinking water, and Standley Lake is the source for over 300,000 people from three cities – Northglenn, Thornton, and Westminster,” said Public Works and Utilities Director Max Kirschbaum.

If ZQM enter Standley Lake, the cost of remediation for Westminster is estimated at $10 million in capital expenses and $3 million in annual operating costs, significantly increasing the cost of water. In addition to the financial costs, the establishment of ZQM would permanently change the ecology of Standley Lake, resulting in taste and odor issues and a reduction in water quality.

The city will continue recreational opportunities on and around the lake that do not pose a significant threat to water quality. For more information, visit www.cityofwestminster.us/boating.

If you would like to leave a comment about boating on Standley Lake Regional Park, please visit the 24-hour service request system at cityofwestminster.us/accesswestminster and click on Standley Lake Regional Park Boating.

Are You Prepared for a Major Winter Storm?

In Colorado, winter storms are heavier during the end of winter and into early spring. The largest snow storms tend to occur in March. These storms can produce large amounts of snow in a short period of time and can cause several problems.

Not only are there potential hazards outside, but there could be some in your home and you know that there are more homes fires in the winter months than any other season.

The Westminster Fire Department wants to help keep you safe and recommends these few tips to help get your through the next major snow storm. We want everyone to be ready to survive the storms.

• Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency. Clear driveways and front walkways of ice and snow. This also provides easier access to your home.
• Make sure your house number can be seen from the street so first responders can find your home easier in case of an emergency.
• Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates or check online bulletins.
• Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open.
• Turn off portable heaters when you leave a room and always turn them off when you go to bed. Nearly half of all space heater fires involve electric space heaters.

If you want to get more information about winter storms and safety, please call 303-658-4500.

Snow Management Tips to Protect our Water

Stormwater management may seem like a summer problem, but snow runoff is a year-round concern.

When the ground surface is frozen, melting snow can’t infiltrate the soil the way a light or moderate rain would be able to. Therefore, a small amount of snow can cause localized flooding on your property.

When snow builds up over several small storms without melting in between, it can turn into large storm impacts. As snow melts, standing and flowing water picks up debris, pollutants (especially de-icing salts and chemicals), and trash, which finds its way into nearby streams. We may sand and salt to control ice and snow, but after the ice melts, the remaining materials can get into our waterways and pose a threat to the health of our streams and fish.

Here are some tips to manage ice and snow on driveways and walkways.

• Shovel early. The more snow and ice you remove, the less salt you will have to use and the more effective it can be. Using less salt protects lakes, streams and groundwater.
• More salt does not mean more melting. Two common oversuses of salt:
  1) Applying to already wet surfaces, and 2) not giving the material enough time to work before adding more salt. 15°F is too cold for salt. Most salts stop working at this temperature and colder.
• Understand what’s in it. Instead of sodium chloride or calcium chloride, use products containing an acetate, potassium chloride, or magnesium chloride. Many de-icers contain trace metals including cyanide, arsenic, lead and mercury.
• Try an alternative for traction. Sand and kitty litter are effective for traction but can clog storm sewers and degrade stream habitat when washed away. Cracked corn can be an alternative to try that is more environmentally friendly.
• Sweep up excess. Salt or sand on dry pavement is no longer doing any work and can corrode concrete and asphalt. Sweep it up before it is washed away and consider applying less next time.
• Strategically place your snow piles. Pile your snow in areas where you don’t usually have ponding in the spring rains, on relatively flat areas where snow melt can infiltrate, and away from sensitive areas like streams, ponds, and your private well.

Avoid frozen pipes and learn how to protect them by viewing the city’s instructional video: www.youtube.com/user/WestminsterCO
CALENTE'S DAY
Thursday, Feb. 13, 6-7:30 p.m., College Hill Library
We’ve invited our favorite Colorado romance authors, including Courtney Milan and Joan Johnston, to celebrate ‘Caliente’s Day’ with games, glitter and goodies. Ages 18 and older.

WATERCOLOR FOR BEGINNERS
Saturday, Feb. 29, a.m. to 5 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Learn about watercolor surfaces, mixing and controlling paint, various types of watercolor paint, and brushes. Complete a small painting to frame at home. $10 supply fee due at class. Resident $55/non-resident $60.

