



# Looking@Lakewood



## Fueling memories

When the rehabilitated Peerless Gas Station at Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park celebrates its grand opening, it will not only round out the museum's Colfax Hub, but it will also serve as a gleaming touchstone, telling the story of how West Colfax Avenue shaped the city's history.

For some in Lakewood, the station's red-and-white theme, with its similarly colored historic gas pumps, are likely to prompt a surge of memories of times spent shopping, dining and socializing on West Colfax during its heyday. It will also serve as a tangible link to an immigrant story and early Denver industry.

The station was constructed by Peerless Sheet Metal Works of Denver. The company's owner, Joseph Rosenthal, was born in 1900 in Romania and later moved to Colorado with his family. He married a Colorado native, Ruth Berger, in 1926 and established his

company near downtown Denver that same year.

At Peerless, Rosenthal created the gas station and manufactured steel buildings from pattern pieces that he sketched in chalk on the concrete floor before having them cut. Rosenthal retired and closed his factory in 1963 and passed away the following year.

Although the exact date of construction of this station remains unknown, the architecture provides clues that narrow it to the late 1930s or early 1940s. Simple boxlike stations, featuring aluminum accents and large plate glass windows, were prevalent during that time. The Peerless Gas Station also exhibits several

characteristics of Moderne architecture, most common in Colorado during those decades, with the style emphasizing a horizontal, streamlined effect, rounded edges and corners, and steel-frame metal windows.

Because of the importance of the population boom in the 1950s that encouraged commercial growth and tourism in the Lakewood area, the historic gas station's interpretation will represent the year 1954, extending its story beyond the original construction date to highlight a time important in Lakewood's history. After World War II, people increasingly traveled by automobile to visit the Rocky Mountains, and gas stations were integral to this new era. The 1950s also saw the number of motels along West Colfax Avenue peak at 37, which is represented by the Estes Motel on the Colfax Hub. Stations like this fell out of use after the construction of Interstate 70, which diverted traffic away from Colfax, forever changing the nature of the once-booming thoroughway.

This station was moved from a junkyard in Denver, and there are no records of its original location. But it is representative of many stations along West Colfax during the midcentury period. A pair of historic 1954 Bennett gas pumps were also recently restored, completing the picture of a year when cars had dramatic fins and large engines and gas was 29 cents a gallon. The gas pump restoration occurred thanks to Lakewood Historical Society and HCA volunteer Chuck Houser.

Learn more about this project at [Lakewood.org/Peerless](http://Lakewood.org/Peerless).



**GRAND OPENING**  
**Tuesday, Sept. 17 • 5-7 p.m.**

Celebrate the completion of Peerless Gas Station's rehabilitation project!

Call 303-987-7850 to R.S.V.P.

HERITAGE LAKEWOOD BELMAR PARK

### Neighborhood Support Team

## Cleanup Day – It's time to clear out, reuse, and recycle!



Lakewood's annual Cleanup Day has returned, providing Lakewood residents an opportunity to get rid of difficult-to-dispose of items such as old mattresses, broken appliances, or bulky pieces of furniture.

This free event is Saturday, Sept. 28 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at

Jeffco Stadium, 500 Kipling St. Because this event is in partnership with 3R Technology Solutions and Arc Thrift Stores, several items will be accepted by our sponsors, including electronics (anything that plugs in or runs on batteries although there is a charge for some items), furniture, appliances (e.g., stoves, dishwashers, dryers, refrigerators, etc.), and much more. A full list of accepted items is available at [Lakewood.org/Cleanup](http://Lakewood.org/Cleanup).

Because this is for Lakewood residents only, proof of residency is required. Traditionally a long

line and slower wait times have occurred at the 8 a.m. start, so please consider arriving later and throughout the morning for quicker service. Access to the event will be restricted to entering from northbound Kipling Street at Fletcher Miller School's parking lot. From there, vehicles will queue until reaching the Jeffco Stadium parking lot and will exit onto the West Sixth Avenue Frontage Road.

Check page 6 for information on a paint recycling event occurring the same day.

