



Looking@Lakewood

Lakewood's new Community Outreach Court launches

Lakewood Municipal Court has launched an innovative new court program that brings the court into the community, a step that improves access to the court for those with limited resources and connects them with services to address challenges contributing to their criminal conduct.

Called Community Outreach Court, the program is designed to allow individuals to resolve their Municipal Court cases while providing them with direct and immediate access to services and resources in the community, with the goal of improving their lives as well as the overall community.

Lakewood joins other cities in the state and across the country that are using this problem-solving program to get at the root causes of minor crimes such as trespassing and petty theft as a way to reduce repeat cases and make neighborhoods safer.

"Many of those who come to the Outreach Court lack simple things

like photo identification and are unfamiliar with the resources that are available to help them secure employment or find housing in their road to becoming more self-sufficient," Lakewood Presiding Judge Nicole Bozarth said. "Taking the court out into the community removes some of these barriers and the intimidation factor of going to court so that we can provide these individuals with services they need."

This program launched in December and meets the first Thursday of each month at centrally located Mountair Community Church, 1390 Benton St. Operating the court at an off-site location is unique and is designed to encourage those with court cases who might otherwise be reluctant to appear in court to attend. Individuals who are eligible and agree to participate are provided with individually tailored services and are connected with community

service providers. Even individuals who do not have court cases can still meet with the service providers.

Nearly a dozen service providers participate in the outreach court including the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles, Jefferson Center for Mental Health, and employment, medical and food resources.

At the court, individuals initially check in with one of Lakewood's homeless navigators who assist with determining the person's needs. Those with outstanding cases meet with a prosecutor and have the opportunity to meet with publicly provided attorneys known as a public defender. Resolution of cases can include a requirement to sign up for services the person needs in exchange for a closure of the case. In more serious cases or for those who need longer-term assistance, individuals will meet with a probation officer regularly while on probation, and they will be

required to return to court monthly for an assessment and review of their progress.

During December's and January's court sessions, 15 individuals attended, with 42 cases resolved. All misdemeanor charges in Municipal Court, except for domestic violence and juvenile cases, are eligible to be part at the Community Outreach Court.

Courts staff, Police Department agents and homeless navigators have been distributing flyers about the court, and Bozarth hopes that the program continues to grow as word spreads about its benefits so those with cases can take advantage of its convenience.

"It's a win-win for those with court cases and the community," she said. "This research-based approach can improve their stability within the community, thereby decreasing their involvement in the criminal justice system."

Let's bring it, Lakewood

With the new state law requiring stores to charge 10 cents for carryout plastic or paper bags, Lakewood has launched its Bring Your Own Bag website to serve as an online resource center to help residents and businesses.

[Lakewood.org/FreeBags](https://lakewood.org/FreeBags) provides tools and information to help residents save their cents and make the transition to reusable bags. Residents can find the following resources on the website:

- Sign up to be notified when Lakewood will distribute free reusable bags.
- Watch a video on how to make a reusable bag from an old T-shirt.
- Use an online form to let us know about an issue with a business's management of the fee.
- See answers to frequently asked questions or ask us a question.

- Get tips to create a "bag plan" for bringing reusable bags to shop.
- Learn about the state law and watch a video with more information.

For businesses, the resources on the website can help them understand the new law and provide guidance to manage the change:

- Review a bag fee checklist.
- Use printable handouts, posters and cashier training information.
- Log in to Lakewood Business Pro to ask questions of the city's Finance Department.
- See answers to frequently asked business questions.

Why it matters

Bringing a reusable bag to shop is good for everyone. Customers get to skip paying 10 cents for a single-use carryout bag, and businesses don't have to collect the fee. Lakewood's goal is to eliminate the fee having to be collected at all.

Transitioning to reusable bags takes the important step of protecting the beauty of our community, with no more plastic bags blowing in the wind or snaring wildlife.

Reusable bags really are the bags for the future, so let's bring it, Lakewood!

Children at Play.

This is one of the winning photos from the **Your Money at Work** photo contest. Learn more about the **Your Money at Work** project on page 6 and read some of the stories residents have submitted about our parks, open space and trails.



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MAYOR



Adam Paul

Happy New Year! Best wishes for a prosperous and blessed 2023. We are a diverse city made up of truly unique and different individuals facing challenges of all kinds, and in 2023, let's lead with kindness and understanding while working to move Lakewood forward!

In late January, City Council convened its annual planning session. In 2022, council set

ambitious goals for challenging issues such as infrastructure, public safety, homelessness, affordable housing, sustainability and economic development. To learn more about progress on these, please visit Lakewood.org/CouncilDashboard. I hope to see us continue our work in these areas. Stay tuned for more.

Throughout the last couple of years, we have certainly seen an increase in individuals experiencing homelessness. These increases are occurring in the county, metro area, state and nation. The city is taking bold steps to address it in conjunction with our neighboring cities in Jeffco. The goal is to build two navigation centers that will offer support services and sheltering for those in need. This will take a couple of years, and as we recently witnessed during the subzero

weather in late December, we need to find more immediate sheltering. We were fortunate that our faith-based partners stepped up to provide emergency sheltering in December; however, this is not sustainable.