PUPS OF THE PRAIRIE
Saturday, Feb. 1, 11 a.m. to noon, Standley Lake Regional Park
Explore the many ways these resourceful rodents contribute to Standley Lake’s ecosystem and benefit the wildlife around them. All ages. Free.

SCIENCE STORIES: GET SLIMED
Sunday, Feb. 2, 3-4 p.m., Irving Street Library
Grab your lab coat and head to the library for some scientific fun! Listen to a book, learn something new and experiment with the concepts we read about. Parents are welcome to join in the fun. Ages 6-11.

PHOTOGRAPHY - BEGINNING
Wednesdays, Feb. 5-26, 9-9.11 a.m., City Park Recreation Center
Focus on digital photography as a fine art medium and develop basic camera operation skills. Class covers technical and artistic/aesthetic concepts. Requires a working digital camera, preferably a DSLR with manual adjustments. Resident $65; non-resident $75.

2020 DENVER GOLF EXPO
Friday-Sunday, Feb. 7-9, Denver Merchandise Mart
Golf Westminster will be selling discounted golf passes for Legacy Ridge and Walnut Creek at booth 351 during the Denver Golf Expo. $170 for four (4) rounds of golf with cart good at either course any time Monday-Friday and after 1 p.m. weekends and holidays. Passes will also be sold at both golf shops the week after the expo Feb. 10-16.

IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES
Saturday, Feb. 8, 11:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Irving Street Library
Eligible permanent residents who are interested in applying for citizenship can meet with a lawyer or DOJ Accredited Representative to discuss the process and work on a citizenship application. Registration required. To register, contact Anastasia DelCarpio at Lutheran Family Services at 303-589-2342 or anastasia.delcarpio@lfsmrn.org.

FLORAL DESIGN - VALENTINE'S DAY
Saturday, Feb. 8, 2-4 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Save money and put your heart into making a special centerpiece to keep or give away. Learn floral design skills as you create a fanciful arrangement that includes fresh flowers, hearts and sweets. Then make a small Valentine’s card to accompany your bouquet. $15 supply fee due at class. Resident $20; non-resident $25.

MUSIC FOR TOTS
Tuesday, Feb. 11, 10:15-11 a.m., City Park Recreation Center
Parent participation required. Discover a love of music through finger plays, action songs, movement to music and playing a variety of fun instruments. This lively class incorporates motor skills, listening, following directions and social interaction. Age: 2-3.5 years. Resident $50; non-resident $55.

URBAN NATURE HIKE
Saturday, Feb. 29
With over 150 miles of trails in Westminster, there is ample opportunity to explore nature right in your backyard! Join the Park Naturalist to learn more about the flora and fauna in our local open spaces. All ages.

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With over 150 miles of trails in Westminster, there is ample opportunity to explore nature right in your backyard! Join the Park Naturalist to learn more about the flora and fauna in our local open spaces. All ages.
ST. PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATION
Tuesday, March 17, 1:30-2:30 p.m., The MAC
Watch a performance by Irish Step Dancers from the Wick School of Dance and savour a decadent chocolate brownie and mint chocolate chip ice cream dessert. Register by March 12. $3.

SAT/ACT STRATEGY SESSION
Saturday, March 7, 2-3 p.m., Irving Street Library
Learn everything there is to know about the SAT/ACT. Meet a Princeton Review expert who will go over test content, walk you through some sample questions, and show you score-raising strategies to use on test day. Register online. Ages 12-18.

ARCHERY
Tuesdays, March 10-31

HUMAN LIBRARY
Tuesday, March 10, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30-4 p.m., FRCC Rocky Mountain Room
Do your front door entrance need some help? Learn to make creative door theme designs that herald the seasons, celebrations, share memories and instill your personality into a warm welcome—for you and your guests! $10 supply fee due at class. Resident $20, non-resident $25.

NEEDLE FelTING – CATs
Saturday, March 7, 1-3:30 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Needle felting is a process that entangles fibers to create fabrics and 3D objects. Learn to needle felt a whimsical cat, using only wool and sharp, barbed needles. Supply fee of $15. Resident $25, non-resident $35.

ARCHERY
Tuesdays, March 10-31, 6-7 p.m., JAX INC. Broomfield
Come see what the centuries-old sport is all about! All equipment provided. Indoor range located at JAX INC., 5005 W. 120th Ave., Broomfield, CO.

