



LakewoodLives

Lakewood will be a safe, healthy, diverse, and vibrant community with strong and unique neighborhoods.

Neighborhoods

Housing

Family Services

Historic Preservation

Arts & Culture

Parks, Trails & Recreation

Schools & Libraries

Public Services



Guiding Principle

Lakewood will be a safe, healthy, diverse, and vibrant community with strong and unique neighborhoods.

The City will support its diverse neighborhoods and respect the character and the historic and cultural resources that make its neighborhoods unique. While respecting its neighborhoods, Lakewood will provide for the development of mixed-use urban centers and high-density residential neighborhoods at appropriate locations. The City will support its strong legacy of parks, open space, and trails.

Lakewood will encourage community and civic engagement and will be an inclusive and diverse community that welcomes all. It will be an active, healthy, safe, and vibrant place to live, work, learn, and play.

Introduction

Residents of Lakewood identify the city's diverse neighborhoods, the quality park system, the convenient location close to downtown Denver and the mountains, and the varied cultural amenities as some of the main reasons they choose to call Lakewood home. As Lakewood continues to grow and prosper, it must ensure that it continues to meet the expectations and needs of its residents.

The *Lakewood Lives* chapter identifies goals and action steps that support what residents have identified as important and necessary for a strong quality of life. This chapter contains a wide range of topics to ensure Lakewood remains a desirable and safe place to live, work, learn, and play. It acknowledges the importance of building for the long-term by reinforcing and strengthening its neighborhoods, ensuring a diverse housing stock, supporting and encouraging lifelong learning opportunities, maintaining and supporting its varied cultural and civic amenities, and providing for the health and safety of the community.

This chapter reflects the overall intent of the previously adopted neighborhood plans, and includes relevant information, goals, and actions steps contained in those plans. See page 1-5 for more information on neighborhood plans incorporated in this document.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Overview

Lakewood is a city of diverse and unique neighborhoods in which its residents take great pride. The City recognizes the importance of strong and stable neighborhoods as paramount to its economic health and overall sustainability. Maintaining and supporting its current neighborhoods, as well as encouraging new neighborhoods that are safe, pedestrian-friendly, and provide diverse housing opportunities are key to Lakewood's future. The goals in this section are intended to support all of Lakewood's neighborhoods by maintaining their unique character; supporting quality development and redevelopment that serves the neighborhoods; and encouraging strong communication, both among Lakewood's neighborhoods and between the City and neighborhoods.

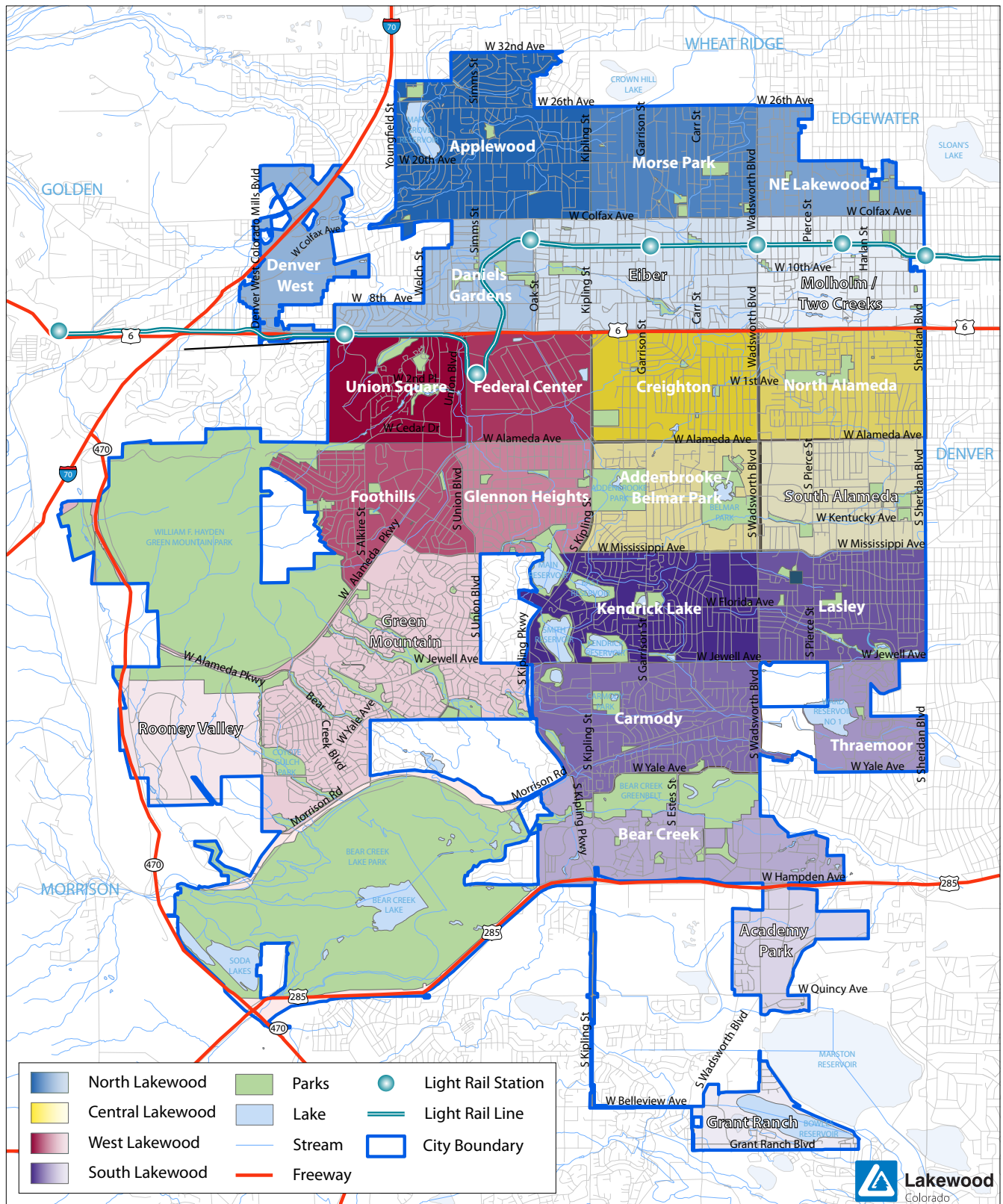
Each of Lakewood's neighborhoods has its own character and assets, ranging from larger-lot residential properties that allow for the keeping of horses, to multifamily residential developments. Neighborhood characteristics vary as Lakewood has evolved over time and development patterns have changed. Lakewood's neighborhoods can be divided into four distinct neighborhood areas based on the age of the neighborhood, the development pattern of the neighborhood, the geographic location within the city, the adjacent transportation corridors, and the access to retail, parks, and other amenities. The neighborhood areas are the North Lakewood Neighborhoods, Central Lakewood Neighborhoods, South Lakewood Neighborhoods, and West Lakewood Neighborhoods. Each of these neighborhood areas also has a number of self-identified neighborhood organizations within its boundaries. These neighborhood organizations help to further define and enhance each of the neighborhood areas.

North Lakewood Neighborhoods

The city's north neighborhood area includes the Northeast Lakewood, Two Creeks, Eiber, Morse Park, Applewood, and Daniels Gardens neighborhoods. This neighborhood area is bordered by the city limits on the north to US 6 on the south, and Sheridan Boulevard on the east to the city limits on the west. These neighborhoods contain some of Lakewood's oldest housing stock, much of which was constructed prior to 1940, and have their roots in the ranching and farming of the area that occurred as settlement grew west from Denver. Because of the age and development patterns of these neighborhoods, the majority were built without curb, gutter, and sidewalk. The many residents enjoy the semi-rural feel this development pattern provides although safe connections to major retail, light rail, and schools are desired, where appropriate.

The Two Creeks and Northeast Lakewood neighborhoods contain the most eclectic and interspersed housing types in Lakewood. The land uses range from large lot single-family housing that allows for the keeping of horses to multifamily units. It is not unusual to see a horse property adjacent to a multifamily development in these neighborhoods. The majority of the housing stock was constructed between 1940 and 1950; however, there are a number of homes that were constructed prior to 1940. The city's first subdivision, the Lakewood Subdivision, platted in 1889, is located in the heart of the Two Creeks neighborhood.

The Eiber, Morse Park, and Applewood neighborhoods consist mainly of single-family homes. A large number of horse properties exist within these neighborhoods. The majority of housing was built between two time frames --- 1940 to 1959 and 1960 to 1979. However, a large concentration of homes constructed prior to 1940 can be found in the Morse Park neighborhood.



Map 4-a

Neighborhoods

0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles



The Daniels Gardens neighborhood consists of smaller lot single-family homes, with a portion of the neighborhood zoned for duplex housing. The north portion of the Daniels Gardens neighborhood, platted in 1939, was developed to house the many workers at the Denver Ordnance Plant. As the Denver Ordnance Plant transitioned into the Denver Federal Center, additional housing was constructed along the southern portion of the neighborhood to accommodate the growing employment base at the Denver Federal Center.

There are a number of neighborhood parks throughout the area including Mountair Park, James J. Richey Park, Morse Park, and Aviation Park. The City's first urban farm, Mountair Park Community Farm, provides a large-capacity community garden and an educational resource for the surrounding neighborhoods. The Charles E. Whitlock Recreation Center is conveniently located for the residents of the area and offers a number of programs and recreational opportunities. Crown Hill Park and its horse arena provide an added amenity to those living in the north Lakewood neighborhoods.

Two major transportation corridors run through, or adjacent to, these neighborhoods, Colfax Avenue and the West Rail Line. These transportation corridors have a long history in Lakewood and are now the impetus for, and focus of, reinvestment in north Lakewood. Colfax Avenue and the area adjacent to the West Rail Line provide the opportunity for mixed-use development that is appropriate adjacent to major transportation corridors. Denver West, adjacent to Colfax Avenue and Interstate 70, provides a large retail, office, and residential base for the area.