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
DENVER CO  
PERMIT NO. 1456

POSTAL PATRON

## MAYOR



Wendi Strom

It's been so fun to hear all the stories (and see all the pictures!) coming from those of you who are out enjoying this summer's **Mayors Park Challenge** (see page 5.) While life (and heat!) pulled me in other directions in July, I've enjoyed getting out and meeting some of you on our Lakewood trails during the last month. If you're not involved yet, there's still

time! I invite you to learn more and join me in visiting Lakewood parks that are new to you. You can find out more about this challenge at [LakewoodTogether.org/MayorsParkChallenge](https://LakewoodTogether.org/MayorsParkChallenge). Submit your photos by Sept. 30 for a chance to win dinner for two at Lakewood's own Casa Bonita.

Thank you to everyone who organized events or got out to connect with neighbors during this year's **National Night Out**. We had over 25 events across Lakewood that night, with more occurring throughout August. While NNO is behind us, we do have more opportunities coming up that are centered on creating connections with neighbors and other residents in meaningful ways. Two of those are in the next few weeks:

**Love Lakewood Day.** I invite you to join me in supporting and building the community we love through participating in Love Lakewood Day. On Sept. 21, volunteer to make a lasting impact on our community. Whether you're

passionate about beautifying our parks, supporting local schools, or combating food insecurity, your time and energy will help create positive change. Sign up to volunteer today and unite with your neighbors to strengthen our city and build a brighter future for everyone. Together, we can turn our collective efforts into extraordinary results. Don't miss this chance to give back and make a difference. Your city needs you! Visit [ServeSpotLakewood.com](https://ServeSpotLakewood.com) for more information.

**Table Together.** If you can't make Love Lakewood Day or just prefer sharing a dinner with others, you can join with other hosts across Lakewood as part of Table Together. On one night, Wednesday, Sept. 25, hosts will invite two or three neighbors over for dinner in their homes, on their driveways or in their front yards. The vision: tables and neighbors connecting across the city (and nation), all on the same night! When neighbors know neighbors,

a sense of belonging grows, neighborhood safety increases and the well-being of adults and children improves!

Anyone can sign up to host at [TableTogether.org](https://TableTogether.org). Once you register, you will receive a Table Kit in the mail with goodies and tools to have a meaningful experience, as well as a digital Host Guide with information on how to invite guests, plan food, and create a great conversation at the table. Hosts are encouraged to participate with a \$40 suggested donation, which includes a donation to Food Bank of the Rockies to help those who have limited access to food.

Whatever you choose to do, I encourage you to invite someone else along or reach out to someone new.

**Wendi Strom**  
303-987-7040  
[wstrom@lakewood.org](mailto:wstrom@lakewood.org)

## WARD 4



David Rein

What does Lakewood want to be when it grows up? No longer a sleepy collection of neighborhoods, the city is developing a new Comprehensive Plan that I hope everyone will participate in: **Envision Lakewood 2024**. Please share your vision of what the city might become with me or online at [Lakewood.org/EnvisionLakewood2040](https://Lakewood.org/EnvisionLakewood2040).

A vision that arts and culture can revitalize the West Colfax corridor and inspire its community sprouted from neighborhood feedback. Belmar and our extensive parks are not "happy accidents," but rather are the result of those who had a vision for what our city can be and who championed that vision.

National Night Out this year was a reminder of the power

of neighborhood gatherings. Neighbors throughout the city opened their doors to their communities and welcomed our local police agents and West Metro Fire first responders.

You asked for help to create even more opportunities to connect with your neighbors, and you might be surprised to learn that the city offers many resources to do just that. A great starting point is the Neighborhood Resources section of the city's website at [Lakewood.org/Neighborhoods](https://Lakewood.org/Neighborhoods):

- Neighborhood Participation Program: grants up to \$60,000.
- Neighborhood Get-Together: grants to hold neighborhood events.
- Sustainable Neighborhoods: build a sustainable community.
- Neighborhood Watch: help reduce crime.
- Neighbor Flix: movie night!
- Mediation: settle neighbor disputes.
- Litter Cleanup Kits: help keep Lakewood trash-free.