I am also thrilled to announce that Lakewood has joined with Bayaud Enterprises for a pilot day-works program, the first of its kind in Lakewood and Jeffco. Through the generous grant from the Community First Foundation and monetary support from Jeffco and Lakewood, this program will work with those who are unhoused throughout the city to hire them to work on projects such as cleaning roadsides, bike paths, plazas, parks and alleyways. This helps address neighborhood concerns while providing employment, job training, and services to those most in need.

I am also happy to report our partners at the Colorado Department of Transportation have begun work on the final design for replacing the U.S. 6 and Wadsworth interchange. This is a top priority for Lakewood and has been in the works for over a decade. While the total buildout will take a few years, it's fantastic to see it moving forward. For more information, visit Codot.gov/projects/US6wadsworth.

Adam Paul
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We are building an inclusive community.

WARD 1



Charley Able

After nearly a dozen years on the drawing board, a noise wall soon could rise on the south U.S. 6 frontage road stretching 2,140 feet between Wadsworth Boulevard and Carr Street.

The Colorado Department of Transportation, following a recent traffic noise survey, again is considering the long-promised sound abatement wall, but the project now is conditioned on

obtaining a majority vote of "property owners and tenants who would benefit from the wall."

To gauge the opinions of those nearby residents, CDOT has conducted an opt-in survey and provided survey-access information in a letter mailed to those living nearby.

Despite earlier assurances that the wall would, indeed, be built, the agency now requires that "more than 50 percent of the survey respondents" express support for the proposed wall.

The proposed wall would be 12 feet tall from Carr to Meadowlark Drive and 10 feet tall between Wadsworth and Carr.

Charley Able
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Jeslin Shahrezaei

I recently spent time reflecting on City Council accomplishments during my first year in office. I am grateful for the grace from the community during this first year. I learned a lot in Year One regarding the systems in place to support my best efforts in serving our community.

We have a lot to celebrate from 2022; here are a few of my favorites:

- Purchase of land at 731 Tabor St. for the creation of Porter Park, increasing the open space in Ward 1.
 - Creation of a safe parking lot program, allowing private entities to opt into safe overnight parking at their facilities for our neighbors who are unhoused and living in their cars.
 - Amendments to the Lakewood Zoning Ordinance that increase sustainable development standards and help to advance our commitment to greening up the city.
- With Year One behind me, I am looking forward to the work ahead. Please continue to reach out and share what you would like to see for Lakewood. Happy New Year!
- Jeslin Shahrezaei**
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WARD 2



Sharon Vincent



Sophia Mayott-Guerrero

One of the objectives we will continue working on this year is to provide better support to the growing population of those who are unhoused here in Lakewood. While we continue working on long-term solutions, we want to highlight the community leaders at St. Bernadette Catholic Parish and Lakewood United Methodist (LUM) Church for the assistance they gave during the cold and snow event of last December. Pastor Ben David-Hensley catalyzed a series of actions that led to improved access to shelter during temperatures in the single and negative digits, ensuring everyone in Lakewood could survive the night. Thank you to the community of volunteers in Ward 2 who showed up with their time, donated clothing, and food. This was a stunning example of community leadership and community care.

It should be noted that although the community supported and City Council approved the Safe Parking Initiative, LUM is the only one currently providing these services. It is our sincere hope that others will step up to provide additional facilities. Ward 2 is showing up for emergencies and for longer term solutions, and we hope the rest of Lakewood helps to meet the homelessness crisis.

Lastly, as we move into the new year, we are working to bring more Ward 2 residents into local leadership to create the vision for Lakewood's future. Currently, Ward 2 has no one on the Lakewood Advisory Committee, which provides important input to City Council on potential ordinances and data for council initiatives. Another avenue to provide input and become involved in your

community is to attend local meetings. Ward 2 includes active neighborhood meetings in the Two Creeks, O'Kane Park and Eiber neighborhoods. There is a local West Colfax Kiwanis as well as the West Colfax Community Association. Ward 2 meetings are another good way to provide input and find out what is happening in the community.

We wish everyone a happy new year and look forward to hearing from you.

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Sophia Mayott-Guerrero
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WARD 3



Anita Springsteen

Activists have one thing in common. Trauma. From injustice. From being muzzled and abused by those with power. The trauma never goes away. And neither does the activist.

When I decided to serve my community, I did not know the extent to which Lakewood city government boosts activism through these abuses. Or the lengths officials

are willing to go to in order to silence those who Speak Truth To Power. On December 23, the Colorado Freedom of Information Coalition posted a blog about Mayor Paul muting certain Lakewood council members (see [ColoradoFoic.org](https://coloradofoi.org)). A preeminent First Amendment attorney was quoted as saying constituents have a right to hear from their City Council members, and “the mayor cannot exercise his mute button authority to silence any comment that disagrees with his position.” We were silenced for doing our job by asking questions about the city manager’s employment contract. What does that tell you? Citizens are the only hope for eradicating corruption.

