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# Voters Elect Two New Councillors and Re-elect Mayor Pro Tem

As of Nov. 7, unofficial results of the local election indicated that voters re-elected Anita Seitz, and elected Rich Seymour and Lindsey Smith as City Councillors.

During the city council meeting

on Nov. 11, the new councillors were formally seated and re-elected Anita Seitz as Mayor Pro Tem.

After each regular city election, a Mayor Pro Tem is elected by the city council for a two-year

term. This person serves in the capacity of acting mayor in the event of absence or disability of the mayor.

Unofficial results for the remaining city council candidates

in order of most votes received were Bruce Baker, Sheela Mahnke, Michele Haney, Nick Dyer and Patricia "Pat" Moore. Please see **ELECTION** on page 3



**DIGGING OUT:** As winter weather piles up, consider helping a neighbor.

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## Learn How Westminster Plans for the Future

It's almost impossible to live on the Front Range and not have an opinion about growth - what it should look like, how it should happen and where or whether it should be approved.

As a city, Westminster has worked - and sometimes grappled - with these questions almost from its founding.

A fundamental question is, how best to be smart about that growth? To be forward thinking? To plan for the future, considering available resources and projecting what might be needed decades from now? To maintain and preserve what makes Westminster beautiful while fitting

into the bigger picture of statewide population increase?

To help Westminster residents learn about these issues and access resources, we've created Planning for the Future, an on-line hub of resources detailing our short- and long-term strategies to address growth in a strategic way through the Westminster Forward initiative, information on our exhaustive nine-step review process used for potential development projects, as well as status updates on key developments and projects still in review. Visit the site at [www.cityofwestminster.us/future](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/future).

## SNOW WILL COME AND YOUR NEIGHBORS NEED HELP!

Volunteers are desperately needed to remove snow from the public walkways of seniors and/or residents with a disability during the snow season. Removal must be completed 24 hours after a snowfall.

We currently have a very long wait list for those needing help this winter.

If you or your group (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church organization or service group) are interested in helping, contact Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator Martha Heinz at 303-658-2089 for an application or visit the city's web site [www.cityofwestminster.us](http://www.cityofwestminster.us).

# Small Businesses are the Heart and Soul of Westminster

Westminster is no stranger to large corporate companies like Ball and Maxar. Both have recently chosen the city as their corporate headquarters, providing jobs to thousands of employees across the Denver metro area. However, it's small businesses (defined by Westminster as companies with 50 or fewer employees) that make up the vast majority of businesses in our community.

"Nearly 94% of all businesses in Westminster are categorized as small businesses. While it is

the large company deals and mega mergers that normally make the headlines, it's the small businesses that are the foundation of our economy," said Business Development Manager Stephanie Troller.

Because of that, the month of November was dedicated to thanking area businesses, with special attention on small businesses. "Small local businesses are the fabric of our communities," said Troller. "They are your neighbors, serving fellow residents and visitors, day in and day out."

The city offers a variety of programs and services that benefit small businesses and helps give them a leg-up. Ranging from financial incentives to free energy assessments, small businesses have a variety of resources to tap into to help start and expand their business.

During the month of November, the city, along with partner Westminster Chamber of Commerce, served up special promotions for businesses, including a shop local program, a "Small Business Saturday" proclamation

for November 30, and targeted BusinessWalks to promote the Xcel Energy small business lighting campaign.

"We encourage everyone to support all of our local businesses throughout the year, but especially during the holiday season," said Troller. "Many businesses do the bulk of their sales this time of year, and your patronage is crucial to their success, and the prosperity of our community."

# New Branding and New Investment for Historic Westminster

For some time, there was a lack of consensus on the name and boundaries of the area of the city roughly south of 80th Avenue and east of Sheridan Boulevard. Several names had been used to refer to this part of town, primarily South Westminster. Many residents did not look fondly upon this name as they felt it created a separation from the rest of the city.

After many conversations with businesses and community members, a focus group unanimously chose Historic Westminster to be the unified name to represent the southern area of the city.

Along with the new name came a new logo and dedicated web page for the area. Visitors can check out [www.historicwestminster.us](http://www.historicwestminster.us) to learn more about the history of the area, as well as some of the unique businesses and amenities serving the neighborhood.

With the naming issue resolved, and a common brand and understanding of what the area is and what it wants to become, investment and revitalization was sure to follow.

And that investment has begun - in the form of a neighborhood pub.

A year from now, Historic Westminster residents will have a new place to grab a drink and a meal with their friends and neighbors. A lease has been signed and architects are currently working on the design of the Olde Westminster Pub & Tavern. Located in the city-owned property at 3915 West 73rd Ave., the new establishment will have the atmosphere of a classic Irish pub, reflecting the heritage of one of its owners, Andrew Toole.

Toole and co-owner Donnie Danesh have been successful businessmen in numerous fields

in Denver and beyond, but never strayed too far from their real passion for the pub culture. They have been owners and investors in numerous pubs including Ned Kelly's, Jefferson Park Pub and Scruffy Murphy's, all located in the metro Denver area.

