

The Legislative Agenda serves as a guiding document for the City's engagement in legislative affairs and a resource for City Council and City staff.

Members of the City Council may represent the City in regional efforts, such as the Colorado Municipal League Policy Committee; Denver Regional Council of Governments, Northwest Mayors and Commissioners Coalition, and Metro Mayors Caucus, and may guide or express positions on legislation.

Council members may express support, opposition, and/or recommend amendments regarding legislation if they are consistent with the legislative agenda. When this occurs, council members should share reports with all of council during the next regular council meeting. If the issue is not clearly addressed in this legislative agenda, council members should seek City Council approval before taking any formal action (such as signing a letter or taking a vote) to support or oppose legislation.

Home Rule/Local Control

The City supports local control and municipal government home rule authority. In most cases, local issues are best addressed at the local level and the current authority and powers of municipal governments such as land use, zoning, personnel matters, sales tax, etc. should not be diminished. However, certain issues require statewide and multi-jurisdictional response, which are best addressed through early and meaningful engagement and collaboration with local municipalities.

Positions:

- ▶ The City urges officials to respect Colorado's tradition of local control and allow municipal officials to address local issues at the local level.
- ▶ The City generally opposes legislation that creates unfunded mandates on local municipalities without funding or other sources of revenue. Unfunded mandates shift the cost burden of state or federal mandates onto local governments, limiting a municipality's ability to provide locally identified government services.
- ▶ The City supports liquor, marijuana, and natural medicine licensing that allows for local decision-making and collaboration between local and state licensing entities, including but not limited to local opt-in provisions for any new permitting or licensing requirements.
- ▶ The City supports local government authority to regulate oil and gas development at the local level, and the establishment of state rules and regulations that reflect such authority.
- ▶ The City supports legislation that provides local governments with additional flexibility, resources, and/or guidance in meeting the challenges of ensuring technology and digital resources are fully accessible.

Community Recovery & Resiliency

Disasters, such as the 2013 100-year flood in Boulder County and the Marshall Fire, are a sobering reminder that all communities in Colorado, regardless of socioeconomic status, must be prepared for disasters at all times. While the City continues to recover from the Marshall Fire, the community is working together to increase resilience and preparedness for all hazards. Ongoing state action and investment is needed in order to mitigate future disasters

and ensure our communities are prepared when disaster strikes. The front-end investment in community resiliency will reduce the local, state, and federal costs of the severe disasters we are experiencing today.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports comprehensive hazard mitigation strategies and allocating funding for preparedness, response, and recovery efforts across all identified risks, including natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.
- ▶ The City supports increased wildfire mitigation funding for local communities in the plains areas to establish and maintain risk reduction measures on public lands including climate change adaptation strategies.
- ▶ The City of Louisville supports insurance reform that helps residents be better prepared and able to recover from climate disasters, while promoting the roles and responsibilities of homeowners, renters, and landlords in securing insurance coverage. Examples of desired insurance reform include legislation that:
 - Reduces system-wide underinsurance
 - Improves the transparency of the coverage gap that a private property owner or renter has with their existing policy
 - Eliminates the practice of insurance companies requiring contents itemization in total losses to receive the contents' coverage stated in a policy
 - Supports regulating the loss ratio for property and casualty insurance so that premiums paid go to cover losses and do not become excessive
 - Supports exploration of reinsurance for disaster impacts
 - Addresses insurance availability to ensure community members have access to insurance
 - Supports the exploration of public insurance to address availability
 - Supports programs for affordable insurance.
- ▶ The City recommends CDPHE establish standards for acceptable levels of contaminants in water systems, soils, homes, businesses, and schools. Without these standards, there is no FEMA reimbursement opportunity or insurance standards for coverage.

Tax and Finance Policy

The City supports a fair and consistent tax policy that preserves and expands the authority of local governments and opposes exemptions that erode municipal sales taxes, use taxes, property taxes, and other revenue sources.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports fiscally responsible government spending, and believes it is important the legislature understands the layers of constraints on local government budgets resulting from the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR).
- ▶ The City supports equitable sharing with municipalities of existing and future state revenues derived from state-collected, locally shared revenues, such as the Cigarette/Tobacco/Vaping Tax, Highway Users Tax Fund, Lottery funds, and Marijuana tax funds.
- ▶ With the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment and new tax cuts and exemptions, the City believes it is critical to maintain ongoing residential and commercial property taxes to preserve public service revenues to the state, local governments, fire districts, schools, health providers, and others dependent on property taxes to deliver essential services.