Anita Springsteen
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Rebekah Stewart

The latest cold snap highlighted a significant need to do better with emergency planning to assist our neighbors who are unhoused. If it were not for the combined grassroots efforts of the Lakewood United Methodist Church and St. Bernadette’s Catholic Parish that opened to provide 24/7 shelter during the storm and Council member Mayott-Guerrero who

worked with the churches and then volunteered while they were open, countless humans could have lost their lives.

We can and should do better, and the city is already working to develop more robust emergency weather procedures for the future. However, as a community we also have the opportunity to use tools like the Colorado Safe Parking Initiative to provide stability and shelter to folks who need a little extra support and a fair shot at stable, permanent housing. Churches and other community organizations can host a safe lot as a place for those without homes in Lakewood by applying through ColoSafeParking.org.

Rebekah Stewart
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WARD 4



Barb Franks

Over the last few weeks, I’ve received several inquiries about resources for senior citizens; therefore, I felt it was a good time to ensure readers are aware of the Clements Community Center Reachout Office, which, per the city’s website, “... provides information and referral to over 3,500 programs, including a ‘Benefits Checkup’ for people ages 55 and older.” Senior Support Specialist Dave Appel can assist you in

finding and connecting with housing, transportation, statement reading, legal programs, social services, handyman home repair, and various personal needs.

Contact Mr. Appel via phone at 303-987-4838 or email at davapp@lakewood.org to schedule a phone appointment.

Additional information about city services and links to other agencies are available on the city website at Lakewood.org/Community/Older-Adults. This page provides information on programs and activities, transportation, health and wellness, and the Clements Community senior center. This information is also available by calling 303-987-4820 (or Relay Colorado at 711 if you are hearing impaired).

Barb Franks
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Rich Olver

People are already declaring their intention to run for the City Council seats in next November’s election. I didn’t start running until June, so there’s plenty of time left if you’re thinking of it.

My biggest surprise and disappointment in the job is that I expected that I was joining Team Lakewood. My background in Oil & Gas Exploration taught me

that the best way to accomplish goals requires a coordinated team effort of skilled professionals who bring their specialties together. City government (probably most governments) is not a team environment. I didn’t realize that going in. Winning politicians get their positions by beating opponents, not by working with them. There can be Team Left and Team Right, but as a hardcore Moderate, those are not for me. Furthermore, our city is run in a micromanagement style, which is not conducive to a team environment.

See www.enrichlakewood.com for an in-depth version of the above.

Rich Olver
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WARD 5



Wendi Strom

I’m excited to announce that after a unanimous vote of City Council on Monday, January 9, I have the honor of serving as Lakewood’s mayor pro tem for the year of 2023. If you are not familiar with this role, as mayor pro tem, I will continue to be here to support our Ward 5 residents in addition to stepping in

at times where needed during the absence of the mayor at community events or even running City Council meetings. I’m looking forward to the opportunity that this will allow for me to get out and meet more of our Lakewood community members and learn more about the issues outside of Ward 5.

Thank you so much to my fellow council members for entrusting me with this duty and to Council member Sharon Vincent for the work she did in this role in 2022.

I wish all of you a great start to the year and look forward to seeing you soon!

Wendi Strom
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Mary Janssen

Living costs continue to jump. Government “fees” and taxes contribute to these higher costs. Though we’re celebrating our Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) 30th anniversary, we see some state and local politicians grab more from our pockets. Think of all the unapproved “fees” like on bags, deliveries, and the new FAMLI payroll “fee” reducing your paycheck. You didn’t get to

vote on these taxes because some politicians don’t like to ask for voters’ consent.

Another example is the \$29 “KCW Pass” for state parks automatically tacked on to your vehicle registration starting January 2023, but you can opt out. Look closely before paying your registration. If you own more than one vehicle or trailer, those fees add up.

I’ll be serving on the City Council’s Legislative Committee for 2023. I assure you that I’ll advocate for taxpayers and vocally oppose fees that skirt TABOR.

Congratulations on Council member Strom’s appointment as mayor pro tem!

Mary Janssen
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2022 economic development year-end recap



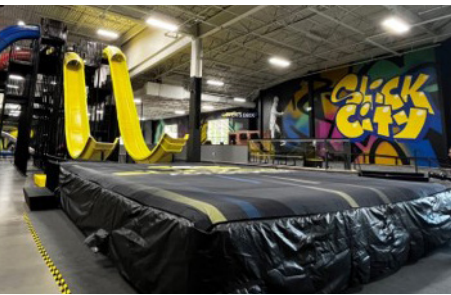
Lakewood has experienced robust business development and redevelopment over the past few years, and 2022 was another strong year for the community. There were 41 development projects completed in 2022, and 36 projects under construction going into 2023. New businesses, from startups to national companies, chose sites across Lakewood for their new locations — all bringing jobs, financial investment and vibrancy to our local economy.

