8.0
Public Utilities and Services

Although not as visible as parks or buildings, public utilities and services are an essential element of a city's quality of life and livability. Water quality and availability, the efficient removal and treatment of waste and waste water, and stormwater management are all essential to the function and quality of service in the city. These elements provide the backbone upon which parks, new development and the public realm can be built and maintained. Likewise, public safety services ensure that the city's amenities, neighborhoods and activity centers are safe and protected during emergencies. This chapter provides direction for continued high quality public utility and service provision. Additional services addressed that are not provided by the city include schools, electricity and gas, and telecommunications.

The city's utility infrastructure ensures that all development in the city has adequate resources for operation. This includes water for landscape and site features, which for many sites in the city is provided by the city's reclaimed water infrastructure.

Overview

A key focus of the Comprehensive Plan is to ensure that the city can continue to provide adequate water supply and delivery to the Westminster community as it continues to grow in population and development intensity. Water availability and utilities infrastructure will be an important consideration of future land use choices moving forward. Utility sizing and availability will be particularly important for higher-intensity redevelopment areas like downtown Westminster. Additionally, increased recycling efforts and the city's water reclamation and recycled distribution system will continue to improve the city's efforts toward a sustainable future.

The Comprehensive Plan also supports efforts to ensure the community remains safe both on a daily basis and during emergency events. Continued expansion and improvements to the city's stormwater drainage system are planned, and public safety services will continue to be evaluated on a regular basis. Provision of utilities and services outside of the city's purview, such as public education, energy and telecommunications, will be evaluated for adequacy and potential improvements as new development is proposed.

8.1 WATER SUPPLY

Water supply, treatment and distribution are essential elements of the city's high quality of life and services. Ensuring that all residents and businesses in the city have access to high quality water service, even in periods of drought, is a necessity for both existing and future development in the city. As the city intensifies and builds out, and water costs continue to rise, maintaining a water supply to meet demand will be a key focus of land use and water supply planning.

Standley Lake is the primary storage facility for the city's water supply, top. Bottom, the Labrynth Spillway, which is part of Standley Lake Dam.

Water System

The city's water supply is composed of a system of raw water, potable water and reclaimed water (treated recycled water). The water supply system is centered on Standley Lake, which receives raw (untreated) water from several sources including Clear Creek, Coal Creek, and the West Slope via the City of Denver's raw water system. Currently, approximately 23,000 acre-feet of water is diverted to the city's water supply system each year. This potable water is treated at one of the city's two potable water treatment facilities and then distributed as potable drinking water throughout the city. The city's raw water supply is designed to meet the demand of the city in a drought equal to the most severe recorded drought. With Colorado's arid environment, the city aggressively works to protect existing water supply and ensure sufficient supply to meet future needs.

Reclaimed Water

The city complements its raw water supply by using highly-treated waste water, or "reclaimed water", for use as an irrigation source, while preserving potable drinking water for human consumption. During peak irrigation season, the city's Reclaimed Water Treatment Facility treats up to 10 million gallons per day of waste water from the Big Dry Creek Waste Water Treatment Facility with additional filtering and disinfection. This high quality reclaimed water currently provides an estimated 1,600 acre feet to 110 permitted reclaimed water customers, including golf courses, parks, commercial properties, rights-of-way, and common areas of homeowners' associations. By 2035, a projected 3,500 acre feet will be treated and distributed to reclaimed water customers through separate reclaimed water distribution mains during summer irrigation months, significantly reducing the burden on the city's potable water system.