Colfax Avenue, the West Rail Line, and Denver West have been identified as growth areas. For a more detailed discussion on the vision and goals for these growth areas, please refer to the *Lakewood Innovates* chapter.



Central Lakewood Neighborhoods

The North Alameda, South Alameda, Creighton, and the Addenbrooke/Belmar Park neighborhoods make up Lakewood's central neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are bordered by Sheridan Boulevard on the east, Kipling Street on the west, US 6 on the north and Mississippi Avenue on the south. A large portion of Lakewood's oldest housing stock, constructed between 1940 and 1959, can be found in the Creighton, North Alameda, and South Alameda neighborhoods. Some smaller areas of housing constructed before 1940 can be found scattered in these neighborhoods as well. Both the North Alameda and South Alameda neighborhoods have a mix of housing types, ranging from larger lot single-family properties that allow for horses to multifamily residential. As with the North Lakewood neighborhoods, the roots of the North Alameda and South Alameda neighborhoods date to the farming and ranching that occurred in Lakewood in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and portions of the neighborhoods continue to reflect the semi-rural feel.

The Creighton neighborhood has two large areas consisting of larger lot residential properties that allow for horses. These areas were developed without sidewalks, and the residents who reside here enjoy the semi-rural feel the development pattern provides. The remainder of the neighborhood consists of smaller lot single-family housing, with a small multifamily area near Alameda Avenue. Colorado Christian University sits adjacent to the Creighton neighborhood on Alameda Avenue near Carr Street. There are several neighborhood serving parks within the Creighton neighborhood including Balsam Pond, Meadowlark and Bonvue parks. In addition to the smaller, neighborhood serving parks, the larger Lakewood Park provides a range of amenities including ballfields and tennis courts.

The Addenbrooke/Belmar Park neighborhood contains two large parks, Belmar Park and Addenbrooke Park. The neighborhood is a mix of larger lot residential properties that allow for horses and smaller lot single-family properties. The character of this neighborhood is consistent with the two distinct time periods in which it developed. The portion of the neighborhood that allows for the keeping of horses was developed between 1940 and 1959. The remainder of the neighborhood's housing was constructed in the 1960s and 1970s.

Downtown Lakewood, located at the intersection of Wadsworth Boulevard and Alameda Avenue, includes the Belmar development, a newer mixed-use neighborhood. The Belmar neighborhood replaced the aging Villa Italia Mall, a typical auto-oriented shopping mall constructed in the 1960s. The Belmar neighborhood is an urban environment with a mix of retail, restaurants, and shopping opportunities. It also includes higher-density housing and a limited number of smaller lot single-family homes. In addition, downtown Lakewood includes the City's Civic Center, the Lakewood Cultural Center, the Lakewood Heritage Center, and the Belmar Library.

Belmar Park, Addenbrooke Park, Ray Ross Park, Lakewood Park, and O'Kane Park, as well as several smaller neighborhood parks, provide a number of outdoor recreational opportunities for the neighborhoods. These parks provide a wide range of amenities such as ballfields, horseback riding trails, and nature walks in the heart of Lakewood.

As Lakewood grows, downtown Lakewood will evolve and change. However, the central neighborhoods that border downtown Lakewood will continue to thrive as predominately single-family neighborhoods, with an eclectic mix of housing types and pockets of residential areas that have a semi-rural feel. The *Lakewood Innovates* chapter outlines in greater detail the future vision and goals for downtown Lakewood.



South Lakewood Neighborhoods

Lakewood's south neighborhoods consist of the Lasley, Kendrick Lakes, Thraemoor, Carmody, Bear Creek, Academy Park, and Grant Ranch neighborhoods. This neighborhood area is bordered by Sheridan Boulevard on the east, Kipling Parkway on the west, Mississippi Avenue on the north, and the city boundary on the south. The south Lakewood neighborhoods are characterized by housing that is predominately single-family, with pockets of higher-density housing adjacent to the corridors of Iliff Avenue, Jewell Avenue, and Wadsworth Boulevard.

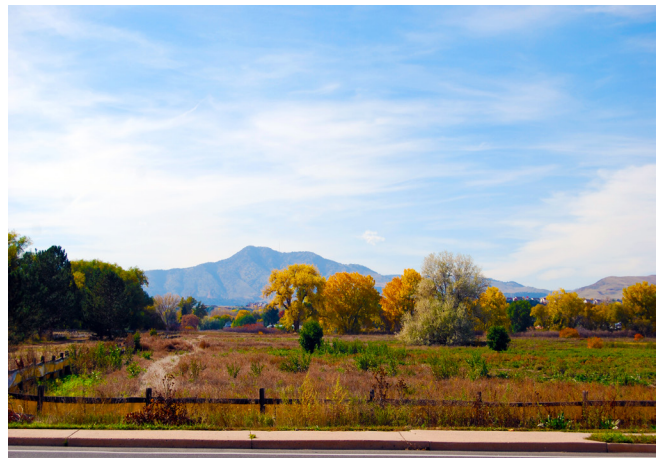
The Lasley neighborhood is the oldest neighborhood in the area. The majority of housing development in Lasley occurred in two time frames: 1940 to 1959 and 1960 to 1970. A newer housing development, the White Fence Farm, located adjacent to Jewell Avenue, was developed in approximately 2000. The housing in the Lasley neighborhood is smaller lot single-family with several pockets of residential properties that permit the keeping of horses.

The Kendrick Lake and Carmody neighborhoods were developed in the 1960s and 1970s. These two neighborhoods consist of smaller lot single-family homes, but there are several pockets of larger lot horse properties on the western edge of the Carmody neighborhood.

The Academy Park neighborhood contains a wide range of uses including a large office park, Academy Park, a commercial area, and a mix of housing densities. There are two pockets of residential development. A small area of larger lot residential properties, which permit the keeping of horses, is located in the southern portion of the Academy Park neighborhood. The western edge of the neighborhood area is a mix of higher-density housing and smaller lot single-family residential properties. The majority of the housing in the western portion was developed between 1980 and 1999.

The Bear Creek neighborhood contains a mix of housing types and styles. The neighborhood contains both single-family residential properties as well as higher-density housing. The Grant Ranch neighborhood, located at the southern edge of Lakewood, has a mix of single-family housing, with a small amount of multifamily housing in the southern portion. The majority of housing in both the Bear Creek and Grant Ranch neighborhoods was constructed in the 1980s and 1990s.

The Bear Creek Greenbelt runs from Wadsworth Boulevard at approximately Yale Avenue west to Bear Creek Lake Park. The greenbelt provides the neighborhoods with quality access for walking, biking, and horseback riding to Bear Creek Lake Park. The Carmody Recreation Center and Park and the Lakewood Link Recreation Center provide a wide array of recreation opportunities for south Lakewood, including ballfields, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, and fitness and recreation classes. Kendrick Lake Park provides an ample walking trail around Kendrick Reservoir and has the City's largest xeric demonstration garden. Several neighborhood parks are scattered throughout the area as well, and include Lasley Park and Green Gables Park.



The intersection of Jewell Avenue and Wadsworth Boulevard provides a reinvestment opportunity for mixed-use development that will support growth on the edge of the stable neighborhoods. The Mission Trace Shopping Center at US 285 and Wadsworth Boulevard serves the area with a mix of commercial uses, specifically retail and restaurants. Just south of the Mission Trace Shopping Center on Wadsworth Boulevard is Academy Park office park, one of Lakewood's major employment centers, with approximately 4,000 employees and numerous businesses. These three commercial and office areas provide opportunities for quality reinvestment to serve the neighborhoods. The *Lakewood Innovates* chapter details the vision and goals for these three growth areas.

West Lakewood Neighborhoods

The Glennon Heights, Union Square, Foothills, Green Mountain, and Rooney Valley neighborhoods form Lakewood's west neighborhoods. The west neighborhood area is bordered by Kipling Street and Kipling Parkway on the east, the city boundary on the west, US 6 on the north, and the city boundary on the south. The majority of Lakewood's west neighborhoods contain housing stock constructed in the 1960s and 1970s. The area is characterized by smaller lot single-family residential housing.

The Glennon Heights neighborhood has the oldest housing stock in the West Lakewood area. It contains a large pocket of housing just south of Alameda Avenue that was constructed in the 1940s and 1950s to accommodate the growing workforce at the Denver Ordnance Plant and the Denver Federal Center.

Both the Foothills and Green Mountain neighborhoods were developed in the 1960s and 1970s. These neighborhoods consist of smaller lot single-family homes, and are conveniently located near William F. Hayden Green Mountain Park and Bear Creek Lake Park. In addition, there are several smaller parks scattered throughout including Beech Park and Hutchinson Park.

Rooney Valley is Lakewood's newest neighborhood, with the first housing constructed in 2008. The neighborhood area is still being developed and contains the largest available land mass for additional residential growth in Lakewood. A more detailed discussion on the Rooney Valley can be found in the *Lakewood Innovates* chapter.

Higher-density housing is found in the Union Square neighborhood, which was developed in the 1980s and 1990s. The Union Square neighborhood is well situated to take advantage of the Federal Center transit station and anticipated mixed-use development along the Union corridor.



West Lakewood contains the largest mass of parkland in Lakewood. Both Bear Creek Lake Park and William F. Hayden Green Mountain Park provide the neighborhoods with easy access to ample hiking, biking, and outdoor recreational opportunities. These outdoor amenities and natural beauty are key factors in why Lakewood residents choose to live in the west Lakewood neighborhoods.

