



May-June 2024



Facebook
@ThorntonColorado



Twitter
@CityofThornton



Nextdoor
search Thornton



Instagram/Threads
@CityofThornton



YouTube
@ThorntonCO

Para leer el periódico de la ciudad de Thornton "City Voice" en español, escanee este código con su teléfono.



Want to CONNECT?

We invite you to attend a ward meeting to find out what's happening in the city and talk with City Council representatives.

Ward 4 Meeting

Wednesday, July 31, 6 p.m.
Thorncreek Golf Course
13555 Washington St.

Ward 2 Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 6 p.m.
Active Adult Center
11181 Colorado Blvd.

Ward 3 Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 6 p.m.
Fossil Ridge Public Safety Center
13150 Quebec St.

Thornton seeks input for Vision Zero Action Plan



Vision Zero is an effort to eliminate fatal and serious injury traffic crashes within city limits.

"Thornton's Traffic Engineering Division is working on crafting a plan to create a safe transportation system for all roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and vehicle users," says Thornton Traffic Engineer Darrell Alston. "The information and research collected will assist in identifying projects and guide the actions the city will implement to improve traffic safety in Thornton," says Alston. The first-round survey was conducted in early spring, and input will be assessed and followed up with more opportunities for input this year as well as community meetings. "This is an incredibly important effort and we want to involve our residents as much as possible," says Alston. "Their input will help us determine community priorities for final recommendations."

Thornton identified a need for a Vision Zero Action Plan in its 2022 Transportation and Mobility Master Plan. "This is a proactive approach in identifying and prioritizing local infrastructure that will benefit from safety improvements," says Alston. "A final Thornton Vision Zero Action Plan is anticipated to be released in late fall 2024. For more information, visit goCOT.net/tvz.

Other traffic safety related projects

The 88th Avenue Corridor Study seeks to identify safety and pedestrian, bicycle, and bus improvements on 88th Avenue between Pecos Street and Dahlia Street. For more information, visit goCOT.net/88thStudy.

The 124th Avenue Multimodal Corridor project will transform 124th Avenue between Claude Court and Colorado Boulevard into a corridor that better accommodates pedestrian and bicycle traffic and controls vehicle speeds. Design for the project will kick off later in 2024. For more information, visit goCOT.net/124th.

The Protected Bike Facility Study will determine the most appropriate bicycle facility types on 128th Avenue from I-25 to York Street, Pecos Street from Milky Way to 92nd Avenue/Thornton Parkway and Huron Street from 84th Avenue to 88th Avenue.

"Protected bike facilities provide a physical separation between vehicles and bicycles creating a safer and more comfortable environment for biking," says Thornton Senior Civil Engineer Marta Junyent. The study is expected to be completed in December.

Prsrt Std
US Postage
PAID
Denver, CO
Permit No. 152



CITY OF THORNTON

COMMUNITY MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 16

6-7:30 P.M. | INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE CENTER | 12450 WASHINGTON ST.

Thornton residents are invited to meet City Council Members and Thornton city staff at this fun and engaging social community gathering.

Come with your questions, meet your neighbors and enjoy grilled burgers and hot dogs.




For more information and a list of future 2024 meetings, visit goCOT.net/CommunityMeetings or scan the QR code.

Have Code Violations in Your Yard?

LET CODECAP HELP

Through the Code Compliance Assistance Program (CodeCAP), income-qualified Thornton homeowners can receive free assistance fixing yard code violations. Eligible projects include hazardous tree removal; trash and debris removal including furniture, appliances, and vehicles; fence repair/replacement and minor front yard water-wise landscaping. To apply and learn more about the program, visit goCOT.net/housing, email housing@ThorntonCO.gov or call 720-977-5818.

Volunteer for upcoming NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP EVENT

A Neighborhood Clean-up event is scheduled in May, and your help is needed. As a volunteer, you will help during neighborhood clean-ups and assist eligible residents unable to maintain their yard to avoid city code violations. For more details and to register, visit goCOT.net/volunteer.