How else might the city help you build even more dynamic neighborhoods and innovative communities? How do we foster the next vision for the city? Let me know and participate in these important programs.

**David Rein**  
303-987-7766  
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## Stay informed on City Council happenings



### WARD MEETINGS

Council members in each ward have informal monthly meetings for residents to share ideas and learn more about their community. To view upcoming meeting dates and locations and sign up to receive email alerts, visit [Lakewood.org/WardMeetings](https://Lakewood.org/WardMeetings).

### LAKWOOD SPEAKS

Review meeting agendas and staff presentations, view live or previously recorded meetings and make public comment from the comfort of your home on this innovative online platform, [LakewoodSpeaks.org](https://LakewoodSpeaks.org).

### FRIDAY REPORT NEWSLETTER

Sign up to receive the Friday Report newsletter, which details all the recent and upcoming happenings in Lakewood, including City Council meetings and upcoming ward meetings. It's your one-stop shop for staying informed about the latest in Lakewood. Subscribe to this and other City e-newsletters at [Lakewood.org/Newsletters](https://Lakewood.org/Newsletters).



**Lakewood**  
Full of Possibilities.

# BIZ QUIZ

## Take the Lakewood Economic Development Biz Quiz!

Lakewood's Economic Development Office knows a lot about the businesses that create the city's economy, and this knowledge helps staff members work closely with companies to attract and retain them in the city. Now is your chance to learn how much you know about the local economy.

Take the quiz and find the answers below.

**1** How many Starbucks locations are there in Lakewood?

- A** 10    **B** 13    **C** 18    **D** 22

**2** How many other coffee shops are in Lakewood?

- A** 5    **B** 22    **C** 13    **D** 9

**3** Mark the following headquarters operations that are NOT in Lakewood.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> ARC Thrift Stores     | <input type="radio"/> National Ski Patrol             |
| <input type="radio"/> Casa Bonita           | <input type="radio"/> Natural Grocers/Vitamin Cottage |
| <input type="radio"/> Einstein Bros. Bagels | <input type="radio"/> Dynalectric                     |
| <input type="radio"/> FirstBank             | <input type="radio"/> LabJack                         |
| <input type="radio"/> Christy Sports        | <input type="radio"/> Outdoor Marketing Alliance      |
| <input type="radio"/> Denver Chip Company   | <input type="radio"/> Terumo BCT                      |

**4** Mark the correct number of Lakewood locations for each of these grocery stores.

- |                                       |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Chicago Market .....                  | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| De Mi Pais Market .....               | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Deli Italia .....                     | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| European Market & Bistro .....        | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Heinie's Market .....                 | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Jasmine Market.....                   | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| King Soopers .....                    | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Natural Grocers/Vitamin Cottage ..... | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Safeway .....                         | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Sprouts .....                         | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Target .....                          | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Viet Hoa.....                         | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Walmart.....                          | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |
| Whole Foods .....                     | <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 |

**5** How many professional, scientific and technical companies does Lakewood have?

(Engineers, lawyers, geophysists, designers, computer programmers, veterinarians, environmental consultants, etc.)

- A** 100    **B** 500    **C** 1,000    **D** 1,000+

**6** How many Lakewood sales/use tax licenses have been issued in 2024?

- A** 75    **B** 150    **C** 200+    **D** 400+

**7** Mark the Construction/Contractor companies NOT located in Lakewood.

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Callahan Construction  | <input type="radio"/> Encore Electric               | <input type="radio"/> Liftech          | <input type="radio"/> Pinkard Construction |
| <input type="radio"/> Catamount Construction | <input type="radio"/> Harrison Western Construction | <input type="radio"/> Ludvick Electric | <input type="radio"/> Taylor Kohrs         |
| <input type="radio"/> Dynalectric            | <input type="radio"/> Kitchen Masters               | <input type="radio"/> PCL Construction | <input type="radio"/> Diggable Design      |

**BUSINESS QUIZ ANSWERS** 1. B) 13 2. C) 13 including several that are locally owned. 3. It's a trick question. All of these companies are headquartered in Lakewood. 4. Chicago Market: 1; De Mi Pais Market: 1; Deli Italia: 1; European Market & Bistro: 1; Heinie's Market: 0; Jasmine Market: 1; King Soopers: 5; Natural Grocers/Vitamin Cottage: 3; Safeway: 3; Sprouts: 3; Target: 1; Viet Hoa: 1; Walmart: 2; Whole Foods: 2. 5. D) More than 1,000. 6. C) More than 200. 7. PCL Construction and Taylor Kohrs.