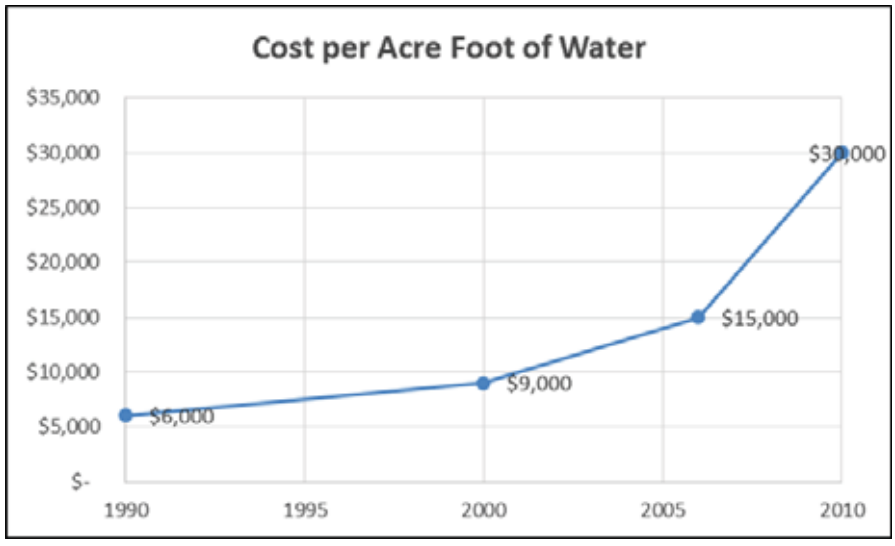
Water Conservation

In addition to efforts to expand recycled water availability to city water customers, the city also employs conservation efforts to address water supply and demand. Water conservation programs directed towards the consumer are focused on both indoor and outdoor water demands. Programs intended to reduce indoor water consumption promote water efficient fixtures and appliances through regulations and education. Outdoor water conservation is promoted through landscape regulations requiring water wise landscapes and smart efficient irrigation technology as well as offering free irrigation audits to existing customers that target water savings. The city's supply-side conservation measures are directed toward increasing water efficiency both before and after customer use. These strategies include improvements within the city's raw water collection and treated water distribution systems in terms of leak detection and repair, pipe replacement and corrosion control.

Water Costs

Over the years, the City of Westminster has purchased water rights from sources that complement the reliability and quality of its existing water supply. New water supplies must be within the basins that currently feed Standley Lake, which limits the market for where the city can seek to obtain new water. The cost for water rights that meet Westminster's requirements has risen steadily over the years. In 1990, water rights were able to be purchased for about $6,000 per acre foot. By 2010, the average cost per acre foot had risen to $30,000 per acre foot (as shown in Chart 8-1). This increase in the cost of water rights is anticipated to continue as competition for water rights among Front Range communities becomes greater and availability decreases over time.

Chart 8-1: Average Cost per Acre Foot Water



Future Water Supply

The city's Public Works and Utilities Department periodically updates the Comprehensive Water Supply Plan (CWSP). The CWSP evaluates the city's current water supply projection and projected water demands based on the Comprehensive Plan in order to quantify any expected deficits or surpluses. Based on assumptions for water consumption by land use, it is expected that the city's existing and planned water supply will meet the needs of projected development through the Plan horizon of 2035.

As the Front Range of Colorado continues to develop, sources of new water supply are becoming limited within the water basins on which the city relies. As such, the Comprehensive Plan reflects a balance of land uses that will allow the city to grow and evolve within a limited water supply. As the city becomes more densely developed, maintaining the balance between demand for water by new development and the city's water supply will be a significant factor in land use decisions. New development will be evaluated based on projected impacts to the city's overall water supply. This coordination of planning efforts between land use and water supply will be augmented by Plan policies aimed at water conservation, expansion of reclaimed water use and periodic monitoring to ensure the city can continue to provide high quality water service into the future.

Above, the Hyrdopillar provides additional water storage for the city.

Above, an original rendering of the Big Dry Creek Waste Water Treatment Facility. Below, Semper Water Treatment Facility.

8.2 WASTE WATER SYSTEM

The City of Westminster maintains the city's waste water collection and treatment system. Waste water is collected and treated in one of two facilities depending on location. The Big Dry Creek Waste Water Treatment Facility (BDCWWTF) at 130th Avenue and Huron Street treats waste water produced generally north of 92nd Avenue. Waste water generated south of 92nd Avenue is sent to the Metro Waste Water Facility in Denver (Metro). Much of the waste water treated at the BDCWWTF is diverted, after treatment, to the city's Reclaimed Water Treatment Facility for further treatment to produce reclaimed water for distribution as irrigation water. In 2012, the average BDCWWTF influent flow was approximately 7.13 million gallons per day and the average Metro influent was 2.58 million gallons per day. Based on the projected future development through the Plan's 2035 horizon, it is expected that both treatment facilities will have sufficient capacity to serve Westminster's potential new development, but collection system improvements to increase hydraulic capacity will be required over time.