Assistance available for your THORNTON WATER BILL

The Thornton Water Assistance Program helps low-income individuals and families to pay their water bills. To find out if you qualify, and for information on how to apply, visit goCOT.net/waterassistance.

DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATE PROGRESS REPORT

Zone District and Land Use Revisions

During the current phase of Thornton's Major Development Code Update, the city is drafting revisions to zone districts and land use provisions to bring the City Code up-to-date with modern housing types, commercial and employment needs, and the community's expressed desire for more walkable, mixed-use development. For more information, visit goCOT.net/developmentcode.

THORNTON'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

Thornton is finalizing the citywide Historic Preservation Plan to guide the city's actions with regards to historic buildings, landscapes, and cultural heritage. "This Plan will assist in guiding future preservation efforts to determine the city's historic resources. For more information, email LongRange.Planning@ThorntonCO.gov, call 303-538-7313 or visit goCOT.net/historyplan.

Thornton infrastructure and PFAS compliance: a commitment to clean drinking water

Water quality and safety efforts remain a top priority for the city of Thornton. Ever since PFAS, commonly referred to as "forever chemicals", became a greater focus for water providers across the country due to new regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Thornton staff has been working hard to address the concerns our residents have about these compounds. Once the final rule for PFAS levels has been issued, Thornton will have three years to comply with the regulations, however, Thornton is already on track to meet these deadlines. The city has been utilizing a strategy of source water blending and using additional treatment processes to reduce PFAS concentrations in our drinking water. By using these strategies, Thornton keeps PFAS concentrations below the EPA's proposed Maximum Concentration Level. There is also a focus on prioritizing long-term solutions by contracting with engineering firms to design and build additional treatment processes to ensure compliance. Currently, Thornton is performing something called Rapid Small Scale Column Testing (RSSCT) to evaluate the efficacy of different types of treatment processes.

These results will guide our engineering design. In addition, Thornton has purchased a laboratory instrument that allows lab staff to analyze for PFAS in-house versus contracting with another company for testing. The instrument is currently scheduled to be installed April 2024 after the water quality lab renovations are completed.

PFAS treatment is expensive but to keep the impact on our customer's water rates as low as possible, Thornton staff has been aggressively pursuing compensatory damages, grants, and funding opportunities. The city is engaged in a multijurisdictional lawsuit against the manufacturers of PFAS such as 3M and DuPont. Thornton has received \$220,000 to date in grants from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and is in the process of pursuing an additional \$1 million. Staff is also in the process of applying for up to \$30 million in loan forgiveness through the State Revolving Fund. If you have any questions, call Water Quality at 303-255-7770 or visit goCOT.net/pfas.

Honoring the 'old' and rolling out Thornton's new logo



Did you notice something different at the top of this City Voice? That new colorful emblem at the top of this edition is the new logo for the city of Thornton.

In 2022, the City Council approved a nine-month project for 2023 with consultants specializing in community research, to engage with Thornton residents to learn their thoughts and feelings about the city. In the biggest survey ever done with the Thornton community, more than 1,500 residents and key community stakeholders provided input via surveys and interviews on quality-of-life issues and perceptions of their city. One prominent theme was that Thornton has changed dramatically since the year 2000 – becoming a full-service city where people live, work, and play. The other strong prevailing theme is that people living and working in Thornton value the parks, trails, and nature amenities of every kind. It was these themes, along with the importance of honoring Thornton's heritage, symbolized in the curvature in the old logo, that went into the design for the new logo.

Developer Sam Hoffman bought 400 acres in 1952 to build homes in what is now Original Thornton and showcased the first three completed homes in 1953. It would be another 26 years before Thornton had its first logo. Designed back in 1979, the previous monochrome logo has some loyalty going

for it, but the rebranding effort found that very few people could say what it represented, and most survey respondents felt it didn't really represent the Thornton of today. In fact, most people providing feedback thought the old logo represented roads or a highway intersection. Ironically, roads and road conditions also happen to be the biggest concern for most in Thornton. The graphic design person who created the 1979 logo said it represented "synergy".