Municipal Administrative Services

The City's administrative services help ensure a high-performing government, including the effective and efficient use of taxpayer funds in providing City services. This includes information technology, human resources, records management, elections, and general government administration. The City supports efforts to ensure that these services can be delivered in a transparent and cost-effective manner.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports increased funding and resources to elevate cyber-security prevention, response, and recovery/rebuilding when attacks occur.
- ▶ The City has implemented accessibility measures that assist persons with disabilities in accessing City information and services, as required by HB21-1110. The City supports accessible digital communications but opposes unfunded mandates on local governments without reasonable opportunity to remediate complaints. Given the expense involved with remediation, the City supports dedicated funding and amendments to HB21-1110 to allow reasonable time for municipalities to come into compliance.
- ▶ The City supports the exploration of an accessible database to facilitate information and data sharing between the state and municipal courts.
- ▶ The City supports funding for municipalities to help better serve non-English speakers.

Public Health & Safety

The City supports policies that ensure public health and safety, thereby improving the quality of life in partnership with the community.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports state-level actions to address gun violence. While regional and local legislation can be effective in reducing gun violence, state action is needed to improve safety and regulatory consistency across jurisdictions.
- ▶ The City supports access to quality and affordable healthcare for residents and businesses across Colorado.
- ▶ The City supports continued efforts to improve municipal court and law enforcement practices and further refinement of such changes to ensure the public, victims, and defendants are adequately protected.
- ▶ The City supports statewide efforts to expand mental/behavioral health services, reduce barriers to care, and provide funding to support such initiatives. This includes additional assistance for law enforcement to address community-wide mental health impacts and mitigate the costs for healthcare and mental health services for persons in custody.
- ▶ The City opposes legislation that would prohibit the use of red-light cameras and speed radar.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to improve and enhance traffic safety for all road users to include vehicles, pedestrian, bicycle, and electric bicycles.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to address children under the age of 16 operating electric bicycles and the requirement for better disclosure related to requirements for operation of electric bicycles, motorcycles, dirt bikes, and scooters.

Energy & Environment

The City supports legislation and collaboration with other municipalities and agencies to address climate change by improving energy efficiency, increasing the use of cost-effective renewable energy, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on fossil fuels while maintaining the reliability and resilience of energy delivery and local control.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports the state's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduced energy consumption, increased use of clean energy and transitioning away from fossil fuels.
- ▶ The City supports statewide policies that reduce overall energy demand and consumption, while preserving and expanding local governments' ability to reach their sustainability and climate action goals.
- ▶ The City supports the improvement of air quality, renewable energy production, and emission reductions through legislative, administrative, and regulatory actions.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to reduce noise impacts and air pollution, and lead pollution associated with local metropolitan airport activities.
- ▶ The City supports opportunities and funding for municipalities to implement local clean energy strategies and solutions.
- ▶ The City supports actions that effectively address the metro Denver region's violations of Clean Air Act standards in a timely manner.
- ▶ The City supports tax and financial incentives that speed the transition away from fossil fuels.

Transportation

Colorado's transportation infrastructure, which connects our communities and facilitates the movement of people and goods, is essential to the economic vitality of our state and necessary to maintain the high quality of life enjoyed by Coloradans. Appropriate investments in transportation, as one of the largest sectors of greenhouse gas emissions, also further the City's energy and environmental goals.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports ongoing state and federal funding sources for transportation projects, such as those along the CO Highway 42 and South Boulder Road, that provide funding for the maintenance of existing infrastructure, multimodal improvements, accessibility improvements, and other investments that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- ▶ The City supports regulation and investments that accelerate transportation electrification and other innovative transportation technologies that reduce emissions and congestion.
- ▶ The City supports investments that enhance safe, convenient, and accessible multimodal transportation, including Complete Streets which increase transportation options, improve mobility, and reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions, and Vision Zero strategies which improve safety. The City also supports funding for the design and construction of pedestrian underpasses, which achieve many of the goals of Complete Streets and Vision Zero programs.
- ▶ The City supports funding for the construction and operation of the Northwest Rail line and the Front Range Passenger Rail to expand multi-modal transportation in the northwest metro region. The City strongly supports the inclusion of a stop in Louisville, fulfilling the much-delayed obligation of RTD for transit investment in our community.
- ▶ The City supports full restoration of transit services that were reduced or cut by the Regional Transportation District (RTD) during the COVID pandemic.
- ▶ The City opposes efforts to divest state-owned roads to municipalities without adequate short and long-term funding to meet additional maintenance and operational responsibilities.