The city completed an extensive survey of the age, condition and hydraulic capacity of its large-diameter sewer mains in 2011. As part of that effort several sewer pipeline projects were identified throughout the city and prioritized for repair or replacement. The adopted five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) prioritizes sewer improvements in south and central portions of the city. This work is needed to replace aged piping that is in poor condition and also to improve hydraulic capacity to support city growth, development, and redevelopment, particularly where higher intensity development is contemplated within the downtown Westminster and Westminster Station sites. Improvements for future years focus on repairs and replacement of sewers in the northern portions of the city. In addition to improvements to large collection sewers within the system, the city makes repairs to smaller, residential neighborhood sanitary sewer systems. These projects are evaluated and prioritized based on inspection reports completed every three years.

8.3 SOLID WASTE

The City of Westminster does not manage or operate trash and recycling services. Solid waste collection in the city is contracted independently by property owners and homeowners associations. Companies that are contracted must be licensed to offer the service through the Solid Waste Collection section of the Municipal Code. Solid waste collectors take trash to multiple landfills that serve the Front Range and Denver metro area, including Foothills Landfill in Golden, Denver Regional Landfill in Commerce City and Front Range Landfill in Erie. Capacity issues within these landfills are not anticipated.

All companies licensed to collect solid waste are also required by the city to offer curbside recycling options to all of their customers. Currently, 11 percent of all waste collected in Westminster is diverted from reaching the landfill by recycling or composting. As an additional option to curbside recycling, Westminster offers drop-off recycling services at various city facilities. It is planned that in the year 2015 the drop-off program will be consolidated into one collection site in South Westminster with hours of operation and staffing. For materials that are not easily recycled, the city offers a proactive education campaign connecting the community to other local recycling resources. The city also provides a free curbside home household hazardous waste collection program by appointment only.

In addition to household solid waste recycling efforts, the city supports and encourages construction and business recycling efforts. All city facilities provide recycling and composting for employees. Additionally, the city improvement projects incorporate recycling efforts. For example, the Westminster Mall demolition diverted approximately 90 percent of building materials from landfill. Additionally, 75 percent of the asphalt from the site was used for roadway construction along US 36, in coordination with CDOT. The Comprehensive Plan will continue to support both city and community efforts towards recycling and reuse.

Typical curb and gutters along local streets provide surface level storm water drainage. Ponds throughout the city provide detention as well as an amenity for open spaces, parks and development.

8.4 STORMWATER QUALITY

The City of Westminster is located within the South Platte River basin. Major drainageways within this basin that run through the city include Big Dry Creek, Little Dry Creek and Walnut Creek. Defined floodplains are located along these drainageways, providing a diverse environment of wetlands, water bodies and natural drainage areas that also provide important wildlife habitat. The city continues to identify opportunities to improve drainage and flood control throughout the city—an effort that will become more essential as the city builds out and intensifies in already urbanized areas.

Stormwater Management

The existing drainage system in Westminster is comprised of an integrated system of curbside gutters, underground storm sewers, drainage ditches, lakes, detention ponds, open channels and natural creeks. The city generally maintains drainage facilities within the public right-of-way, on public easements and on property owned in fee by the city. Components of the drainage system on private property, or within private drainage easements, are maintained by the underlying property owner, metropolitan district or other private party. As a Phase II MS4 community within the federally regulated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, the city drainage system is required to comply with the State issued permit.

On a regional level, the City of Westminster falls within the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) and actively participates with UDFCD on major drainageway planning efforts. These plans have been adopted by the city and many of the proposed capital improvement projects have already been constructed. Any new development that falls within a drainageway shown on a master plan will be required to follow UDFCD criteria for the design and construction of such facilities. Upon approval, UDFCD will assume long term maintenance of the drainage facility. In general, the city seeks to consolidate drainage facilities, particularly when serving higher density development. As the city becomes denser, planning impacts and improvements to the city's drainage system, as well as opportunities for expansion, will be evaluated and implemented in concert with new development.

Flood Control

Flood control is a key element of the city's stormwater management planning efforts. Flood waters are managed as part of the overall stormwater drainage system. The city partners with the UDFCD and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for mapping of floodplains. Development and/or land fill within identified floodplains is not permitted. For several decades, the city has prohibited or severely limited development within the 100-year floodplain, including grading to modify the floodplain.

Based on the city's flood control measures and facilities, Westminster has a Class 6 rating through the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) program—one of the highest ratings in the state. The Class 6 rating allows Westminster residents up to a 20 percent reduction on flood insurance for properties located in floodplains.

The Public Safety Center, located at 9110 Yates Street, houses both police and fire personnel.

