Like any complex system, Westminster’s water distribution system requires continuous maintenance and planned upgrades. As Westminster’s current drinking water system continues to age, it becomes more expensive to maintain and increasingly vulnerable to threats posed by drought and wildfire.

Water 2025 is the long-term planning project to replace the city’s aging Semper Water Treatment Facility in phases, starting in 2025, to ensure high-quality drinking water for 15 to 20 more years. However, as Semper nears the end of its planned lifecycle, the city must begin proactively planning for a replacement drinking water treatment facility to meet the needs of our current and future generations. The advanced new technology in this new facility will provide:

• Resiliency in times of challenging treatment, such as a wildfire in our watershed.
• Flexibility to adapt to changing regulatory standards.
• Security to address potential future shortages in our water supply.

Planning Now for Future Water – Water 2025

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, known for its “Dinner at the Movie” service, opened in Downtown Westminster in June.
Preparations Begin for City Council Election

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, Westminster residents will vote to elect three at-large City Councilors. The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes are elected to office and begin their 4-year terms on Monday, Nov. 11 at 8 p.m.

Current Council members who are up for reelection this November include Councillor Michele Haney, Councillor Sheela Mahnke and Mayor Pro Tem Anita Seitz.

On Wednesday, May 29, the City hosted a City Council Candidate Information Session, in which potential candidates were given information on the process of declaring their candidacy, filing reports with the City Clerk and getting on the ballot.

As the city moves into the facility’s design phase, community members will be invited to participate in an ongoing process to provide input on facility architecture, landscaping, amenities and other design guidelines.

For more information and for the latest news, please visit the project website: www.cityofwestminster.us/water2025.

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, MONDAY, SEPT. 2

**Open Normal Hours:**
- City Park Recreation Center
- Standley Lake
- Walnut Creek Golf Preserve
- Legacy Ridge Golf Course

**Closes at 5 p.m.:**
- City Park Fitness Center
- West View Recreation Center
- The MAC
- Swim & Fitness Center
- Countryside Pool

**Closed:**
- College Hill Library (closed Sept. 1 and 2)
- Irving Street Library (closed Sept. 1 and 2)
- Sports Center
- City Hall
- Municipal Court

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

The Westminster City Council is elected at-large. Councillors represent all residents of the city, not specific wards or districts.

**CITY EDITION**

**WESTMINSTER STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:**

- Visionary Leadership, Effective Governance and Proactive Regional Collaboration
- Vibrant, Inclusive and Engaged Community
- Beautiful, Desirable, Safe and Environmentally Responsible City
- Dynamic, Diverse Economy Financially Sustainable Government Providing Excellence in City Services
- Ease of Mobility

**HERB ATCHISON**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2021
- 303-915-5625
- hatcherson@cityofwestminster.us

**ANITA SEITZ**
- Mayor Pro Tem
- Term Expires: Nov. 2019
- 303-817-5237
- aseitz@cityofwestminster.us

**DAVID DEMOTT**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2021
- 303-881-2728
- ddemott@cityofwestminster.us

**MICHELE HANEY**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2019
- 303-245-0225
- mhaney@cityofwestminster.us

**SHEELA MAHNKE**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2019
- 303-563-9944
- smahnke@cityofwestminster.us

**KATHRYN SKULLEY**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2021
- 303-255-5567
- kskulley@cityofwestminster.us

**JON VOELZ**
- Councillor
- Term Expires: Nov. 2021
- 720-925-6903
- jvoelz@cityofwestminster.us
City Reaches Out for Continued Input on Harris Park Area Plan

Community engagement efforts for the Harris Park Area Plan are well underway with the recent completion of two important public outreach events—a focus group and a community workshop.

In early May, the city and consulting team Winter and Company met with the project focus group for the second time. After a presentation that highlighted input received in the first community workshop held back in February, the focus group reviewed project character areas and provided feedback related to big picture goals.

The focus group also began drafting character areas for the Harris Park Area, which focused on enhancing the built environment, establishing appropriate land uses, and fostering a community that celebrates its diversity and welcomes locals and visitors alike. The focus group also began discussions regarding implementation by prioritizing overarching goals.

A second community workshop was held June 26 and built off input received during the last focus group meeting. A large group of community members attended the meeting which began by provided feedback about a vision statement for the Harris Park Area.