New economic development programs were successfully created to assist the business community. The Mingle with a Mentor and Jumpstart Lakewood programs launched, aimed at further assisting entrepreneurs in our community. Mingle with a Mentor supported women and persons of color and paired blossoming entrepreneurs with experienced businesspeople in Lakewood. The Jumpstart Lakewood program provided five entrepreneurs an opportunity to present and improve their business pitch skills, culminating in a competition for a \$5,000 grand prize.

West Colfax corridor

Redevelopment and reinvention continue to move forward rapidly in the Colfax corridor. **Advanced Health Care** opened a new 31,000-square-foot skilled nursing facility with 36 beds at 1565 Pierson St. **Outdoor Market Alliance**, a nonprofit supporting outdoor companies, opened a 32,000-square-foot showroom and community meeting space at 11111 W. Sixth Ave.

Colorado Mills continues to thrive and renovate, adding **The North Face, 2nd & Charles, Slick City** slide park and **Guapo Taco** restaurant. **The Gallery Sportsman Club and Range** also opened and completed a remodel at 1350 Colorado Mills Parkway.



The **HUB at 40 West Arts** opened a new permanent headquarters for the creative district at 6501 W. Colfax Ave., formerly a long-vacant building. The space provides a home for the creative community by offering offices, art galleries and retail operations. The new **West Colfax Sculpture Walk** was created at the southwest corner of Wadsworth Boulevard and West Colfax, converting the highly visible, vacant parcel into an interactive public art space. The **West Colfax Beautification** program is also underway in the corridor, with two murals completed at 11353 and 10395 W. Colfax Ave.

Union corridor

The Union corridor continues to be an employment hub for Lakewood. The corridor experienced growth with both existing businesses and new businesses that chose to make Lakewood their home. The corridor benefited from business renovations and expansions of business operations. **Fluent Solar** completed a 13,196-square-foot remodel of its existing facility at 12540 W. Cedar Dr. that it purchased in 2021. **Colorado Pain Care** opened a new 3,024-square-foot clinic at 12596 W. Bayaud Ave. **St. Anthony Hospital** continued to update its facility, completing multiple renovations to spaces including, but not limited to, laboratories, operating rooms and sleeping rooms. **CAGE Civil Engineering** moved its Colorado office to the Union corridor at 405 Urban St. Residents, visitors and employees along the corridor also have a new place to eat with the opening of **Roca's Pizza and Pasta** at 13795 W. Jewell Ave. This is a creation of chef Alex Seidel, a James Beard Award winner.

Alameda corridor

New national and local businesses and employers made Lakewood their home in the Alameda corridor in 2022. **Wowza Media Systems** chose Lakewood, bringing 80-plus high-paying jobs to our community. Lakewood retained **Muller Engineering**, and hundreds of professional services jobs also stayed, continuing to bolster our local economy. Both employers moved their headquarters space to Belmar, investing millions into renovations. Belmar saw multiple new businesses open, including national companies such as **Lululemon, Daily Thread Co.** and **F45 Training**. Local businesses also moved in such as **Garage Sale Vintage, GQue BBQ** and **Heaven Artisan Creamery**. The Belmar district also became the first approved entertainment district in Lakewood, which allows the district to work toward the creation of a common consumption area for alcoholic drinks in 2023. **PNC Bank** opened a new 3,096-square-foot location at 303 S. Saulsbury St.

South Lakewood

Business development was robust south of Mississippi Avenue, and many notable projects brought

activity to south Lakewood. Five new, nationally backed retail companies landed in Belleview Shores, near the intersection of Wadsworth and Belleview Avenue. **Buy Buy Baby, Total Wine, Boot Barn, and Sierra** all opened in 2022. **TJ Maxx** will open in the first



quarter of this year. The area also saw new restaurant options enter the community. **Raising Cane's** opened a new restaurant with a drive-thru at 5060 S. Wadsworth Blvd. **Pier 8** opened a new 8,920-square-foot Cajun seafood restaurant at 5066 S. Wadsworth Blvd. **Chick-Fil-A** also completed a remodel of its existing location at 5260 S. Wadsworth Blvd. **Belmar South Office** remodeled its 22,741-square-foot building at 7506 W. Mississippi Ave., providing updated spaces to current and future tenants. **Thraemoor Townhomes**, a 103-townhome development project, was completed at 6689 W. Yale Avenue providing additional housing options to the community.

Thanks to these additions, Lakewood's local economy continues to build a strong foundation, and the Economic Development Division remains focused on bringing new companies here and supporting the ones that already know Lakewood is a great place for business.

Economic Development Division
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ED@lakewood.org



Economic Development team: (From left) Robert Smith, Katie Faltys, Laura Moody and Isabella Nunez.

