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INSIDE: Find profiles of the City Council candidates for the 2025 municipal election on pages 4–5. Complete candidate profiles are available online at c3gov.com/Elections.
Think ahead and prepare to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

- Register to vote or check your voting status on the state’s voter registration website at GoVoteColorado.com.
- Voter resources, including ballot drop-off locations, are available online at AdamsCountyCOElections.gov

Stay warm and secure this fall with ACT programs


AS COOLER WEATHER APPROACHES, Commerce City is helping residents prepare through two vital programs under the Advancing Commerce City Together (ACT) initiative: the Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program and the Home Repairs Program. These resources can keep families safe, warm, and secure all winter.

The Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program helps qualifying residents cover rent, mortgage payments, or past-due utility bills. For households facing hardship, this aid prevents financial strain to help keep the heat on during winter. The Community Economic Defense Project (CEDP) manages the program, with bilingual advocates assisting applicants through the process.

Meanwhile, the Home Repair Program helps low- to moderate-income homeowners make critical home improvements before the snow flies. Whether replacing a furnace or water heater, upgrading drafty windows and doors, repairing a roof, or adding insulation and weatherization, these projects help ensure homes stay warm, energy-efficient, and safe throughout the colder months.

Both programs are funded by federal dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and represent Commerce City’s commitment to improving residents’ housing stability and quality of life. By combining emergency financial support with long-term home repair solutions, ACT is helping families avoid the overwhelming effects of eviction, foreclosure, or unsafe living conditions this winter.

If you or someone you know could benefit, don’t wait until the cold weather sets in. Learn more and apply at c3gov.com/ACT or call 303-289-3707.



Get the latest updates on 96th Avenue construction



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STATUS of construction and what’s coming next for the E. 96th Avenue widening project. The next quarterly public meeting will be held at Southlawn Elementary School, 10075 Walden St. on Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The E. 96th Avenue widening project between Chambers Road and Tower Road is working to improve connectivity and infrastructure along this important arterial roadway. With additional new development continuing to occur in the area, the current project is set to complete the full buildout of this essential roadway to four lanes with a dividing median, along with multi-use paths, water lines, traffic signals, and more. Learn more about the project at c3gov.com/96th.

Land Development Code updates set for review process

THE CITY IS UPDATING ITS LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LDC), the set of rules that guides how land is used and built on throughout the city. From increasing affordable housing options and allowing accessory dwelling units to raise the bar for building and site design, these changes aim to reflect our community’s goals and make it easier to build a vibrant, livable city. The LDC update also improves public engagement, ensures earlier community input, and supports sustainable development.

The public hearing draft of the revised LDC is now available online and is advancing through the public adoption process with City Council.

Having something to add? Scheduled public hearing dates include:

- Monday, Oct. 6 - First Reading at City Council
- Monday, Nov. 3 - Second Reading at City Council

Learn more at c3gov.com/LDC.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Community Well-Being upcoming events

The city’s Community Well-Being team offers two recurring events every month:

The Well – Enjoy a free community meal on Friday, Oct. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in a new location at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (6770 Monaco St.), featuring a free pop-up health clinic and resources from community navigators.

Resource Round-Up – Learn from the Community Well-Being Division as they present on the local programs, services, and referral support they offer individuals and families in Commerce City on Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m., at Eagle Pointe Recreation Center (6060 Parkway Dr.). Learn more about these and other outreach events at c3gov.com/CWB.

Share your input for on-demand shuttle services

Residents are invited to give feedback on whether an on-demand shuttle service, also known as microtransit, could help meet transportation needs in Commerce City. The survey in conjunction with the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) asks for input on how such a service might be used and which destinations would be most beneficial.

To participate, visit the project website and completed the survey by Oct. 31 at engage.drcog.org/Commerce-City-Microtransit-Study.

Seniors can get a refund on city property taxes

Residents at least 62 years of age who lived within the city limits in 2024 can apply for the city’s property tax refund program, which repays the amount paid to the city out of the total property tax bill. The deadline to apply for the program is Saturday, Nov. 1. Those who applied to the program last year will receive a paper application by mail. The printable application is available online at this time.