Workshop participants also reviewed character areas that comprise the Harris Park core, considering the design of new residential and commercial structures, appropriate adaptive reuse projects, and the activation of existing community spaces.

The importance of improvements to the public realm, including gateways, wayfinding signage, connectivity, and views was then highlighted through an activity that identified where improvements were needed and which were more appropriate.

The final interactive workshop exercise prompted meeting attendees to consider issues that face the greater Harris Park Area. Following the June workshop, an outline for the plan document will be drafted and presented to the focus group in a third meeting in late summer/early fall. The first draft of the plan will then be created and presented at the third community workshop, held sometime in late fall.

To stay updated on the project process and opportunities for involvement, please visit www.westminstereconomicdevelopment.org/places/historic-westminster/harris-park-area-plan.

If you have any questions about the project, contact Nathan Lawrence at 303-658-2099 or nlawrence@cityofwestminster.us.

Federal Boulevard Multimodal Transportation Study Under Way

The City will begin a major transportation planning project this fall titled the Federal Boulevard Multimodal Transportation Study. Through a unique partnership between the city, Adams County and the City of Federal Heights, the study will examine existing conditions, issues and opportunities along Federal Boulevard.

The proposed study areas include approximately eight miles from West 120th Avenue to the Adams County/Denver City and County limits at West 52nd Avenue.

The city will develop a vision along with short-, mid- and long-term recommendations for a safer, more connected and accessible corridor for all modes of transportation. It will support the evolution of a more vibrant, multimodal, mixed-use corridor that serves adjacent neighborhoods and the region.

The study will coordinate community outreach activities, data sharing and build on the existing groundwork jurisdictions have laid for growth and redevelopment. Federal Boulevard serves as our front door to neighboring communities and connects us to Denver and the region.

Traffic, Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Expanded

Over the past year, you may have seen various types of transportation improvements installed along the streets throughout Westminster. Here are some of the completed improvements and what you’ll see over the next few months.

New Bike Lanes Along Westminster Boulevard and Yates Street

What are those new green boxes painted along Westminster Boulevard and Yates Street? Those pavement markings are part of the new bike lanes that were designed and implemented as part of the Westminster’s Mobility Action Plan.

These are buffered bike lanes because they have a buffer space separating the bike lane from the adjacent motor vehicle travel lane. The green boxes and white stripes provide a safer space for bicyclists and more clearly define the area to help drivers be aware. These new lanes also have bicyclists with new and safer connections to destinations throughout Westminster including the US-36 and Sheridan Station.

Street Light Upgrades

Street lights along arterial and collector streets throughout Westminster have been upgraded from the older high-pressure sodium lights to Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology. LED lighting consumes less power and lasts longer than the sodium lights, so they cost less to operate and need to be replaced less often.

New Signal at the Big Dry Creek Park and Trail

Earlier this year, the city installed a new traffic signal at 128th Avenue at the Big Dry Creek Park entrance. Together, with a new crosswalk, this new signal provides a safer connection across 128th Avenue between the park and the Big Dry Creek Trail entrance on north side of 128th Avenue. The signal also provides safer and more efficient vehicle access to the park.

Other Transportation Improvements Coming Soon

• To provide a safer and improved vehicle travel time, crews will be installing flashing yellow arrows at the intersection of 112th Avenue and Westminster Boulevard later this summer.

• Later this year, crews will be installing a new traffic signal at the intersection of 107th Place and 108th Avenue to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety.

• Throughout the city, crews continue to upgrade and replace street signs. Some illuminated streets signs, currently illuminated by less energy-efficient fluorescent lights, will be upgraded to more efficient LED lights or replaced with a non-illuminated sign.

• Later this summer, crews will widen portions of 128th Avenue at Delaware Street to provide additional travel lanes improving travel times and safety. This work will include upgrading the traffic signal.

• Crews will continue to install new bike lanes and crosswalks throughout the community to create safer, more accessible and connected streets for all modes of transportation.

New bike lanes along Westminster Boulevard and Yates Street.
FISHING FRENZY Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m. to noon, Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge

Introduce your child to becoming a fishing fanatic in this beginner’s fishing clinic led by Environmental Learning for Kids. In this hands-on program, explore the basics of fishing and the ethics behind it. Poles available for use during the program, or bring your own. Ages 6-14. $8 per child.

