

## Office of the Mayor Wendi Strom

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March 7, 2025

Dear Colorado Congressional Delegation,

As the Lakewood City Council, we are writing to express our concerns and priorities regarding the federal government's role in upholding the rule of law, maintaining constitutional checks and balances, and ensuring the well-being of our communities. As a city that values the partnership between local and federal governments, we believe it is essential to emphasize the importance of federal commitments to infrastructure funding, community development block grants, and federal housing tax credits, to name a few. These investments are critical to keeping our communities safe, preventing homelessness, and ensuring the tranquility and prosperity of our residents.

Lakewood is proud to be home to the Denver Federal Center, one of the largest federal employment centers in the country. The federal workers employed at this facility are not only dedicated public servants but also vital contributors to our local economy and community. We firmly believe that any potential reductions in federal employment must be handled in an orderly and thoughtful manner that minimizes disruptions to the lives of these individuals and their families. Thirty percent of the federal workforce are veterans. These public servants have dedicated their careers to serving our country, and any changes to their employment status should be implemented with the utmost care to avoid unnecessary harm to them and the communities they serve.

Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the broader impacts of any layoffs or reductions in services on city, county, and state governments. The ripple effects of such actions strain public services, damage private companies, and undermine the stability of our communities. We request that the federal government engage with the National League of Cities to ensure that local governments are adequately consulted and informed about how federal decisions will impact our communities. This collaboration is essential to maintaining the strong partnership between federal and local governments and ensuring that the needs of our residents are met.

In closing, we respectfully urge the federal government to uphold its commitments to infrastructure, community development, and housing programs that are vital to the well-being of Lakewood and communities across the nation. We also ask for careful consideration of the impacts of any federal employment changes and for meaningful engagement with local governments to ensure that federal actions align with the needs of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the federal government to serve the residents of Lakewood and uphold the values that make our nation strong.

Sincerely,

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Wendi Strom, Mayor and Lakewood City Council City of Lakewood

cc: National League of Cities