Welcome to LAKESIDE GRAND OPENINGS

We are thrilled to welcome these new businesses to Lakewood that have opened in 2022:

2nd & Charles
14500 Colfax Ave., Suite 241
[2ndandcharles.com](#)

Cage Civil Engineering
405 Urban St., Suite 404
[CageCivil.com](#)

Cooney Associates
6595 W. 14th Ave., Suite 100
[Cooney-associates.com](#)

Elevation Hydration
180 S. Union Blvd., Suite 107
[HydrateToElevate.com](#)

Guapo Taco
14500 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 343
[GuapoTacoColorado.com](#)

Muller Engineering Company
7245 W. Alaska Dr., Suite 300
[MullerEng.com](#)

Sierra
5142 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
[Sierra.com/lakewood-co~1~123/](#)

The North Face
14500 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 202
[TheNorthFace.com/en-us/stores/co/lakewood/USA330](#)

Total Wine & More
5136 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
[TotalWine.com/lakewood-co](#)

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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It is distributed to all households and businesses in the city. Alternative formats of this publication are available upon request.

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[Lakewood.org](#)

ARTS, PARKS & Recreation

ACTIVITIES



Summer Camps

Registration Now Open! Find the perfect arts, adventure or athletic camp in our groovy summer camps guide, posted online and available in Lakewood facilities.

Lakewood.org/Camps

Apply for financial assistance: Lakewood.org/PossibilitiesFund

Refocus on Fitness

Register for a yoga, tai-chi, Pilates, nutrition or a virtual yoga class! New classes start monthly. Join a class at a Lakewood Recreation center, or in your living room, and get started.

Search: Lakewood.org/Register

Bear Creek Lake Park

Enjoy a sunset, night or birding-focused hike guided by a park naturalist at Bear Creek Lake Park.

Learn more: Lakewood.org/BCLPEvents

Buy a pass: Lakewood.org/BCLPPass

Earth Day

Celebrate our planet at the Earth Day event at Heritage Lakewood. *See page 8 for details.*

Join the Earth Day Volunteer Project at Bear Creek Lake Park on April 23 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Sign up: Lakewood.org/ParkPrograms



ART EXHIBITIONS

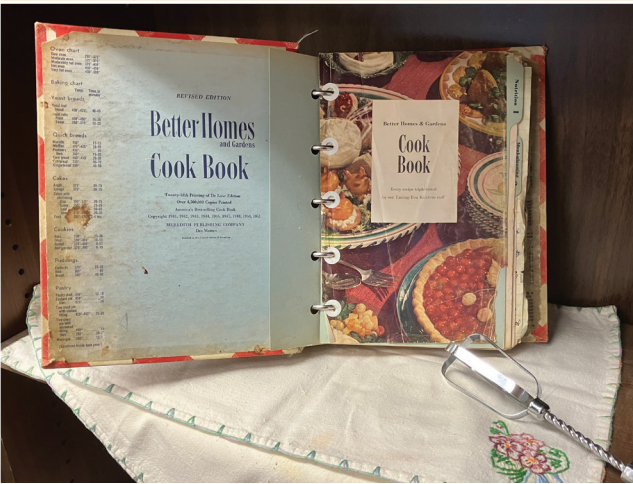


Sensing Lakewood Restaurants

Take a tour from the beginning of fast food to longtime eateries that exist today in the “Sensing Lakewood Restaurants” exhibit open now through September at Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park.

Hungry for History

Learn tidbits of cooking history while exploring stories of Heritage Lakewood’s historic buildings during the “Hungry for History” exhibit opening Feb. 25.



PERFORMANCES



LCCPRESENTS 2022-2023 Winter/Spring Season

Purchase tickets starting at \$25 per show. View upcoming performances below and the full season schedule online.

Buy tickets: Lakewood.org/LCCPresents

The Acting Company and Lakewood Cultural Center present two timeless tales:

“The Three Musketeers”

A world premiere adaptation sheds new light on this swashbuckling adventure.

Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Recommended for ages 12 and older.)

Lakewood.org/ActingCompany

“Romeo & Juliet”

A contemporary take on an iconic love story from a Tony award-winning company.

Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. (Recommended for ages 12 and older.)

Lakewood.org/ActingCompany

Takács Quartet

This world-renowned string quartet from Boulder plays Haydn, Schubert and Britten.

Saturday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Lakewood.org/Takacs

Altan

A Donegal quartet presents traditional Irish music, reels and jigs.

Saturday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Lakewood.org/Altan

Rodgers & Hammerstein’s “CAROUSEL”

co-presented with Performance Now Theater Company

A tale of love and redemption from classic musical theater. Performances available March 17–April 2.

Lakewood.org/Carousel



Lakewood LOVES TREES

Purchase a tree for your yard for just \$25 during the Lakewood Tree Sale!

March 1-31 or while supplies last.

Lakewood.org/TreeSale

Thank you for your support of the Imagine Tomorrow! planning effort to reimagine the future of arts, parks and recreation in Lakewood!

Scan the QR code or visit LakewoodTogether.org/ImagineTomorrow to review and share your comments on the draft master plan available mid-February.