8.5 PUBLIC SAFETY

The City of Westminster strives to maintain a safe, secure community. Both police and fire services are provided by the city as well as emergency management planning. Figure 8-1 shows the location of public safety facilities in the city. This section focuses on maintaining and enhancing the city's ability to respond to community emergency and safety needs.

Police Services

Police services are located in the Westminster Public Safety Center adjacent to City Hall on Yates Street, with one additional daytime substation located at the Orchard Town Center. As of 2013, the department employs 183 sworn officers and 79 civilian staff positions. Functions of the department include administration, patrol services, specialized services, and emergency/dispatch communications for both police and fire services. The department also participates in mutual aid agreements within the Denver metro area and North Central Region, which provides the participating agencies with additional resources when needed.

Performance Measures

The department aims to respond to emergency calls within five minutes. In 2012, the average response time was just over five minutes (5:19). Response times and staffing levels are continuously monitored and evaluated in an iterative process that will ensure new population and employment growth within the city is accommodated.

Planned Improvements

The anticipated growth in population and development through the 2035 Plan horizon can be accommodated by the department's existing facilities. Currently, an improvement plan is near completion to improve radio services citywide. The new radio system will entail new and improved technology to allow interoperability with surrounding agencies and a simulcast transmission system. These enhancements represent state-of-the-art and best practice radio technology to provide radio users with diverse radio systems and equipment that can effectively communicate with each other. This will allow for enhanced safety for the community as well as reliable and dependable service and communications.