**City Manager**  
Kathy Hodgson

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[Lakewood.org](http://Lakewood.org)

## Google Fiber begins serving first residents



Google Fiber

Residents in the Eiber neighborhood in northwest Lakewood will be the first to get Google Fiber high-speed broadband service. This 100 percent fiber optic network is making internet services more competitive for the city's residents and businesses, and Lakewood is the first city in Colorado to receive this network.

GFiber's network is under construction in Lakewood, and the company has completed the first area in Eiber and will be opening service in this neighborhood in early September. GFiber is celebrating this milestone with an ice cream

social that will be 3:30-6 p.m. Sept. 4 at the Ice Cream Farm, 7085 W. Alaska Dr., Suite B. Come enjoy some ice cream and hear the latest about the GFiber project in Lakewood.

As new neighborhoods are completed, GFiber will expand its service to those areas. To sign up for updates, please attend the ice cream social or visit [fiber.google.com/cities/lakewood](http://fiber.google.com/cities/lakewood).

The city's agreement with GFiber stems from a 2019 vote in which Lakewood residents authorized the city to explore options to improve the city's broadband offerings. The city has made this a priority because it's essential that everyone has fast, reliable internet service. Updates on construction are available at [Lakewood.org/GoogleFiber](http://Lakewood.org/GoogleFiber).

# ARTS, PARKS & Recreation

## ARTS & HISTORY



### CAR 25 OPEN HOUSE **FREE!**

September 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Ride the beautifully restored rail car and experience a moment from the past.  
Denver Federal Center (Gate 1)  
[Lakewood.org/Car25](https://Lakewood.org/Car25)

### PEERLESS GAS STATION: **FREE!** GRAND OPENING

September 17, 5-7 p.m.  
Join the 1950s-themed event to celebrate the latest rehabilitation project. Please RSVP.  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/Peerless](https://Lakewood.org/Peerless)

### CIDER PRESSING

September 20 and October 19  
Reserve a session to use our presses to squeeze your home harvest of apples into juice!  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (keyword "pressing")

### LCCP SEASON

September 27-April 5  
Purchase tickets now for the Lakewood Cultural Center Presents 2024-2025 season of extraordinary performances.  
[Lakewood.org/LCCPresents](https://Lakewood.org/LCCPresents)

### CIDER DAYS

October 5-6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Purchase advance tickets for the Cider Days festival online or in person at Lakewood Cultural Center or Heritage Lakewood.  
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park  
[Lakewood.org/CiderDays](https://Lakewood.org/CiderDays)

## PARKS



### NATIONAL WILDLIFE DAY **FREE!**

September 4, 3-5 p.m.  
Register or drop in and join park naturalists to learn about local wildlife.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (Keyword "wildlife")

### SUNSET HIKES

September 20, 6-7:30 p.m.  
View wildlife and wild views while hiking with a park naturalist.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (keyword "hike")

### NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY **FREE!**

September 28, 8 a.m.-noon  
Assist with park projects during the largest national day of volunteer service.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents](https://Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents)

### INTRO TO BIRDING

October 2, 8-9 a.m.  
Curious about birding? Register to learn tips, tricks and resources from Lakewood's park naturalists!  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (keyword "birding")

### FULL MOON HIKES

October 17, 6-7:30 p.m.  
Leave flashlights at home and hike in the light of the moon with a park naturalist guide.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (keyword "hike")

## RECREATION

### TRAIL RUNNING SERIES

Wednesdays in September, 6-9 p.m.  
Register to join the 4-week race series of varying running distances.  
Bear Creek Lake Park  
[Lakewood.org/TrailRunning](https://Lakewood.org/TrailRunning)