The Green Mountain/Alameda Avenue commercial area, located between Union Boulevard and Alkire Street, provides the primary retail needs for the west neighborhoods. The Denver Federal Center, the Union corridor, and the Federal Center station area serve as the commercial, office, medical, and mixed-use core, and it will accommodate the majority of the future growth in west Lakewood. The vision and goals for the Union Boulevard and Denver Federal Center growth area are discussed in greater detail in the *Lakewood Innovates* chapter.

GOAL L-N1

Identify Lakewood's neighborhoods.

ACTION STEPS

- a. When requested, assist neighborhoods with defining their boundaries based on key features and unique identities.
- b. Research the feasibility of developing a program for the establishment of neighborhood entry signs at key gateways into a neighborhood.
- c. Research the feasibility of developing a program to support neighborhood-based events to celebrate their identity and foster neighborhood pride.
- d. Identify, document, and preserve existing neighborhood landmarks such as historic or distinctive buildings and features that foster neighborhood pride and sense of ownership.

GOAL L-N2

Respect and protect the existing character of Lakewood's stable neighborhoods.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Only support the rezoning of single-family properties in stable neighborhoods when the rezoning request is consistent with existing surrounding land uses and the character of the neighborhood.
- b. Preserve the existing zoning that allows for the keeping of horses in current locations.
- c. Through the site plan review process and design guidelines, ensure that new multifamily, mixed-use, and commercial developments adjacent to single-family neighborhoods are compatible by incorporating appropriate design, scale, height transition, and connectivity to seamlessly integrate with the neighborhood.
- d. Develop new residential design guidelines that reflect sensitive design principles and, through the site plan review process, work to mitigate the impact of infill development on existing single-family properties.
- e. Require developers to solicit input from neighborhood organizations for rezoning and special use permit proposals.

GOAL L-N3

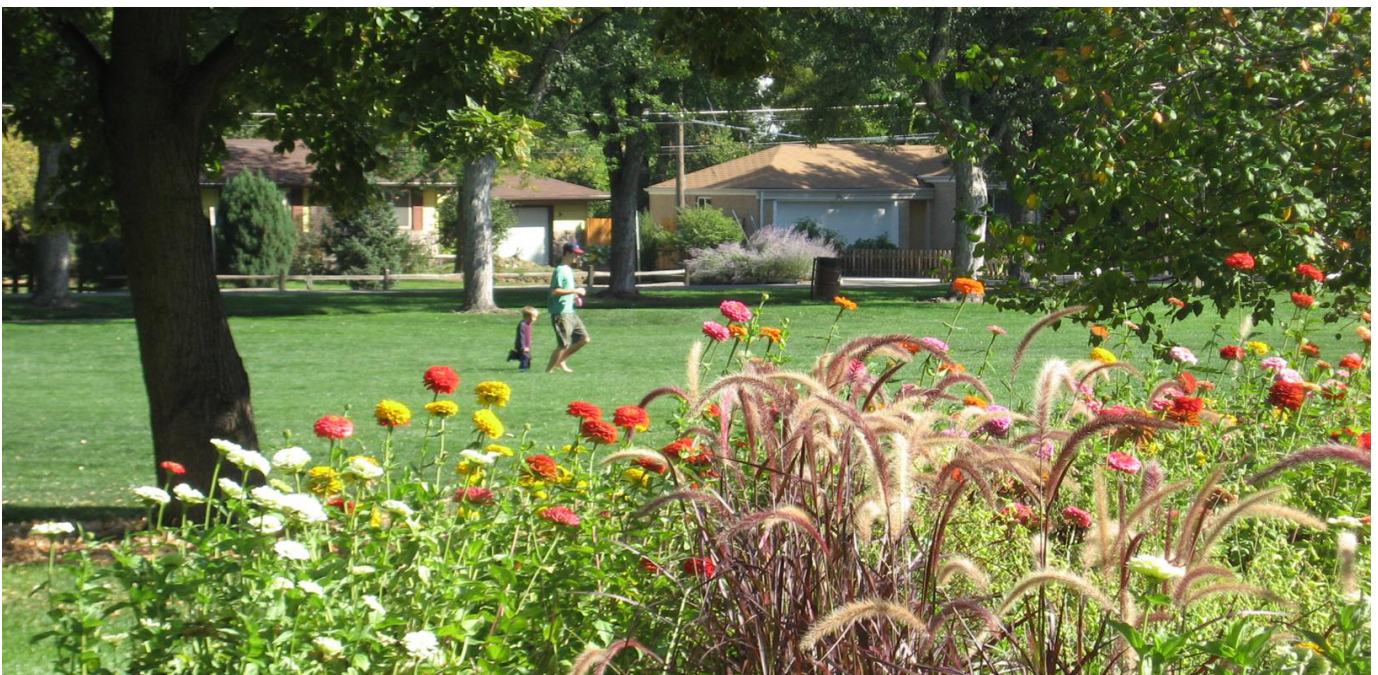
Strengthen and support Lakewood's neighborhoods.

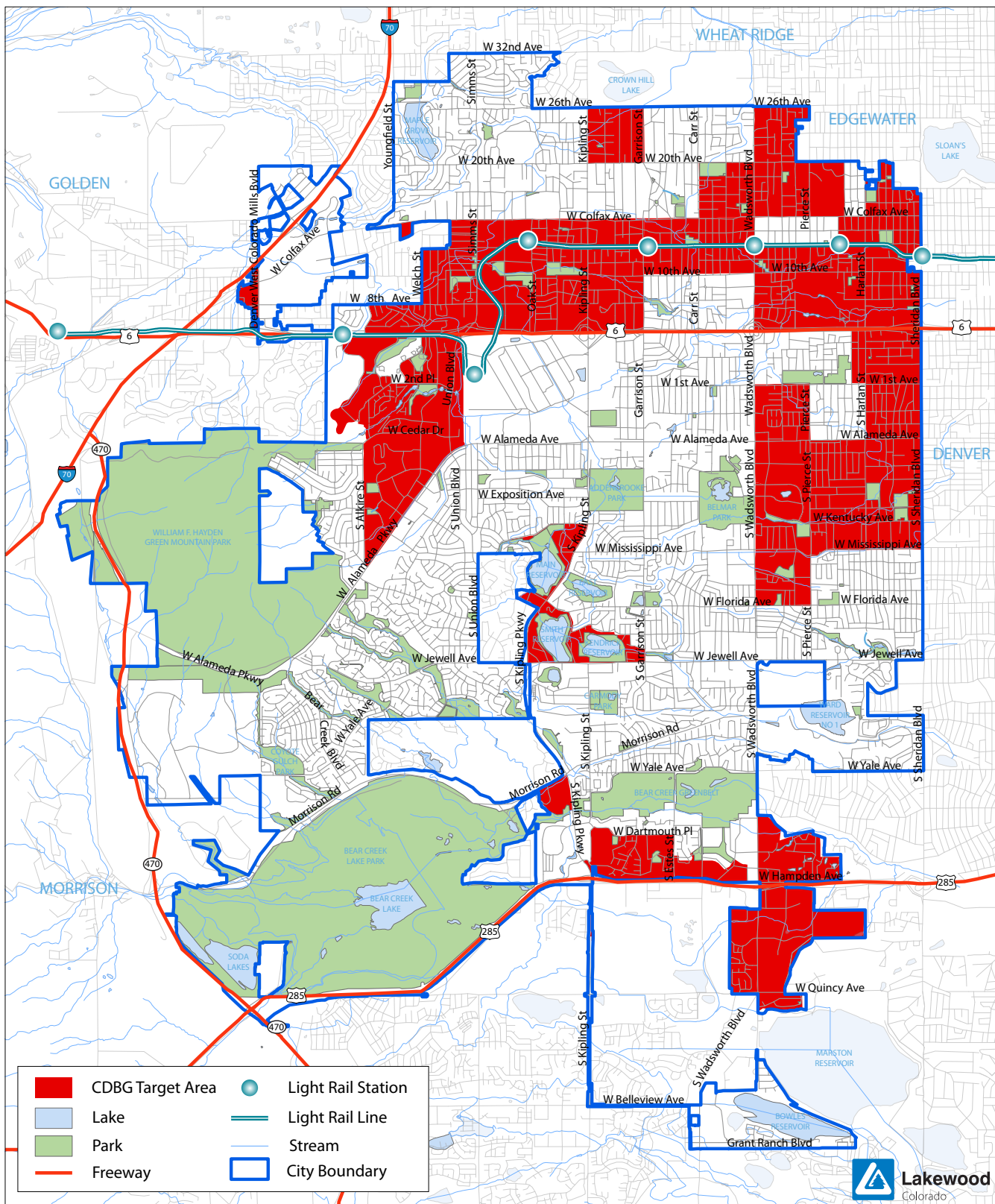
ACTION STEPS

- a. Develop marketing and other economic development tools to strengthen and support neighborhood centers and small-scale businesses that serve the needs of Lakewood's neighborhoods.
- b. Prepare an inventory of building conditions and vacancies in each neighborhood.
- c. Through the annual Community Development Block Grant Action Plan process, identify and prioritize funding for a key project or projects that will have a positive impact in target areas. This may include a facade restoration or other aesthetic improvement, the adaptive reuse of an existing building, or a new or relocated business.
- d. Utilize Community Development Block Grant funds in target areas to help address infrastructure and other identified needs.
- e. Identify and develop new ways to promote the annual Neighborhood Participation Program as a way for neighborhoods to identify neighborhood improvements that will enhance their neighborhoods.
- f. Identify and develop new ways to expand the Sustainable Neighborhoods Program. (See the *Lakewood Sustains* chapter for information on the Sustainable Neighborhoods Program.)
- g. Continue to provide staff support to neighborhood organizations when requested, including the development of new neighborhood plans when conditions warrant.