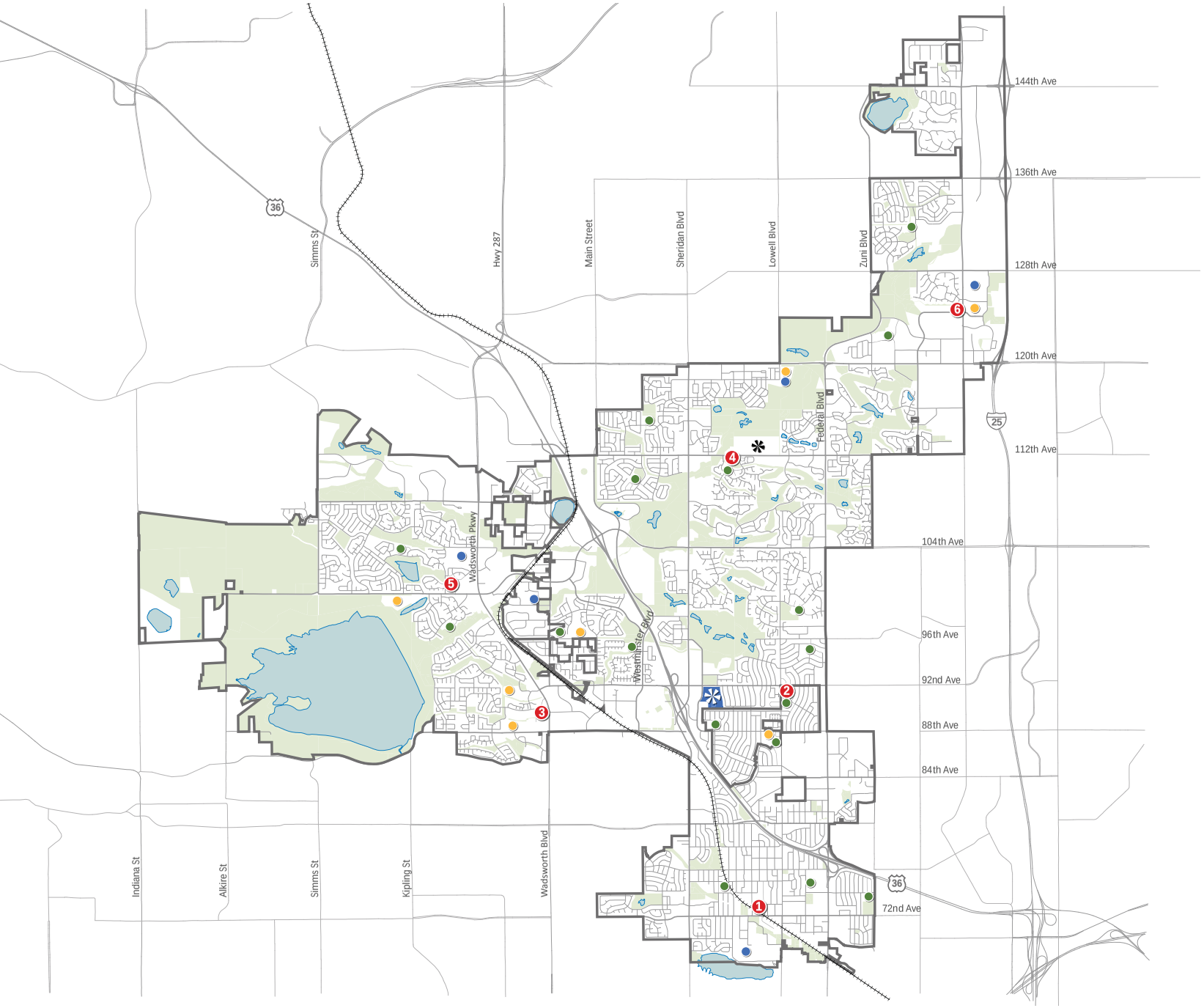


Figure 8-1: Public Facilities

Legend

Public Facilities

- City Hall and Public Safety Center
- Fire Station

Public Schools

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Front Range Community College

Planning Area

- Parks/Open Space/Golf Courses
- Water
- City Limits
- Rail Corridor

0 0.5 1.0 2.0

Miles

Updated 4/13/15

Fire & Life Safety Services

Fire Station #2, located at 9150 Lowell Boulevard, is the city's largest fire station facility.

The Westminster Fire Department is based in the Public Safety Center, with the majority of staff and services located on site in six stations throughout the city. Overall, the department employs a total of 135.3 employees including fire fighters and six support staff. Equipment available at each fire station varies according to demand for each service area, with a total of four ambulances, (with a fifth ambulance placed into service as staffing allows), five fire engines and two ladder trucks. The department has mutual aid agreements with the Front Range regional jurisdiction as well as local municipalities including Arvada, Federal Heights, Thornton and North Metro districts.

The Fire Department also oversees and administers emergency management planning. This planning effort is integrated with all city departments for major disasters such as weather events, emergency management works with local businesses on continuity planning in the event of a local or larger disaster. Business emergency plans are regularly reviewed with emergency management and fire prevention. The department also provides public education to provide residents training on emergency preparedness in the home. Finally, a community risk reduction program has been started that will provide evaluation of all areas of the city, identify risks, plan strategies to address these risks, and take action designed to reduce or eliminate the risks.

All of the Fire Department's planning efforts are conducted as an ongoing process. The department maintains a strategic plan, last updated in 2011 for the 2012-2017 planning period. The plan will be updated in late 2013 for the 2014-2019 planning period. The Emergency Management Plan is reviewed annually and regularly updated every five years. Finally, the risk reduction program will be formalized into a planning document and regularly updated as part of the department's organizational planning efforts.

Performance Measures

The Fire Department uses performance measures to evaluate the quality and level of service provided to the community. The department's performance is measured on a regular basis in order to help identify timing for additional staff or equipment. In addition, the efficacy of the performance measures is evaluated on a regular basis in order to determine their effectiveness and whether they need to be modified to respond to changes in technology or environment.

Two key measures that the Fire Department uses include response-to-scene and on-scene time. Response-to-scene measures the time it takes for emergency personnel to arrive on-scene once a call is made, while on-scene time measures the time spent to access and care for an individual at the site of a medical emergency. In 2012, the department received 9,267 calls, which

The city has shared service agreements with neighboring jurisdictions-- an arrangement that benefits both Westminster and surrounding communities.

includes mutual aid responses to nearby cities. Approximately 70 percent of these calls were medical-related. The Westminster Fire Department averages just over five minutes (5:14) for arrival on-scene, with an aim to maintain a five-minute or less response-to-scene time. Regional medical expectations for on-scene time are 10 minutes for trauma and 15 minutes for all other medical calls. In 2011, the department averaged 11:44 minutes for trauma and 13:32 minutes for all other medical calls. The department will continue to work towards meeting these regional goals and ensuring quick response and on-scene time.

Planned Improvements

The Fire Department is not currently planning for new facilities. It is anticipated that the current distribution of fire stations in the city should be able to serve additional population expected through the Plan horizon. Intensification and renovations at specific stations may be contemplated in order to accommodate additional demand for personnel and equipment.

8.6 SCHOOLS

The city is served by three school districts: Jefferson County R-1, Adams 12 Five Star Schools (Adams 12) and Adams County District 50 (Westminster 50). Schools located within the city are administered by each individual school district. Within the city, there are 17 elementary schools, five middle schools and five high schools, as shown in Table 8-1. School sites are shown on Figure 8-1. Four public charter schools are also located within the city.