### FAMILY HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY **FREE!**

September 14, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Celebrate the fun of fitness for all ages.  
O'Kane Park  
[Lakewood.org/FamilyFitness](https://Lakewood.org/FamilyFitness)

*Plan now for winter sports!*

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM

Winter registration begins November 5.  
Register for winter sports including basketball, soccer, and track.  
Carmody, Creighton, D'Evelyn and Dunstan students are eligible.  
[Lakewood.org/Register](https://Lakewood.org/Register) (keyword "MSSP")



**WEDNESDAYS  
SEPTEMBER 4-25**

Register to join the 4-week race series of varying running distances.

[Lakewood.org/TrailRunning](https://Lakewood.org/TrailRunning)

Bear Creek Lake Park

**Green Mountain  
Recreation Center**

**TEEN ROOM**

TEENS | AGES 13-18

VIDEO GAMES  
D&D  
BOARD GAMES  
POP-A-SHOT  
AND MORE!

[Lakewood.org/TeenRoom](https://Lakewood.org/TeenRoom)

# IN THE PARKS

More than 140 photos have been submitted for the **MAYOR'S PARK CHALLENGE**, which is a call that Mayor Wendi Strom put out to residents to visit Lakewood parks they haven't been to (and there's 114 of them) and snap a selfie to post on [LakewoodTogether.org/MayorsParkChallenge](https://LakewoodTogether.org/MayorsParkChallenge). Photos posted by Sept. 30 are entered in a drawing to win a dinner for two at Casa Bonita. Feel free to visit the page to like your favorite photos too!



My new fav park. I love the view of the mountains from the park and easy access to this newest park.



It's so nice to be able to walk to a park from home!

## Lakewood stories wanted: What do you love about your city?



From lush parks and expansive open spaces to unique amenities and vibrant public art, Lakewood offers something for everyone. Now, we want to hear from you! The "I Love Lakewood" campaign invites residents to share what they love most about our city. Scan the QR code or visit [Lakewood.org/iLoveLakewood](https://Lakewood.org/iLoveLakewood).

### How you can get involved:

- 1. Share your story:** Use our Lakewood Stories tool to tell us what makes Lakewood special to you. Whether it's a favorite park, a hidden gem, or a treasured memory, we want to hear it!
- 2. Be part of our video series:** We've launched the "I Love Lakewood" video series, and we're looking for community members like you to be featured. Fill out our casting call form by Monday, Sept. 30 for a chance to share your story on camera. Selected stories will be showcased online, on social media and on Lakewood8.
- 3. Use the hashtag:** Share your love for Lakewood on social media by using the #iLoveLakewood hashtag. Don't forget to tag the city's official account (@LakewoodCOgov) on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter/X and Threads.

Let's come together to shine a spotlight on what makes Lakewood truly special—YOU! We can't wait to see and hear what you love about our community.



We love when playgrounds have green spaces next to them!



Foothills Park.



Wonder if we can see a future Olympian perfecting skills.



What a great expansive park with so much to do and views to boot.

## COPS THAT COOK!

### Pancake Breakfast

Friday, Sept. 13 • 7–10 a.m.

Clements Community Center • 1580 Yarrow St.

- ★ FREE PHOTOS WITH POLICE AGENTS
- ★ EXCITING POLICE VEHICLES
- ★ TALK FROM THE CHIEF

\$5 in advance | \$7 at the door | \$4 kids 12 and under

Visit [Lakewood.org/CopsThatCook](https://Lakewood.org/CopsThatCook) or call 303.987.4820 for more information.

# City Council starts review of proposed 2025 Budget

City Council begins reviewing the Proposed 2025 Budget in September, and next year's budget reflects longstanding efforts to invest in services and programs important to residents.

For the last several years, the city has been building up its savings so it could invest those saved-up dollars on improving the city's streets, stormwater drainage system, transportation network and similar items. Investing in city facilities and buildings will occur in the coming years. Making these investments is a priority because the city's infrastructure is aging.