Target Area

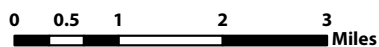
A target area is an area where 50 percent or more of the households within a census block earn 80 percent or less than the area median income and, therefore, qualifies for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The CDBG program is administered through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the funds are used to implement neighborhood improvements and revitalization efforts. Lakewood has several target areas throughout the city. Map 4-b on page 4-12 identifies the target areas.





Map 4-b

Community Development Block Grant Target Areas (2014)



GOAL L-N4

Promote healthy and active neighborhoods.

ACTION STEPS

- Work with local partners and residents to assess the need for additional community gardens. Support partner and residents' efforts to identify appropriate locations, funding sources, and garden development.
- Identify and map food deserts located within the city based on the United States Department of Agriculture definition.
- Identify locations for additional farmers markets in Lakewood, focusing in those neighborhoods designated as food deserts.
- Identify, evaluate, and promote programs that incentivize the distribution of affordable fresh foods in stores within a food desert.
- Identify and apply for available grants that support healthy neighborhoods and increase access to healthy and nutritious foods.
- Partner with schools to promote the benefits of a healthy and active lifestyle to Lakewood's youth.
- Through the site plan review process, incorporate safe, convenient and attractive pedestrian and bicycle connections in new developments, redevelopments, and City projects.
- Identify missing pedestrian and bicycle facilities that link neighborhoods, recreation centers and parks, and develop a prioritization list for implementation.

What is a Food Desert?

A food desert is an identified area, generally within lower-income neighborhoods, that has low access to healthful whole foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, and may have a higher concentration of fast-food restaurants and convenience stores. The United States Department of Agriculture defines low access as an area where at least 500 people or 33 percent of the census tract's population resides more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store.



Mountair Park Community Farm



Community Garden at Eiber Elementary

GOAL L-N5**Promote clean and safe neighborhoods.****ACTION STEPS**

- a. Promote the National Night Out program through the City's website, City announcements, and social network platforms.
- b. Promote Neighborhood Watch through the City's website, City announcements, and social network platforms.
- c. Identify ways to promote the Crime Free Multi-housing Program to make it available to every multifamily housing development in Lakewood.
- d. Identify and prioritize projects such as alley cleanups, graffiti removal, and neighborhood cleanups in target areas.
- e. Continue to hold the citywide "Cleanup Days."

National Night Out & The Crime Free Multi-housing Program

National Night Out is an annual community event, held on the first Tuesday of August, designed to build a healthier, safer city; to generate support for anti-crime programs; and to strengthen the police and community relationship. There are a number of ways to celebrate National Night Out including block parties, front porch gatherings, and outdoor light displays.

In Lakewood, the event celebrates yearlong crime prevention efforts and rededicates efforts to strengthen the community. The event provides the opportunity for residents, neighborhoods, and police to become acquainted, share common goals, and recommit to work together to ensure success.

The Crime Free Multi-housing Program was developed by the Lakewood Police Department's Sector Liaison Unit to train apartment owners, managers and residents about what they can do to solve the problem of illegal and nuisance activity on the property. As part of a designated crime-free property, managers are required to complete background checks on potential tenants and use a crime-free lease addendum. The program helps to assure a safer living environment by concentrated efforts to reduce crime in each complex.

GOAL L-N6

Encourage and support communication among neighborhoods and between the City and neighborhoods.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Provide information on the value of developing neighborhood organizations through articles in *Looking @ Lakewood* and the City's website.
- b. Encourage partnerships between neighborhoods and other stakeholders such as religious institutions, schools, libraries, nonprofits, and adjacent businesses.
- c. Update the Neighborhood Resource Guide to provide relevant City information to neighborhoods, residents, and businesses. Include information on ways for neighborhoods, residents, and businesses to obtain current City information.
- d. Continue to identify, develop, and promote communication tools such as *Looking @ Lakewood*, Lakewood8, social network platforms, City announcements, and the smartphone application, "Go Request."
- e. Promote the Citizens Planning Academy, Civics 101, and the Citizens Police Academy to residents and businesses through the City's website, *Looking @ Lakewood*, and neighborhood organizations.
- f. Identify ways to increase neighborhood participation in the Lakewood Linked program.

Educational & Outreach Opportunities

The City offers a number of educational opportunities to residents and businesses. These provide for the opportunity to engage with both City staff and others in the Lakewood community.

Citizens Planning Academy

The Citizens Planning Academy is an interactive program for neighborhood leaders, active residents, and potential future members of City Council and boards and commissions. The Academy focuses on planning topics such as creating a vision for the City, the purpose of zoning and subdivision regulations, the legal requirements of city planning, transportation options, and the challenges of site planning for infill development.

Civics 101

Civics 101 is a free course provided to Lakewood residents to encourage their participation in Lakewood issues and to improve their understanding and awareness of how government works. Civics 101 provides a better understanding of the role of government, how a court trial is conducted, and how local tax dollars are spent.

Citizens Police Academy

The Citizens Police Academy is conducted in the fall and spring of every year. The 10-week Academy provides an opportunity to experience the challenges and responsibilities of police work. It includes classes in ethics, arrest control, decisional shooting, police driving, narcotics, and legal overviews.

HOUSING

Overview

Lakewood is home to approximately 65,800 housing units, 61 percent of which are single-family homes and 39 percent of which are multifamily units. A small percentage (0.6 percent) of housing units are mobile homes. Fifty-eight percent of the housing units are owner occupied. The median purchase price of an owner-occupied unit is \$245,000. Forty-one percent of the City's housing units are renter occupied, with a median gross monthly rent of \$985.

Lakewood's oldest housing stock is located in the north and east parts of the city. The majority of housing in these areas was constructed between 1940 and 1959; however, there are several areas that have housing constructed prior to 1940. The largest housing development in Lakewood occurred between 1960 and 1979. This period of growth accounts for almost five percent of the total housing stock currently in Lakewood. Map 4-c on page 4-17 illustrates the housing growth and development patterns in Lakewood over time.

Although Lakewood remains one of the more affordable areas to live within Jefferson County and provides a range of single-family housing prices, the availability of affordable rentals has decreased significantly over the last several years.

In 2013, The City of Lakewood updated its five-year *Consolidated Plan*. The *Consolidated Plan* is a comprehensive plan required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to identify the most urgent housing needs in Lakewood. As part of the development of the five-year plan, a comprehensive housing needs assessment of residents with varying income levels was undertaken. Based on the needs assessment, the *Consolidated Plan* identified the following three greatest housing needs and shortages facing Lakewood in the next five years:

- A severe shortage of affordable rental units.
- A shortage of affordable, accessible rental units, ideally located along major corridors with easy access to public transit.
- Housing to serve persons who are homeless and at risk of homelessness.

There are several factors that influence the future housing needs in Lakewood. First, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) estimates that Lakewood will grow by 47,000 people by the year 2035. Because Lakewood is an infill community, there is limited land available for large single-family developments. Therefore, the majority of new housing will come in the form of multifamily housing developments, most likely adjacent to the West Rail Line and other transportation corridors.

Table 4-a: Housing Occupancy

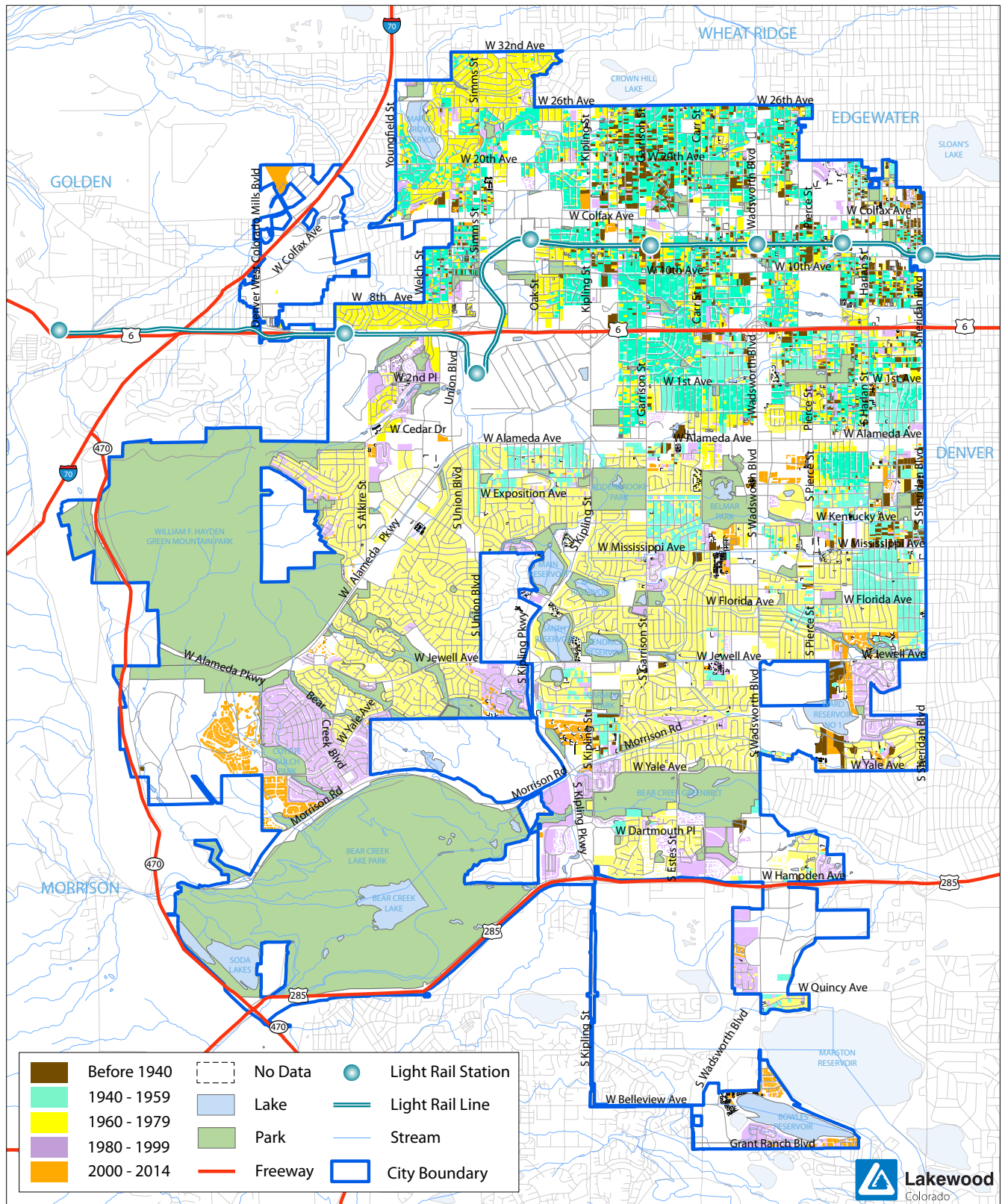
	% of Units
Occupied	94.5%
Vacant	5.5%
Owner Occupied	58.5%
Renter Occupied	41.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey

Table 4-b: Housing Costs

Type	Median (Dollars)
Owner-Occupied Value	\$ 245,000
Renter-Occupied Gross Monthly Rent	\$ 985.00

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey



Secondly, the demand for housing in urban areas is increasing. Both the Millennial and the Baby Boom generations are seeking housing located in walkable neighborhoods adjacent to retail, transit, and other amenities. Finally, the City must address the severe shortage of affordable and accessible housing to ensure residents of all income levels have access to adequate housing.

As Lakewood looks forward, it must recognize that a diverse housing supply is necessary to meet the needs of all age groups, demographics, and income levels. Adequate, safe, and affordable housing for all residents is essential for a thriving, healthy, and stable Lakewood community. The following housing goals and action steps ensure that Lakewood is providing sustainable housing choices, while supporting the efficient use of land and infrastructure.

GOAL L-H1

Provide an adequate mix of housing to meet the needs of all segments of the community.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Develop marketing tools that promote mixed-use, mixed-income, transit-oriented development.
- b. Identify opportunities to participate with regional groups and committees that develop and implement programs and policies that address the housing needs of special needs population.
- c. When federal funding is available, provide financial assistance to agencies throughout the region, including Metro West Housing Solutions and nonprofit housing developers, to address Lakewood's affordable housing needs as identified in the *Consolidated Plan*.
- d. Support and promote programs that provide opportunities for homeownership such as down payment assistance programs.
- e. Develop incentives for developers to include affordable housing in residential developments.

GOAL L-H2

Promote housing rehabilitation programs for Lakewood's low-income and special needs residents.

ACTION STEP

- a. Partner with local agencies that offer housing rehabilitation services to identify ways to increase the availability of safe and decent housing to Lakewood's low-income and special needs populations.

Affordable Housing & the Special Needs Population

Affordable Housing is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as housing that costs no more than 30 percent of a household's monthly income.

The special needs population includes the frail and nonfrail elderly, persons with physical, mental, or behavioral disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with alcohol or drug addictions.

GOAL L-H3

Support efforts that provide services and resources to reduce and prevent homelessness.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Participate in regional groups and committees that develop and implement programs and policies to end homelessness.
- b. Partner with Jefferson County to provide transitional housing and supportive services for those who are experiencing homelessness through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program and other regional programs.
- c. Support the mission and efforts of the Action Center and other homeless service providers to meet the needs of the community.



FAMILY SERVICES

Overview

A variety of youth, family, and senior services are provided to Lakewood residents through the City's family services programs. The Lloyd G. Clements Center offers a wide range of programs and services for Lakewood's older adults and serves as a community gathering place. These programs include classes in arts and crafts, fitness and wellness, computers, and grief counseling. The Clements Center also serves as a Volunteers of America meal site for adults 60 years of age and older.

Transportation services are offered through Lakewood Rides, which offers door-through-door transportation for Lakewood residents 60 years of age and older and those with disabilities of any age. Lakewood Rides provides transportation to services and basic needs such as grocery shopping and medical appointments.

The family services program, housed in the Wilbur Rogers Center, consists of licensed counselors who provide support and consultation to the City's Family and Children's Programs. A number of classes and programs are offered such as positive parenting classes and the Women's Enrichment program. The Women's Enrichment program offers classes in communication, boundaries, self-care, and other pertinent topics. The Wilbur Rogers Center is home to the school-age services program that includes before- and after-school services at four elementary schools, as well as three summer camp options for children whose parents work or go to school full time.

The Family Services goals are intended to ensure that quality youth, family, and senior services programs and resources are available for all Lakewood residents.

GOAL L-FS1

Provide a variety of programs and services to ensure that all residents regardless of age, ability or income are able to reach a maximum level of self-sufficiency and independence.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Provide referral information on area resources for individuals and families that need additional support.
- b. Provide mental health consultation and support to ensure participants in Family Services programs have successful experiences.
- c. Provide activities that encourage quality of life experiences for all ages by offering quality recreational programs for older adults, enriching preschool experiences, and active and affordable summer camp and school-age programs based on community demand.

GOAL L-FS2

Encourage maximum independence for area older adults and individuals with disabilities by providing specialized transportation services.

ACTION STEPS

- Continue to provide safe and cost-effective transportation services through Lakewood Rides.
- Continue to support individual self-sufficiency by providing needed transportation to services and basic needs.

GOAL L-FS3

Support the quality of life for older adults through social activities that emphasize wellness and self-sufficiency.

ACTION STEPS

- Develop and offer classes and programs that promote a healthy and independent lifestyle and enrich the lives of older adults.
- Identify and promote meaningful volunteer opportunities to engage older adults in activities and events.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Overview

Lakewood's historic resources are integral components of the city fabric and are essential to Lakewood's identity. These resources provide Lakewood with a unique character that differentiates it from other communities. Historic preservation efforts contribute to the livability of a community by helping to conserve desirable neighborhoods, shape compatible development, and promote unique citywide and neighborhood identity.

The preservation of Lakewood's historic structures and places serves as a reminder of the contributions made by those who helped to form and develop the city many are so proud of. Preservation strengthens the community image and supports Lakewood's overall goals of economic, environmental, and cultural sustainability, and as such should be considered as a vital part of Lakewood's future.

GOAL L-HP1

Recognize and promote the importance of Lakewood's historic and cultural resources as a component of Lakewood's identity, vitality, and sense of community.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Develop educational materials and brochures and expand heritage events and outreach to foster a greater awareness of Lakewood's heritage for residents and visitors.
- b. Develop a citywide database and other internal resources to ensure that Lakewood's historic resources are incorporated into community planning, economic development, and sustainability efforts.
- c. Promote the use of state historic income tax credits to encourage the adaptive reuse and rehabilitation of historic and culturally significant buildings.
- d. Develop educational programs and events and expand partnerships to promote historic preservation as a vital part of broader community development policies and objectives.
- e. Research the feasibility of developing local tax incentives and/or a facade rehabilitation loan program to assist with the rehabilitation of landmarked structures or properties and for contributing properties within a designated historic district.
- f. Provide information to property owners of potentially significant buildings, structures or landmarks to encourage designation of local landmarks to ensure the continued protection of Lakewood's historic resources.



GOAL L-HP2

Maintain Certified Local Government status.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Ensure a qualified Historic Preservation Commission is maintained and receives ongoing training and support.
- b. Maintain an ongoing system for documenting and surveying cultural resources in Lakewood.
- c. Prepare annual reports as required by History Colorado, the state historic preservation office.
- d. Develop programs to educate the public about the economic, environmental, and cultural benefits of historic preservation.

Certified Local Government

A Certified Local Government is a local government that has met criteria set by the National Park Service and the state historic preservation office. The purpose of the program is to encourage and expand local involvement in preservation issues. A Certified Local Government is eligible to receive grants including grants for rehabilitation of historically significant properties. In addition, locally landmarked properties are eligible for state historic income tax credits as well as incentives and benefits that may be available at the federal level.

