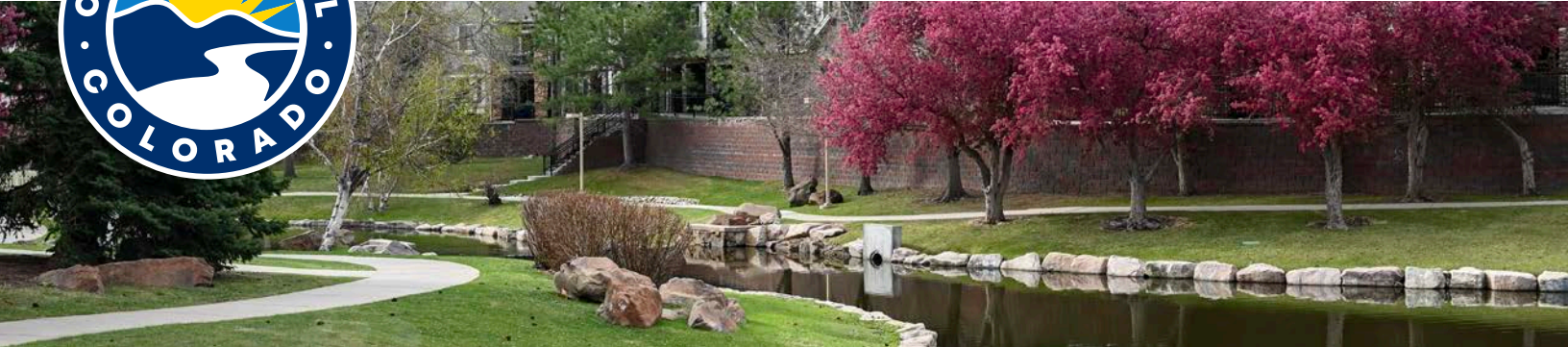


CENTENNIAL CONNECTION

Summer 2024

A publication by the City of Centennial



MEET THE MAYOR

Centennial Mayor Stephanie Piko is available to meet virtually and in-person with residents and business owners.

Schedule a time to meet at a time that's convenient for you, visit centennialco.gov/meetthemayor.



INSIDE OUR CITY

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The Survey Says...

Every other year, the City contracts with an outside research firm to conduct a community survey which is shared with 3,000 residents at random to obtain scientific results. This resident-focused community survey is a valuable tool to measure service performance, evaluate community needs, formulate improvement strategies, and assess potential policies or community characteristics. The survey results are notably positive across a broad range of topics and reflect the community's view of Centennial as a great place to live with a high quality of life!

- The majority of survey respondents provided positive ratings for various aspects, including Centennial as a place to live, raise children, overall quality of life, and the City's image.

- Recommendations for living in Centennial and plans to remain for the next five years were also high.
- Centennial's robust economy garnered positive reviews from at least 8 in 10 residents, surpassing national averages.
- Favorable ratings were noted for the City as a place to work, economic health, business and service establishments, shopping, and employment opportunities.
- Results identified cost of living, affordable housing, and homelessness as challenges for the City.

This survey helps Council better understand and address the needs of residents, improve programs and services, and create an overall better experience for those who call Centennial home. The full 2023 results can be found at centennialco.gov/surveys.



Home Improvements & Remodels

PERMITS

Taking on a remodel project? Hiring a contractor to perform work at your home or business located in Centennial? Building a new fence? Building permits are required for new buildings, renovations and additions to existing buildings to ensure all structures within the City are safe to occupy. A fence permit is required for all new fences and replacement of existing fences where height, location or materials are changing (e.g., chain link to wood).



INSPECTIONS

Once the permitted work is complete, an inspection needs to be scheduled with the City's Building Division for any structural, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing work related to the scope of the permit. The inspector will ensure the safety, integrity and construction was completed in compliance with municipal codes and standards. This in turn protects the homeowner in the workmanship of the build and potentially property value.

TIPS FOR HIRING A CONTRACTOR

- Take your time!
- Get multiple estimates.
- Hire licensed contractors that are willing to obtain a permit.
- Check their insurance and bonding.
- Get 2-3 references from previous customers and ask for pictures of past work.
- Get everything in writing.
- Keep a job file.
- Understand your right to cancel.
- Do not pay upfront.
- Anticipate delays.