Utilities, Telecommunications & Broadband

The City supports policies that protect Colorado's natural resources and allow the City to maintain facilities efficiently, allowing for reasonable and equitable rates while maintaining optimal quality. The City also supports the local authority to manage all matters related to local telecommunications policy, cable franchising, wireless communication facilities, broadband deployment, public safety communications, rights-of-way management and government access channels.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports the inventorying and protection of water rights, including the protection of municipal water rights.
- ▶ The City supports appropriate water conservation efforts and sustainable water resource management practices by all users.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to improve water quality through compliance with state and federal regulations.
- ▶ The City supports state policy for consumer protections of utility customers, including broadband customers.
- ▶ The City opposes state and federal efforts that complicate deployment of small cell and other wireless infrastructure and create unfunded mandates on local governments while the City supports federal and state actions removing these preemptions of local control.
- ▶ The City supports state efforts to determine the most effective ways to distribute federal funding to promote broadband deployment and equity in the availability and accessibility of broadband services to all Coloradans.
- ▶ The City supports policy and funding to improve public safety telecommunications.
- ▶ The City supports the clarification that franchise fees do not include in-kind franchise obligations and supports the repeal of FCC action that creates these limitations on local franchising authority.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to generate more electricity renewably and transition away from fossil fuels.

Land Use, Development and Revitalization, Housing

The City believes local control should be the starting point of land use planning. Colorado's housing market has not kept pace with demand created by employment growth and other pressures, leading to increased housing costs that are inaccessible to many households. The challenges of housing affordability and supply require coordinated state and local solutions that expand opportunities while providing resources for implementation. The City is working to redevelop and revitalize certain areas within the community, and appropriate urban renewal tools must be preserved to support these efforts.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports policies and investments that improve the coordination of land use and transportation, and regional cooperation in land use planning and economic development activities.
- ▶ The City supports increased funding for local communities' expansion of affordable, attainable, and workforce housing.
- ▶ The City supports increased local government and community engagement and impact analysis around the operation, expansion, and development of airports.
- ▶ The City supports enhancements to Colorado Urban Renewal law that do not unreasonably restrict the use of tax increment financing or eminent domain for redevelopment projects.
- ▶ The City supports legislation that encourages and facilitates historic preservation and rehabilitation.
- ▶ The City supports transit-oriented development principles but believes that House Bill 24-1313 –

Housing in Transit Oriented Communities may not provide a feasible path for local implementation without bill amendments or clarifications. The City encourages collaborative amendment development with local governments.

- ▶ The City supports consideration of environmental sustainability in land use and development policies.
- ▶ The City supports state and federal efforts to protect open spaces.
- ▶ The City supports efforts to ensure equitable access to housing.

Economic Vitality & Business Development

Colorado's economic competitiveness requires coordinated state efforts to attract and retain employers while supporting workforce development.

Positions:

- ▶ The City supports legislation that provides resources to help local governments attract new employers and support business expansion.
- ▶ The City supports legislation that strengthens economic development tools and incentives for attracting and retaining primary employers.
- ▶ The City supports policies that enhance Colorado's competitiveness through strategic investments in transportation infrastructure, broadband connectivity, utility needs, and other critical systems that enable business growth and expansion.
- ▶ The City supports workforce development initiatives that align education and training programs with industry needs, including partnerships between employers and educational institutions.
- ▶ The City supports programs that encourage small business development and entrepreneurship through technical assistance, access to capital, and resources for startups and growing companies.
- ▶ The City opposes regulations that create significant new compliance costs or administrative burdens for businesses without demonstrating clear public benefit.
- ▶ The City opposes policies that reduce local flexibility to implement economic development strategies tailored to community needs and opportunities.



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