"The Olde Westminster Pub & Tavern will become a gathering hub for the Historic Westminster community," said Toole.

An opening in the second half of 2020 is anticipated.

## CITY FACILITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Tuesdays, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31**  
**Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve**

- Closed: Libraries, Westminster Sports Center
- Closes at 3 p.m.: All recreation facilities, golf courses
- Standley Lake gates (free lots remain open)
- Open: City Hall, Municipal Court

**Wednesday, Dec. 25**  
**Christmas**

- Closed: All city facilities
- Open: Standley Lake (free lots only)

**Wednesday, Jan. 1**  
**New Year's Day**

- Closed: Libraries, The MAC, City Park Recreation Center, The MAC, City Hall, Municipal Court

- Open: Standley Lake (free lots only), golf course (weather dependent)
- Free Fitness Week kick-off: City Park Fitness Center open 8 a.m. to noon; West View Recreation Center open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Swim & Fitness Center open noon to 4 p.m.

**Monday, Jan. 20**  
**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

- Closed: City Hall, Municipal Court
- Open: All recreation centers, libraries, golf courses, Standley Lake

## WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

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



<p><b>HERB ATCHISON</b>                  Mayor                  303-915-5625  <a href="mailto:hatchison@cityofwestminster.us">hatchison@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2021</p>	<p><b>ANITA SEITZ</b>                  Mayor Pro Tem                  303-817-5237  <a href="mailto:aseitz@cityofwestminster.us">aseitz@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2019</p>	<p><b>DAVID DEMOTT</b>                  Councillor                  303-881-2728  <a href="mailto:ddemott@cityofwestminster.us">ddemott@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2021</p>	<p><b>RICH SEYMOUR</b>                  Councillor                  720-773-2046  <a href="mailto:rseymour@cityofwestminster.us">rseymour@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2023</p>	<p><b>KATHRYN SKULLEY</b>                  Councillor                  720-255-5567  <a href="mailto:kskulley@cityofwestminster.us">kskulley@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2021</p>	<p><b>LINDSEY SMITH</b>                  Councillor                  720-744-2316  <a href="mailto:llsmith@cityofwestminster.us">llsmith@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2023</p>	<p><b>JON VOELZ</b>                  Councillor                  720-923-6903  <a href="mailto:jvoelz@cityofwestminster.us">jvoelz@cityofwestminster.us</a>                  Term Expires: Nov. 2021</p>
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**VISION:** Westminster is the next urban center of the Colorado Front Range. It is a vibrant, inclusive, creative and well-connected city. People choose Westminster because it is a dynamic community with distinct neighborhoods, quality educational opportunities and a resilient local economy that includes: a spectrum of jobs; diverse, integrated housing; and shopping, cultural, entertainment and restaurant options. It embraces the outdoors and is one of the most sustainable cities in America.

## 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

**CANDIDATES**

Continued from page 1

The vote totals were unofficial until the canvass was completed on Friday, Nov. 22, for Adams County and Monday, Nov. 25, for Jefferson County, which was after print time for City Edition.

Read Council meeting agendas, listen to webcasts and learn more about Council's Strategic Plan that guides the city at [www.cityofwestminster.us/Government/CityCouncil](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/Government/CityCouncil).



**Rich Seymour**



**Lindsey Smith**



**Anita Seitz**

# Water: Preventing the High Cost of Failure Through Long-Term Planning

Westminster's \$4 billion water and wastewater system, including over 900 miles of underground pipes, four treatment facilities, 18 pump stations and 5,000 hydrants, supports every facet of our daily lives, but it needs to be maintained.

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 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, but how?

Every two years, the city conducts a comprehensive study of its infrastructure as part of our Long-Term Planning activities to invest ratepayer funds as efficiently as possible to protect public health and maintain reliable service. This study involves hundreds of hours of staff time and is well worth the effort.

Long-Term Planning begins by reviewing the levels of service the city commits to providing its residents, one that supports their quality of life and stays in line with regulations and industry best practices. Level of service goals cover 14 different utility areas and are in line with regulations and industry best practices. Examples of these goals include: less than 15 water main breaks per 100 miles of water pipe, less than two sewer backups per year, zero drinking water violations per year and at least four hour emergency response time to repair all water main breaks.

**WESTMINSTER BEING SUSTAINABLE**

Next, staff inventory and assess the condition of every piece of the city's water and sewer infrastructure valued at over \$20,000. This inventory includes when the infrastructure was installed, how long industry standards expect it to last, when it will need to be repaired and the estimated cost of repairing or replacing it.

Recent results from this investigation of over 3,000 segments of pipes, pumps, tanks, treatment equipment, etc. showed that our existing water and sewer infrastructure has depreciated by more than half and one quarter of our infrastructure is already at or beyond its designed life.

It's too costly to fix or repair every piece of infrastructure that needs to be fixed or repaired so staff have to prioritize projects by combining the condition of the infrastructure described above with the criticality of that infrastructure. They look at how many residents or business would be impacted by a failure and how much damage would be caused by a failure. They also look to see if the infrastructure serves any critical facilities like hospitals or schools.