LICENSED CONTRACTORS

In the planning stages of a home improvement project, take the important initial steps of hiring a licensed contractor to get the job done right. Why licensed? It reduces risk and uncertainty in the process and final outcome. A license shows the contractor wants to do things right, has the competency, and their certification is verified. Most licensed contractors also carry proper insurance to cover injury or damage that might occur during the process.

Learn more at centennialco.gov/building or contact the Building Division at buildingdivision@centennialco.gov.

South Metro Waste Study

The City of Centennial is partnering with Englewood, Littleton, and Sheridan to better understand waste and recycling services in the City. We value input from residents so please share your feedback by completing a 10-minute survey on recycling. Anyone that completes this regional survey is eligible to win one of thirty \$50 Visa® Gift Cards (limit one entry per household). The survey is open now through June 28. The survey is open now through June 28 and is available at southmetrowastediversion.org.

Learn more about the study scan code below!



Take the Survey Now!

Residential Zone Districts

The City is considering creating additional residential zone districts to create more predictability for what types of homes will be built in new residential projects. This includes additional zone districts for a variety of residential types, including single family detached and attached, townhomes, multifamily, etc. One of the goals in creating these additional zone districts is to prioritize compatibility, ensuring new homes blend with the existing neighborhoods. These additional zone districts would apply only to new residential projects and are not intended to replace the primary residential zone district in the City, called Neighborhood Conservation (NC).

centennialco.gov/infill

Housing ADUs



Following a multi-year public engagement process, City Council voted 9-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2024-O-03 in early May. This Ordinance allows property owners to construct Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), also known as granny flats or backyard cottages, on single-family properties. The Ordinance includes restrictions for the size, height, and setbacks of ADUs to protect neighboring properties, must follow all existing Municipal Code building regulations, and match the design features of the main home. They may not be used as short-term rentals. The City's existing regulations regarding noise and property maintenance will continue to be enforced. Property owners should check HOA rules or other private covenants prior to applying for a building permit. The Ordinance is effective June 15, 2024. For more information, visit centennialco.gov/housing.



Are You a Pet Owner?

Part of our Pet-Loving Community? Be a responsible pet owner. After all, every paw counts!

Animal regulations, along with responsible pet ownership and education, help preserve public health and safety for residents and animals.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- All dogs over the age of six months must be licensed with the City of Centennial. All dogs and cats must wear a collar with a readable tag or have a microchip implanted while off the premises of the owner's home. Obtain a license at centennialco.gov/licensepet or by calling **303.325.8070**.
- All dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies by four months of age.



- Animals must be kept under control and on the owner's or keeper's property. All dogs must be on a leash of no more than 10 feet in length by a person of sufficient age, size and physical ability to restrain the animal when off the owner's premises.
- Barking, howling, yelping or other pet noise is unlawful if it exceeds 10 continuous minutes during daytime hours or five continuous minutes between 9:01 p.m. and 6:59 a.m., or exceeds 90 cumulative minutes within 24 hours.

The City contracts with the Humane Society of the Pike's Peak Region to provide animal services and enforce animal regulations in Centennial. To learn more about the City's Animal Services division and animal regulations, or to report violations, call **303.325.8070** or visit centennialco.gov/animalservices.

REPORT ALL ANIMAL BITES TO HUMANS IF SKIN IS BROKEN.

Call or report online.

City's 24-hour
Citizen Response Center
303.325.8000

centennialco.gov/animalservices

Animals involved in bites to humans will be quarantined to monitor their health for warning signs of rabies. If an active attack occurs, call 9-1-1 and an Animal Services Officer will be dispatched.



SPARK

Centennial PROGRAM

Are you a business owner, community leader, or passionate about making a difference? Join us for SPARK Centennial, where in-person and online, educational and discussion-led modules provide the business community with insightful conversation and networking opportunities. The next meet up is June 25 at the Village Workspace, starting at 9 a.m., with the theme "Experience Design, Culture and the Workplace". Learn more and register at centennialco.gov/spark.



CENTENNIAL RANKS #6

in Stacker's 'Best Suburbs to Live in Colorado' list! We're proud to be recognized for our exceptional quality of life— thank you for making our City remarkable!



Centennial

101

Learn how the City works, what makes us unique and how to get more involved. Join us for an interactive six-week citizens academy!

Applications for the Fall program will be available starting July 1. The program will be every Thursday, 5:30-9 p.m. from Sept. 12 – Oct. 17.