Two important projects, the West Colfax Safety Project and the North Dry Gulch Floodplain Mitigation Project, will receive funding in 2025 to support completion of these projects. The West Colfax project will improve safety on this busy street, with construction beginning later this year and the second phase beginning in 2025 (see story on page 7). The North Dry Gulch project, with construction getting underway in 2024, will remove and reduce flooding that has plagued the West Colfax corridor for decades.

In 2025, construction will be underway for Wright and Two Creeks parks to serve the community's growing needs, and more dog parks are in the works.

The proposed budget includes an additional \$800,000 for the Bring it Home Fund. This fund works to secure housing for teachers, firefighters and others making incomes of \$52,000 to \$125,000. The city's money, which includes \$500,000 provided in the 2024 budget, is part of an existing \$15 million fund to pay for projects that preserve or increase the supply of attainable housing.

The budget also includes using federal funds the city receives to help prevent evictions and to provide rental assistance to qualifying Lakewood residents, and it provides funding for Lakewood's multipronged approach to move those who are experiencing homelessness into stable housing.

Sustainability efforts will receive additional funding through grants in next year's budget to support more initiatives and additional staff, reflecting the city's priority to create a "greener" future.

The 2025 Proposed Budget is \$312 million, which is \$63 million less than this year's budget. The budget is decreasing because 2024's budget was the first year of investing in the street, drainage and transportation projects.

Lakewood voters approved lifting the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) limits on the taxes and other revenue the city collects for 2017-2025. Voters also designated these funds to be spent on parks and open space, police needs and transportation items. For

2025, these funds will continue to be spent in these same areas, including park improvements in four locations and new technology that will help Lakewood Police improve public safety.

## Participate in upcoming budget meetings at [LakewoodSpeaks.org](https://LakewoodSpeaks.org):

- **Monday, Sept. 16: 6 p.m.** Budget Study Session.
- **Monday, Oct. 7: 7 p.m.** Special Meeting for first public hearing on Proposed 2025 Budget.
- **Monday, Oct. 21: 6 p.m.** Special Meeting for second public hearing on Proposed 2025 Budget.



**City fleet going electric.** These are two of the six electric vehicles in the city's fleet, which are supported by new charging stations for city vehicles at the Civic Center. Xcel Energy-owned fast-charging stations for the public will be coming to the Civic Center later this year, and the city is working to add stations at its recreation centers.



## Serve Spot

**Love Lakewood Day**

**Saturday, Sept. 21**  
**9 a.m.-noon**

200 volunteers needed for citywide service projects at parks, nonprofits, schools and neighborhoods.

**Mural Painting**  
**Cleanup**  
**Beautification**  
**Meal Packing**  
**Blanket Making**  
**and more!**

**Volunteer groups and organizations welcome**  
**[ServeSpotLakewood.com](https://ServeSpotLakewood.com)**

Serve Spot is a Lakewood nonprofit formed by three coalitions created through an initiative of Lakewood's former mayors.



## PAINT RECYCLING EVENT

**RECYCLE ALL OF YOUR UNUSED PAINT AT THIS ONE-DAY EVENT!**

**WHEN**  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024  
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**WHERE**  
BELMAR CHURCH PARKING LOT  
460 S. KIPLING ST.  
(Note: Enter the service road at the light at Kipling & Exposition)

This FREE event is open to all Colorado residents with paint to recycle! Voluntary donations will support Lakewood's Sustainable Neighborhood programs.

**WE ACCEPT UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF:**

- ✓ House paints (acrylic, latex, oil/alkyd)
- ✓ Cans no larger than 5 gallons
- ✓ Sample size paints
- ✓ Original labeled containers
- ✓ Stains, shellacs, lacquers, sealers, varnishes, urethanes, & textured coatings

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT:**

- ✗ Aerosol/spray paints
- ✗ Paint thinners & solvents
- ✗ Drywall mud
- ✗ Cleaning agents
- ✗ Artist, car, & boat paint




See event details at [Lakewood.org/recyclepaint](https://Lakewood.org/recyclepaint).  
This event is happening on the same day as Lakewood's City Cleanup Day.