Long-Term Planning for 2019/2020 identified over \$100 million in infrastructure improvements that are needed. Long-Term Planning is the key to investing rate payer fees in the most responsible manner to protect public health and provide reliable service.



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WESTMINSTER

[www.cityofwestminster.us/wortheverydrop](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/wortheverydrop)

## HOLIDAY LIGHTING CEREMONY

Saturday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Westminster City Hall

Experience the magical wonderland of lights at the annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony, complete with live holiday music, food trucks, carnival games, and of course, a visit with Santa! The full-size sleigh and kid-size train are perfect settings for family photos. Dress warmly - the event is mostly outside.

## CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Wednesday, Dec. 25 to Sunday, Jan. 26, City Park Fitness Center, lower parking lot

Residents may recycle their Christmas trees at the lower parking lot of City Park Fitness Center. This lot is self-serve, so the hours are flexible. Please remove ornaments and plastic bags before disposal. Boy Scout Troop 484 provides curb-side pickup on Saturday, Dec. 28, and Saturday, Jan. 4 for their annual fundraiser. Call 303-706-3389 to schedule a tree pickup. Contact 303-658-2192 or [aschreck@cityofwestminster.us](mailto:aschreck@cityofwestminster.us) for general questions about tree drop-off.

# DEC.

### GINGERBREAD HOUSES

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 4-5 p.m., Irving Street Library

Decorate your own gingerbread house to take home. All supplies provided. All ages.

### SAT/ACT STRATEGY SESSION

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2-3 p.m., Irving Street Library

Learn everything there is to know about the SAT/ACT. A Princeton Review expert will go over test content, walk you through some sample questions, and show you score-raising strategies. Register online. Ages 12-18.

### WINTER CRAFT MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2-4 p.m., College Hill Library

Bring the whole family to our winter make-it-take-it craft party! All ages.

### COLD COMMOTION

Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m. to noon, Standley Lake Regional Park

Fluff, fat, and fur! How do different animals survive the cold months? In this touch-and-tell walk, we will explore how some animals prepare for and survive the winter season. Class is free. Park pass required. Ages 4-7.

### HEALTHY JOINTS

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1-2 p.m., The MAC

Learn about the different types of joints in your body and specific exercises, nutrients, and supplements that are helpful in keeping your joints in healthy, tip-top shape. Register by Sunday, Dec. 8.

### SMARTPHONE BASICS

Thursday, Dec. 12, 9-11 a.m., or Friday, Jan. 17, noon to 2 p.m., The MAC

Sign up for a one-on-one, 30-minute consultation to learn the basic functions of your cell-phone. Register three working days in advance.



WINTER CRAFT MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT  
Saturday, Dec. 7

### 2019-20 PRESCHOOL-KINDER KIDS AND TINY TOTS OPENINGS

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. Please call 303-658-2222 or 303-658-2215 for class times, days, and fees. Ages 3-5.

### TREE LIMB RECYCLING

Second Saturday of every month, 8 a.m. to noon, Brauch Property, 10001 Alkire St.

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 supply lasts. Please bring a driver's license or utility bill to verify Westminster residency. Call 303-658-2192 with questions. Note: Event is weather-dependent.

### TAEKWON-DO FOR FAMILIES, YOUTH AND ADULTS



### ASTRONOMY NIGHT

Friday, Dec. 13, 7-8 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park

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. \$5 fee per person. All ages welcome. Limited to 20 spaces.

### THURSDAY TOT TIME

Thursday, Dec. 19, 10-10:45 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge

Thursday Tot Times are nature programs provided for our youngest explorers. These programs always have a tot-sized hike

and a fun nature-based craft or game! Class is \$1. Fees fund tot-time supplies. Ages 3-5. Limited to 10 spaces.

### WINTER SOLSTICE

Saturday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m. to noon, Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge

Welcome winter by exploring the trails of Standley Lake on the shortest day of the year. Discover the traditions and lore behind the celebration of the passage into winter. Class is free. All ages welcome. Limited to 30 spaces.

### WINTER BIRD COUNT

Sunday, Dec. 29, 3:30-5 p.m., Standley Lake Regional Park and Wildlife Refuge

Christmas bird counts have been happening for over a century. Join local bird watchers of Westminster and record the birds in our area on this winter bird walk! Class is free. Ages 8 and older. Limited to 30 spaces.

### TAEKWON-DO FOR FAMILIES, YOUTH AND ADULTS

Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m., West View Recreation Center; Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30-7:30 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m., The MAC

These monthly evening classes help increase your fitness, flexibility, and confidence levels so you can defend yourself. Ages: 5-8 and 8-adult.