IMAGINE TOMORROW
Arts, Parks & Recreation for All



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Visit LakewoodTogether.org/ImagineTomorrow to join the conversation.



YOUR MONEY AT WORK

As part of the city's Your Money at Work project, residents have been sharing their stories — and photos — about how meaningful Lakewood's parks, open space and trails are to them. Read some of the stories here, and then visit LakewoodTogether.org/MoneyAtWork to read more.

This project has been launched to update residents on all the ways the city pays for the recreational amenities that they've said are important to them and their quality of life. Visit the website to watch videos of some of the latest park improvements, review all park projects completed or underway along with the purchases of more parkland, and return to the site in April when the monthly photo contest and trivia will start up again.

Addenbrooke Every Day

"When I was in college, running around Addenbrooke Park was a regular part of my daily routine. Now, 20 years later, having lived around the state and even internationally, I find myself back in Lakewood and running Addenbrooke every day again...I've enjoyed sharing this space also with my kids in recent years, making good memories at the new playground and even spending a few homeschool days there in this beautiful fall weather." *(Related photo above.)*

Moments of Inspiration

"Remember those early childhood memories of playing on the school playgrounds on the monkey bars and those rings? Those times with your best friend laughing away and living

totally carefree... Thanks, Lakewood for allowing me to relive those moments and share it with my friends and neighbors as I am today at Fitness Court at Green Mountain Recreation Center."

Children at Play

"The newly renovated Quail Street Park is a great addition to Lakewood. By investing in local parks, we are directly investing in Lakewood families. The renovation of Quail St. Park, like many others, boasts many opportunities for children to play, imagine, and connect in our wonderful city. We're proud to call Lakewood our home." *(Related photo on page 1.)*

Center

"In the middle of our neighborhood, we can retreat to a place of quiet serenity where time is on hold for a brief moment. Time to inhale deeply and take in all that is good for us. At Cottage Park, we can find our balance, our inner peace, and what really centers us all."



Stay informed, get involved

Find all the news and information about your city by using the resources listed below. For a complete list of ways to stay informed and involved, visit Lakewood.org/StayInformed.

Websites

- **Lakewood.org:** find upcoming events, what's close to you, pay a bill and more.
- **LakewoodTogether.org:** participate in city projects and planning efforts by providing your comments, taking surveys and asking questions.
- **LakewoodSpeaks.org:** watch council meetings from home, review agenda items and provide public comments.
- **Lakewood.org/Council:** find out how to contact your council members, about upcoming meetings and more.
- **Lakewood.org/WardMeetings:** learn when council members will be meeting with residents.

Social media

- **Twitter:** @LakewoodColo, @LakewoodPDCO, @TrailsLakewood, @GolfLakewoodCO.
- **Facebook:** LakewoodGov, LakewoodPDCO, HeritageLakewood, LakewoodRecreation, PlanLakewood.
- For a complete list of the city's social media, visit Lakewood.org/SocialMedia.

Videos

- **YouTube.com/LakewoodColoradoGov:** watch fun, educational and informative city videos.
- **Lakewood.org/CouncilVideos:** watch online to catch up on council meetings.
- **Lakewood8:** watch the city's TV channel available on cable channels 8 and 880 or streaming at Lakewood.org/Live8.

Customer service, e-newsletters & more

- **Lakewood.org/RequestLakewood:** use the city's online customer service hub to submit a concern or ask a question.
- **Lakewood.org/Newsletters:** subscribe to the ones you want including the city's weekly Friday Report, sustainability, arts, older adults and more.
- **Lakewood.org/Publications:** flip through electronic versions of the city's printed publications.
- **Lakewood.org/MyNeighborhood:** Use your address to find nearby parks, projects, your council members and upcoming events.
- **Lakewood.org/News:** access the city's press releases and other information.
- **Lakewood.org/GoodNews:** read the city's blog about good news in your city.
- **Lakewood.org/EmergencyPrep:** learn about outdoor sirens and sign up for emergency alerts.

Framing the ArtLine plan



The 40 West ArtLine has come to life as a 4-mile outdoor art experience that connects people to parks, shopping, creative businesses, transit and more in the heart of the state-certified 40 West Arts Creative District in northeast Lakewood. Now, the ArtLine needs your help to create a plan that will chart the ArtLine's course for years to come.

The 40 West ArtLine Framework Plan, funded by a grant, will set the vision for this important community amenity, establish how and what type of art will be added and maintained and create the tools needed to put this long-term plan into place.

Help shape the plan by participating in community events and taking online surveys. Find more information and follow the progress of the plan at LakewoodTogether.org/40WestArtLine.



Lakewood Strategic Housing Plan and survey

Lakewood is preparing a Strategic Housing Plan that will identify tools and strategies to help preserve affordable housing and create new affordable housing options for Lakewood residents.

