



Looking@Lakewood

Neighborhood Support Team

Connecting Lakewood's neighbors through community building and dispute resolution



With the weather warming up and summer right around the corner, there are more opportunities to interact with your neighbors, and Lakewood's Neighborhood Support Team is here to help. The team works to strengthen relationships among residents and build more robust neighborhoods through a variety of tools.

"Strong neighborhoods with a sense of community are the backbone of a resilient and vibrant city," said Neighborhood Support Team Coordinator Trevor Wolfson. "We've developed these resources to help residents connect with each other, resolve conflicts and contribute to improving the city."

City Council approved funding for this team starting in 2022, and Wolfson has continued to add resources to support neighborhoods. Please see the list below for current resources and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, suggestions, or more information.

Get-Together Grant

Are you organizing a neighborhood event? You may be eligible to receive a small stipend that will help with some of the costs of your annual block party or neighborhood beautification project. In 2023, there were over 50 groups and residents that received reimbursement for fantastic events that brought their neighborhoods closer together. For more information, visit Lakewood.org/GTgrant.

Free neighborhood resources

There are two rentable kits that you can borrow to enjoy with your neighbors. Neighbor Flix is a kit that comes with everything you need to throw a weekend neighborhood movie night. Reservations will open in May at Lakewood.org/Flix. The Litter Cleanup Kit contains the essentials for a small cleanup of areas that have collected a bit of trash. See more at Lakewood.org/CleanupKit.

Mediation

Despite our best efforts, living near each other does come with its challenges. Residents who wish to resolve a dispute with a neighbor that doesn't involve criminal activity are invited to participate in our free and confidential mediation program. Typical cases that get resolved include conflicts over fences, pets, parking and noise. Learn more and submit a request for mediation at Lakewood.org/Mediation.

Citywide volunteer day

The Neighborhood Support Team partners with nonprofits that assist Lakewood's residents. One of those nonprofits, Serve Spot Lakewood, is hosting its second annual Love Lakewood Day, a citywide volunteer day on Saturday, Sept. 21. Locations for these volunteer projects will be throughout the city, so please save the date to come out to serve your community alongside your neighbors. Sign up for updates at ServeSpotLakewood.com.

Learn more about these programs and resources by visiting Lakewood.org/NeighborhoodSupport or by contacting us at 303-987-7369 or neighborhoods@lakewood.org. Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to working with you to support our neighborhoods!



APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

Volunteering with your city is a great way to get involved, make an impact and meet fellow residents. Opportunities include art and cultural activities, recreational and park opportunities, older adult services, and Police Department and Municipal Court options. Learn more and submit an application at Lakewood.org/Volunteer.



Join us for Lakewood's Earth Day Celebration

The city's Earth Day Celebration is truly electrified and powered by youth this year. The Electric Transportation Hub will return, showcasing electric vehicles and bicycles, and this year will also include vendors and exhibitors providing resources for home electrification items such as heat pumps, appliances and more.

Connecting to youth and building partnerships with schools and students has been important for this festival, and several youth-connected groups will be at the festival including two Boy Scout troops working at the art station to help children make buttons, recycled art projects, masks and floats for the Parade of Species. Middle and high school honor society members will volunteer at the event. A 4H group from Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park will showcase its beekeeping skills, and mascots from Lakewood high schools will attend for kids to meet and take selfies.

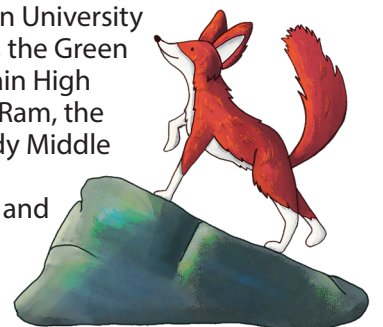
Check out all that will be happening 11 a.m.-7 p.m. April 27 at Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park. It will happen rain, snow or sunshine. Bring the whole family for music, food, fun, learning and celebrating the Earth. Full details are available at Lakewood.org/EarthDay.

Electrification Hub

- Showcases electric vehicles including ride-and-drives coordinated by Drive Clean Colorado.
- Includes Pedego bicycles bringing e-bikes for free test rides in Belmar Park.
- Highlights information and resources for home electrification including education about heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, induction stoves, smart plugs, home batteries, options for home- and community-based solar power and more.

Parade of Species

- Celebrate the plants and animals that make Earth so spectacular by wearing your favorite plant or animal costume to parade through the festival.
- Decorate your wagon like a parade float.
- Make a mask or decorate your float at the art station.
- Enter the costume contest before the parade to win prizes in the adult, kids and group costume categories. Prizes include Lakewood Recreation and Bear Creek Lake Park day passes.
- Visit Nature's Educators wild animal showcase.
- Take a photo with Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl and local school mascots including the Colorado Christian University Cougar, the Green Mountain High School Ram, the Carmody Middle School Cougar and more.



See **EARTH DAY** page 7

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MAYOR



Wendi Strom

Time flies when you're working hard and having fun! As I write this piece, I have now closed the book on my first 100 days in office. The first 100 days are critical in setting the stage for how I (and we) will work together for the years to come. It's creating the groundwork to deliver to you the best mayor and City Council that we can. For me, that work has meant a focus on two main things: 1) Building a team, and 2) Building the "infrastructure" of how City Council will be working together as well as with staff and the community in the years to come. That included the less-than-exciting work on several items such as kickstarting an update of City Council's policies and procedures to improve clarity and accountability to our Lakewood community and to make sure that we as a City Council are working as efficiently and

effectively as possible as we work together, rolling up our sleeves to address the complex needs of our community.