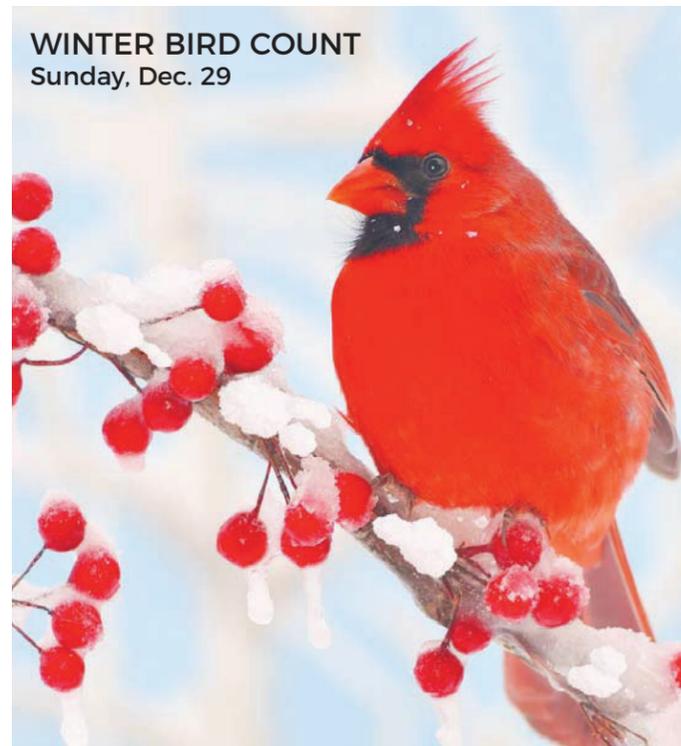
### ASTRONOMY NIGHT

Friday, Dec. 13



### WINTER BIRD COUNT

Sunday, Dec. 29



## WESTERN HULLABALOO

- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 6-6:30 p.m., Irving Street Library – Pajama Story Time
- Thursday, Jan 16, 10-11 a.m., Irving Street Library – Learn to Square Dance

We're celebrating all stories throughout the week with western themes in addition to special programs, crafts and a square dance. All ages.



## CHILI LUNCH AT THE MAC

Thursday, Jan. 23, noon to 1:30 p.m., The MAC  
Enjoy a bowl of homemade beef chili, breadstick, side salad and light dessert. Entertainment provided by local guitarist, Robert G. Register by Monday, Jan. 20.

# JAN.

### SCIENCE STORIES – ROBOT REVOLUTION

Sunday, Jan. 5, 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.

### CHUNKY CHICKADEE

Saturday, Jan. 11, 10-11 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park

Surviving through the winter can be tough on Colorado's songbirds like the chickadee. Explore the adaptations these birds have to survive, and create a winter bird feeder to help keep those chickadees chunky. Class is \$5. All ages welcome.

### ITALIAN GRAMMAR

Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 18, 5:30-7 p.m., The MAC

Designed for students who have taken the Beginning Italian class, this course explores more in-depth grammatical constructions, and helps build the foundation to become more versed in Italian. Conversations, verb conjugations, use of adjectives and pronouns, and an introduction to prepositions are covered. Register by Friday, Jan. 10.

### BEGINNING ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS

Wednesdays, Jan. 15-Feb. 19



### BEGINNING ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS

Wednesdays, Jan. 15-Feb. 19, 5:30-7 p.m., The MAC

Buongiorno! 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 information, shopping, and ordering in a restaurant. Instructor is a native Italian speaker with over 15 years of teaching experience. Register by Monday, Jan 13.

### HISTORY OF THE ACADEMY AWARDS

Friday, Jan. 17, 10:30 a.m. to noon, The MAC

"The Godfather," "Patton," "Gone With the Wind..." Journey back in time to the influential, controversial, and sometimes funny past of the Academy Awards. This historical perspective reviews the movies that were celebrated and the presentations that made the news on their own merit. Register by Wednesday, Jan. 15.

### GROWING READERS TOGETHER

Friday, Jan. 31



### BALD EAGLE DISCOVERY

Saturday, Jan. 18

### BALD EAGLE DISCOVERY

Saturday, Jan. 18, 10-11 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park

A bald eagle sighting is an exhilarating experience, but spotting one did not used to be a common occurrence. Take a short walk to view the two bald eagle nests within the park and discover the fascinating history behind our nation's symbol and what allows them to thrive today. Class is free. All ages welcome.

### THURSDAY TOT TIME

Thursday, Jan. 23, 10-10:45 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park

Nature programs designed for our youngest

explorers! Tots discover the park using all their senses and hands-on activities to help these young explorers gain a better appreciation of their surroundings. \$1 fee for craft supplies. Ages 3-5.

### EARLY BIRD WALK

Saturday, Jan. 25, 8-10 a.m., Standley Lake Regional Park

Quiet mornings provide the perfect opportunity to seek out our feathered friends on the trails of Westminster Open Spaces. Join the Park Naturalist in search of resident and migratory birds who call local trees, burrows and waterways home. Locations may vary. Class is free. Ages 8 and older.

### FREE SAT PRACTICE TEST

Saturday, Jan. 25, 1-4:30 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 Princeton Review. Register online. Ages 12-18.

### GROWING READERS TOGETHER

Friday, Jan. 31, 10-11 a.m., Irving Street Library

Grandparents, nannies, neighbors and friends that provide home child-care for children 0-5, come to our special play time party to celebrate YOU! Enjoy refreshments, get swag and hear tips to help support the important work you're doing. Little ones are welcome for a special story time. Register online.