THINGS TO NOTE:

- Open to all Centennial residents.
- Attendance at all sessions is required.

Learn more at centennialco.gov/centennial101



Arapahoe County Sheriff's

THE HISTORY

Centennial and the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) have a longstanding partnership that greatly benefits our community. Since the City's incorporation – the largest in U.S. history based on population – on February 7, 2001, ACSO has provided law enforcement to our community.

Prior to Centennial's founding, the ACSO provided law enforcement services to what is now Centennial. With a population of 100,000+, the need for cohesive and high-quality public safety services was quickly apparent upon the City's incorporation. The first agreement was executed on May 8, 2001 and has been modernized and updated several times to recognize changes in service level expectations and the evolution of law enforcement.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The economies of scale that come from a larger sheriff's office committed to delivering community law enforcement helps maintain Centennial as one of the safest large cities in Colorado. Centennial's law enforcement services are provided at a generally lower cost-per-call for service and a lower cost-per-capita than other comparable communities.

Annually, the City and the Sheriff's Office review service levels provided to the community through our budget process. In the past few years, City Council has funded additional patrol officers and investigators but has also remained committed to innovation. We've added positions that have an outsized community impact, such as the co-responder program that provides mental health clinicians to respond to mental health calls. Centennial is committed to school safety, increasing school resource officers provided in Centennial schools – and even adding therapy dogs as a complement to the human officers.

Additionally, two new deputies were added last year to focus on traffic enforcement on our streets. Effective performance and transparency are key components of law enforcement in Centennial. Community participation in the Citizen's Academy each year gives residents a glimpse into how services are provided. The Centennial Public Safety Advisory Group provides an opportunity for residents to directly interact with the Sheriff on matters of community importance.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

ACSO Citizen's Academy is offered four times a year for community members! Learn more at bit.ly/44YyyIX.

The Centennial Public Safety Advisory Group is a great opportunity for residents to get involved locally. There are currently open positions, and appointments are ongoing. Learn more at bit.ly/3QZQSMb.





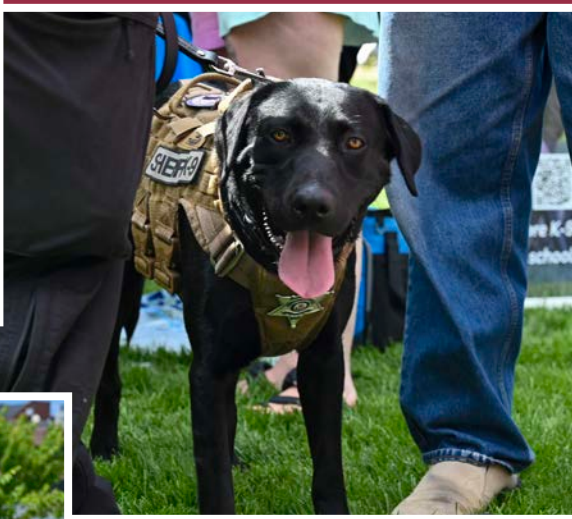
Due to the support and partnership with the Sheriff's Office, Centennial is a safe place to live. Without compromising public safety, services are continuously evaluated to ensure taxpayers receive value for their investment. While Arapahoe County has been having conversations with the community about potential budget shortfalls and impacts, please rest assured that these discussions will not impact the delivery of law enforcement service to the City of Centennial.

THANK YOU ACSO FOR ALL YOU DO!

Office

STRIVING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

The proof of the high-quality services our community expects comes in the form of professional accreditation. The Sheriff's Office participates in accreditation processes with the American Correctional Association (ACA), the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), among others. As a result of this professional dedication, the ACSO has received the National Sheriffs Association Triple Crown Award – awarded to agencies accredited by the ACA, CALEA, and NCCHC. Only 49 sheriff's offices in the country have earned this status, and ACSO is the first in the nation to receive the award under four Sheriffs.



Arapahoe Bridge *Ribbon Cutting*

In mid-May, City Council, the project contractors, and supporting parties enjoyed a ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of the reconstructed bridge over Big Dry Creek on Arapahoe Rd., east of University Blvd. This project features a wider, taller and longer structure improving safety for the traveling public.

In addition to the bridge, stream stabilization efforts under the bridge were completed, providing a safer and wider path for pedestrians and bicyclists. Improvements also included an upgraded drainage and waterway system for Big Dry Creek.