GOAL L-HP3

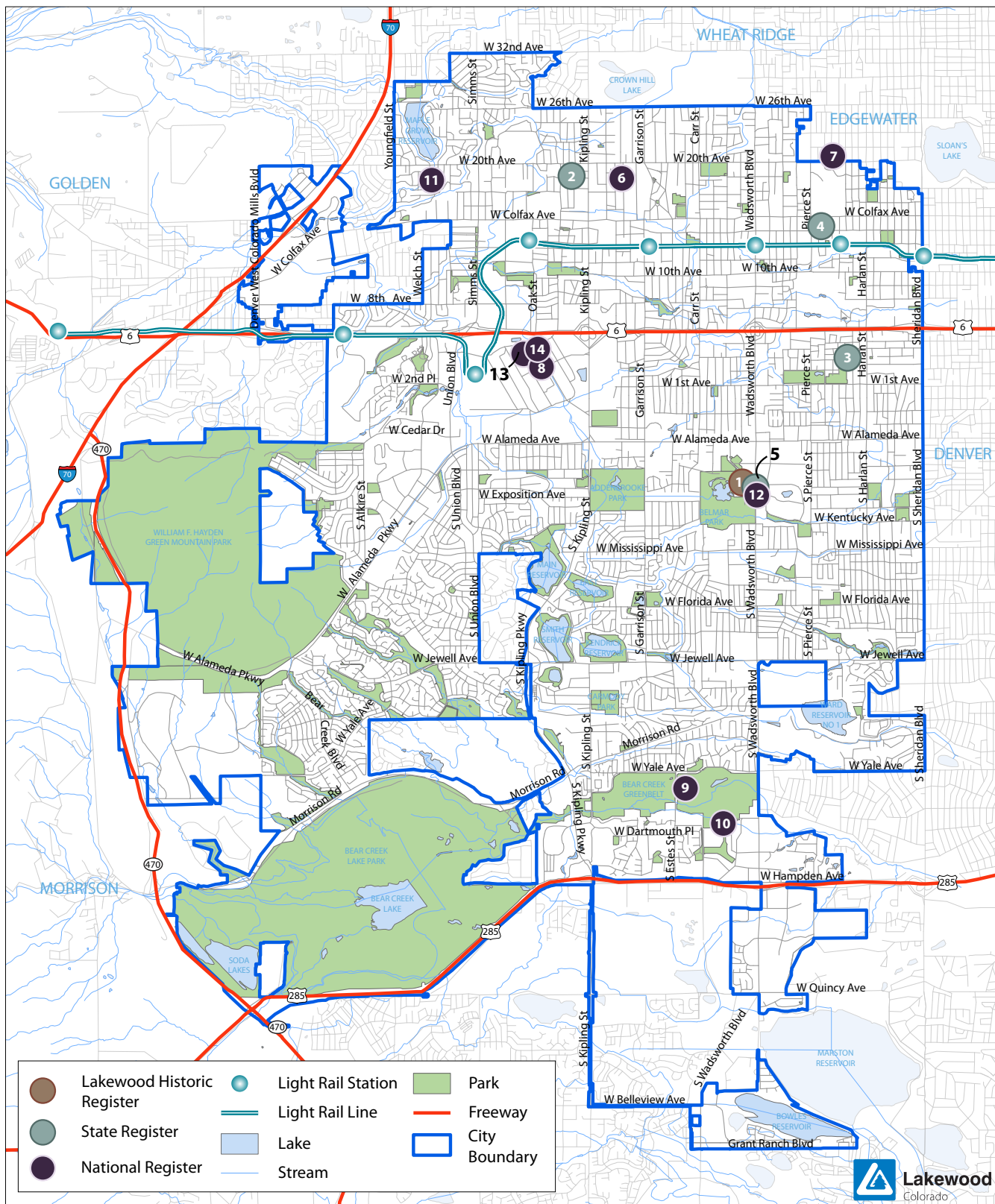
Implement the Historic Preservation Plan.

ACTION STEP

- a. Review the *Historic Preservation Plan* on an annual basis to ensure implementation of the goals, policies and action steps contained in the Plan.

Lakewood Historic Preservation Plan

The Historic Preservation Plan establishes a comprehensive program for historic resources in Lakewood. The Plan guides preservation efforts in Lakewood and sets clear goals and action steps to incorporate preservation as an integral element of community development and livability. The Historic Preservation Plan sets a vision for preservation in Lakewood that looks forward while valuing the past, conveys the heritage of Lakewood, and supports the City's overall goals and objectives of cultural, economic, and environmental sustainability.



Local, State & Nationally Designated Properties

Lakewood Historic Register

- 1 White Way Grill
Lakewood Heritage Center, 801 South Yarrow Street

State Register

- 2 Howell House
1575 Kipling Street
- 3 Washington Heights School
6375 West 1st Avenue
- 4 Country Club Garden Apartments
1160 Pierce Street
- 5 Bonfils-Stanton Belmar Estate Outbuildings
Lakewood Heritage Center, 801 South Yarrow Street

National Register

- 6 Davies Chuck Wagon Diner
9495 West Colfax Avenue
- 7 Jewish Consumptive Relief Society Historic District
(Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design)
1600 Pierce Street
- 8 Office of Civil Defense Emergency Operations Center
Denver Federal Center, West Alameda Avenue & Kipling Street
- 9 Stone House
Bear Creek Greenbelt, South Estes Street
- 10 Schnell Farm
3113 South Wadsworth Boulevard
- 11 Hill Section of the Golden Hill Cemetery
12000 West Colfax Avenue
- 12 Peterson House (Ticen House)
Lakewood Heritage Center, 801 South Yarrow Street
- 13 Building 710, Defense Civil Preparedness Agency Region 6
Operations Center
Denver Federal Center, West Alameda Avenue & Kipling Street

State & National Registers

- 14 Denver & Intermountain Interurban No. 25
Denver Federal Center, West Alameda Avenue & Kipling Street



White Way Grill



Country Club Garden Apartments



Davies Chuck Wagon Diner



Peterson House (Ticen House)

ARTS & CULTURE

Overview

The City of Lakewood believes that arts and culture enriches the lives of its citizens. Arts and culture are essential to making Lakewood an interesting and attractive place to live, work, recreate, and visit. Arts and culture help to define a sense of identity, a sense of place, and serve as a vehicle for engaging a diverse community. A healthy and stable arts and culture sector is necessary for the city's economic and social vitality.

Lakewood has three major cultural facilities: the Lakewood Cultural Center, the Lakewood Heritage Center, and the Washington Heights Arts Center. The Lakewood Cultural Center includes a technically advanced 320-seat theater for a variety of shows and performances. The Cultural Center also provides rotating visual art exhibits, meeting and event spaces, and a number of cultural art classes.

The Lakewood Heritage Center is a 20th Century Museum located in Belmar Park. The Heritage Center preserves and showcases the history of Lakewood and the many changes, inventions, and lifestyles of the 20th century. The Heritage Center has 14 historic structures, 30,000 artifacts, a festival area, and an outdoor amphitheater for summer concerts, community gatherings and celebrations. The Heritage Center also has a museum store and gallery space for 20th century exhibits.

The Washington Heights Arts Center is located in a rehabilitated 20th century schoolhouse. The Washington Heights Arts Center offers a variety of cultural, arts, and educational opportunities for all ages, including classes in pottery, watercolor, papermaking, jewelry, and weaving.

The City is fortunate to have a number of independent arts and cultural organizations and facilities. These include the Lakewood Arts Council, 40 West Arts, Belmar Block 7, the Lakewood Symphony, and a variety of independent artists and arts entities.

GOAL L-AC1

Encourage and sustain places and spaces for art and cultural activity throughout Lakewood.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Secure funding and program partners to increase public art in parks and public spaces through collaboration of ideas and resources.
- b. Utilize art to define the city's image by increasing public art in parks, on public lands, at gateways, and adjacent to streets and sidewalks for community enjoyment.
- c. Establish cultural and arts districts in areas of economic potential and promote art as a key element of economic development.
- d. Integrate cultural activities in businesses by encouraging development of spaces for exhibits, performances, and sponsorships through programs such as temporary exhibits, live music, and by developing partnerships with local artists.
- e. Continue to build relationships and develop programs that will enhance collaboration and resource sharing among cultural providers.

GOAL L-AC2

Foster lifelong cultural learning opportunities for Lakewood’s residents and visitors.

ACTION STEPS

- Establish regular communication among educators and cultural providers to develop and implement methods of integrating cultural learning.
- Continue to build programs that will facilitate, encourage, and promote artistic, cultural, and historic learning opportunities.
- Identify and convene stakeholders to advocate for the importance of access to cultural learning.
- Identify, develop, and promote cultural volunteer activities that adapt to evolving volunteer trends.
- Identify sources of funding to facilitate program development to create cultural learning opportunities for the community.
- Enhance cultural learning opportunities for varying populations and abilities that include underserved populations.



GOAL L-AC3

Celebrate and promote heritage, culture, and the arts.

ACTION STEP

- Develop programs and activities to celebrate and promote the city’s history and diverse cultures.
- Collaborate with civic, business, and community leaders to expand, celebrate, and promote the city’s historic and cultural legacy.



GOAL L-AC4**Implement the Lakewood Public Art Master Plan.****ACTION STEP**

- a. Review the *Lakewood Public Art Master Plan* on an annual basis to ensure implementation of the goals and action steps contained in the Plan.

Lakewood Public Art Master Plan

The Public Art Master Plan identifies the following vision for the arts in Lakewood: “Lakewood’s public art program will be recognized as innovative, forward-thinking and adaptive. Public art throughout the city will create welcoming spaces in civic buildings, plazas, transportation corridors, parks and other locations that are accessible to the public. Art in Lakewood will demonstrate high aesthetic expectations and will represent many different media. It may be interactive, kinetic or functional and will inspire and initiate dialogue between people of all ages. The Public Art Master Plan will guide development of a rich tapestry of artwork, activities and arts experiences in Lakewood by establishing clear policies, inclusive processes, thoughtful procedures, and inventive funding strategies and partnerships to the benefit of the entire community.”

GOAL L-AC5**Implement the recommendations for art and culture contained in the Community Resources Master Plan and other planning documents.****ACTION STEP**

- a. Review the *Community Resources Master Plan* and other planning documents an annual basis to ensure implementation of the goals and action steps contained in the plans.



PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION

Overview

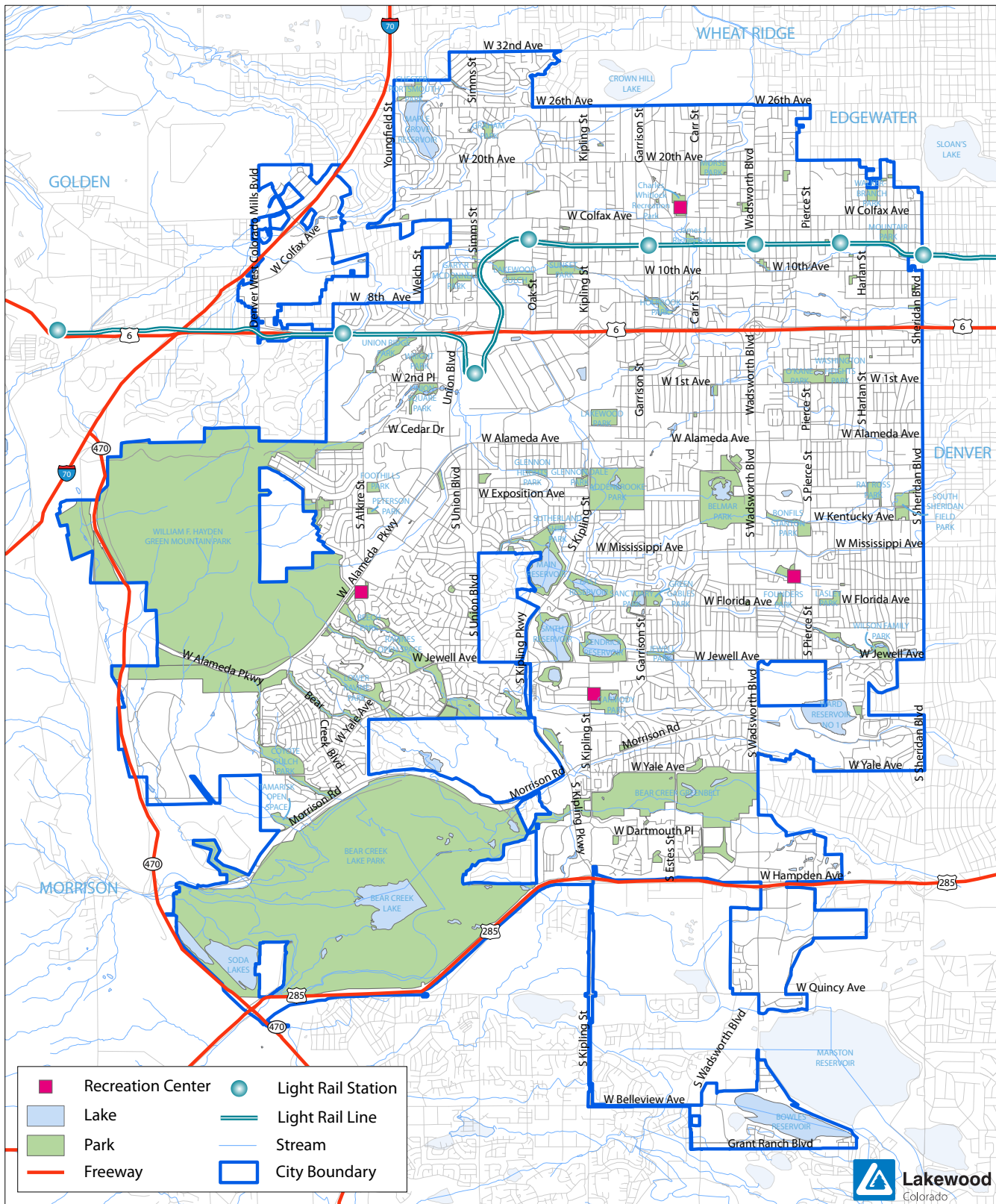
Lakewood residents place great value in the city's parks, trails, and recreation centers. Residents expect that the high level of service and facilities that are provided will be maintained, easily accessible, and equitably distributed throughout the community. A diverse park and recreational system is essential to supporting Lakewood's success as a community and for ensuring the quality of life for residents, improving public health, and making the city attractive to visitors and businesses.

There are many benefits to having a vibrant and viable parks, trails, and recreation system. It provides diverse opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to engage in a healthy lifestyle, expand life experiences, and connect with others in the community. In addition, a strong parks and recreation system increases property values, draws new businesses to the city, and provides environmental benefits such as improving water quality, preventing flooding, and improving air quality. Open space offers a natural habitat for wildlife and encourages all to connect with nature and appreciate the benefits of outdoor recreation.

Parks & Trails

Lakewood provides a wide range of parks, trails, and amenities. There are 99 parks with a total of 7,155 acres of parkland across the city. The parks range from smaller urban parks to the larger regional parks of William F. Hayden Green Mountain Park and Bear Creek Lake Park. Together, William F. Hayden Green Mountain Park and Bear Creek Lake Park total 5,000 acres of parkland. Within the city there are more than 180 miles of hiking, biking, walking, and horseback riding trails, including trails that follow transportation corridors and trails that are self-contained within larger parks. Multiuse trails exist in the Bear Creek Greenbelt, Bear Creek Lake Park, and William F. Hayden Green Mountain Park.





GOAL L-PR1

Provide adequate parks, trails, and gathering places throughout Lakewood.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Through the site plan review process, ensure that adequate parks, open space, and gathering places are incorporated as new development occurs.
- b. Evaluate on an annual basis the parkland dedication fee to determine if it is sufficient to address the need for additional parks and park improvements as new residential development occurs.
- c. Evaluate where additional trails and bike access are needed to provide safe and attractive pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and gathering places.
- d. Through the site plan review process, integrate natural features with new development and City projects.
- e. Locate, to the greatest extent possible, multiuse trails adjacent to gulches and other natural amenities.

GOAL L-PR2

Provide park amenities for residents of all ages and abilities.

ACTION STEP

- a. Annually assess the needs of the community as demographics change to address and update park amenities as resources permit.

GOAL L-PR3

Implement the recommendations for parks and trails in the Community Resources Master Plan and other planning documents.

ACTION STEP

- a. Review the *Community Resources Master Plan* and other planning documents on an annual basis to ensure implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the plans.

Community Resources Master Plan

The Community Resources Master Plan was developed in 2008 to provide direction and guidance for managing parks, recreation, and cultural services and facilities to meet the needs of Lakewood's current and future residents. It is based on an extensive needs assessment, background information and community input. With numerous action items in the Plan either completed, in progress or modified, the department has completed a strategic planning process designed to focus on creating efficiencies, improving infrastructure, and adapting to change through 2017.

Recreation

The City of Lakewood manages four recreation centers: Carmody Recreation Center, Green Mountain Recreation Center, Lakewood Link Recreation Center, and Charles E. Whitlock Recreation Center. The recreation centers provide an array of amenities to the Lakewood community including indoor and outdoor swimming pools; gymnasiums for activities such as basketball, volleyball and pickleball; extensive weight and cardio work out rooms; and meeting space.

In addition to the recreation center amenities, a number of programs and classes are offered at the recreation centers. Programs include fitness and wellness, youth and adult sports and youth leagues, enrichment classes, and swimming lessons. Through its R.I.S.E. program, the City offers a therapeutic recreation program for individuals with disabilities including a wide variety of activities such as bowling, dances, youth and teen sports, and a summer day camp, Camp Paha.

The City has two state-of-the-art and award-winning golf courses, Fox Hollow and Homestead golf courses. The Fox Hollow Golf Course is a 27-hole championship facility that features three unique nine-hole courses. The Homestead Golf Course has an elevation change of over 200 feet and measures over 5,000 yards. Both golf courses are managed with environmentally friendly golf course management practices and are certified “Audobon Cooperative Sanctuaries” by the Audobon Sanctuary Program for golf courses, which is an Audobon International Program.

GOAL L-PR4

Provide high-quality recreational programs to meet the needs of a diverse community.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Develop and maintain high-quality recreational programs that meet the evolving interests and needs of the community.
- b. Identify and develop programs related to new trends in recreation, with an emphasis on meeting the community’s demographic needs.
- c. Develop programs that enhance the fitness and wellness opportunities at recreation centers.
- d. As funding and opportunities are available, partner with the Jeffco Public School District to maintain the Middle School Sports Program.



GOAL L-PR5

Develop and maintain high-quality recreational facilities that meet the growing and changing needs of all age groups.

ACTION STEPS

- Identify and respond to new trends and community desires to address fitness and wellness opportunities of the community.
- Maintain high-quality recreational facilities that meet the growing needs of all age groups and that provide venues to encourage family and community gatherings.
- Research the feasibility of implementing impact fees with new residential development to offset the associated impacts to the City's recreational system.

GOAL L-PR6

Provide safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle access to Lakewood's recreation centers.

ACTION STEP

- Identify locations where biking and walking to recreation centers is difficult and develop tools to remove those obstacles.

GOAL L-PR7

Maintain quality, competitive golf courses.

ACTION STEPS

- Identify customer preferences and golf course trends, and develop a marketing plan based on the preferences and trends.
- Perform an analysis of golf course infrastructure needs and develop a replacement schedule based on the needs analysis.
- Continue to utilize environmentally friendly golf course management practices.

GOAL L-PR8

Implement the recommendations for recreation centers and golf courses contained in the Community Resources Master Plan and other planning documents.

ACTION STEP

- Review on an annual basis the *Community Resources Master Plan* and other planning documents to ensure implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the plans.



SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES

Overview

Schools and libraries serve as important community assets and amenities. They help to instill a sense of community, provide gathering places, and encourage and support lifelong learning and educational opportunities. Strong and effective partnerships with the schools and libraries will ensure Lakewood continues to address the diverse and growing needs of the community.

Schools

Lakewood is fortunate to have numerous educational opportunities throughout the community. Lakewood is served primarily by the Jeffco Public School District, but there are also a number of K-12 charter and private schools, each providing a variety of learning options and experiences.

There are three higher learning institutions located within Lakewood: Red Rocks Community College, Colorado Christian University, and Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design. These institutions provide quality and varied educational options to both the residents of Lakewood and the metropolitan area, and are remarkable assets to the community.

The City offers Early Childhood Programs to support the growth of children in problem solving and social skills as well as early literacy, language, math, science, and motor skills. As part of these programs, the City participates in the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP), which provides a no-fee or discounted educational experience for three- and four-year-old children who are experiencing life circumstances that may interfere with their learning.

Lakewood also provides Head Start for Lakewood's low-income residents. There are five Head Start programs that provide a no-fee educational experience for 3- and 4-year-old children who meet specific eligibility requirements including children from low-income or homeless families and children with identified special needs. In addition to the preschool experience that children receive, Head Start offers comprehensive health, nutrition, and family support services.

Lakewood values all learning institutions within its boundaries. The following goals support the importance these resources have in providing lifelong learning opportunities to all residents.