In the process to create the new logo, Thornton's research consultants advised that "the survey found real benefits for Thornton to evolve in a way that represents the current values and goals of the community and for the city to be able to compete effectively in the modern marketplace for both new businesses and employees." The brand, and new messaging that follows, are the face and voice of the Thornton organization.

Residents will start seeing the new logo in more places very gradually to incur as little expense as possible, with an official resolution and ceremonial reveal during a City Council meeting in late spring and at Thorntonfest in June. Thornton City Council will have final budget approval authority on future deployment of the new logo throughout the city.

What's happening at Big Dry Creek?

Bridge Replacment Project

Construction is now underway to rebuild 850 linear feet of York Street from the E-470 Northbound Ramp to East 156th Avenue, and to replace the bridge over Big Dry Creek. Edge Contracting was awarded the project on January 10, and the engineering design consultant is EST Inc.

The Big Dry Creek Trail will be constructed adjacent to the creek and will include trail lighting and a pedestrian multiuse path under the new bridge. For additional project information, visit goCOT.net/CIPmaps or call 720-977-6210.

Big Dry Creek Parallel Sewer Project

Construction is now underway for a new 21-inch diameter sanitary sewer project that will parallel an existing 18-inch diameter sewer line at approximately York Street and E 156th Avenue, then run northeast along the west side of Big Dry Creek and end just after crossing Highway 7 (East 160th Avenue). For additional project information, visit goCOT.net/CIPmaps or call 720-977-6210.

Community Connections is Thornton's one-stop assistance resource shop

The Community Connections English-Spanish speaking bilingual team inventories community-based programs so that they can best connect you with the services you need. Staff can help residents meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter, or make connections to social and mental health support. Stop by Community Connections at 9471 Dorothy Blvd., Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., call **720-977-5800**, or email staff at **Connections@ThorntonCO.gov**.

Keep it clean because we're all downstream

According to the EPA, pollution from stormwater runoff is the largest cause of water quality problems in the U.S., washing pollution such as oil, litter, pet waste, soaps and fertilizers into streams, lakes, and rivers. For information about how you can Keep it Clean, visit **ThorntonCO.gov** or email **StormwaterQuality@ThorntonCO.gov**.



Dive into savings with Thornton Water's landscape programs

Transforming your yard into a water-saving oasis is easier than ever with Thornton Water's rebates and services. Watch your plants and savings grow when you upgrade to a smart irrigation controller, get a sprinkler system consultation, or transform a portion of your yard into a water-wise landscape. Visit **ThorntonWater.com/rebates** or call **720-977-6600** to learn more about how to participate.





All Star

• SUMMER CONCERT SERIES •

Thursdays | May 30-July 25*
Various Thornton locations.




amazon   

Questions?
Call 303-255-7800 for more information.
*No concert on Thursday, July 4.

Illegal ATV use causing damage in Thornton parks

Use of ATVs, UTVs, mini-bikes and motorcycles are not permitted in Thornton parks, open spaces, habitat corridors and trails. These vehicles can easily cause damage to turf and pose a danger to those utilizing the space.

If you observe this activity, please contact the Thornton Police Department at their non-emergency number, **720-977-5150**.



Your Thornton TRASH & RECYCLE CALENDAR

For details about any of the programs listed below, visit **goCOT.net/trashrecycling**, email **environmentalservices@ThorntonCO.gov** or call **720-977-6200**.

Memorial Day - There will NOT be a delay in collection service the week of May 27. Please place containers at the curb by 7 a.m. on your regular pickup day.

Tree Branch/ Compost Drop-Off - May 11, June 8, IMC, 12450 Washington St., 8 a.m. - noon, proof of residency required, restrictions apply.

Landfill Day - Saturday, June 15, 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Republic Services Tower Landfill, 88th Avenue and Tower Road, Commerce City

The gate fee is waived for Thornton residents to take non-hazardous debris. One vehicle load per household. Pickup trucks, cars, and small single-axel trailers only. Electronics and liquids will not be accepted. Mattresses are subject to an additional fee. All loads must be covered. Restrictions and limitations apply. Proof of residency is required.