STAINED GLASS – COPPER FOIL
Thursdays, March 19-23, 4:30-7:30 p.m., The MAC
Enjoy the restorative qualities of working in glass as you learn to make a stained glass panel or paneled box using the copper foil technique. $25 supply fee. Resident $60, non-resident $70.

SUPER TOTS: 1ST DOWN TOTS
1st Down Tots is a development program for kids 2-5 years old using a variety of games to engage kids while teaching and developing skills. The goal is to build fitness and muscle coordination along with fundamentals and a love of the game. No tackling or blocking. Please visit: www.supertotsports.com for information and registration.

DROP-IN TOT TIME
Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, Westminster Sports Center Meet up with your friends and come play with all of our great toys on our indoor turf field! Ages 5 and under.

TRAIN YOUR BRAIN
Thursdays, March 5-26, 9:30-10:30 a.m., The MAC
Fend off forgetfulness, ditch depression and find focus! In this four week class, your will work your mental muscles to gain strength and versatility. In this class, you’ll learn ways to improve your brain’s health and well-being.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF MUSICALS ON FILM
A MUSICALS ON FILM: A BRIEF HISTORY OF
Tuesdays, March 10, 6-7 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park
Join the Park Naturalist along with fundamentals and muscle coordination through tumbbling, low beam and floor activities, obstacles, games, and more that stretch the imagination and build self-confidence! Age 18-26 months or 24-36 months. Resident $40; non-resident $45.

EARLY BIRD WALK
Saturday, March 21, 8:30 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park
Join the Park Naturalist in search of resident and migratory birds who call local trees, burrows and waterways home. Ages 8+.

SEWING – SPRING DECOR WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 21, 2-5 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Create unique, seasonal pieces for your home from luxe fabrics in seasonal colors. See samples in the showcase at City Park Recreation Center. $10 supply fee due at class. Bring a sewing machine in good working order. Resident $20, non-resident $30.

SPRING INTO YOUR BREAK AT COLLEGE HILL
Tuesday, March 24-26, Friday, March 27, 9-9:45 a.m., College Hill Library
Enjoy drop-in crafts and activities all week. Tip: Wear old clothes. Ages 5-11.

SPRING BREAK SAFARI AT IRVING STREET: APAJA STORy TIME
Wednesday, March 25, 6-6:30 p.m., Irving Street Library
All week long we’re featuring special zoo-themed story times and crafts, and special programs. All ages.

SPRING BREAK SAFARI AT IRVING STREET: WE BOUGHT A ZOO MOVIE PARTY
Friday, March 27, 10 a.m., Irving Street Library
All week long we’re featuring special zoo-themed story times and crafts, and special programs. All ages.

TRAILS CLASS
Saturday, March 28, 8-9:15 a.m., City Park Recreation Center
Navigate Westminster’s trail system like a pro and learn about the unique features available for commuting and recreational activities. Receive a trail guide and advice on how to explore this wonderful system. Registration required.

EARLY BIRD WALK
Saturday, March 21

SAT/ACT STRATEGY SESSION
Saturday, March 7, 2-3 p.m., Irving Street Library
Learn everything there is to know about the SAT/ACT. Meet a Princeton Review expert who will go over test content, walk you through some sample questions, and show you score-raising strategies to use on test day. Register online. Ages 12-18.

FLORAL DESIGN – FRONT DOORS
Saturday, March 7, 2-4 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Does your front door entrance need some help? Learn to make creative door theme designs that herald the seasons, celebrations, share memories and instill your personality into a warm welcome—for you and your guests! $10 supply fee due at class. Resident $20, non-resident $25.

NATIVE DOOR THEME DESIGNS
Saturday, March 7, 10-10:45 a.m., City Park Recreation Center
Learn to make creative door theme designs that herald the seasons, celebrations, share memories and instill your personality into a warm welcome—for you and your guests! $10 supply fee due at class. Resident $20, non-resident $25.

DECOR WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 7, 2-5 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Become an expert in making unique, seasonal pieces for your home from luxe fabrics in seasonal colors. See samples in the showcase at City Park Recreation Center. $10 supply fee due at class. Bring a sewing machine in good working order. Resident $20, non-resident $30.


Sew into your break at College Hill
Tuesday, March 24-26, Friday, March 27, 9-9:45 a.m., College Hill Library
Enjoy drop-in crafts and activities all week. Tip: Wear old clothes. Ages 5-11.