## FACILITY LOCATIONS/REGISTRATION

### RECREATION

[www.cityofwestminster.us/ParksRecreation](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/ParksRecreation)

#### Register:

[www.cityofwestminster.us/activityguides](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/activityguides) or call any recreation center

**City Park Fitness Center**  
10475 Sheridan Blvd.  
303-460-9691

**City Park Recreation Center & City Park**  
10455 Sheridan Blvd.  
303-460-9690

### Countryside Outdoor Pool

10470 Oak St.  
303-466-1738

### Ice Centre at The Promenade

10710 Westminster Blvd.  
303-469-2100

### Legacy Ridge Golf Course

10801 Legacy Ridge Parkway  
303-438-8997

### The MAC

Programs to suit your active adult lifestyle. Ages 18 and older.  
3295 W. 72nd Ave.  
303-426-4310

### Standley Lake Regional Park

100th Avenue and Simms Street  
303-425-1097

### Swim & Fitness Center

3290 W. 76th Ave.  
303-427-2217

### Walnut Creek Golf Preserve

10555 Westmoor Drive  
303-469-2974

### Westminster Sports Center

6051 W. 95th Ave.  
303-658-2393

### West View Recreation Center

10747 W. 108th Ave.  
303-460-9530

### LIBRARIES

#### Register:

<http://tinyurl.com/wplsignup>  
[www.westminsterlibrary.org](http://www.westminsterlibrary.org)

### College Hill Library

3705 W. 112th Ave.  
303-658-2603

### Irving Street Library & Park

7392 Irving St.  
303-658-2303

### ADMIN

**City Hall**  
4800 W. 92nd Ave.  
303-658-2400

**Westminster Public Safety Center**  
9110 Yates St.  
303-658-2400

Emergency: 911

# WESTMINSTER FORWARD

one community. one vision. one future.

## Community Gives Direction to Westminster Forward

The coordinated engagement process of the city's six long-range plans and projects, Westminster Forward, incorporated new input this past fall building upon earlier input received from hundreds of community stakeholders.

We met you at the Halloween Harvest Festival and Taste of Westminster, and we hosted two public events known as "People, Places and Plans" in September and October.

After all of this input, we've been working behind the scenes to draft a number of preliminary plans. Be sure to keep an eye out for the release of the Draft Comprehensive Plan, and the Draft Sustainability Plan in spring 2020!

In the meantime, here's a summary of what we have heard through the fall events:

- **Comprehensive Plan:** Respondents identified their ideal neighborhood should (most) include a park for community gathering; options for eating and entertainment; small neighborhood-oriented retail and services; a mixture of housing types designed around a common neighborhood theme; a civic building (i.e. school, library,

### WESTMINSTER BEING SUSTAINABLE

recreation center); and a park with active recreation areas such as playing fields.

The majority of residents identified that additional senior housing is needed to fulfill demand, but overall they are satisfied with housing options with the city.

- **Parks, Recreation and Libraries Plan:** Respondents identified the following as the best places for future amenities and programs: City Park, Stanley Lake, libraries, trails and parks, The MAC, Historic Westminster events and the holiday lighting at City Hall.

- **Sustainability Plan:** Respondents identified key strategies to include in the plan: improving public transportation; limiting single-use plastic and expand-



ing and promoting recycling; collecting rainwater; composting; and implementing education programs.

- **Transportation & Mobility Plan:** Most respondents indicated the importance that Westminster's transportation network be more connected, accessible and safe. Respondents also highlighted the need to address areas that are experiencing traffic congestion and vehicle speeding

as well as those areas that lack multimodal infrastructure such as bike lanes and sidewalks.

- **Unified Development Code:** Many respondents identified that a range of housing options, including allowing accessory dwelling units, affordable senior housing, townhomes, condos, and detached homes on small lots, would help meet the community's housing needs. Alternatively, only 6% of respondents identified multifamily apartments as the appropriate housing to meet that need.

- **Water Supply Plan:** A large number (75%) of residents noted that landscapes should not create excessive demand on water supply, but nearly the same percentage (79%) do not employ xeriscape within their yard.

The input provided will continue to guide formation of the Westminster Forward plans over the next several months.

### HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED NOW:

1. Sign up online to be notified by email of Westminster Forward updates and events at [www.cityofwestminster.us/forward](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/forward).

2. Review Outreach Summaries and Draft Documents online at [www.cityofwestminster.us/forward](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/forward).

3. Email us at [westminsterforward@cityofwestminster.us](mailto:westminsterforward@cityofwestminster.us).

## Transportation & Mobility Plan: Vision, Goals and Existing Conditions

### A PLAN WITHIN THE WESTMINSTER FORWARD INITIATIVE

Development of Westminster's first Transportation & Mobility Plan continues as the project team moves into the next project phase this winter.

In the October-November City Edition, we highlighted the initial tasks underway including gathering community input and evaluating the current transportation infrastructure and services in the city. Using this information, the project team is now finalizing the existing and future conditions report which includes the identification of gaps in the city's transportation network and other mobility needs.