Now that 100 days are officially behind us, I'm most looking forward to spending more time hearing from and meeting you! Part of the fun here is getting out into the community and meeting you personally where you are, and the other important part comes from council members and I hearing directly from YOU.

Questions I receive regularly are "How do I get more involved?" or "How can I learn more about what Lakewood is doing and to make my voice heard?" There are a number of ways you can reach out, learn more, and if you want, even get involved. Here are some of the best ways to stay informed:

- **Reaching out to your City Council members when you have a question, thought or concern:** Contact information can be found on Lakewood.org/CityCouncil. Don't know who your council members are? You can find that by typing in your address at Lakewood.org/MyNeighborhood, which also gives you all kinds of information like what parks, projects and events are in your neighborhood!

- **Learn what's coming up on the City Council's agenda and join us at a meeting. We'd love to see you!** To see what's coming up and when, visit Lakewood.org/CouncilMeetings or Lakewood.org/Calendar.
- **Can't come in person to a meeting but want to share your thoughts about something?** You can do that too! Share your comments at LakewoodSpeaks.org.
- **Did you know you can also follow the city on YouTube at @LakewoodCOgov?** We're also on Facebook, Instagram, X and now Threads. See all the city's social media channels at Lakewood.org/SocialMedia.
- **You could attend Ward Meetings** to meet your council members in person to learn about what's going on in the neighborhoods around you. Visit Lakewood.org/WardMeetings and subscribe to receive emails about upcoming Ward Meetings.
- **We also have an online engagement platform where you can go to learn more about projects needing your input and suggestions.** Conversations going on now include a Lakewood Public Art Plan, the addition of separated bike lanes around our

city, a master plan for Bear Creek Lake Park, and the biggest project we have right now, the update to our Comprehensive Plan, which will be our community's vision for the city for the next 15 years. You can find more about all of these at LakewoodTogether.org.

- **And, if you're looking to get involved, we invite you to join one of our boards and commissions!** Learn about them at Lakewood.org/BoardsAndCommissions and apply online at Lakewood.org/GetOnBoard.

While a big portion of my job as mayor this last quarter was nothing short of learning from a fire hose, with an abundant amount of unexpected pop-up surprises (and I foresee no change in that in the near future), I couldn't be more excited to continue, and I feel more than honored to be in this role for the community that I love.

Words cannot express the gratitude I have for your trust and support. Thank you, Lakewood, for giving me the opportunity to work hard to move the city forward in a thoughtful, hopeful and collaborative way.

Wendi Strom
303-987-7040
wstrom@Lakewood.org

WARD 2



Sophia Mayott-Guerrero

March was Women's History Month, and we were delighted to see the celebrations of local women who have led, innovated, created, and contributed to our community in years past. We serve on a majority-woman council alongside a woman mayor and a woman city manager who are all currently shaping Lakewood's future. This diverse representation reflects the community commitment to equity and inclusion in all aspects of our city.

We also want to shed light on the progress of two key issues in our community: promoting transportation options and addressing homelessness and affordable housing in our community. Regarding housing and homelessness, we are so proud that Ward 2 is home to the city's Extreme Weather Shelter and the RecoveryWorks Navigation Center, which support our neighbors

experiencing homelessness. Thanks to community partners RecoveryWorks and Bayaud Enterprises for your work to make this possible.

Council member Mayott-Guerrero is starting her second year leading the Housing Policy Commission, which will be working to prioritize and evaluate strategies identified in our Strategic Housing Plan, which is available at LakewoodTogether.org/HousingStrategy. Follow this work and share your thoughts on how we can make Lakewood more affordable for our diverse residents on LakewoodSpeaks.org.

On transportation and accessibility, about 30 percent of our community members do not drive, including children, older adults, individuals with disabilities, and those without access to a car. This underscores the importance of prioritizing walkability and bikeability initiatives to ensure

everyone can walk, ride, and roll safely in Lakewood.

Recent discussions at our City Council annual planning session highlighted our collective dedication to prioritizing traffic calming measures, connected bike routes, and pedestrian improvements. Ward 2, in particular, has around 30 percent of the missing and incomplete sidewalk connections in the city, a statistic we are actively working to improve. Exciting developments to address this issue include the upcoming construction of the West Colfax Safety Project, a long-awaited project aimed at improving safety for everyone on the most dangerous stretch of Colfax in our city. Stay updated on this project at LakewoodTogether.org/WestColfax for more information. Further, the city's Separated Bike Lanes program will be expanding to Harlan Street so follow updates on LakewoodTogether.org/SeparatedBikeLanes for more information. In addition to these projects, the North Dry Gulch Project is also getting underway along the Colfax corridor to address flooding issues, which means more than \$75 million will be spent on infrastructure through these projects in Ward 2 during the next few years.