City of Thornton trash/recycling customers can download the City of Thornton Recycles mobile app to their cellphone or tablet. Look for it in the App Store and on Google Play.



Enjoy some of your favorite movies, in some of your favorite parks between June 1 and August 17!




Call 303-255-7800 or visit **goCOT.net/movies** for complete details.

Thornton City Council

goCOT.net/council



Mayor

Jan Kulmann
303-538-7531 - City
720-201-6155 - Cell
Jan.Kulmann@ThorntonCO.gov



Ward 1

Kathy Henson
303-538-7534 - City
720-672-5067 - Cell
Kathy.Henson@ThorntonCO.gov



Justin Martinez
303-538-7537 - City
720-880-8145 - Cell
Justin.Martinez@ThorntonCO.gov



Ward 2

Roberta Ayala
303-538-7536 - City
720-446-9082 - Cell
Roberta.Ayala@ThorntonCO.gov



Jessica Sandgren
303-538-7535 - City
720-753-2877 - Cell
Jessica.Sandgren@ThorntonCO.gov



Ward 3

David Acunto
303-538-7532 - City
720-295-9850 - Cell
David.Acunto@ThorntonCO.gov



Tony Unrein
303-538-7533 - City
303-919-3720 - Cell
Tony.Unrein@ThorntonCO.gov



Chris Russell
303-538-7530 - City
720-400-6278 - Cell
Chris.Russell@ThorntonCO.gov



Ward 4

Mayor Pro Tem Karen Bigelow
303-538-7201 - City
720-899-7811 - Cell
Karen.Bigelow@ThorntonCO.gov

What's happening in Thornton?

All events listed below are subject to change. Visit ThorntonCO.gov for calendar updates.

Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Homebuyer Workshop

Tuesday, May 7, 5:45 p.m.

Council Planning Session

Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m.-noon

Tree Branch/Compost Drop-Off

Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Homebuyer Workshop

Tuesday, May 14, 5:45 p.m.

City Council Update

Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m.

Community Meeting

IMC, 12450 Washington St.

Tuesday, May 21, 5:45 p.m.

Council Planning Session

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day

City Offices closed

Tuesday, May 28, 5:45 p.m.

City Council Update

Tuesday, May 28, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Thursday, May 30, 7 p.m.

Concert & Mayor's Ice Cream Social

Harley Brown Amphitheater

3498 E. 112th Ave.

Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Homebuyer Workshop

Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Thorntonfest

Carpenter Park Fields

11000 Colorado Blvd.

Saturday, June 1, 7 p.m.

Movies in the Park - Little Mermaid

Tuesday, June 4, 5:45 p.m.

Council Planning Session

Thursday, June 6, 5:30 p.m.

Concert & Arts in the Park

Harley Brown Amphitheater

3498 E. 112th Ave.

Tuesday, June 11, 5:45 p.m.

City Council Update

Tuesday, June 11, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Thursday, June 13, 7 p.m.

Concert & Juneteenth Celebration

Harley Brown Amphitheater

3498 E. 112th Ave.

Saturday, June 15, 7 p.m.

Movies in the Park - Super Mario Bros.

Wednesday, June 19

Juneteenth

City Offices closed

Thursday, June 20, 7 p.m.

Concert & Ward 4 Ice Cream Social

Fallbrook Farms, 14189 Madison St.

Saturday, June 22, 12-3 p.m.

Bicycle Rodeo

Carpenter Park Fields,

11000 Colorado Blvd.

Tuesday, June 25, 5:45 p.m.

City Council Update

Tuesday, June 25, 7 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Thursday, June 27, 7 p.m.

Concert & Ward 1 Ice Cream Social

Community Park, 2141 E. 95th Ave.

Saturday, June 29, 12 p.m.

Thornton Pride Event

Thornton Arts & Culture Center

9209 Dorothy Blvd.

Saturday, June 29, 7 p.m.