HOLLS AND OWLS Sunday, Aug. 4, 8-9 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
As we sleep the night away, many creatures are creeping about, looking for their next meal. On this night hike, explore the many animals who hunt and howl in the moonlight. All ages. Free.

TAEKWON-DO FOR FAMILIES, YOUTH AND ADULTS Monday, Aug. 5-28, 5:30-6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Sept. 4-30, 6:30-8 p.m., West View Recreation Center; Tuesday Aug. 6-29, 6:30-7:30 p.m. and Thursday, Sept. 3-26, 6:30-8 p.m., The MAC
These monthly evening classes help increase your fitness, flexibility and confidence levels and allow you to gain the ability to defend. Skills learned in class apply to other sports and everyday life. Age: 5-8 and 8-adult.

EDIBLE FORAGING STROLL Saturday, Aug. 10, 9-11 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
In the Front Range, edible and medicinal plants can be found wherever you look. Identifying these plants is made easy when you walk alongside Kate Armstrong, a practiced urban forager. All ages. $8.

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CLUB Saturday, Aug. 10, noon to 4 p.m., Irving Street Library
Adventure awaits. Play a heroic character in a world of monsters, magic and destiny. Choose from a variety of characters and experience the adventurous world of Dungeons and Dragons. Age: 12-18.

WESTMINSTER DANCE Fall dance classes are back in session. Choose from a variety of class options for ages 3-18. Let our skilled instructors help your child improve their technique, flexibility and fitness in fun and engaging classes. Check the Activity Guide for specific class dates, times and costs.

WESTMINSTER DANCE COMPANY The Westminster Dance Company is a year-round competitive dance program. All participants must have an instructor recommendation or audition with a dance company director. Auditions will be held Saturday, August 10, in the dance room at City Park Recreation Center. Ages 4-6: 1:30-2:15 p.m. Ages 7-12: 2:30-3:15 p.m. Ages 13-18: 3:30-4:15 p.m.

ASTRONOMY NIGHT Sunday, Aug. 18, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
Gaze into the night sky using high-powered telescopes to view the celestial objects in the beyond. The Denver Astronomical Society will share the facts and fantasy behind the planets and constellations being observed. All ages. $5.

TIPO TOT TIME Thursday, Aug. 22, 9-9:45 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
These summer story times are for our youngest nature lovers. Gather in the coziness of a tipi while enjoying a nature-themed book. Ages 2-5. Free.

THE LATEST ON COLLAGEN Thursday, Aug. 22, 6-7 p.m., West View Recreation Center
Collagen is our body’s most abundant protein. Some studies show that collagen may improve bone and joint health, skin, hair and nail quality. Learn whether these benefits are true or just the latest fad. Register by Aug. 19. Resident $1; non-resident $13.

KAYAK TOUR Saturday, Aug. 24, 5-7 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
Explore the oasis Stan- dley Lake provides for hu mans and wildlife alike on this guided paddling tour. With cool blue water, wildlife viewing, and stories of the rich history of the park, there’s something for the whole family. Tour includes life jackets, kayaks and paddles. All ages. $25 per person.

2019 WPL CRAFT BEER TOUR Aug. 31-Dec. 21
The WPL Craft Beer Tour is back for a third round. Grab a BrewCard from either library location or any of our brewery partners. Purchase a beer at each brewery to validate your card and return completed BrewCards to the library to receive a limited edition pint glass. Check the library’s website for participating breweries. Ages 21+

FREE TREE LIMB RECYCLING 2nd Saturday of the month, Jan.-Dec. 8 a.m. to noon, 10001 Alkire Street
If you’re a Westminster resident, you can turn your tree limbs into useful mulch at this free event. All loads must be tied down or covered. Mulch is available while supplies last. Please bring a driver’s license or utility bill to verify Westminster residency. To prevent the spread of invasive species, please bring tree limbs from Westminster residences only. Note: Event is dependent upon the weather.

MOVIES IN THE PARK Friday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m., “Incredibles 2”, Westminster City Park
It’s better than going to a drive-in movie. Watch your favorite family movies on a giant outdoor screen. Bring the whole family—it’s free. Activities and food concessions begin at 7 p.m. and the movie starts at dusk. Bring your chair or blanket and enjoy the show.