To access the application, visit c3gov.com/Residents and select “Taxes & Fees” from the navigation, followed by “Senior Property Tax Refund.” Refund checks will be mailed between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31. For questions about the program, contact the finance department at 303-289-3627.



Closure of E. 62nd Avenue part of CDOT Vasquez Boulevard improvements

E. 62ND AVENUE IS expected to be closed between Vasquez Boulevard/Highway 2 and Elm Street (north of the King Soopers shopping center) through late December for a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) project. Crews are working on intersection improvements and building a new traffic signal to provide motorists with full access between Vasquez Boulevard/Highway 2 and E. 62nd Avenue. This will allow southbound Vasquez Boulevard through traffic to travel through the intersection without stopping. Learn more at codot.gov/projects.



WHAT’S COMING UP AT COUNCIL

City Council adopts laws, policies, and budgets consistent with the city charter. Regular City Council meetings and study sessions are open to the public. Public comment and official city actions occur only during regular meetings, not study sessions.

City Council meetings occur in person with opportunities to view and comment remotely via Zoom. Members of the public can attend and comment in person at the Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave. Advance Zoom registration and written comments delivered to the City Clerk’s Office must be received by noon on the day of the meeting.

Watch Live:

Online at c3gov.com/Video

On CCTV Channel 8 (HD 881) for Xfinity customers

All City Council meetings offer live Spanish interpretation services. To hear meetings in Spanish, call 720-386-9023 and enter conference code 104091*.

October 2025 Meeting Schedule:

- Monday, Oct. 6 – City Council Regular Meeting, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 13 – City Council Study Session, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 20 – City Council Regular Meeting, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 27 – City Council Study Session, 6 p.m.

City Council meeting agendas are posted online at commerce.legistar.com no later than 5 p.m. on the Friday prior to the meeting. Follow the city’s social media accounts for updates about upcoming meetings and short recap videos of actions taken during recent City Council meetings. Meeting recaps are also available at YouTube.com/CityOfCommerceCity.

For more information, visit c3gov.com/Meetings.

Introducing new "Share the Park" reservation process

Same-day shelter reservations at Pioneer and Veterans Memorial Parks

WE KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE OUR PARKS, and the shelters at Pioneer and Veterans Memorial Parks tend to get busy! To help more community members enjoy the picnic shelters at these two popular parks, we’re introducing a new, free reservation system for day-of use.

As of mid-September, shelters at Pioneer and Veterans Memorial Parks must be reserved for use. Same-day reservations are free for up to four hours through our new “Share the Park” reservation process, perfect for a quick picnic or small gathering. It’s easy to use your ActiveNet account to reserve a shelter at c3gov.com/Register, or if you don’t have internet access, simply call 303-289-3789 to check availability or make a same-day reservation.

Advance rentals are still available for larger events, birthday parties, and more to make sure you get your shelter confirmed in advance. Learn more at c3gov.com/Parks-Recreation-Golf/RentReserve-a-Space.



COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Mayor Steve Douglas
Cell: 720-379-6919
sdouglas@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2027



Mayor Pro Tem Susan Noble, Ward IV
Cell: 720-773-1773
snoble@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2027



Councilmember Oscar Madera, Ward I
Cell: 720-231-8039
omadera@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2025



Councilmember Rocky Teter, Ward II
Cell: 303-810-4336
rteter@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2027



Councilmember Renée M. Chacon, Ward III
Cell: 720-224-4204
rchacon@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2025



Councilmember Sean Ford, At-Large
Cell: 303-720-9106
sford@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2025



Councilmember Kristi Douglas, At-Large
Cell: 720-205-2627
kdouglas@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2025



Councilmember Craig Kim, At-Large
Cell: 571-293-1419
ckim@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2027



Councilmember Charles Dukes, At-Large
Cell: 720-815-6521
cdukes@c3gov.com
Term expires: 2027

Curt Holland Memorial Golf Tournament raises record amount

THE 2025 CURT HOLLAND MEMORIAL GOLF Tournament once again brought the community together for a day of fun, philanthropy, and impact in late August. Hosted by the Commerce City Police Department and the Quality Community Foundation (QCF), this year's fifth annual tournament broke the record previously set in 2022, raising more than \$82,000 to support post-secondary scholarships.