The city has hired Gruen, Gruen + Associates to assist staff in analyzing economic and housing conditions, conducting community outreach and preparing the plan. Over the next few months, city staff will be working to gather community input through surveys, community meetings and stakeholder interviews to determine Lakewood's housing needs.

Your participation is requested!

A housing survey has been designed to obtain information and perspective about the current housing patterns, costs, preferences and needs of Lakewood residents. The survey will be used for the following purposes:

- Collect timely data about current housing characteristics and costs.
- Identify factors most important to residents' housing needs.
- Understand residents' affordable housing challenges.
- Estimate future housing demand in Lakewood.

Complete the survey electronically by scanning the QR code on your phone, or by visiting the website below. All survey responses will remain completely anonymous. The survey will be available until Friday, March 3.

Lakewood Housing Survey (English)



surveymonkey.com/r/LakewoodHousingSurvey

Encuesta de Vivienda de Lakewood



surveymonkey.com/r/Encuesta_de_Vivienda_de_Lakewood

There are plenty of ways to get involved! Please visit the project website at LakewoodTogether.org/HousingStrategy for more information about the Strategic Housing Plan and to subscribe to project updates.



Continued from page 8

Snowplowing plan

Why don't streets with a cul-de-sac or a dead-end get completely plowed?

If a snowplow tries to follow the curve around the outside of a cul-de-sac, the truck grinds to a stop with all its wheels spinning. In heavy snow particularly, a turning truck cannot exert much force on snow in front of the blade. To remedy this problem, snowplows do not turn with the plow in a cul-de-sac. A plowed zone is created in the street that residents can dig to from their driveways, even though the zone might be up to 20 feet or more from the end of their driveways. On dead-end streets, snowplows cannot turn around and can get stuck, so the same procedure is used to provide a clear zone.

Who plows Wadsworth and other major roads or highways in Lakewood?

The Colorado Department of Transportation has the responsibility for plowing Wadsworth, Colfax, Sheridan, Kipling, Morrison Road, Sixth Avenue (US 6), Hampden (US 285), C-470 and Interstate 70 in Lakewood. The city does not and cannot start plowing these state highways. It would pull city plows off Lakewood streets and be a significant impact to the city's budget.

Does your neighborhood need a little help with an improvement project?

If your neighborhood needs a picnic facility, new playground, community garden or similar physical improvement, apply for a grant from Lakewood's 2023 Neighborhood Participation Program.

For more than 25 years, the NPP program has offered an outstanding opportunity for neighborhoods to come together to make a difference. The application process closes at 5 p.m. on March 1. The online application and more information about the requirements are available at Lakewood.org/NPP.

Grants of up to \$60,000 are available for a project, with a total of \$160,000 to be awarded in 2023. Project proposals compete directly with other proposals and are evaluated based on criteria including the benefit to the neighborhood, health and safety, neighborhood support, maintenance requirements and support for the goals of citywide plans such as Lakewood's Comprehensive Plan. Lakewood City Council makes the final selection of the projects to receive grants.



Ward Update

Small shift in ward boundaries

Just over a 1,000 residents in Lakewood now have new council members after City Council approved adjustments to the boundaries of the city's wards, which are the geographic areas each council member represents.

The 1,149 residents affected by the change are in the Tamarisk neighborhood in southern Lakewood near Bear Creek Lake Park and the Greenwood Park neighborhood in central Lakewood by Alameda International Jr./Sr. High School. With the approved changes, the Tamarisk residents shifted from

Ward 4 to Ward 5. The Greenwood Park neighborhood shifted from Ward 3 to Ward 5.

Residents can find who their City Council members are by visiting Lakewood.org/MyNeighborhood and typing in their address. The map of the city's five wards is available at Lakewood.org/WardMap.

The ward boundary changes were needed because of court-approved changes to the districts for the Colorado Legislature and U.S congressional districts. These adjustments resulted in Jefferson County having to change the

boundaries for county precincts, which are related to where people vote and who represents them. With the county's changes, the boundaries of two of Lakewood precincts crossed ward boundaries. This would have resulted in the neighborhood precincts being represented by two sets of Lakewood City Council members, and this isn't permitted under the Municipal Code.

The boundary adjustments that started at the state level and rippled down to the city stem from population shifts determined by the federal 2020 census.



Answers about Lakewood’s snowplowing plan

As is common with sizable snowstorms, plowing the city’s streets can be challenging, and this results in residents expressing their frustration when the plowing doesn’t meet their expectations.

Lakewood has a detailed snow plan that is available at Lakewood.org/SnowPlan, and information about the plan is outlined here along with answers to frequently asked questions. Additional answers are also available on the website.

“We really are listening to the concerns of the citizens to try to make this better,” City Manager Kathy Hodgson told the City Council at a recent meeting. “We’re always working to improve our operations.”

The Dec. 28-29 storm that hit the metro area started with rain, followed by significant snowfall and a substantial drop in temperatures. The storm created snowfall at the rate of up to 2 inches an hour for about eight or nine hours, leaving behind snow levels ranging from 8.5 inches in eastern Lakewood to 14 inches in the Green Mountain area in the western part of the city.