In addition to public schools, Westminster is home to several higher education facilities. The main campus of the Front Range Community College, shown in Figure 8-1, serves approximately 1,700 full and 4,700 part time students.[1] The campus includes a joint library facility that serves both the city and the college. Two additional private universities in the city include the University of Phoenix and DeVry University. Each of these schools provides both two and four-year undergraduate degrees as well as graduate level education.

The DeSpain School House was one of the first schools built in the city. One of the more recnt schools built is Westminster High School, with a 2012-2013 enrollment of 2,900 students.

Projected Enrollment

Existing enrollment and capacity for each school district serving Westminster is shown in Table 8-2. Based on the projected development through the Plan horizon, approximately 2,380 new students are anticipated citywide. Distribution of projected new students by district and school age is also shown in Table 8-2. In response to projected demand, and accounting for expected changes in demographics over time, it is expected that the Jefferson R-1 and Adams 12 school districts will not be significantly impacted. Accommodation of new students will be made at existing school facilities with the addition of modular classrooms or renovations or additions. The Westminster 50 school district may be more impacted based on distribution of potential new students. To the extent possible, students will be accommodated at existing facilities with modular classrooms, renovations or additions. A new elementary or combined elementary/middle school facility in the northern portion of the district may be necessary.

Planned Facilities

Planning and location of public schools within the city is directed by each district based largely on the location of existing school facilities and population projections in each neighborhood. As new residential development occurs, the city requires either land dedication or a cash-in-lieu payment to ensure adequate school infrastructure is available. Westminster Municipal Code section 11-6-8 outlines the methodology used to calculate fees and/or land

[1] Front Range Community College, Admissions Department, September 2013.

Table 8-1: Public Schools Serving Westminster

Schools	*District*
Elementary (K-5)	
Arapahoe Ridge Elementary	Adams 12
Cotton Creek Elementary	
Rocky Mountain Elementary	
Betty Adams Elementary	Jefferson R-1
Lukas Elementary	
Ryan Elementary	
Semper Elementary	
Sheridan Green Elementary	
Witt Elementary	
Zerger Elementary	
Flynn Elementary School	Adams (Westminster) 50
Harris Park Elementary	
Mesa Elementary	
Skyline Vista Elementary School	
Sunset Ridge Elementary	
Westminster Elementary	
Middle (6-8)	
Silver Hills Middle School	Adams 12
Mandalay Middle School	Jefferson R-1
Moore Middle School	
Wayne Carle Middle School	
Shaw Heights Middle School	Adams (Westminster) 50
High	
Mountain Range High School	Adams 12
Standley Lake High	Jefferson R-1
Adco Alternative Center for Education	Adams (Westminster) 50
Hidden Lake High School	
Westminster High	
Charter Schools	
The Academy Charter School (Main Campus)	Adams 12
The Academy Charter School (North Campus)	
Woodrow Wilson Charter Academy	Jefferson R-1
Jefferson Charter Academy High School	
Crown Pointe Academy	Adams (Westminster) 50

1. Located in Adams County but serves City of Westminster students.
2. Located in Jefferson County but serves City of Westminster students.

area for dedication. The city's land dedication requirements has resulted in many of Westminster's school sites being donated to the school districts at no cost. Identification of need and potential locations for new facilities will be addressed as development occurs within the city, in coordination with the appropriate school district. As such, no new facilities are identified on the Land Use Diagram.

Table 8-2: Projected Students and Accommodation in 2035 by District

	Adams 50	*Adams 12*	*Jefferson R-1*
Existing Capacity*	7,490	4,882	7,851
Existing Enrollment (2012)	5,405	4,646	5,387
Projected Enrollment Trends through 2017	Remain Level w/ slight decrease	Remain Level w/ slight increase	Remain Level
Projected New Students in 2035**			
Elementary	696	78	547
Middle	295	39	227
High	255	50	195
Total Projected New Students in 2035	**1,246**	**167**	**969**
Potential Accommodation Measures	Modular classrooms and/or renovations or additions to existing facilities; Boundary adjustments; New facility	Modular classrooms and/or renovations or additions to existing facilities; Boundary adjustments	Modular classrooms and/or renovations or additions to existing facilities

** Does not include charter or preschool programs. Also does not include schools that are currently closed or temporary buildings that may be on site.*

***Based on projected new housing units through 2035 for the Comprehensive Plan and student per housing type assumptions provided by individual districts, 2013.*

8.7 UTILITIES

Although the City of Westminster does not operate energy and telecommunications utilities, the city does benefit from ready availability of electricity and gas as well as high speed cable, phone and internet service. This section provides background on the city's utilities provision and accommodation of these services.