Held in honor of fallen Commerce City Police Detective Curt Holland, the annual event has become a celebrated community tradition raising over \$375,000 in the past five years. Thanks to all the participants, sponsors, volunteers, and silent auction bidders who once again made this year a huge success!



This volunteer board helps plan the tournament and serves as the decision-making body that awards scholarships and local nonprofit grants each year. Board members meet virtually once a month, and the commitment is intentionally designed to be flexible and accessible for residents and workers in Commerce City. Learn more at c3gov.com/QCF.

Join the Quality Community Foundation

SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 2006, QCF has distributed more than \$2 million in scholarships and nonprofit grants. The efforts of QCF volunteer board members ensure that these resources continue to be distributed across our community.



Right now, the Quality Community Foundation (QCF) needs more community members to step up and serve! Board members meet virtually once a month, and the commitment is designed to be flexible and accommodating for residents and people who work in Commerce City.

Joining QCF is a chance to make a direct, lasting impact and fund the future of Commerce City! Applications to join are open through Friday, Oct. 17. To learn more or apply, visit c3gov.com/Boards.

Remaining trash and recycling events for 2025

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE REMAINING FREE EVENTS to keep your home looking its best going into the holiday season!

Free Days at Republic Services Tower Landfill allow residents to dispose of large quantities of trash or large/oddly-shaped items without using your curbside bulk pickups from Republic Services. The last 2025 event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The landfill entrance is located at 19260 E. 88th Ave.



Free Green Yard Waste Drop-Off events allow residents to dispose of compostable yard waste at A1 Organics, 9109 Monaco St. The last two events of the year will take place on Saturday, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Nov. 1 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Stay up to date with holiday service and weather delays for your regular trash and recycling services by signing up for Republic Services alerts at RepublicServices.com/account/login. Visit c3gov.com/Trash for full details on the city's trash and recycling program.

Family Fright Movie Night on the Field at DICK'S Sporting Goods Park

HAVE YOU EVER WATCHED A MOVIE on the same field where the Colorado Rapids play? Now's your chance!

Join Commerce City and the Colorado Rapids for Family Fright Movie Night on the Field on Friday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. at DICK'S Sporting Goods Park, 6000 Victory Way.

Bring blankets, put on a costume, and enjoy Hotel Transylvania on a big screen. Before the movie, join the costume contest, savor tacos from Taco Bron, and explore family activities inside the stadium.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to turn the Rapids' pitch into your family's living room for the night, with bigger screens, brighter lights, and way more fun! Learn more at c3gov.com/Events.



CALENDAR

Commerce City Civic Center

7887 E. 60th Ave.
303-289-3600

Bison Ridge Recreation Center

13905 E. 112th Ave.
303-286-6800

Eagle Pointe Recreation Center

6060 Parkway Dr.
303-289-3760

For the most updated event information and to confirm if meetings are occurring virtually or in person, check out the city calendar at c3gov.com. All events and meetings are subject to be changed or rescheduled.