More information: [LakewoodTogether.com/WestColfax](https://LakewoodTogether.com/WestColfax)  
Más información: [LakewoodTogether.com/WestColfax](https://LakewoodTogether.com/WestColfax)



# Construction to start on making West Colfax safer

A critical step in creating a safer and more comfortable experience for motorists, pedestrians and transit users on West Colfax Avenue will get underway in the coming months on one of the city's most important infrastructure projects.

Construction is expected to begin in late fall on the West Colfax Safety Project. The improvements will stretch from Teller Street to Sheridan Boulevard, which has seen the highest number of traffic fatalities in the city in recent years. With more than 20,000 vehicles on West Colfax and numerous residents, visitors, customers and transit users on foot in this corridor, these safety improvements are vital to reducing those traffic fatalities.

Phase 1 will construct a more continuous, raised center median with landscaping, roadway lighting, stormwater improvements and new pedestrian "Z" crossings located midway between signalized intersections.

These prominent crossings are safer because they signal to motorists where to expect pedestrians, and pedestrians have greater protection while they are in the middle of the street.

At an open house on Aug. 22 at The HUB for the 40 West Arts District on West Colfax, business owners and the community were able to view the final design for Phase 1 and the proposed design for Phase 2. The project team was on hand to answer questions about design elements, the project schedule, and construction timeline. The start of construction has been waiting for approvals from the Colorado Department of Transportation because West Colfax is a state highway.

More details about the project are available at [LakewoodTogether.org/WestColfax](https://LakewoodTogether.org/WestColfax), where you can also submit questions.

This project began in 2017 when Lakewood initiated efforts to better understand issues

involving safety and the traffic fatalities along this segment of the West Colfax corridor. In 2020, Lakewood received a \$10 million Safe Main Street grant from the state for the project. The city is also using funds that Lakewood voters designated to be spent on transportation improvements.

As Phase 1 construction begins, design for Phase 2 will be finalized. Phase 2 will repurpose the outside traffic lane to build safe, continuous sidewalks with landscaped buffers and ramps to make sidewalks accessible to all abilities. The project will also improve safe access into businesses, add new traffic signals at the current signalized intersections, improve stormwater drainage, install sign elements including public art to guide pedestrians to the Z crossings and put beacons in the crossings to signal pedestrians are present. Construction on Phase 2 is expected to begin in 2025.

Mark your calendar for the

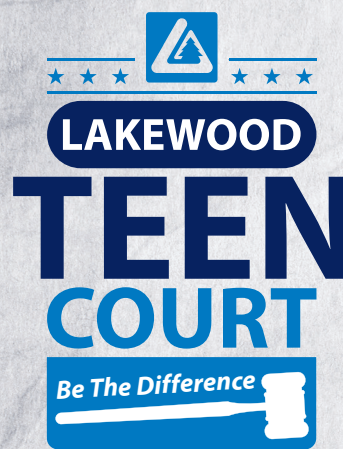
## West Metro VETERANS FAIR

Thursday, Oct. 3  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

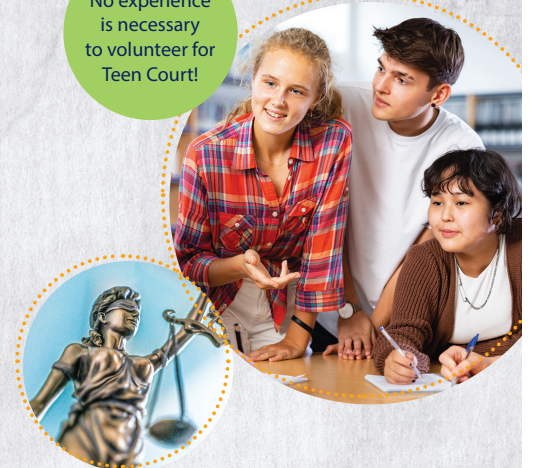


Elks Lakewood Lodge #1777  
1455 Newland St., Lakewood

For more information, visit  
[Lakewood.org/VeteransFair](https://Lakewood.org/VeteransFair)



No experience is necessary to volunteer for Teen Court!