Community members across the ward are launching grassroots efforts

in service of this vision for walking and cycling improvements. Sustainable Morse Park is launching a task force to promote walkability, bikeability, and safer streets, with a focus on areas experiencing speeding issues like West 26th Avenue. If you're interested in joining efforts to improve our community's infrastructure in this area, email kaymnewman@gmail.com. Members of Sustain O'Kane lead bike rides to help show people low-stress bike streets and promote safe cycling in our community, with information at OKanePark.com/bicycle-education.

Looking ahead, we are enthusiastic about the work to come and eager to collaborate with community members throughout the year. Join us at upcoming Ward Meetings and consider contributing your leadership skills by applying for positions on boards and commissions. Currently, Ward 2 lacks representation on the Lakewood Advisory Commission, which offers a unique opportunity for community members to contribute to council policy initiatives. To learn more and apply, visit Lakewood.org/GetOnBoard.

Sophia Mayott-Guerrero
303-987-7738
sguerrero@lakewood.org

Isabel Cruz
303-987-7739
icruz@lakewood.org

WARD MEETINGS

Council members in each ward have monthly meetings in an informal setting for residents to share ideas and learn more about their community. Find out when your council members are having meetings and sign up to receive alerts about those meetings at Lakewood.org/WardMeetings.



Economic Development

Reinvestment projects making a difference in the city



This “Welcome to Lakewood” stone sign marks the entrance to the city in the West Alameda corridor and was one of the Alameda StreetScape Project improvements.

The Lakewood Reinvestment Authority (LRA) is a unit of local government, separate from the city. And while some city personnel provide staffing support to the LRA (Economic Development, City Attorney, Finance departments, etc.), the authority meets and acts separately from City Council.

Lakewood voters approved the formation of the LRA in 1997, and it operates in accordance with Colorado’s Urban Renewal Law. The fundamental mission of the LRA is to mitigate blight conditions within targeted areas of Lakewood known as Urban Renewal Project Areas. This helps maintain a strong identity and image for Lakewood, ensures economic soundness of developments and increases the tax base. The LRA Board of Commissioners consists of 15 individuals including representatives from the fire protection and school districts. The LRA currently oversees and manages four existing Urban Renewal Areas (URAs).

Urban renewal activities are primarily focused on three things: mitigating blight conditions within project areas; facilitating private investment within project areas; and enhancing Lakewood’s ability to preserve and restore the vitality and quality of life within project areas. Here are a few highlights of LRA activities helping mitigate blight conditions in Lakewood.

Alameda Streetscape

The Alameda Streetscape Project was completed in 2021 and focused on the area along West Alameda Avenue from Sheridan Boulevard to Carr Street. The project included widening portions of Alameda, adding sidewalks (including on Teller Street), adding landscaped medians and placemaking elements; installing trees and aesthetic features such as flagstone accents; and making other improvements.

These placemaking improvements have bolstered the economic vitality of the Alameda corridor, helping to produce continuing benefits to the local economy. They have helped brand the Alameda corridor as a wonderfully designed, efficient area

where businesses thrive. Motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and mass transit users have also found the corridor more inviting and usable.

Station Betterment

The Station Betterment Project was designated in 2008 and allowed for the funding of improvements to the W Line light rail stations at Wadsworth Boulevard and Oak Street. Station improvements include expanded shelter areas, increased seating and the addition of native materials and unique station designs. Construction of the betterments was completed with the opening of the W Line in April 2013.

The Station Betterment Project was vetted through a citizens’ advisory group of community members who made an official recommendation to the LRA Board of Commissioners to designate it as an urban renewal activity. The betterments are intended to protect light rail commuters from the elements, increase aesthetic views and attract development.

West Colfax Sculpture Walk

In 2022, the LRA contributed substantial funds toward the West Colfax Sculpture Walk, which converted a highly visible, vacant parcel of land on the southwest corner of Wadsworth Boulevard and West Colfax Avenue into a beautiful sculpture walk showcasing public art. The West Colfax Community Association and Lakewood-West



Whimsical walking boats at the W Line’s Oak Station are part of the Station Betterment project.

Colfax Business Improvement District submitted a concept for the walk to the city through the city’s Neighborhood Participation Program and received a grant for the project. The association then worked with the city and the LRA to revitalize the corner property. Community volunteers assisted the project team with building and planting the West Colfax Sculpture Walk. The LRA continues to assist by maintaining this sculptured area.

Revitalize blighted properties

Implementing ways to innovatively assist in the redevelopment of blighted properties, the LRA, for the first time since it was formed, purchased two properties in 2023 — the former Chalet Motel at 6051 W. Alameda Ave. and the former Blue Sky Motel at 6203-6205 W. Colfax Ave. Both were dilapidated properties with challenging public health and safety issues. These properties have been environmentally remediated, and the deteriorating structures have been demolished, preparing the properties for better, more successful redevelopment.

The LRA has engaged a consultant to help examine what property uses would be best for these sites. In the near future, a request for proposals will be issued, and investors will have the opportunity to propose a development plan for each of the properties. The 15 LRA commissioners will ultimately decide which proposals they most favor. In the end, these undertakings will eliminate blight conditions and provide new, safer, more beneficial assets for the community.

Welcome to LAKEWOOD GRAND OPENINGS

We are thrilled to welcome these new businesses to Lakewood.