Electricity and Gas

Electricity and gas service for the city is primarily provided by Xcel Energy, a regional entity that provides energy to many states in the midwest. Xcel Energy's company-wide power supply is generated by a variety of fuel sources including coal (46.1%), natural gas (24.1%), nuclear fuel (12.2%), wind (12.2%), and a combination of other sources including water, oil, solar and refuse. Xcel generates approximately two-thirds of its own power and purchases the remainder from other electricity suppliers. Connection and user fees for all new development are charged in addition to service rates.

According to Xcel's 2011 Electric Resource Plan with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the company anticipates nominal resource needs to meet demand by 2018. The company will continue to make significant changes to the power supply composition and operation, including to meet Colorado's Clean Air Clean Jobs Act. With their current wind and solar contracts and SolarRewards programs, the company expects to be in compliance with Colorado's renewable energy standard by 2020. At this point, the power supply composition will exceed 30 percent renewable energy. Future planning for energy provision is required by the CPUC every four years, with a resource planning horizon of eight years.

In addition to Xcel Energy service, a small portion of the city's northernmost extents is served by United Power. Additionally, some individual property owners, including the city, provide solar energy on-site with the use of solar panels. The city encourages on-site solar energy production for both residential and commercial uses. Location of on-site solar panels are subject to city zoning standards and guidelines to ensure visual impacts are minimized.

Telecommunications

The availability and quality of communications infrastructure directly impacts the city's business environment. While also a priority for residential use, high quality internet, fiber optic and cell service is a key amenity for employers. Although these services are not directly provided by the city, the Comprehensive Plan supports continued efforts to upgrade existing telecommunications infrastructure.

Cable and Internet Service

Cable and internet service for residents and businesses in the city is provided by Comcast and CenturyLink. These services are currently available to all areas of the city as well as to those that are likely to build out over the Plan horizon. Upgrades to the infrastructure are the responsibility of each private enterprise and will be evaluated and conducted in response to demand. The city holds a franchise agreement with Comcast to provide service in areas with a minimum density of potential subscribers. The city also supports and encourages higher quality service to key employment areas including Westmoor, the Church Ranch Focus Area employment center and North I-25 employment center as well as future employment clusters like downtown Westminster. Additionally, the city encourages undergrounding of all cable and internet utilities and will work with service providers to coordinate improvements as streets are constructed or improved.

Cell Towers

Westminster currently allows limited location of cell towers within the city on both public and private property. Current trends in cell tower improvements include larger panels and dishes to accommodate 4G and LTE cellular technology. The Comprehensive Plan encourages improvements to be made to existing equipment and towers wherever possible. The Plan also emphasizes reduced visual impact of cell towers and supports co-location of new facilities, integration of equipment into building design and stealth tower design. Specific criteria for tower location and design are provided in the Municipal Code.

Above, Clear Creek is a source of the city's raw water supply. Below, a shaft within the Standley Lake Dam.

8.8 GOALS AND POLICIES

GOALS

PU-G-1 Ensure a safe and reliable water supply.

PU-G-2 Ensure public health and safety by providing effective waste water collection and treatment.

PU-G-3 Strive to provide exceptional water and waste water services at reasonable costs to city customers.

PU-G-4 Provide a convenient recycling program for residents and businesses with a high level of participation.

PU-G-5 Facilitate development and protect the community from adverse impacts of water runoff with efficient stormwater management.

PU-G-6 Maintain a safe, secure community with high quality police and fire services.

PU-G-7 Ensure all community members have access to high quality educational resources and programs.

PU-G-8 Ensure all residents and businesses have access to high quality utility systems.

POLICIES

Water Supply

PU-P-1 Conduct annual analysis of projected water supply and demand to ensure the city maintains a balance between supply and demand. Provide an annual water and infrastructure balance report to City Council to document progress and highlight decisions that have integrated land use and development decisions with water supply planning.

PU-P-2 Ensure that new development does not result in water demand that exceeds the city's existing water supply. Proposed developments that exceed the water demand associated with the property's Comprehensive Plan land use designation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to ensure the city's water supply is not impacted.