The project team is also developing the plan's vision and goals using the community input gathered during fall community events, including the Westminster Forward People, Places and Plans Open Houses, and online questionnaire. We received feedback that the community's transportation vision should include a safer, more connected, and more accessible system for all modes of

### WESTMINSTER BEING SUSTAINABLE

transportation. The plan goals should also include a focus on transportation safety, connectivity, affordability and maintaining the existing transportation infrastructure.

The community also indicated, through a mapping activity, areas that are missing sidewalks or bicycle lanes, experiencing traffic congestion, or where vehicles were speeding.

Others indicated areas where transportation is great in our community including Westminster Station, bicycle lanes and other transportation improvements implemented throughout the city.

This winter, the team will begin exploring trade-offs associated with different types of transportation improvements and uses of the public right-of-way. This next step will be informed by the community input to-date as well as evaluated data. As the plan develop-



ment evolves, documents will be posted on the project website at: [www.cityofwestminster.us/TransportationMobilityPlan](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/TransportationMobilityPlan).

### We Want to Hear from You!

Community input throughout the planning process is important to ensure the plan is created to address the trans-

portation and mobility needs of Westminster residents, commuters and visitors. As the plan progresses over the next year, please watch for opportunities to provide your input at upcoming events, meetings and online engagement at [www.cityofwestminster.us/forward](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/forward).

# New FlexRide Service Created

The Wagon Road Park-n-Ride/144th FlexRide to Serve St. Anthony's North and Orchard Town Center

RTD and Smart Commute Metro North, the transportation management organization serving communities along I-25 began a new transit service in November. FlexRide is different than conventional bus routes in how it meets transit riders' needs.

The service for each vehicle is scheduled around where customers want to go within a defined geographic area.

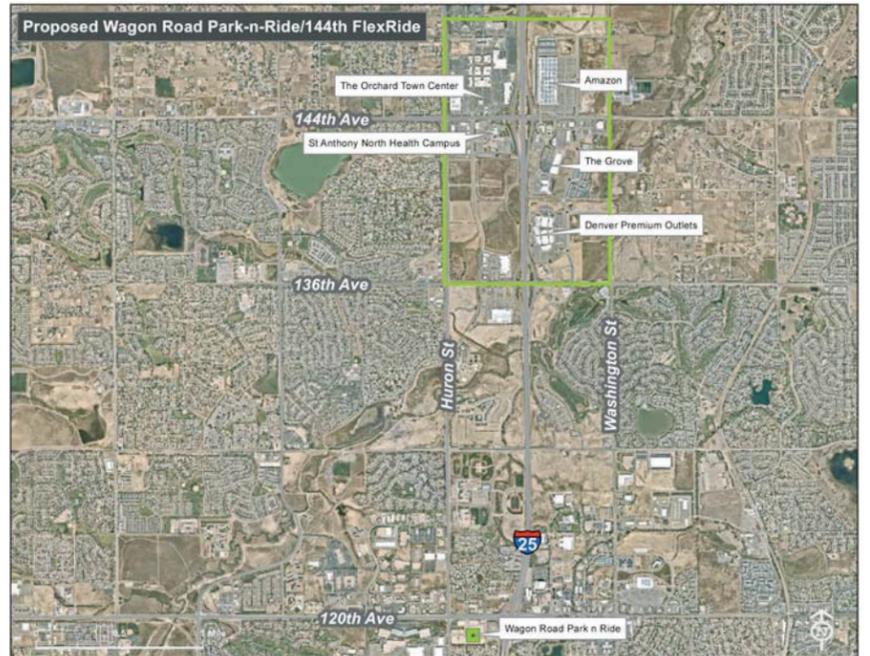
Customers may schedule a trip that has both its starting and ending point anywhere within the defined FlexRide service area.

The Wagon Road Park-n-Ride/144th FlexRide will provide first and last mile transit service between West 136th Avenue and West 149th Avenue, and from Huron Street to Washington Street. The new FlexRide will provide connections to and from the Wagon Road Park-n-Ride, an existing major transit hub located at West 120th and Melody Drive.

The service will operate Monday through Saturday from 4:50 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. It is designed to support transit options for shift workers at St. Anthony's North, Orchard Town Center, Amazon and Denver Premium Outlets, but can be used by anyone traveling within the specified travel area. All FlexRide vehicles are accessible and have bike racks.

The RTD fare for this service will be \$3 per trip, with discounts for senior citizens, youth and individuals with disabilities. Riders can make a reservation for a specific pick-up or create a subscription if they make recurrent trips at the same time and location. For more information about FlexRide, please see RTD's website at [www.rtd-denver.com/services/flexride](http://www.rtd-denver.com/services/flexride).

Smart Commute received funding through the recent DRCOG Transportation Improve-



ment Plan for the Wagon Road Park-n-Ride/144th FlexRide. Westminster and Thornton supported the application made through the Adams County

Forum and pledged matching funds to support its operation. Westminster's commitment is \$15,000 per year.

## Put a Freeze on Winter Home Fires

When temperatures begin to drop in the winter months, the risk of fire greatly increases. Heating a home, although necessary, can also lead to fire risks if you are not minding safety first.