TOTS OPENINGS August, Sept. 1-26, Two- and three-hour morning or afternoon classes, Westminster Library; Sept. 2-30, Two- and three-hour morning or afternoon classes, Eisenhower Library
Register now for any remaining spots for the 2019-20 school year. This continuous school year program prepares your child for kindergarten while focusing on the “learning is fun” philosophy. Class emphasizes social, emotional and cognitive development along with teaching pre-kindergarten and creative skills. Please call 303-658-2222 or 303-658-2215 for class times, days and fees. Age: 3-5 years.

GRANDPARENTS READ AND PLAY Saturday, Aug. 17, 2-3 p.m., College Hill Library L211
Are you a grandparent taking care of young children? Join us for this informative session to learn more about healthy child development and early learning. Specific activities will be provided. Register online.
FAMILY CAMP NIGHT
Saturday, Sept. 7 through Sunday, Sept. 8, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge
Come say goodbye to summer at our 5th annual Westy Family Camp Night. Enjoy paddling on the lake, cookouts, live animal programs, arts and crafts, and much more with your family and friends. All ages. $15 resident/$17 non-resident.

ADULT SPORTS
Fall Softball – Registration is open and league games will start the week of Aug 19. Games take place at Christopher Fields. For more information, call 303-658-2225.


Pickleball “Doubles” Leagues – Beginner to intermediate players are welcome. Games will be played Thursday nights at West View Recreation Center and Countryside Pool. For more information, call 303-658-2207.

Volleyball – Season starts in September and includes 10 games. Monday mornings. Senior Women at City Park Recreation Center. For more information, visit www.teamsideline.com/ westminster.

WOOD CARVING
Tuesday, Sept. 3 – Oct. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
From European chip carving to relief carving and carving-in-the-round, receive step-by-step instruction on using hand tools. Only $25 (required new student payable to instructor). Experienced students can use the class as studio time. $65 resident/$75 non-resident.

READ W/ EASE LEVEL 1
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 3 – Oct. 17, 4-5 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
This class develops and strengthens reading skills with a focus on identifying letters, sounds, sight word vocabulary and reading with controlled vocabulary. Lessons include literature, reader’s theater activities and games. Ages 5-13. $98 resident/$112 non-resident.

BEGINNING UKULELE
Mondays, Sept. 23 – Oct. 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m., The MAC
Learn the basics of ukulele playing and basic finger-picking patterns. Register by Sept. 19. Resident $56/ non-resident $90.

ESSENTIAL KITCHEN TOOLS
Wednesday, Sept. 4, 1-2 p.m., The MAC
When setting up a new kitchen or downsizing an existing one, it can be overwhelming to choose which kitchen utensils, gadgets and accessories you really need. Discover the essential kitchen equipment needed in order to prepare anything from simple dishes to gourmet meals. Register by Sept. 1. Resident $11/non-resident $13.

PHOTOGRAPHY – BEGINNING
Wednesdays, Sept. 4 – 25, 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. Registration is $20, a DSLR with manual adjustments. Outdoor photo shoots are included. This is a six-week class. $65 resident/$75 non-resident.

BEGINNING CHESS
Mondays, Sept. 8 – Oct. 30, 4:30-5:45 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Learn the basics of chess. While reinforcing good sportsmanship, you will be introduced to the setup, moves, illegal moves, end game and more. “Hands-on” play reinforces lessons learned. Ages 6-16. $70 resident/$84 non-resident.

FREE SAT PRACTICE TEST
Saturday, Sept. 7, 1-4:45 p.m., College Hill Library
Practicing for the SAT is key. Take a free, full length diagnostic practice test. After the test, receive a detailed score report. Proctored by the Prince ton Review. Age: 12-18.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
Saturday, Sept. 7, noon to 1 p.m., Irving Street Library
Know your rights on housing, health, education, human services and civil rights issues. Featuring representatives from several agencies, get a brief overview of civil rights, including: What does the law say? How do I know when my rights have been violated? Where and how do I file a complaint? Questions encouraged.

CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH
Thursdays, Sept. 5 – Oct. 10, 6-7:45 p.m., The MAC
Conversational French language skills used for travel in everyday activities are refined in this interactive class. Basic French speaking skills are required. There are no books or homework in this relaxed, stress-free class. Cost: $20. Register by Sept. 2. Resident $75/non-resident $80.

UBER IT
Friday, Sept. 13, noon to 1 p.m., The MAC
Uber, the popular and convenient alternative to using a taxi, is expanding their services. Learn to use the Uber app to get a lift to a doctor’s appointment, get a ride to the airport on your next vacation and many more transportation-related services. Register by Sept. 11. Resident $24; non-resident $25.

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP – BEGINNERS
Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Learn about watercolor surfaces, mixing and controlling paint, various types of watercolor painting and brushes. Complete a small painting to frame at home. $15 supply fee due at class. $55 resident/$60 non-resident.

BEGINNING ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS
Tuesdays, Sept. 17 – Oct. 22, 7-8 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Beg. Italian. Learn about Italy’s regions and practice speaking in a relaxed environment. Acquire basic Italian language skills for meeting and greeting, getting directions and transportation info, shopping and ordering in a restaurant. Register by Sept. 15. Resident $75/non-resident $80.

DRAWING – BEGINNERS ONLY
Wednesdays, Sept. 18 – Oct. 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
Learn basic drawing skills and understanding of two-dimensional shapes. Practice lines/drawing values to form an object and then apply the skills to create a drawing. Class is limited to those with or very limited drawing experience. $65 resident/$75 non-resident.

WHAT TO EAT WHEN YOU HAVE DIABETES
Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1-2 p.m., The MAC
Are you having difficulty controlling your diabetes? Learn how different types of foods affect blood sugar levels, and get strategies for planning healthy meals and snacks. Class is taught by a registered di etitian. Register by Sept. 15. Resident $11/non-resident $13.

IT’S A WALK EASY Saturday, Sept. 21, 2-3:30 p.m., College Hill Library
Create and sew a pil low and other fun projects to take home. All materials are provided. This class is perfect for beginners. Parents are encouraged to stay and join the fun. Register on line. Ages 8-11.

READ W/ EASE LEVEL 2
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 3 – Oct. 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m., City Park Recreation Center
This class develops and strengthens reading skills with more advanced reading strategies. Students must read and comprehend short stories and have mastered Level 1 skills. Lessons include literature, reader’s theater activities and games. Ages 5-13. $98 resident/$112 non-resident.
High school should prepare you for the rest of your life. For one class at Westminster High School, they take it to heart. Taught by Special Education Teacher Courtney Risinger, the Independent Living Class prepares 12 special needs students for life and the City Park Recreation Center helped out this spring with some fun activities.

“The Independent Living Class is designed to show the students that they can go into the community and be a part of it,” said Risinger. “We wanted to get them to City Park Recreation Center to help them feel more comfortable being there.”

The students visited City Park three times this spring free of charge to play basketball and racquetball, take a Zumba class, go swimming and scale the rock climbing wall.

“In the Parks, Recreation and Libraries Department, part of our mission is to create wellness in our community and providing these activities to the class means that happen,” said Recreation Programs Superintendent Barbara Giedraitis.

“The class helps the students be more active in their community and do physical activities both self-directed and taught by an instructor, like the Zumba class. The students can take the Independent Living Class each of the four years of high school. If they wish.”

“We’ve also been to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Flatirons mall and a coffee shop that has employees on the autism spectrum,” said Risinger. “The kids have become more confident throughout the semester. One student started shopping for food and cooking in February and is a fabulous chef now!”

Risinger connected with the city through Parks, Recreation and Libraries Director Jason Genck. She asked if her class could participate in activities at a recreation center to help the students build confidence and city staff was very helpful setting up the logistics.

“By offering these opportunities to the class, we’re reaching out to those in the community we may not otherwise be able to reach, so we’re so happy to give these experiences,” said Giedraitis.

“The students love to dance, so the Zumba class was amazing,” said Risinger. “We’re so thankful to the city to help us be more involved in our community. My students know that there are many doors open to them in Westminster.”

ALAMO

Continued from page 1

Construction, which broke ground approximately a year ago, was completed by Bailey Construction with architectural design by Hodges Architect. The distinct art deco style is an homage to the 1920s and 30s, and is evident throughout the interior theater that’s adorned with original, large-format film posters from that era.