<p>Adjusted Life Chiropractic 9629 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 314 AdjustedLifeChiro.com</p> <p>Big Daddy Bagels 180 S. Union Blvd., Unit 101 BigDaddyBagels.com</p> <p>Bread + Salt 224 Union Blvd. BreadAndSaltFrisco.com</p> <p>Dunkin’ Donuts 12095 W. Alameda Parkway DunkinDonuts.com</p> <p>Hotworx Studio 12792 W. Alameda Parkway, Unit C HotWorx.net</p>	<p>Ignazio’s Pizza Pasta Restaurant 13041 W. Alameda Parkway IgnaziosKitchen.com</p> <p>Mason’s Dumpling Shop 6981 W. Alaska Dr. MasonsDumplingShop.com</p> <p>Pediatrix Urgent Care of Colorado 329 S. Saulsbury St. Pediatrix.com</p> <p>Prime IV Hydration & Wellness 7270 W. Alaska Dr. PrimeIVHydration.com</p> <p>We Knead Donut 200 Union Blvd., Suite 214 WeKneadDonut.com</p>
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If you are a new business and want to be listed here, please visit Lakewood.org/GrandOpenings.

Lakewood
Full of Possibilities.

City Manager
Kathy Hodgson
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Editor
Stacie Oulton, 303-987-7050

Designer
Liz Everts
Lakewood.org

ARTS, PARKS & Recreation

ARTS



GET INVOLVED **Now open!** **FREE!**

A new exhibit showcasing how making a difference in the community has evolved over the past century.

Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park
Lakewood.org/Exhibitions

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL **FREE!**

Saturday, April 27

Enjoy music, entertainment, exhibits, refreshments and family fun while discovering sustainable solutions to support our world.

Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park
Lakewood.org/EarthDay

INSPIRE ARTS LAKEWOOD **FREE!**

May 25-June 30

Immerse yourself in creativity during a month of art-focused activities at more than 20 participating venues across Lakewood.

Lakewood Cultural Center, Civic Center and the arts community
Lakewood.org/INSPIRE

ROCKIN' BLOCK PARTY **FREE!**

Saturday, June 1

Enjoy live music from 70s tribute bands and an outdoor screening of "Jaws," plus food trucks, a beer garden and family fun.

Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park
Lakewood.org/RockinBlock

SOUNDS EXCITING! Summer Concert Series

Tickets on sale April 18

Wednesday nights June 12-July 31

Outdoor concert series with food trucks and a beer garden hosted at Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Amphitheater.

Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park
Lakewood.org/SoundsExciting

PARKS



FREE MULCH **FREE!**

Saturday, May 4 & 11

Lakewood residents can pick up free mulch 7 a.m.-3 p.m., with staff available for loading assistance.

Lakewood Greenhouse
Lakewood.org/FreeMulch

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY **FREE!**

Saturday, May 11

Celebrate all things birds with educational activities, crafts and live birds! Register to join the bird walk at 7:30 a.m.

Bear Creek Lake Park
Lakewood.org/Register



CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS **FREE!**

Saturday evenings in June and July

Learn about animals, ecosystems and conservation during weekly programs by our park naturalists at the amphitheater.

Bear Creek Lake Park
Lakewood.org/Register

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY **FREE!**

Saturday, June 1

Take part in a volunteer project to help restore and maintain trails.

William F. Hayden Park
Lakewood.org/Register

LET'S GO CAMPING **FREE!**

Application process opens April 9

Event hosted June 7-8

New to camping? Give it a try with some backup from our expert team!

Bear Creek Lake Park
Lakewood.org/Register

RECREATION



OLDER ADULT WELLNESS FAIR **FREE!**

Friday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to noon

Explore resources and services supporting active adults including fitness, health care, funding sources, transportation and more.

Whitlock Recreation Center
Lakewood.org/WellnessFair



POOLS OPEN

Weekend of May 25

Come have fun in the sun at Lakewood's three outdoor pools and two spray parks, plus the swim beach at Bear Creek Lake Park!

Lakewood.org/Pools

FITNESS IN THE PARK **FREE!**

Saturday mornings June-August

Work out in the fresh air! Program's focus and park location rotate each week.

Lakewood Parks
Lakewood.org/SummerFitness

SUMMER HIRING

Now hiring!

Have a great summer and get paid too! Positions open for summer camp staff, lifeguards, pool cashiers and swim instructors.

Lakewood.org/SummerJobs

SUMMER FUN PASS

On sale May 15

Valid May 15-Sept. 2

Purchase a pass to enjoy unlimited general admission to outdoor pools, spray parks and recreation centers.

Lakewood.org/Register

Save the date...

FOR FUN SUMMER PROGRAMS!

Resident registration opens April 9 at 10 a.m.
 Nonresident registration opens April 11 at 10 a.m.

REGISTER AT LAKEWOOD.ORG/REGISTER
 Please remember to create an account on our new online catalog PRIOR to the registration day for efficient access.

P For financial assistance, apply for 2024 funds at:
Lakewood.org/PossibilitiesFund

Celebrate Independence Day with a community gathering culminating in a drone light show!

July 3
 Belmar
 Downtown Lakewood

Event kicks off at 5 p.m.
 Drone light show approx. 9:15 p.m.

