



CITY COUNCIL

The City Council is comprised of the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and five City Councilors who are elected at-large and serve as the legislative and governing body of the City.

OVERVIEW

- Appoints the City Manager, City Attorney and Municipal Judge.
- Adopts laws, ordinances and resolutions instituting City policy.
- Provides policy direction and guidance through adoption of a Strategic Plan.
- Holds public meetings on a variety of community issues, meets with neighborhood groups and businesses, and attends local, county, regional, state and national meetings on issues that have municipal impact.

Visionary Leadership & Effective Governance

— The City of Westminster has articulated a clear vision for the future of the community. The vision is implemented through collaborative and transparent decision making.



- Secure a replacement for our retiring City Manager that has the combination of experience, knowledge, style and values that are consistent with City Council vision and organizational values; ensure a smooth transition

Vibrant & Inclusive Neighborhoods

— Westminster provides housing options for a diverse demographic citizenry, in unique settings with community identify, ownership and sense of place, with easy access to amenities, shopping and employment.



- Complete St. Anthony North Hospital (84th Avenue) impact analysis
- Create an Arts District

Comprehensive Community Engagement

— Westminster is represented by inclusive cultural, business, nonprofit and geographic participation. Members of the community are involved in activities; they are empowered to address community needs and important community issues.



- Create an Inclusiveness Commission

Beautiful, Desirable, Environmentally Responsible City

— Westminster thoughtfully creates special places and settings. The city is an active steward, protecting and enhancing natural resources and environmental assets. The city promotes and fosters healthy communities.



- Develop and implement Open Space Master Plan
- Identify and implement alternative energy options for city facilities
- Achieve “Solar City” designation to benefit both our environment and economy

Proactive Regional Collaboration

— Westminster is proactively engaged with our partners to advance the common interests of the region.



- Collaborate with counties, school districts and neighboring cities

— Westminster is a local government that fosters social, economic, and environmental vitality and cultivates and strengthens a wide array of economic opportunities.



- Construct Westminster Station and develop TOD area
- Identify and pursue FasTracks next step
- Continue North I-25 development
- Proceed with Phase I of the Westminster Center Reinvestment Project
- Advance business attraction strategy
- Encourage the development of chef-owned and/or operated restaurants
- Grow small businesses through incubation

— Westminster leads the region in a culture of innovation that exceeds expectations in all city services – the city is known for “the Westy Way.”



- Analyze Fire/EMS alternative service delivery
- Provide improved collaboration and communication between City Council and employees at all levels of the organization
- Improve planning and permit process to be business friendly and achieve city goals

— Westminster pursues multi-modal transportation options to ensure the community is convenient, accessible and connected by local and regional transportation options through planning, collaboration, advocacy and execution. Transportation objectives include walkability, bike friendly, drivability and mass transit options.



- Enhance trail connectivity



2013/2014 Achievements:

- Westminster Center Urban Reinvestment Project (WURP) – Property needed for the WURP project acquired and all litigation resolved. Downtown Westminster Planned Unit Development (PUD) was established and a Master Preliminary Development Plan (PDP) adopted. Removal of asphalt in a unique recycling program with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) prepares the site for redevelopment while saving significant cost to remove the asphalt and reflects the City’s environmental stewardship by recycling the asphalt. Signed exclusive negotiation agreement with OliverMcMillan on the redevelopment of the 105-acre site to create a new downtown and urban core; anticipate construction to commence in 2015.
- Westminster Station – All property acquisitions required under the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Station project have been completed and associated structures demolished; other key acquisitions are in progress. Jim Baker Reservoir utility issues were resolved and significant utility relocation initiated, including boring three significant water/wastewater lines under Federal Boulevard. Staff worked with RTD and Denver Transit Partners (DTP) on implementation of the parking garage and station improvements to support Westminster’s vision; components to be constructed by the City remain on schedule to open in 2016.
- Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan – This effort took the existing Comprehensive “Land Use” Plan and reformatted it into a document that incorporated the policies and strategic planning of the other City departments. The impact will be seen in the more development friendly redevelopment policies that the comprehensive plan incorporates. The document received a Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) award in April 2014.
- Intergovernmental Cooperation – Over 20 IGAs were completed during 2013, maximizing City resources by partnering with other agencies.
- Jessica Ridgeway Memorial Park Dedication and Resolution to Court Case – The community donated approximately \$500,000 to fund and build this important place of healing for our community. The old park equipment was recycled/refurbished through Kids Around the World and equipment was donated to a community in Arusha, Tanzania. Nearly 300 volunteers helped install the new playground equipment at Jessica Ridgeway Memorial Park in the Countryside neighborhood. Additionally, the defendant pled guilty and was sentenced, closing the largest criminal investigation in the history of the City of Westminster.
- Maintained Safe Drinking Water during and after the September 2013 Floods – The turbidity and organic loading flowing into Standley Lake during and after the flooding was significant. The water was the “muddiest” raw water that the City’s Water Treatment facilities have ever treated; despite the poor raw water quality entering the plants, the facilities were successful in treating the water, avoiding a bottled water or boil water order.
- New Business Attraction – Over 18 new businesses announced plans to move into Westminster in 2013 (sizes varied from 2 to 1,500 employees); 17 of the new businesses came from outside of Westminster and are setting a strong economic foundation for the City with an average employee base of 31 employees. Approximately 1,800 new primary jobs will be added to the City and 201,700 square feet of vacant retail will be filled. During 2014/2015.
- Progress on US 36 Transportation Initiatives – Phase II of the US 36 Managed Lanes Project completed financial close and will proceed, completing the managed lane project to Boulder. A revenue sharing agreement was secured with CDOT and HPTE for the US 36 Managed Lanes Project, ensuring that local communities are able to direct investments in the corridor related to additional toll revenue in approximately 10 years. Negotiated with Ames/Granite and CDOT for LED light installation on US 36 (down from the original capital cost estimate of \$1.3M to \$300K), saving the City approximately \$44,000/year in cost avoidance for energy consumption. Completed land swaps and negotiated enhancements for architectural features within Westminster along US 36.
- Open Space Acquisitions – Four new open space properties were acquired, totaling 18 acres (Johnson, Bushnell, Big Dry Creek buffer and 75th Avenue/Sheridan Boulevard). The City received over \$1.8M for these acquisitions from Adams County, which leveraged limited City funds. The City also received 20 acres from a land swap with the Colorado Department of Transportation, 8 acres through public land dedication, and 38 acres through the internal adoption program for a total of 84 acres preserved in 2013/2014. A total of 14.3% of the City’s land area is now preserved as open space, closing the gap towards the City goal of 15% open space preservation.

Total Budget by Category

	2013 Actual	2014 Adjusted	2014 Estimated	2015 Adopted	2016 Adopted
Personnel	\$154,299	\$185,609	\$168,264	\$182,435	\$184,935
Contractual	\$35,352	\$59,535	\$49,650	\$73,640	\$73,640
Commodities	\$7,987	\$8,950	\$8,000	\$10,450	\$8,950
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$197,638	\$254,094	\$225,914	\$266,525	\$267,525