### Lakewood's Teen Court is looking for teen volunteers.

Teens ages 13-17 interested in volunteering can participate as a prosecuting attorney, bailiff or juror for an actual case of a juvenile offender.

BUILD CONFIDENCE | EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS | MEET OTHER STUDENTS

[Lakewood.org/TeenCourt](https://Lakewood.org/TeenCourt)



# Know Your City Council Members



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

## Voters given TABOR question for November ballot

When Lakewood voters receive the Nov. 5 ballot, they will see the following question about the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) limits in Lakewood:

### CITY OF LAKEWOOD BALLOT ISSUE

Without increasing current taxes or adding any new tax, shall the City of Lakewood, Colorado, be authorized to collect, retain and spend the full amount of city taxes and all other revenue collected from all sources in 2026 and each year thereafter, in excess of the revenue and spending limitations

in Article X, Section 20, of the Colorado Constitution, and shall such excess revenue be spent only as follows:

- One-third for parks, recreation and open space;
- One-third for public safety-related equipment, services and/or personnel; and
- One-third for the maintenance and improvement of streets, sidewalks, paths and infrastructure.

And shall all such excess revenues be maintained and presented in a separate budget

or account of the City of Lakewood, Colorado, to provide for oversight by the citizens of Lakewood to ensure the excess funds are used solely for the purposes described above?

YES  NO

Voting "yes" for the ballot question means you support removing Lakewood from the revenue limits imposed by TABOR starting in 2026 and every following year. Voting "no" means you don't support removing the revenue limits imposed by TABOR



starting in 2026 and every following year.

The Jefferson County Clerk's Office will begin mailing ballots to all active registered voters in Lakewood on Oct. 11. To check or update your voter information, visit [GoVoteColorado.gov](http://GoVoteColorado.gov), where residents can check the status of their mail ballot and find their voter registration.

For questions about voter registration and to find important dates such as the last day to mail ballots, visit [VoteJeffcoCO.gov](http://VoteJeffcoCO.gov).

## Lakewood celebrates its first separated bike lanes

Local cyclists "cut" the ribbon recently for Lakewood's first separated bike lanes, an important milestone that is helping to create a more complete transportation system.

Those wanting to commute by bike or simply ride for recreation can now use six lane miles of separated bike lanes located on Garrison Street from West Jewell to West Alameda avenues. Garrison Street is a significant north-south cycling corridor and connects to the broader network of cycling routes in Jefferson County. Denver West Parkway and a section of Harlan Street near Alameda also received separated bike lanes.

"Lakewood's new separated bike lanes represent our commitment to a future where transportation is safer, accessible and inclusive to all road users," Lakewood Mayor Wendi Strom said. "By installing these bike lanes, we are ensuring that our city supports a variety of transportation options for all residents."

The lanes are designated with plastic curbing and posts to ensure the safety and comfort of cyclists. These lanes also help calm traffic and support both the health and sustainability of the community. For more information about Lakewood's separated bike lanes and ongoing updates, visit [LakewoodTogether.org/SeparatedBikeLanes](http://LakewoodTogether.org/SeparatedBikeLanes). Watch a video about the lanes at [bit.ly/separatedbikelanes](http://bit.ly/separatedbikelanes).

"If we're serious about fixing congestion and improving air quality, we have to embrace transportation alternatives like cycling," said Jenny Gritton, Lakewood's active transportation manager.

Twenty-five percent of greenhouse gas emissions in Colorado come from transportation, and 75 percent of people are driving alone in the metro area, with 45 percent of those trips lasting less than three miles, based on data from local



Lakewood celebrates its first separated bike lanes.

agencies including the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

As part of Lakewood's ongoing commitment to enhancing bike infrastructure, the city is currently updating its Bicycle Plan. This updated plan will serve as a blueprint

for creating a better, safer, and more accessible bicycle transportation system. The public is encouraged to stay involved in this process by visiting [LakewoodTogether.org/BikePlanUpdate](http://LakewoodTogether.org/BikePlanUpdate) to provide feedback and follow the plan's development.