Lakewood.org/BBB

BIG BELMAR BASH

RAIN or SHINE

Lakewood Full of Possibilities. | Mix 100 | BELMAR | credit union OF DENVER



2024 Outdoor Water Conservation Program

After a successful launch in fall 2023, the Sustainability Division's Outdoor Water Conservation Incentive Program is back, with expanded quantities of incentives available to Lakewood residents.

Improving water efficiency and practicing water conservation are key to ensuring we all have enough water to sustain our community. Around 50 percent of home water usage goes toward watering landscapes. This voluntary incentive program encourages residents to transform their yards into beautiful, low-water landscapes that will reduce outdoor water use compared to watering traditional turf grass.

This year's program is estimated that it will save more than 2 million gallons of water a year in Lakewood. For full program details and enrollment information, visit Lakewood.org/OutdoorWater.

The 2024 program includes the following services:

- Discounted Garden In a Box Kits:** Receive a \$25 discount on a set of low-water native landscape plants professionally designed for Colorado yards. Income-qualified households can receive a \$100 discount.
- Free sprinkler evaluations:** With the help of landscape professionals, you could save thousands of gallons of water each year by optimizing your irrigation system and identifying leaks. After the evaluations, participants can receive a smart controller or rain sensor at no cost.
- Lawn replacement:** Residents who commit to removing a section of their grass lawn and replacing it with beautiful low-water landscape will receive a \$500 credit, which can be used toward the lawn removal service, Garden In a Box kits, or both.

The incentive program is managed by the city's partner, Resource Central (ResourceCentral.org), a local nonprofit focused on water and energy conservation and waste reduction.

Need some inspiration for your yard? Don't forget to visit the low-water demonstration gardens at the city's Kendrick Lake Park and O'Kane Park.

As part of the Outdoor Water Conservation Program, staff will be creating both a residential outdoor water resource guide and a homeowners association toolkit to help educate community members on how they can create a beautiful and vibrant Colorado landscape in their yards while reducing water use. These materials will be available at Lakewood.org/OutdoorWater.

This program is supported by two grants from the Colorado Water Conservation Board, including the state's Turf Replacement Program. Results from the two-year incentive program will be used to inform future strategies that will help the community increase water efficiency. If you have any questions, please contact the Sustainability Division at sustainability@lakewood.org.

City working to add more dog parks

One thing is for certain: Lakewood residents love their dogs, and the city has been working diligently to add dog parks in the city.

While dogs are welcome in all city parks on a leash, Lakewood has only had one official off-leash dog park, which is at Forsberg-Iron Springs Park in the Rooney Valley. On Feb. 26, a second official dog park opened at Mountair Park at 5620 W. 14th Ave. in the Two Creeks neighborhood. This park includes a temporary installation with simple fencing and waste stations to create the park and allow the neighborhood to determine if a dog park is suitable in this location. A survey is available on-site and online at Lakewood.org/MountairPark to evaluate use patterns and whether this location should become a permanent dog park.

Construction begins this summer on a new dog park at Wright Park, 500 Wright St., in the Union Square neighborhood. The dog park is part of the overall redevelopment of the park that also includes a new playground, loop trail and shade shelters.

Dog parks in the design phase include a park at Walker-Branch Park, 5825 W. 16th Ave., in the Edgewood neighborhood, following a collaborative community engagement process between Lakewood, Edgewater and the surrounding neighborhood.

Thanks to the recent acquisition of two new park properties, the city is also working with the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and residents to design a community dog park in



WHO INSPIRED YOU?

There are remarkable people and organizations in Lakewood, and it is time to recognize their inspiring work and commitment. The Mayor's Inspiration Award recognizes youths, adults and organizations who have made a significant impact in the community.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD?

- Youth:** any individual under the age of 18.
- Individual:** any individual age 18 or older.
- Community Organization:** any business with a Lakewood sales tax license, association, service organization, nonprofit, team or group.
- Business:** any business or for-profit company.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION.

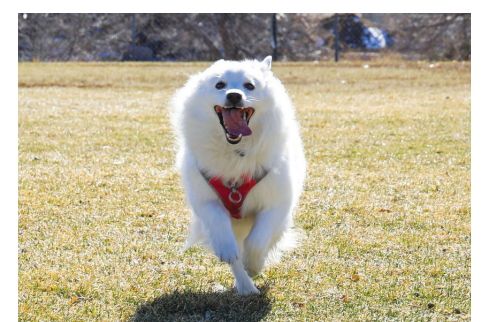
Nominations will be accepted from April 15 to July 15 at Lakewood.org/MayorsAwards. Winners will be announced in August and recognized at an awards ceremony this fall.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Dan Stoutamire at **303-987-7050** or dstoutamire@Lakewood.org.



Lakewood Named an All-America City Finalist

Help us celebrate by sharing what you love most about Lakewood on social media using the hashtag #LakewoodCO



Do you know whether you live in a flood hazard area?



With the spring typically bringing more rain and thunderstorms, it's a good time of year to learn whether your property contains

flooding risks. Some Lakewood properties lie in flood hazard areas even though they don't normally appear to be in danger, and flooding can happen in high, medium or low risk flood areas.

To understand your property's flooding risk, call 303-987-7500 or submit a request for this free service to Lakewood's Public Works Department at Lakewood.org/FloodPlainRequest. You can also write to the department or visit in person at the Civic Center, 470 S. Allison Parkway, 80226. Public Works staff members are also available to visit your property to discuss potential flood hazards.