International Day of Happiness – Super Tots
Monday, March 16, 10-10:45 a.m., City Park Recreation Center
Parent participation is required. Develop gross motor movements and coordination through tumbling, low beam and floor activities, obstacles, games, and more that stretch the imagination and build self-confidence! Age 18-26 months or 24-36 months. Resident $40; non-resident $45.

CRAFT: STAINED GLASS – COPPER FOIL
Saturday, March 7, 1:30-4 p.m., FRCC Rocky Mountain Room
Open your mind to other perspectives by “checking out” our human books. Participants have one-on-one conversations with volunteers for 15 minutes. This engaging project creates safe spaces while human books share experiences and participants gain greater understanding. See library website after Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, for date and time information.

SAT/ACT STRATEGY SESSION
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Transportation & Mobility Plan: Building Policies and Recommendations

A PLAN WITHIN THE WESTMINSTER FORWARD INITIATIVE

The development of the Transportation & Mobility Plan (TMP) continues as the project team wraps up the completion of the Current and Future Conditions Report and draft TMP vision and goals. Since fall 2019, the team has evaluated data and gathered community input to develop an overall understanding of Westminster’s transportation system including the existing infrastructure, where transportation challenges are located, and where transportation is great.

The project team received over 200 comments during in-person and online community outreach. More mobility findings about the city’s transportation network and what the project team heard from the community will be available online later this winter at: www.cityofwestminster.us/Government/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/WestminsterForward/TransportationMobilityPlan. This spring, the project team will be gathering community input to begin the development of draft policies and recommendations to achieve a more connected, accessible and safer multimodal transportation network in Westminster. We’ll also be talking with the community about community events, teams and different uses of streets and sidewalks for all modes of transportation. We want to hear from you!

Did you know?

- Approximately 92% of collector and arterial streets in Westminster have sidewalks
- Westminster is served by 22 bus routes and one rail line with some stops serving more than 1,000 riders per day
- There are more than 30 miles of bike lanes, buffered bike lanes and shared use lanes in addition to over 150 miles of trails throughout the city

Comprehensive Plan Update Moves Ahead

Development of the city’s new Comprehensive Plan continues to take shape through Westminster Forward, the coordinated engagement process of the city’s six long-range plans. The new Comprehensive Plan will be focused around four key themes: Land Use and Growth, Housing and Neighborhoods, Economic and Financial Re-silience, and Utilities and Resources. These themes will help correlate the Comprehensive Plan with the themes for the Sustainability Plan and other Westminster Forward plans.

During the summer and fall of 2019, city staff met with the community at Historic Westminster Summer Festival, two Movies in the Park events, the Halloween Harvest Festival, Westminster Summer Forward, the Latino Festival, the Latino Festival and online engagement at upcoming events, meetings and events at www.cityofwestminster.us/News/ConnectWithUs.

Feedback from the outreach has shaped policies in the revised Comprehensive Plan. Below are just a few examples of what we heard.

- **Plan priorities**: The community’s top priorities are to ensure long-term water availability, address sewer capacity constraints, ensure a cost-feasible plan, refine the land development review process and be a sustainable/resilient city. Presented with choices, lesser priority was given to addressing diversity, marketing the city’s uniqueness and culture and creating neighborhood pride.
- **Retail development**: When asked about alternative uses for declining retail areas, few expressed interest in temporary/seasonal commercial uses or convenience uses, such as gas stations or drive-through services. The preferred uses for retail centers were the addition of more restaurants, entertainment establishments or storefront locations for public services.
- **Housing**: There is concern for the rate of additional housing, however questionnaire results indicate significant interest in more townhomes, condos, small-lot single-family housing and alternatives like co-housing, accessory dwelling units, senior housing and tiny homes. In contrast to the online survey responses, Latino Festival participants indicated a much stronger interest in multi-family housing.
- **Character Areas**: Nine clusters of land with vacant sites or development potential have been presented for testing land use concepts. These represent about 12% of the city’s land area – with the rest of the city expected to remain relatively stable. In these character areas, housing was identified as an important component to contribute to vibrant mixed use areas located around Downtown, in Historic Westminster and the Pillar of Fire vicinity, which includes the Uplands. Other character areas were proposed more as employment areas, like North I-25, Park Center and Westminster.
- **Design standards**: Typical design elements for new development such as colors, roof styles and architectural styles were seen as less important to community respondents. Ranked far more important were interests in ensuring energy efficiency, building safety, accessibility and sustainability measures.