Westminster High School students in the Independent Learning Class get their groove on during Zumba at the City Park Recreation Center.

The full-service bar ‘Pandora’s Box’ also pays tribute to the women of cinema in the 1920s and 30s and features original lobby cards of female screen stars from that period. The bar offers 32 beers on tap and signature cocktails created around specific movie themes. Of course Alamo Drafthouse Cinema is known for its food service during the films, streamlining the concept of “dinner and a movie” to “dinner AT the movie”. The menu features Tex-Mex favorites along with a full kids menu and vegan menu. You can order your meal from the comfort of your seat and have it brought to you by servers who have mastered the art of non-interruption, ensuring you catch every moment of the movie.

“We want people to view Downtown Westminster as a community gathering hub,” said Sarah Nurmela. Downtown Real Estate and Development Manager. “Alamo will be hosting a free outdoor movie on Thursday nights through the summer. This is a great opportunity to bring the family and start to experience what Downtown has to offer.”

The Alamo Drafthouse Westminster box office opens 45 minutes before all scheduled show times but also offers online reserved seating in all auditoriums so you can avoid lines at the theater and choose your favorite seat.

City Paints Murals on Stormwater Inlets

Stormwater pollution is untreated, contaminated water that drains from local streets into the storm drain system. Anytime it rains or snow melts, water that does not soak into the ground runs into street curbs, storm sewers, ditches and ponds, taking everything in its path, including grass clippings, fertilizers, pesticides, oil, pet waste and more.

By integrating public art with the storm inlet system, the city’s stormwater program lets you know what we’re doing to keep your waterways clean.

This spring, volunteer groups painted some storm inlets at Westminster City Park.
City Provides Residents With Floodplain Advice

While new homes built in Westminster are prohibited from being constructed in a floodplain, some of the city’s older homes may already be located in a floodplain if built near a stream or creek. Even if you live in an older home and have never experienced flooding, it could still happen in the future. The city can assist you in determining whether or not your house is located in a floodplain, and the following information can help you protect your home against flood damage.

What you can do

You can help reduce the impacts of flooding by doing the following:

• Do not dump or throw anything in ditches or streams. It is a violation of city ordinance because it plugs up water channels and contributes to flooding during periods of heavy water flow. You could be fined up to $1,000 per violation. If your property is next to a ditch or stream, you can help by keeping the banks clear of brush and debris.

• Always check with your Building Division before you build, alter, re-grade or fill on your property. A permit may be needed to ensure that projects do not cause flooding problems on other properties.

Floodproofing

If you live in a floodplain, there are regulations associated with floodproofing your home. Before implementing any floodproofing measures, contact the city’s Engineering Division for more information.

Flood insurance

If you live in a floodplain, you may need flood insurance. Homeowner policies typically do not include coverage for flood damage. Also, the city participates in the National Flood Insurance Program which allows you to purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This coverage may be required by your lender when applying for a home mortgage. Be sure it covers the building’s contents as well as its structure.

Flood safety

• Don’t walk through flowing water. Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths.
• Don’t drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else.

• Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. This is the number two killer after drowning. Report downed power lines to Xcel Energy at 1-800-895-1999.
• Have your electricity turned off by Xcel Energy. Some appliances, such as televisions, keep electrical charges after they have been unplugged. Don’t use appliances or motors that have been wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried out.
• Look out for small animals that may have been flooded out of their homes and are seeking shelter in your home.
• Be alert for gas leaks. Don’t smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

Trash vs. Stormwater

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally infiltrating into the ground.

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the bodies of water we use for swimming, fishing and drinking.

Dirt, oil and debris that collect on paved areas such as sidewalks or driveways can be washed into the storm sewer system and eventually enter the water. Debris such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles and cigarette butts can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life including ducks, fish, turtles and birds.

Household hazardous wastes, like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick or die from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

You might not think that you can help solve the problem, but you can!

• First, and most importantly, be sure to use a trash can to dispose of trash or debris.
• Recycle yard wastes, such as leaves, grass clippings and weeds, by composting.
• Remove grass clippings and other landscaping materials so they don’t wash into the storm drains during rains. These materials can not only cause damaging algae blooms, but also clog storm drains causing localized flooding issues.
• Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil and other auto fluids. Don’t pour them onto the ground or into storm drains.