Heating is the second leading cause of home fires after cooking. Heating-related home fires most often occur in January between 5 and 9 p.m. Some of the top sources of heating fires are caused by space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves.

Here are some tips to help keep you safe this winter:

- Keep anything that can burn, such as bedding, clothing and curtains at least three feet away from a space heater.

- If you are using a space heater, make sure that it has an automatic shut-off, so that it turns off if it tips over.

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace that will prevent embers or sparks from jumping out.

- Do not burn paper in your fireplace.

- When using a fireplace or wood stove, always put the fire out before you go to sleep or leave your home.

- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned annually by a professional.



## Citizen Fire Academy Teaches Ins and Outs of Fire Department

- How many calls do Westminster firefighters respond to in a year?

- How do first responders know where the emergency is?

- Does the ladder on the fire truck reach to the top of the Westin?

- What kind of training do firefighters/paramedics have?

- What do firefighters do when there are no fires?

If you've ever wondered about things like this, you should check out the Westminster Fire Department's Citizens Fire Academy! Learn about fire and medical response in our community as well as emergency preparedness, water rescues, urban search and rescue and extrication. Participants get the chance to ride along with a fire crew and try on the gear, plus learn some practical tips to use at home.

Westminster residents are invited to participate in this free, 13-week course to learn about the wide-range of services the department provides as well as the logic behind the emergency services system. Each session covers an aspect of the department – such as fire prevention,

hazardous materials or fire extinguishers – and includes classroom time and hands-on activities. The course informs residents about department operations as well as teaches residents fire and life safety. 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. Please note that this course is simply to gain community knowledge – it's not a precursor to a career in fire or emergency services. There is no fee for the course unless CPR certification is desired. CPR certification is \$25. The session is limited to 20 participants and preference is given to Westminster residents.

Applications are considered in the order they are received. Registration forms are available at the Westminster Fire Department, 9110 Yates St., or on the city's website:

[www.cityofwestminster.us/fire](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/fire). For more information, contact Public Education Officer Sherrie L. Guerrero at 303-658-4536, or [sguerrero@cityofwestminster.us](mailto:sguerrero@cityofwestminster.us). Applications are due Friday, Feb. 21.

## Help Make the Season Brighter for Those in Need

The Westminster Fire Department is collecting items through Thursday, Dec. 12, to distribute to several local charities this holiday season. Preferably new or gently-used clothes and toys, and non-perishable food items may be dropped off at Westminster fire stations, recreation centers, libraries, City Hall and other city facilities. Just look for the big green bins.

Clothes and gifts are greatly needed for children ages 10-18. Bins will be out until close-of-business Thursday, Dec. 12. Then the donations will be collected and sorted for the Have a Heart Project, Jeffco Foster Care, Westminister FISH Food Bank and the Westminister Police Santa Cops program. Call 303-658-4500 for more information.



# How We Respond for Snow Removal

## Snow & Ice Control Map

View the interactive map on the city's website [www.cityofwestminster.us/SnowPlowingMap](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/SnowPlowingMap)

Ski season is here and that means it's snow removal season. It takes a team of more than 70 dedicated employees in the city's Public Works and Utilities Department to help keep Westminster's streets clear of snow and ice throughout the winter.

These staff are on-call 24 hours a day to provide the best driving conditions possible during and after snow storms, but not all of Westminister's 1,100 miles of roads can be plowed at once.

Streets are categorized into three levels of prioritization for snow removal:

**Primary Routes** - All arterials and major collector streets that serve high traffic routes and provide access to hospitals, police stations, fire stations and rescue squad units. Examples of Primary Routes include Sheridan Boulevard, 72nd Avenue and 128th Avenue.

**Secondary Routes** - Collector streets and select residential streets that provide access to emergency stations, schools and bus routes. Examples of Secondary Routes include Skyline Drive, Independence Street and Alcott Street.

**Residential Areas** - Streets serving residential neighborhoods and subdivisions that are not Primary or Secondary Routes. Priority is given to residential streets that have dangerous intersections, hills and curves.

The city removes snow at three different levels depending on the severity of the storm:

**Category 1:** One inch or less of snow resulting in icy conditions throughout the city. All primary, secondary, hazardous stops, hills and emergency facilities are salted.

**Category 2:** Two inches of snow resulting in slick, slushy conditions throughout the city. Primary and secondary streets, plus hazardous stops, hills and all emergency facilities are plowed and salted.

**Category 3:** Greater than two inches of snow with wind causing blizzard conditions. All Primary Routes are plowed and salted until the storm subsides, then secondary and residential streets affected by drifting are plowed and salted.