While residents expect to see streets clear enough to expose the asphalt pavement after plowing including in their neighborhoods, snowplows cannot always achieve this. This is particularly true when the amount of snowfall is significant. While blades on city snowplows weigh 2,000 pounds, they cannot cut through packed hard ice created by vehicles traveling on streets during a storm. When ice pack forms under tire tracks, the snowplows are only able to remove the loose snow on top of the ice, but not the ice itself. It’s similar to residents trying to shovel their driveways after they’ve driven on them and being unable to remove the ice created under the tire tracks.

A motor grader, which is significantly larger than a snowplow and is equipped with a 14-foot blade for scraping, can sometimes remove ice, but only when the temperature rises and the sun is causing melting. The December storm was quickly followed by a smaller storm that kept temperatures low and brought another inch or so of snow.

The graders also are not as mobile or as fast as snowplows and can generally only be used on longer flat streets in areas with few cul-de-sacs. Using graders to remove ice is a slow process, taking as much as two hours to clear one block of a street, and Lakewood has 4,700 blocks of residential streets.

What is the city’s snow plan for plowing?

The city has established priority snow routes, which are streets that are plowed every snowstorm. Priority One snow routes are plowed first and consist of busy arterial and major collector streets such as Union Boulevard, Bear Creek Boulevard, West Alameda Avenue and West Jewell Avenue. Priority One routes cover 160 miles and provide the transportation network for police, fire and rescue vehicles. Priority Two and Three routes are plowed next. They include some

streets in school zones and shopping areas, minor collector streets and some residential streets that are steep and have sharp curves or have particularly difficult access. There are 125 miles of Priority Two and Three streets.

The focus of Lakewood’s snow plan is to provide a transportation network that is travelable and as safe as possible for the conditions. To accomplish this, the city first plows and maintains the Priority One streets so that higher traffic volumes are able to flow and emergency vehicles have access throughout the city. If the city were to spread its equipment over all the streets at the same time during a major

storm, rather than using the priority system, all the streets would become impassable.

During major storms and blizzards with high rates of snowfall, crews remain on Priority One streets until snow accumulation has slowed, these streets are cleared as much as possible and deicing material for traction and melting has been applied where necessary. Crews might have to plow and replot Priority One streets several times before being able to move to Priority Two and Three streets. With the December storm, Priority One, Two and Three routes were plowed by noon on Dec. 29.

Is there a minimum amount of snow that must accumulate before the plows are sent out?

Plows are sent out on Priority One snow routes as soon as any measurable snow begins to accumulate on the pavement, and crews operate 24 hours a day in two 12-hour shifts during storms. Crews can also spray a light application of liquid anti-icing material in certain conditions on some arterial streets such as Union Boulevard in preparation for a storm. This anti-icing material

reduces the potential for snow to bond to the pavement and makes plowing more effective.

Why doesn’t the city plow residential streets in every storm?

Residential streets that are not part of the priority routes are plowed only when snow is deep enough to seriously impede mobility and melting is not forecast to occur quickly. If residential streets are plowed before the snow seriously impedes cars, many residents become frustrated by the pile of snow across their driveways known as a “windrow.”

The number of parked cars on residential streets also makes it difficult to plow them. As a result, snowplows are typically able to make only two, 10-foot passes on residential streets that are part of the priority routes. When the decision is made in severe snowstorms to plow all residential streets, plow drivers will only make one, 10-foot pass down the residential street.

Plowing the 204 miles of residential streets costs a minimum of \$75,000 for each storm, and if there are frequent storms during a winter, it could double the annual expense of snowplowing. Typically, the city’s annual snowplowing costs about \$1.4 million, which doesn’t include regular plowing of all residential streets.

Why aren’t residential streets plowed to bare pavement when there are several inches of ice on the street?

Snowplows don’t have the ability to break up and clear ice from residential streets after ice has formed under tire tracks. In cold weather, neither truck-mounted plows nor motor graders can remove ice. When residential streets are plowed, the goal is to make all streets passable, not necessarily bare, within 48 hours after snowfall has stopped. With the December storm, most residential streets were plowed by the early morning hours of Dec. 30.

See **SNOWPLOWING PLAN** page 6

“We really are listening to the concerns of the citizens to try to make this better. We’re always working to improve our operations.”
— Kathy Hodgson, City Manager

Host your next event at a *Lakewood venue!*



Whether you are looking for a location to have a beautiful wedding or reception, performance, fundraiser, business meeting or family event, we have a variety of unique spaces to suit your needs.

Let us help you find the perfect venue.

Lakewood.org/Rentals

 **Lakewood**
Community Resources

Save the Date!

EARTH DAY

APRIL 22

HERITAGE LAKEWOOD BELMAR PARK
801 S. Yarrow St.

Live Music • Games • Beer Garden
Bicycle Valet • Art Stations

 For event details and vendor applications, please visit **Lakewood.org/EarthDay**