PU-P-3 Coordinate with the city's Planning Division in growth management competition evaluation of new development and long range planning efforts to ensure land use planning is in concert with water supply availability.

PU-P-4 Maintain existing levels of water service for current and future development by preserving and improving infrastructure, replacing water mains as necessary, and improving water treatment facilities.

- Work with the Planning Division to identify and evaluate areas where intensification of land use is anticipated to occur to identify potential deficiencies in capacity or level of service.
- Update the Capital Improvement Program to identify priority improvements.

PU-P-5 Ensure that resource supply, infrastructure and operational resources remain at sufficient levels to meet the city's needs during fires, emergencies and severe drought conditions.

PU-P-6 Continue to expand the reclaimed water system and encourage existing and new development to connect to and utilize the system.

PU-P-7 Provide high quality potable and reclaimed water to customers that meets or exceeds all standards established by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and State regulations.

PU-P-8 Continue efforts to reduce water use in municipal buildings and city operations.

PU-P-9 Encourage water conservation in new and existing construction through education, regulation and incentives when appropriate. Measures may include but are not limited to:

- Educational programs
- Indoor and/or outdoor audits
- Fixture and appliance incentives
- Rates and fees
- Requirements by the Municipal Code or regulation

Big Dry Creek Reclaimed Plant.

PU-P-10 Establish water saving and conservation standards for new development. Standards may include, but are not limited to:

- Efficient water fixtures and appliances
- Landscape design (see Westminster Landscape Regulations)
- Irrigation technology and performance
- Water efficient processes and equipment

Waste Water

PU-P-11 Collect and treat the city's waste water to high quality levels that meet or exceed all standards established by the federal Clean Water Act and State regulations.

PU-P-12 Maintain existing levels of waste water service by preserving and improving infrastructure, including replacing sewer mains as necessary within the Capital Improvement Program.

Solid Waste

PU-P-13 Continue reduction and recycling efforts within the city to divert increasingly larger portions of solid waste from landfills. Specific efforts include:

- Maintaining the requirement that every city licensed trash collector offer recycling to their customers.
- Educating the community on ways they can recycle curbside through their trash collector.
- Educating the community on ways they can recycle at city provided recycling drop-off locations.
- Continuing to provide disposal options for household hazardous waste disposal.

PU-P-14 Promote the importance of recycling industrial and construction waste.

Stormwater Quality

PU-P-15 Require new development to provide any needed storm drains and drainage facility improvements or expansions to the city's drainage system.

PU-P-16 Schedule and prioritize drainage improvement projects in the Capital Improvement Program.

PU-P-17 Encourage development of consolidated facilities to support a higher intensity use of land in urban, high density areas.

PU-P-18 Encourage low impact development measures to reduce water runoff for site improvement and construction activities.

PU-P-19 Coordinate storm drainage and flood management with appropriate agencies, including the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

PU-P-20 Ensure that new development is compliant with the city's Stormwater Management Plan and the State's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements.

PU-P-21 Ensure that development is not allowed within the 100-year floodplain. Grading or filling of floodplain areas, especially along Big Dry Creek, is generally prohibited to preserve natural areas and wildlife habitat.

Public Safety

PU-P-22 Continue to provide timely response to all emergencies and achieve response time goals set by each department.

PU-P-23 Support community involvement in emergency preparation and response through business and resident outreach efforts.

PU-P-24 Update strategic plans in concert with Comprehensive Plan updates to ensure future residential, employment and visitor populations are adequately served.

PU-P-25 Continue working to improve efficiency and interoperability for police and fire services with other local jurisdictions.

Schools

PU-P-26 Work cooperatively with the Jefferson County R-1, Adams County 50 and Adams County 12 school districts to ensure that sufficient facilities are available to accommodate projected growth in the community.

PU-P-27 Continue to work with the school districts serving the community to optimize joint use of school facilities for community use, including school playgrounds and sports facilities as well as auditoriums or cafeterias to host community meetings.

Utilities

PU-P-28 Require new development to coordinate with all utility providers to assure quality services to residents and businesses.

PU-P-29 Continue efforts to underground electric utilities as new development occurs throughout the city. Work with service providers to coordinate improvements as city streets are constructed or improved.

PU-P-30 Work with cable and internet providers to enhance and expand service throughout the city, with emphasis on service delivery to existing and future employment areas.

PU-P-31 Promote co-location and streamlining of cell tower utilities to the extent possible to minimize visual impacts to surrounding development and from public view.