Movies in the Park - The Wizard of Oz

City Facilities & Commonly Used Numbers

Thornton City Hall
9500 Civic Center Dr., 80229

Thornton Police Department
and Municipal Court
9551 Civic Center Dr., 80229

Infrastructure Maintenance Center
12450 Washington St., 80241

Margaret W. Carpenter
Recreation Center
11151 Colorado Blvd., 80233

Thornton Community Center
2211 Eppinger Blvd., 80229

Thornton Active Adult Center
11181 Colorado Blvd., 80233

Thornton Arts & Culture Center
9209 Dorothy Blvd., 80229

Trail Winds Recreation Center
13495 Holly St., 80602

Thornton Community Connections
9471 Dorothy Blvd., 80229

Active Adult Center 303-255-7850
Alliance Business Assist. Center 720-674-3547
Animal Control 720-977-5250
Arts & Culture Center 720-977-5880
Building Inspection 303-538-7250
Building Permits 303-538-7250
Business Assistance 303-538-7605
Carpenter Recreation Center 303-255-7800
City Clerk's Office 303-538-7230
City Communications 303-538-7279
City Council & Mayor 303-538-7002
City Manager's Office 303-538-7002
Code Compliance 303-538-7517
Community Connections 720-977-5800
Economic Development 303-538-7605
Fire Department (non-emergency) ... 303-538-7602
Human Resources 303-538-7245
Municipal Court 720-977-5400
Parks, Recreation &
Community Programs 303-255-7800
Police (non-emergency) 720-977-5150
Pothole Repair 720-977-6464
Snow & Ice Control 720-977-6464
Trail Winds Recreation Center 720-977-5700
Trash & Recycling 720-977-6200
Utilities (Water, Sewer) 720-977-6500
Utility Billing 303-538-7370
Volunteer Hotline 720-977-5760
Voter Registration 303-538-7230
Water Quality 303-255-7770

Editorial Staff

Todd Barnes, 303-538-7279
Managing Editor/Communications Director

Lisa Wilson, 303-538-7282
Editor, Writer/Deputy Communications Director

Erika Barnard-Hollinshed, 303-538-7256
Writer, Design/Digital & Print Media Specialist

Gina Lantz, 303-538-7575
Design/Digital & Print Media Specialist

Photographers: City Staff, GettyImages® and Thinkstockphotos®
A special THANKS to all city Departments and Divisions for their
contribution to the Thornton City Voice newspaper.

Para leer el periódico
de la ciudad de
Thornton "City Voice"
en español, escanee
este código con su
teléfono.



TASHCO PRIDE EVENT

The Thornton Arts, Sciences & Humanities Council (TASHCO) will celebrate the LGBTQIA+ Community on Saturday, June 29, 12-4 p.m., at the Thornton Arts & Culture Center, 9209 Dorothy Blvd., and in the adjacent Lu Murray Park. This 2nd annual Thornton Pride event will feature local artists, vendors, food, entertainment, and other activities, and Wizard of Oz-themed activities.

For more information, visit ThorntonCO.gov/arts.

PERSONAL TRAINING

FOR AGES 55+

NOW AVAILABLE AT THE
THORNTON ACTIVE ADULT CENTER
11181 COLORADO BLVD.

For more information,
call 303-255-7850
or visit goCOT.net/aacpersonaltraining
to complete a
questionnaire.

THORNTON ARTS ACADEMY

ART CLASSES

CHECK OUT THE NEW SEASON OF CLASSES FOR KIDS, TEENS AND ADULTS!

TO SEE THE FULL CLASS SCHEDULE, VISIT ARTSTHORNTON.COM.
To register, visit goCOT.net/registration or call 720-977-5901.

Thorntonfest

goCOT.net/thorntonfest

Saturday, June 1

10 a.m.-5 p.m. | Carpenter Park Fields
108th Avenue & Colorado Boulevard

For more information visit goCOT.net/thorntonfest
or call 303-255-7800.