Participate in the city’s household waste pickup program that is free to single and multifamily residents. For more information, please visit www.cityofwestminster.us/Residents/TrashRecycling/Recycling/HouseholdHazardousWaste.

FLOODPLAIN SERVICES

You can visit the Department of Community Development at City Hall to see if your home is located in a mapped floodplain. If you have experienced a flood, drainage or sewer backup problems, the city may have information about your property that could be useful.

The City of Westminster may be able to provide further information on how homeowners can protect their property from flood damage. If you have a flooding problem, please call the City of Westminster’s Engineering Division at 303-658-2120.
As noted in previous City Edition articles, the city is coordinating long-range plans and projects to create the framework for the future of Westminster. This coordinated engagement process is called “Westminster Forward” and supports six efforts: Comprehensive Plan, Unified Development Code: Parks, Recreation and Libraries Plan; Sustainability Plan; Transportation and Mobility Plan; and Water Supply Plan.

As a result of outreach that occurred in 2018, seven general themes that set the general structure for Westminster Forward have been established: Land Use and Growth; Housing and Neighborhoods; Mobility and Connections; Natural Resources; Economic and Financial Resilience; and Outdoors and Wellness.

You may have seen the Westminster Forward banner at multiple community events so far this summer, and will continue to see the tent and banner throughout August and September. Hopefully you have stopped by and of course, if you haven’t, please stop by the next time you see the name. We anticipate attending the following events:

- August 23. Movie in the Park, City Park, 10455 Sheridan Boulevard
- Late September, date TBD. Westminster Forward Forum
- October 19. Harvest Festival, Downtown Westminster

In late September, a full-day open house – “Westminster Forward Forum,” will be offered to gain feedback on the multiple long-range planning efforts under way. Please mark your calendars, and plan to stop by at your convenience. Anticipated topics for discussion include:

- Comprehensive Plan: review scenarios for the key growth and infill areas of the City, and provide additional opportunities for where and how to accommodate additional growth within the city.
- Sustainability Plan: review and offer comment on draft strategies and actions for increasing sustainability citywide.
- Water Supply Plan: Gain an understanding of how water affects development and growth in the future, and learn about conservation.

**HERE’S HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:**

1. Sign up online at to be notified by email of Westminster Forward updates and events.
2. Give feedback through the online survey at www.cityofwestminster.us/forward.
4. Contact us at westminsterforward@cityofwestminster.us.

Westminster Forward is moving ahead. The effort to develop the city’s first-ever Sustainability Plan (the Plan) was launched in late May this year and will continue into 2020. The purpose of the Plan is to help achieve the City Council’s vision to be one of the most sustainable cities in America.

A working group of 26 community members and city staff started working in late May to develop the content of the draft Plan.

The working group will meet through the fall to develop the Plan which will be followed by multiple opportunities for the community to provide feedback. The working group started with seven themes and a number of cross-cutting issues. The themes are: Energy, Mobility and Connections, Waste and Materials, Natural Resources, Outdoors and Wellness, Housing and Neighborhoods, and Economic and Financial Resilience.

The cross-cutting themes include Equity, Community Resilience, Education, Greenhouse Gases and Safety. In addition, Financial Sustainability - how the city and community funds key services - will also be a key factor in the Plan. These themes could change as the working group digs further into their work.

Updates on the Sustainability Plan process will show up in City Edition, the city’s website and other forums. More input will be collected at community events through the summer and fall.

**Westminster Forward – Sustainability: Working with Themes**

The City will begin developing a Transportation and Mobility Plan this fall to understand the transportation needs of residents, workers and visitors traveling by all modes of transportation including by foot, bicycle, transit and car.

Gathering community input and technical analysis will inform the development of recommendations for strategic actions, policies, and investments to provide safer, more connected and accessible transportation options in Westminster.

The plan will also help the city prepare for new options for emerging technology such as bike sharing, ride-hailing (e.g., Uber and Lyft), and micromobility (e.g., scooters). All demographic sectors of our community will be assessed including the needs of our youth, older adults, people with disabilities and workforce populations.

Be on the lookout for opportunities to provide your input during the development of the plan at upcoming city events, meetings, and online engagement.