Public Works can provide you with detailed flood plain information including Federal Emergency Management Agency flood insurance rate maps and studies, local community flood hazard area study maps, flood depth data, elevation certificates, landslide hazards, historic flood events and the location of designated wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory. Learn about your flood risk and other National Flood Insurance Program resources online at FloodSmart.gov.

Tips for living in or near a flood hazard area	
Insure your property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check to see if you have a current flood insurance policy for your property. Flood insurance is recommended for everyone because standard homeowners' and renters' insurance policies do not cover flood losses. Property owners can insure their buildings and contents, and renters can insure only their contents. There is a 30-day waiting period before policies become effective, so plan ahead. Lakewood is part of a federal program that provides discounted flood insurance premiums for any property owner in the city whether or not the building is in a flood hazard area. For flood insurance and premium details, contact your insurance agent. To search for an agent by your ZIP code, contact the National Flood Insurance Program at 877-336-2627 or visit FloodSmart.gov.
Protect your property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the slope of the ground around your foundation. Check to see that water drains away from your foundation a minimum of 7 to 10 feet on all sides. Check your gutters and downspouts to see that they drain away from your foundation. Use splash blocks as necessary. Make sure that your downspouts do not drain toward your neighbor's foundation. Remember, standing water in your yard can seep into a basement. Help keep drainageways clean so they can carry flood flows. Do not dump or throw debris into gulches, ditches or streams, including branches, grass clippings, garbage, dirt and concrete. Debris can accumulate and block drainageways and increase flooding hazards, and it is against city law to dump debris in drainageways. Report dumping in gulches, ditches or streams and potential problems such as blocked culverts to the Public Works Department at 303-987-7500.
Protect yourself and others from flood hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During heavy rainfall, stay alert for warning signals (sirens, television, radio, websites, and social media). Evacuate if directed. Plan evacuation routes to move to higher ground if necessary. Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and 2 feet of water can sweep away your vehicle. Prepare, plan and stay informed. Visit Ready.gov.
Build responsibly	<p>Always check with Lakewood Public Works at 303-987-7500 to ask about development requirements before you build, remodel, fence, regrade, fill or otherwise alter your property. All development within the flood plain requires a special permit from the city.</p>
Protect natural flood plain functions	<p>Urban drainageways function as conveyance systems for storm runoff and flood events. Help keep Lakewood's gulches and streams clear and clean by properly disposing of any trash, debris, motor oil or other household hazardous items. Follow directions when using fertilizers, pesticides and weed control chemicals.</p>

Preserving Lakewood history

Interested in learning more about historic preservation in Lakewood or listing your historic property as a local landmark? Qualifying historic properties listed as local landmarks are potentially eligible for financial incentives including federal or state income tax credits to assist with rehabilitation costs.

Lakewood's Historic Preservation Program is an important community asset that helps preserve local history through designation of landmarks and historic districts and through other avenues that enrich the community's culture. Properties in Lakewood can only be designated as a local landmark with the owner's consent.

Preservation includes the benefits of promoting civic pride and pride in one's property, supporting community sustainability through reuse of existing buildings as well as providing financial incentives.

To learn more, visit Lakewood.org/HistoricPreservation, or contact staff planner Matthew Seubert at 303-987-7527 or matseu@lakewood.org.



The Laase House at 1401 Garrison St., a local landmark that is a house.

STAY INFORMED

City meetings and events

The city has a new one-stop location on its website for upcoming city meetings and events, and it's shown in a calendar format. You can view the calendar with only meetings, only events or both. Keep track of what's happening in the city by visiting Lakewood.org/Calendar.

City street work

If you want to know what construction projects the city is performing that affect city-owned streets or similar projects, visit the new Lakewood.org/ConeZone to see a list of current projects. For example, the 2024 annual street maintenance program (story on page 8) is one of the projects where you can find the list and map of the streets that will receive repaving, repairing and other work this year. If you are interested in improvements and construction in the city's parks, open spaces and recreation areas, please visit Lakewood.org/Projects.

Highway or regional construction projects

The Colorado Department of Transportation maintains nine highways that run through Lakewood, and construction on those roadways certainly can affect traffic. Xcel Energy and other regional companies can also conduct construction projects in the city that affect residents. To learn about these projects, their impacts and updates, visit Lakewood.org/ConstructionDisruption.



Crime prevention

The Lakewood Police Department now offers the Vacation Check Program that you can sign up for online. Members of the Volunteer Support Team will conduct periodic checks of the exterior of your home while you are away. Police also have a Business Watch program to help business owners prevent and reduce crime. Learn about these crime prevention programs along with identity and car theft prevention and much more at Lakewood.org/CrimePrevention.

Tune into a new channel

Hey, Lakewood, there has been a lot of updates to our social media! First, we've changed our social media handles to @LakewoodCOgov across the platforms to make it easier for you to connect with us on Facebook, X and YouTube. We've also joined Instagram, and because some of the other platforms are getting a little weird, we thought we'd also join Threads at Threads.net/@LakewoodCoGov. Follow along for city news, events and all things happening in our beautiful city on these platforms and share your best Lakewood photos with us using LakewoodCO.