In consideration of this significant public feedback, the planning team is holding internal staff workshops on the “future land use map,” descriptions, and Comprehensive Plan goals and policies. These refinements will be available for public comment in spring 2020 at a series of open houses and a Draft Comprehensive Plan should be available this spring.

**How you can be involved today**

2. Sign up online to be notified by email of Westminster Forward updates and events at www.cityofwestminster.us/forward.
3. Email us at westminsterforward@cityofwestminster.us

**WATER BILL**

Continued from page 1 now close to 50 years old and the city is working to replace it in a timely manner to protect public health and maintain reliable service.

Nearly 17% of revenue collected from water and wastewater systems was invested in personal: it takes about 130 employees to operate Westminster’s water and wastewater systems 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Around 9% will pay for administrative support through transfers to the General Fund to cover services that benefit the utility provided by other city departments, e.g. IT, City Attorney’s Office and Human Resources.

Another 8% of your water bill will fund outside contractors that help the city operate and maintain the utility system. The remaining 10% will pay for materials and energy that are used to operate the system 24 hours a day and to the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District for treating wastewater flows from the southern part of Westminster.
Green, Yellow, Red: About the City’s Transportation System Operations

Who manages and maintains Westminster’s transportation system?
Westminster’s Transportation Engineering Team manages and maintains over 100 traffic signals and over 700 city-owned street lights, complete with transportation studies and plans, designs and implements street improvements, and manages the city’s parking program. Other on- and off-street infrastructure is maintained by the Public Works and Utilities Department and Parks. Recreation and Libraries Department, depending on location.

Within city limits, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) manages and maintains Federal Boulevard, 120th Avenue, portions of Sheridan Boulevard, US 36, and Wadsworth Parkway and operates and maintains the traffic signals across Federal Boulevard, 120th Avenue, and Wadsworth Parkway.

How is Westminster’s traffic signal system managed?
A number of software programs allows city staff to view the traffic signal system status, including signal outage alerts, and make modifications to signal settings from their computers or tablets. For some of the more major traffic signal issues, staff or contractors address the issue onsite at the signal. Because technology evolves and infrastructure ages, the city will continue to evaluate and identify opportunities to integrate newer software technology and traffic signal infrastructure.

What determines when the traffic signal changes from red to green?
Traffic signals are programmed to operate based on the time of day and have camera detection technologies to change the traffic signal if cars are present. The system is programmed to coordinate signals to help traffic flow more efficiently along streets. Pedestrian crossings or emergency vehicles can temporarily change the traffic signal settings.

The settings of traffic signals along major streets throughout the region are coordinated with adjacent jurisdictions and state and regional agencies to help reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

If a traffic signal isn’t working, who should I contact?
- For traffic signal light malfunctions in Westminster, please contact the city at 303-658-2114 or online through Access Westminster.
- For malfunctioning traffic signals managed by CDOT, please report on their website at www.codot.gov.
- For all other street-related matters or questions, please report them online through Access Westminster.

City Offers Language Accommodations at Public Meetings

Westminster offers language and other accommodations at any City Council meeting, public meeting or event. Regular council meetings take place every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m., and study sessions take place the first and third Monday at 6:30 p.m. Both meetings are held at Westminster City Hall, 4800 W. 92nd Ave.

ENGLISH
Persons needing an accommodation, such as an interpreter for another language or American Sign Language, or who have a physical or mental impairment that requires accommodation, must submit such a request to the City Clerk. Requests must be submitted no later than noon the Thursday prior to the scheduled council meeting to allow enough time to make arrangements. Please call 303-658-2161/TTY711, or State Relay, or write to cityclerk@cityofwestminster.us to make a reasonable accommodation request.

SPANISH
Las personas que necesiten una adaptación, como un intérprete de otro idioma o lenguaje americano de signos, o que tengan un impedimento físico o mental que requiera adaptaciones, deben presentar una solicitud al Secretario Municipal. Las solicitudes deben presentarse al menos a la medianoche anterior a la reunión programada del Concejo para permitir contar con el tiempo adecuado a fin de coordinar la necesidad de Llamal a 303-658-2161/TTY711, o a State Relay, o escriba a cityclerk@cityofwestminster.us para solicitar una adaptación razonable.