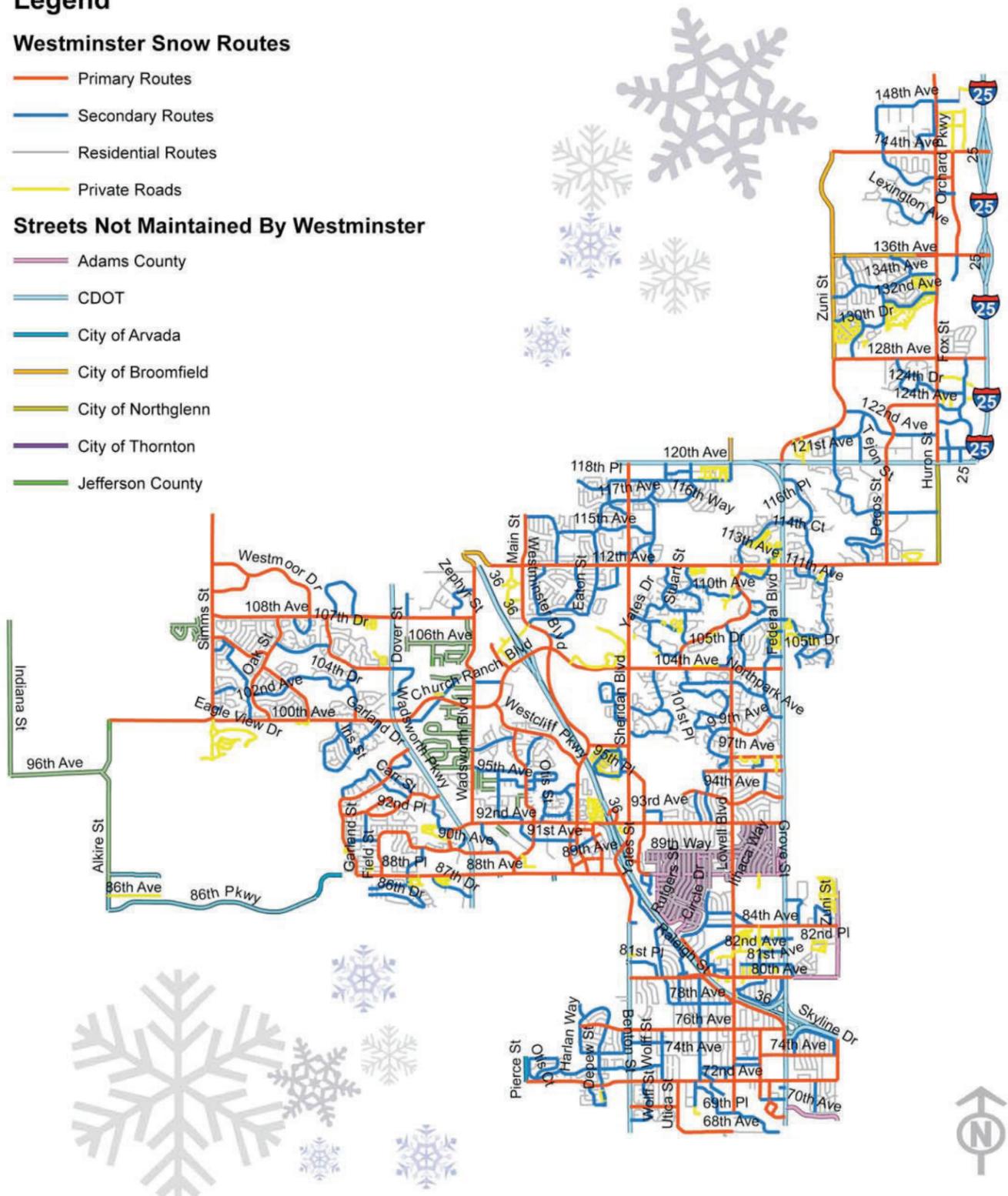
### Legend

#### Westminster Snow Routes

- Primary Routes
- Secondary Routes
- Residential Routes
- Private Roads

#### Streets Not Maintained By Westminster

- Adams County
- CDOT
- City of Arvada
- City of Broomfield
- City of Northglenn
- City of Thornton
- Jefferson County



Date: 9/17/2019

**Category 4:** A major snow-storm greater than 8 inches of snow and possible road closures due to drifting and blizzard conditions. Snow removal operations first focus on Primary Routes and emergency facilities. Secondary and Residential Routes are plowed and salted as soon as possible thereafter. Snow removal operations will provide a navigable surface in Residential Areas.

When plowing is required, windrows of snow across driveways are created and it's the responsibility of the property owner to open their driveway.

**There are seven other jurisdictions that help remove snow on public streets within the City of Westminster including the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Adams County and**

**Jefferson County.** CDOT is responsible for snow removal on state roads including Wadsworth Parkway, U.S. 36, Federal Boulevard, 120th Avenue and I-25.

More information and a full map of these snow removal routes can be found at [www.cityofwestminster.us/SnowPlowingMap](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/SnowPlowingMap).

## Traffic Signals for Snowy Days



During snow storms, traffic signal lights can sometimes be covered in a sheet of snow. In response, traffic signal manufacturers have developed a new "snow cone" lens cover, as shown in the photo. Just like the name says, this traffic signal light lens

cover is shaped like a cone that snow can't as easily cover compared to the flatter lenses you see on traditional signals.

This fall, the city's Transportation Engineering team installed this new type of traffic signal at 92nd Avenue and Sheridan

Boulevard. The team will evaluate the signal during the winter and the results from using this new type of light lens will help inform future traffic signal light upgrades throughout the city.