Dispose of your unused medicine

Do you have old medicine around your house? Lakewood Police can help you dispose of it safely. The department is hosting a drop-off site for National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The collection location will be the upper parking lot at the Lakewood Police Department, 445 S. Allison Parkway. Police will be on hand to collect your unused over-the-counter and prescription medications for proper destruction. More details are available at Lakewood.org/DrugTakeBack.

Grants available for neighborhoods

The 2024 Neighborhood Participation Program offers grants of up to \$60,000 for qualifying physical improvements that residents believe will make a difference in their neighborhoods. Examples include community gardens, public art, or new playground equipment and picnic facilities in neighborhood parks. To provide additional time for neighborhoods to submit applications, the grant deadline has been extended to July 1. The online application and information about the requirements are available at Lakewood.org/NPP.



Colfax Marathon traffic impacts

The Colfax Marathon returns to run through Denver and Lakewood on May 21, affecting West Colfax Avenue in Lakewood. Road closures run from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. depending on the location in the metro area. For traveling north and south, Interstate 25 will be open, and all roads west of Kipling Street will be open. For traveling east and west, streets

running east and west that are south of West Colfax Avenue will be open, and streets running east and west that are north of West 26th Avenue will be open. Road closures operate on a rolling basis and will reopen after the last runner passes. More details for your neighborhood will be available at the beginning of May at RunColfax.org. For questions, email info@runcolfax.org.



Got cardboard?

Bring your cardboard, scrap metal, glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, paper and plastic bottles to the Quail Street Recycling Center, 1068 Quail St. Drop in Monday-Saturday during open hours. The complete list of what items are accepted and hours are available at Lakewood.org/Recycling.

Free mulch

Lakewood residents are invited to pick up free mulch 7 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturdays, May 4 and 11 at the city Greenhouse, 9556 W. Yale Ave. Staff will be available with a loader to assist residents. Mulch is the byproduct of Lakewood's tree trimming operations, and it makes excellent ground cover for shrub beds and around trees. It helps landscaped areas in the following ways: retains water, which reduces the need for watering; assists with keeping soil temperatures consistent, which promotes the establishment of root systems; and serves as an excellent weed barrier, which beautifies the landscaping. Vegetation drop-off is not available. For more information, call 720-963-5240.



April 2024 Update

The public process to update Lakewood's Comprehensive Plan, called Envision Lakewood 2040, has kicked off and will continue through 2025, with the goal to hear from as many residents, businesses and community members as possible about their vision, values and concerns for Lakewood's future.

Numerous activities and events are planned for the coming year, and public participation started with a four-question vision and values survey in English and Spanish included in this newsletter and available online. The survey was open Jan. 12-Feb. 29. Thank you to everyone who participated! The survey results are posted on the project website, Lakewood.org/EnvisionLakewood2040.

All interested community members are encouraged to apply by April 21 at Lakewood.org/AG

Advisory Groups

Another upcoming opportunity to participate in this process is to serve on one of three topic-specific Advisory Groups. These groups will be meeting over the coming months to help brainstorm solutions to the concerns and challenges the community identifies through the survey, community conversations and other engagement activities.

Serving on an Advisory Group is a great way to build civic understanding, especially for those new to municipal processes or planning, and it provides an opportunity for community members to help their community. Each of the Advisory Groups will meet one evening each month in May, June and August, with two additional meetings tentatively planned for October 2024 and March 2025.

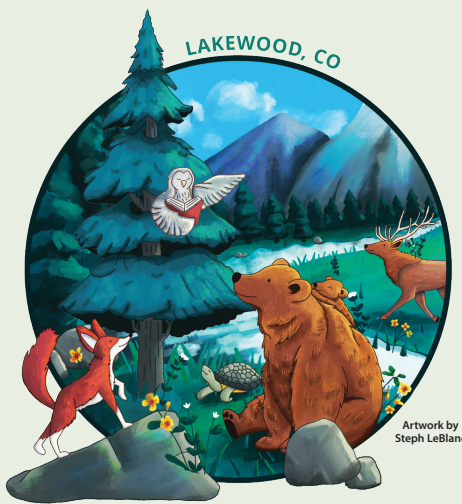
The purpose of the Advisory Group meetings will be to discuss key planning topics, have productive dialogue among its members and to provide concrete feedback to city staff and the consultant team to help draft the goals and strategies of the Comprehensive Plan, which is an important citywide document and tool that defines the vision, goals and priorities for Lakewood over the next 10-15 years and establishes a framework for decision-making regarding quality of life, land use, housing, transportation, climate action, equity and more.

Each group will include members of the community and Planning Commission and will receive support from city staff and outside experts in a range of applicable subjects. Members will be selected through an application and appointment process intended to create broad community representation with diverse perspectives and lived experiences.

- **Community & Quality of Life Advisory Group:** discussing challenges and opportunities related to public health and safety; social services; arts, parks, and recreation, sustainability, community resilience and more.
- **Housing & Economy Advisory Group:** discussing housing, land use, urban character, decarbonization, economy, workforce development and more.
- **Transportation, Green Infrastructure & Systems Advisory Group:** discussing how people move or travel around the city, pedestrian and bicycle connections and safety, public infrastructure, climate adaptation and more.

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Earth Day



Earth Day Festival

APRIL 27, 2024

Steph LeBlanc submitted the winning artwork.