HMONG
Xais muaj xaw taj khaw bas luar kev, xaw lai taj nbhais bas luar lwm hom luar losais Lis Miskas Piav Tes, luar losais taj muaj kev tais taw rau taw lai ces losais bas xaw taj kev bas lai, yuav tsum taj kev tais taw nhov nhov rau taw rau Thug Nog Tuss Kwa Lis Ntaus Naw. Yuav tsum taj kev nhov kev tais taw rau taw nhov nhov tais rau nhov nhov rau taw rau Thug Nog Tuss Kwa Lis Ntaus Naw. Yuav tsum taj kev nhov kev tais taw

VIETNAMESE
Nếu người dân có nhu cầu dịch vụ, có thể liên hệ qua số điện thoại 303-658-2161/TTY711, hoặc dịch vụ Tiếng Anh của City Clerk, hoặc dịch vụ Tiếng Việt của City Clerk.

Everyone experiences the transportation network in different ways whether you drive, ride the bus or train, bike, use a wheelchair, or walk. But one thing in common is that all roadway users should have a safe experience. The city implements plans, programs, and infrastructure to improve the transportation system; but users of the system also play a big part in safety.

Some of the ways you can help keep our transportation system safe include: obey traffic laws including driving the speed limit, limit distractions when you are driving, wear your seat belt, use a crosswalk before crossing, watch for pedestrians and bicyclists, and much more.

Vision Zero is a safety approach to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in the transportation system. The Denver metro region is working on creating a regional Vision Zero Action Plan. Watch the Vision Zero video at: youtube.com/watch?v=M4MuD14q7K0
Large Item Clean-up Program Helps You Get Rid of Big Stuff

Legend

Area Pickup Dates

- Saturday, April 18
- Saturday, April 25
- Saturday, May 2

Acceptable Items

- Mattresses, washers, dryers, ranges, dishwashers, microwave ovens, water heaters, bathtubs, toilets, lumber, furniture, bicycles, carpet, doors, swing sets, lawn mowers (fluids must be drained), railroad ties, sections of fencing, auto parts (fluids must be drained), lawn furniture, bed frames, cabinets and tree limbs over eight (8) inches in diameter. All items must be able to be lifted by two men. Oversize items need to be disassembled to 6 feet or less. Engines must be drained.

Unacceptable Items

- Household waste which would be picked up with normal weekly trash service, appliances.
- Items that are too heavy for two men to lift will not be removed.
- Secure doors on any items that may pose a safety hazard to small children.
- Only Westminster resident household debris will be picked up. Business debris, large quantities of construction debris, or debris items transported in from outside the city limits will not be picked up.

When is your pick-up day?

Residential neighborhoods will be divided into three areas (unincorporated areas of the city are not picked up). All items should be placed at the curb, separate from your normal weekly household trash, no later than 7 a.m. Items will be picked up for each area ONLY on the area specific date. Items stacked in the driveway or in the yard will not be removed.

Dates for 2020

Area 1 – Saturday, April 18
Area 2 – Saturday, April 25
Area 3 – Saturday, May 2

Registration Timeline

- Registration is now open online through Saturday, April 5, midnight on the city’s website: www.cityofwestminster.us/largeitemcleanup

New Parking Strategies Coming Down the Pike

As development and use has increased in the Downtown Westminster and the Westminster Station area, the city is moving forward with plans to help manage accessibility and supply of parking in both of areas.

The city has already built significant parking infrastructure in both of these areas. There are parking structures at each and multiple surface parking lots that are serving residents, businesses, visitors and transit users.

Parking has been strategically located away from public view, whenever possible, and we have minimized the use of curb cuts with wrap structures around the parking garages to support our vision of a welcoming community.

With use in these areas increasing, the city will be implementing the next steps in its parking management process. City staff is in the final stages of creating a framework around parking management, which may include:

- Time restrictions for parking in selected areas
- Paid parking areas as well as complimentary parking for limited time in parking garages and surface lots
- Parking citations, appeals and collection protocols
- Enhanced parking availability and wayfinding

The city will continue to collect data and make appropriate adjustments as the parking program is implemented. Thank you for your patience and understanding.