GOAL L-SL1

Develop partnerships with the higher learning institutions in the city.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Establish a City liaison to integrate higher education institutions into the City's economic development program.
- b. Research the need to create a mechanism to adopt campus master plans to ensure connectivity with the city and surrounding neighborhoods.
- c. Recognize and promote the higher learning institutions' value to the community.

GOAL L-SL2

Work with the Jeffco Public Schools, local private and charter schools, and higher learning institutions to support and encourage strong educational and vocational opportunities for Lakewood residents.

ACTION STEPS

- Explore methods to form partnerships to promote community involvement in educational opportunities.
- Establish a process for the City and the school district to partner to plan for future population growth and changing demographics.
- Evaluate opportunities to partner with the school district to develop educational tools and programs to teach students about city planning.

GOAL L-SL3

Work with the Jeffco Public Schools, local private and charter schools, and higher learning institutions to utilize school facilities as community centers.

ACTION STEPS

- Develop joint use agreements with schools to allow for school facilities to be used as community centers and neighborhood assets.

GOAL L-SL4

Provide high-quality, affordable, and safe before- and after-school and summer camp programs for children enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade through the City's Community Resource Department.

ACTION STEPS

- Collaborate with local elementary schools to provide fun, safe, and supervised programs for children that enhance their daily experiences.
- Leverage county and federal resources to maintain affordable fees for working parents whose children attend the before- and after-school and summer camp programs.



GOAL L-SL5

Provide high-quality Head Start and Colorado Preschool programs that prepare children for future school success.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Leverage local, state, and federal resources to develop tools and resources that will improve educational outcomes for children and their families.
- b. Engage parents as equal partners in his or her child's education by encouraging parent involvement in the school days through home visits and parent-teacher conferences and by providing materials for parents to use at home.
- c. Assess each child's individual progress at three checkpoints during the school year and provide results to federal and state reporting systems as required.
- d. Collaborate with the local school district to provide additional support for children with identified special needs by working with the assigned special education team to incorporate learning goals into the child's daily activities and by participating in the annual special education transition meetings with the school district staff and the parents.
- e. Provide a variety of parent educational forums that encourage parents to be advocates for their children as they enter the public school setting.



Libraries

Libraries provide a valued public service to the residents of Lakewood. The Jefferson County Public Library system owns and operates two public libraries within Lakewood: Belmar Library, located at 555 South Allison Parkway, and Lakewood Library, located at 10200 West 20th Avenue. The Jefferson County Public Library system offers a number of programs and classes including book groups and author visits, computer skills and networking, and storytime for a wide range of age groups. In addition, the Jefferson County libraries offer several outreach services to the community. Some of these services include Homebound and Nursing Home Services, eTrain, and the Traveling Children's Library that delivers books and programs to Head Start and early learning classrooms.

GOAL L-SL6

Support a strong library system that meets the needs of Lakewood residents.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Assist the Jefferson County Public Library with the preparation of any gap analysis of library services that may be undertaken.
- b. Support and promote the mission of the Jefferson County Public Library system to enrich the quality of life of residents by providing resources for information, education, and recreation.



Overview

Providing adequate public services is critical for the health, safety, and welfare of Lakewood. The City and its partner districts and agencies must plan together for the impacts that growth and future development will have on those services. Because the city and the community depend on other districts and agencies to provide a number of public services, strong partnerships and coordination with all providers is essential to ensure increased service demands are met.

Public Safety

The Lakewood Police Department provides policing services to the residents of Lakewood through the guiding principles of integrity, intelligence, and initiative. The Police Department began as the Lakewood Department of Public Safety on May 3, 1970, and in 1980 was renamed the Lakewood Police Department. Since its inception, the department has become known for professionalism, leadership, and excellence in service and commitment to the Lakewood community. The Police Department, comprised of more than 400 employees and 100 volunteers, offers a number of outreach programs in addition to its public safety services. These programs allow the department to partner with the community on crime prevention and awareness activities, provide educational opportunities, and offer support services to those in need. Among these programs, the Police Department offers a Crime Free Multi-housing Program, the Police Victim Assistance Program, National Night Out, and the Youth Police Academy.

The Lakewood Public Safety Center is located at 445 South Allison Parkway. The Department operates a police substation within the Colorado Mills Mall and a police office in the Lakewood-West Colfax Business Improvement District Office, the Link Recreation Center, and the Alameda Gateway Business Improvement District Office.

GOAL L-PS1

Create a safe community environment for residents and visitors.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Reduce reported crime in the city by targeting crime and quality of life patterns and trends as they are identified.
- b. Implement a data-driven approach to address crime and traffic hazards in those areas of the city where needed.
- c. Utilize technologies such as passive and active surveillance camera systems in parts of the city that are prone to crime.
- d. Participate in the crime prevention and public safety community activities including National Night Out, Shred Days, and Prescription Drug Take-Back events.

GOAL L-PS2

Develop and maintain strategic partnerships within the community that serve to enhance the Department's crime-fighting and prevention strategies.

ACTION STEPS

- Make the Crime Free Multi-housing program available to every multifamily housing development within Lakewood.
- Provide Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) reviews of all development plans submitted for approval.
- Regularly attend community and business association meetings to develop partnerships and interactions with community members that promote a problem-solving approach to crime identification and response.
- Maintain a police presence in neighborhood facilities including the Colorado Mills Mall substation, the Lakewood-West Colfax Business Improvement District Office, the Link Recreation Center, and the Alameda Gateway Business Improvement District Office.
- As funding is available, continue to provide School Resource Officers in the Jeffco Public Schools.

GOAL L-PS3

Leverage regionalization opportunities with other law enforcement agencies to improve police service and reduce costs.

ACTION STEPS

- Explore consolidating the five police communication centers into a regional communication center.
- Acquire and install a regionalized Records Management System (RMS) that will result in a reduction in costs and enhance data-sharing, crime analysis, and police services.
- Regionalize crime lab services within the county.
- Maintain participation in local task forces intended to combat crime problems utilizing local, state, and federal assets to include the Safe Streets, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, West Metro Drug and Metro Gang task forces.



Fire & Life Safety

The majority of the city is served by the West Metro Fire Protection District, which is a special district government agency providing fire and rescue services to approximately 248,000 people. It was created in 1995 after the community voted to consolidate the Lakewood Fire Protection District and the Bancroft Fire Protection District. West Metro Fire Protection District covers more than 110 square miles, with seven stations serving Lakewood. The district provides numerous community outreach and educational programs. Events include the annual Family Fire Muster, kids clubs, and car seat safety checks. West Metro Fire Protection District's mission is to provide professional fire protection, emergency medical services, life safety, and community service that will help to shape the future.

GOAL L-PS4

Partner with the West Metro Fire Protection District to ensure adequate fire protection, emergency medical services, life safety, and community services are provided.

ACTION STEPS

- Work with West Metro Fire Protection District during the site plan review process to ensure site development adequately addresses fire and rescue access.
- Adopt, in partnership with the West Metro Fire Protection District, appropriate changes to fire codes to take advantage of evolving building technologies and to stay current with developing fire protection science.



Family Fire Muster

The Family Fire Muster is an annual event held at West Metro's Training Center. The event provides the opportunity for adults and children to tour Fire Station #10 and West Metro's Training Center to see how firefighters prepare for emergencies and what it's like to be a firefighter. Numerous events and programs are offered at the event to prepare children and adults for emergencies. The event teaches families what to do to prepare for emergencies such as the importance of developing a family escape plan, how to call 9-1-1, and how to create a safety profile online. Firefighters demonstrate their response to a residential fire, while emphasizing the importance of fire drills at home.

Emergency Preparedness

In order to provide the best emergency services to the community, the *Lakewood Emergency Operations Plan* (EOP) was developed in partnership with Jefferson County and local special districts that provide emergency services within the city. The intent of the EOP is to provide guidelines and principles for planning, managing, and coordinating the overall response and recovery activities of the City before, during, and after major emergencies and disaster events.

GOAL L-PS5

Ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the City is adequately prepared to respond to emergencies and recovery activities before, during, and after major emergencies and disaster events.

ACTION STEP

- a. Evaluate the *Emergency Operations Plan* every four years and update as necessary to provide, manage, and coordinate high-level emergency response and recovery activities.

Utilities

The availability and function of public utilities is necessary to ensure the needs of Lakewood's current and future residents are met. Lakewood is served by a number of utility providers and therefore coordination between the City and all providers is imperative to ensure that adequate and efficient utilities are available, and that Lakewood is prepared to handle future growth.

Water and sewer is provided by 26 different water and sewer providers. The City of Lakewood utilities provide water to 730 properties and sewer to approximately 7,000 properties in a limited area in north Lakewood. The Lakewood Stormwater Management Utility maintains the public stormwater drainage system. The system consists of the many storm drains, underground storm water lines, culverts, gulches, and open channels throughout Lakewood. In accordance with franchise agreements, Xcel Energy provides electrical and natural gas services to Lakewood, Comcast serves as the cable provider, and CenturyLink provides phone service to Lakewood.

GOAL L-PS6

Ensure adequate utilities are available for Lakewood's current and future residents and businesses.

ACTION STEPS

- a. Require developers proposing new development or redevelopment to coordinate with utility providers early in the development process.
- b. Work with the water and sewer providers to ensure master plans reflect adequacy to serve anticipated developments.
- c. When franchise agreements are updated, work with service and utility providers to expand and enhance services throughout Lakewood.

GOAL L-PS7**Minimize the visual impacts of utility lines and cell towers on the community.****ACTION STEP**

- a. Implement the guidelines established through City Council resolution on undergrounding existing electrical utilities located within the public right-of-way.
- b. Require on-site utility lines be placed underground with development and redevelopment.
- c. Continue to work with utility providers to coordinate improvements when City streets are improved or constructed.

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