Special activities and performances

- Hoop Fit demo.
- Interactive art activities.
- Nature Walks.
- Library Story Time.
- Animal Yoga.
- LCC Youth Dance Troupe.

Music

- 11 a.m. — MoonShroom
- 1 p.m. — Blue River Grass
- 3 p.m. — Flash Mountain Flood
- 5 p.m. — SuperMagick

Food and drink

- Beer Garden provided by New Terrain Brewery.
- Fanwich
- Cheese Love Grill
- Lucky Mary's Baking Company
- Buckaroo Enterprises
- El Bajón Churros
- Café Ole

Youth involvement

- Boy Scout troops helping kids make art.
- 4H group showcasing beekeeping skills.
- Carmody Middle School's National Junior Honor Society supporting the Parade of Species.
- School mascots including Carmody Middle School and Green Mountain High School.
- National Honor Society members from Bear Creek and Lakewood high schools volunteering at the event.

Know Your City Council Members



Wendi Strom
Mayor
303-987-7040
wstrom@lakewood.org



Jeslin Shahrezaei
Ward 1
303-987-7728
jshahrezaei@lakewood.org



Glenda Sinks
Ward 1
303-987-7729
gsinks@lakewood.org



Sophia Mayott-Guerrero
Ward 2
303-987-7738
sguerrero@lakewood.org



Isabel Cruz
Ward 2
303-987-7739
icruz@lakewood.org



Rebekah Stewart
Ward 3
303-987-7740
rstewart@lakewood.org



Roger Low
Ward 3
303-987-7743
rlow@lakewood.org



Rich Olver
Ward 4
303-987-7748
rolver@lakewood.org



David Rein
Ward 4
303-987-7766
drein@lakewood.org



Jacob LaBure
Ward 5
303-987-7776
jlature@lakewood.org



Paula Nystrom
Ward 5
303-987-7767
pnystrom@lakewood.org

To learn more about City Council, visit [Lakewood.org/CityCouncil](https://lakewood.org/CityCouncil)

2024 street repaving, repairing and sealcoating program



Lakewood will spend more than \$12 million on street maintenance this year to repave city-owned streets with new asphalt, repair concrete curbs and gutters and to sealcoat streets to extend the life of the asphalt.

Keeping roads in good condition is important to residents and businesses, so it's critical to slow down while crews are working. After all, they are taking care of city streets so community members can take care of what's important to them.

Work on the streets will get underway as the weather allows, and this year's maintenance includes the following:

- 36 lane miles of concrete repair and asphalt repaving.
- 4 lane miles of asphalt repaving only.
- 91 lane miles of Reclamite® sealcoating.
- 75 lane miles of sealcoating.
- 30 lane miles of concrete repair only.

A lane mile is one mile covering one, 12-foot lane width on one side of a road. Lakewood has about 1,400 lane miles of roadway, and it costs about \$140,000 a mile to repave an average two-lane street.

The complete list of the streets in the 2024 maintenance program is available at Lakewood.org/StreetRepairs, which also includes a map of the streets to be maintained. A video on the page also explains Lakewood's street maintenance program including pothole repair and crack sealing.

Maintenance categories

Concrete repair: Removes and replaces badly deteriorated sections of curb, gutter, sidewalk and drainage crosspans. Several miles of streets scheduled for repair of concrete only in 2024 will receive asphalt repaving in 2025.

Asphalt repaving: Performed on streets approaching failure or having poor ride quality. The roadway is

rotomilled, or scraped, to remove the existing asphalt surface to allow for a new layer of asphalt without causing excessive buildup or crowns in the roadway.

Reclamite® sealcoating:

Preventative maintenance used to rejuvenate the top layer of existing asphalt that is in fair condition and has few cracks. This helps recover streets that are suffering from oxidation and protects streets against the effects of weathering. This product is a semi-clear penetrating oil that is sprayed on the pavement, then covered in sand to prevent cars from picking up the oil. After 24 hours, the oil is absorbed into the pavement, and the streets are swept to collect loose sand. Streets receiving this treatment initially have a blotchy, wet appearance but return to a uniform, gray color.

Sealcoating: Extends the life of asphalt by applying a thin layer that serves as a barrier to moisture, deflects ultraviolet sun rays and helps prevent cracking. This product is sprayed on streets, which require their closure for 24 hours after it's applied. Prior to road closures, each affected property owner is provided with the time frame for the closure and the contact information for the contractor performing the work.



Sample of streets receiving maintenance:

Repaving

West Eighth Avenue from Simms to Quail streets.

Oak Street from West Sixth Avenue Service Road to West Colfax Avenue.

Concrete repair and repaving

Pierce Street from West 10th to West 20th avenues.

Dover Street from West Colfax to West 21st avenues.

Allison/Virginia Parkway from West Alameda Avenue to Wadsworth Boulevard.

Garrison Street from West Mississippi to West Alameda avenues.

Green Mountain Drive from Green Mountain Drive to a cul-de-sac.

Jewell Avenue from Garrison Street to Wadsworth Boulevard.

Concrete repair

Garrison Street from West Alameda to West Sixth avenues.

Florida Avenue from Endicott Street to Wadsworth Boulevard.

Union Boulevard from West Jewell to West Alameda avenues.

Reclamite™ sealcoating

Beech Street from Beech Circle to Exposition Avenue.