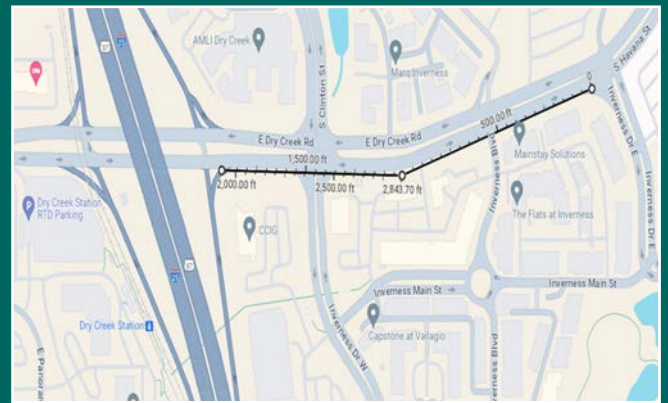
Thank you for the patience throughout this project to the users of the road and the residents in the adjacent neighborhoods.



I25 & Dry Creek Corridor

Arapahoe County has begun construction on the I-25 and Dry Creek Road corridor that will extend the eastbound Dry Creek Road right lanes and create a through lane from the northbound I-25 off-ramp at Inverness Drive East. Other improvements are also planned to make travel through the area safer, help traffic flow, and improve overall mobility through this intersection. Intermittent lane closures are expected during construction.

Sign up for weekly updates, see traffic impacts, and find additional information at arapahoeco.gov/drycreek.



State of Your City

In early May, Mayor Stephanie Piko presented the 18th Annual State of Our City event with this year's theme, 'State of YOUR City.' She highlighted what makes the Centennial community special and extended appreciation to all who play a part in making our City great! Mayor Piko emphasized the importance of 'YOU' in 'Comm-YOU-nity,' representing self-determination, innovation, resilience, generosity, and motivation, all contributing to making Centennial home for so many.

From partnerships to Public Works, watch all of the highlights and see how they enrich YOUR Centennial experience at centennialco.gov/stateofcity!



*Watch Out,
Ash Trees!*

Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive insect that infests and kills ash trees. The larval stage of EAB feeds under the bark of trees, cutting off the flow of water and nutrients. Infested trees gradually die over a period of approximately three to five years.

Detecting Emerald Ash Borer is very difficult. Visual survey is not as useful as branch peeling; branch peeling is more accurate. If an ash tree is experiencing dieback or looking unhealthy, have the tree examined by a professional tree company or contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Infestation signs include:

- Sparse leaves or branches in the upper part of the tree
- D-shaped exit holes about 1/8 inch wide
- New sprouts on the lower trunk or lower branches
- Vertical splits in the bark
- Winding S-shaped tunnels under the bark
- Increased woodpecker activity

Additional information is available at centennialco.gov/eab.



Sparkle Safely Fireworks

Summer brings out the sparkle! When a fire ban is not in place, City residents may use and possess fireworks that do not explode, leave the ground or fly through the air. Leave those to the professionals for the safety of you and your neighbors! Please note that fire bans will be announced and enforced by Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office along with local fire and code officials.

For safety tips and other regulations, visit centennialco.gov/fireworks.



More Park to Enjoy

We're ready to splash this season – are you? According to USA TODAY Readers' Choice, Centennial Center Park is the place to be! It's one of the nation's leading splash pad parks, right here in your backyard.



Pack your picnic and make a day of it!

Park hours have increased for the warmer weather!

PARK HOURS

May 1 - October 31
5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

SPLASH PAD WATER PLAY HOURS

Memorial Day weekend
through Labor Day
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

City of Centennial
13133 E. Arapahoe Road
Centennial, CO 80112
centennialco.gov



WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU.



Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(excluding holidays)



24/7 Citizen
Response Center
303.325.8000



Follow us
@CentennialGov



My Centennial App download
or visit centennialco.gov/mycentennial



Want to stay
In the Know?

Sign up for the City's e-newsletters that deliver straight to your inbox! From your local district news, events, street maintenance to the business community, there are several options for up-to-date news to be sent your way.

**DON'T MISS OUT AND
SIGN UP TODAY!**



**Mark your calendar
to attend Centennial's**

Signature **EVENTS**

See insert inside this
newsletter for a complete
calendar of all events!

centennialco.gov/events



Residents and their fur baby enjoy a picnic in the park at the City's District 3 Summer Social, in Centennial Center Park's new expansion.