- Oct. 1 96th Ave. Widening Project Public Meeting, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Southlawn Elementary School, Library, 10075 Walden St.
- Oct 1 National Coffee with a Cop Day, 8 - 10 a.m. Greyhound Grounds Coffee House, 6230 Glencoe St., and Reunion Coffee House, 10601 Reunion Pkwy
- Oct. 2 Youth Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Eagle Pointe
- Oct. 3 Family Fright Movie Night on the Field: Hotel Transylvania, 7 p.m., DICK'S Sporting Good Park
- Oct. 4 Fall Fest, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Eagle Pointe
- Oct. 6 City Council Regular Meeting*, 6 p.m., Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 7 Planning Commission*, 6 p.m. , Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 7 Veterans Commission Meeting, 6 p.m., Virtual Meeting
- Oct. 8 Housing Authority, 5:45 p.m., Virtual Meeting
- Oct. 9 Senior Commission, 2 – 5 p.m., Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 10 Costumes with a Cop, 9 a.m. - noon, Civic Center
- Oct. 10 The Well ft. Pop-up Health Clinic, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., New Location: Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 6770 Monaco St.
- Oct 11 Costumes with a Cop, 9 a.m. - noon, Civic Center
- Oct. 13 City Council Study Session*, 6 p.m., Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 14 Resource Round-Up, 10-11 a.m., Eagle Pointe
- Oct. 16 Youth Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Eagle Pointe – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 18 Youth Commission Town Hall, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Civic Center
- Oct. 20 City Council Regular Meeting*, 6 p.m., Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 21 Cultural Council Meeting, 6 – 8 p.m., Canceled
- Oct. 21 Derby Review Board Meeting*, 6 p.m., Civic Center
- Oct. 21 PRG Advisory Committee Meeting, 6 p.m., Bison Ridge – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 23 Citizens Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting, 4 p.m., Civic Center, Conference Room 2108 – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 23 Environmental Policy and Innovation Commission (EPIC), 4:30 – 6 p.m., Bison Ridge
- Oct. 25 Free Day at Tower Landfill, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., Republic Services Tower Landfill, entrance at 19260 E. 88th Ave.
- Oct 25 Cultural Council annual retreat, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Oct. 27 City Council Study Session*, 6 p.m., Civic Center – Hybrid Meeting
- Oct. 29 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission Meeting, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Virtual Meeting

Live Spanish interpretation is available for this meeting. Call 720-386-9023 and enter conference code 104091 to hear the meeting in Spanish.

Commerce City secures grant for wildfire prevention

COMMERCE CITY'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM) has been awarded a \$300,000 grant from the Natural Disaster Mitigation Enterprise managed by the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This funding will bolster efforts to prevent wildfires, like the Marshall Fire, from spreading from grasslands into residential areas.

Crews have already been clearing dead brush and pruning trees along Sand Creek to reduce fire hazards, enhancing both safety and the area's appearance. From October through April 2026, mitigation efforts will shift to Second Creek Open Space to further strengthen the city's wildfire defenses. Learn more at dhsem.colorado.gov/NDME.

National Coffee With a Cop Day

JOIN YOUR COMMERCE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT for coffee and conversation on National Coffee with a Cop Day, Wednesday, Oct. 1 from 8 to 10 a.m. at Greyhound Grounds Coffee House (6230 Glencoe St.) and Reunion Coffee House (10601 Reunion Pkwy).

This annual event is all about building relationships between officers and the community; no speeches, no agendas, just open and friendly conversation. Whether you have a compliment, a concern, or simply want to get to know your local officers better, we invite you to stop by, say hello, and share what's on your mind.

Regular coffee will be provided, while other menu items will be available for purchase. Come enjoy a warm cup, good company, and a stronger connection with your Commerce City Police Department.

For more information, contact Joanna Small at jsmall@c3gov.com.

Xeriscaping: A water-wise approach to landscaping

DID YOU KNOW YOUR LANDSCAPING CHOICES can help save water while also enhancing the beauty of your yard? Last year, City Council adopted an ordinance expanding permitted areas for xeric landscaping practices within the city. This update to the city's Land Development Code reflects a growing commitment to water conservation and sustainable outdoor design.

Xeriscaping uses plants and materials needing minimal irrigation, often native or adapted species, to create vibrant, drought-resistant yards suited to Colorado's climate. It's a smart choice for your garden or front yard. Learn more about residential landscaping resources at c3gov.com/Landscaping.

VOTES

Learn about the 2025 City Council candidates

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Commerce City voters will elect council members for Ward I, Ward III, and two At-Large representatives to serve four-year terms.

All candidates listed below are certified and appear in the same order they will appear on the ballot, as determined by a random drawing. All candidates had the opportunity to submit a profile answering the same questions. Their answers to one of the questions appear below and have not been edited for style or content.

For the complete candidate profiles, including their answers to additional questions, visit c3gov.com/Elections.

CANDIDATES FOR WARD I



Lucy Molina
Age: *Not provided*
Occupations: *Not provided*
Years in the city: *Not provided*
Phone: *Not provided*
Website: *Not provided*
Email: *Not provided*

Why are you running for council?

I am running for City Council because Commerce City deserves leadership that comes from the people and serves the people. As a lifelong resident and community activist, I've seen firsthand the struggles our families face—public safety, pollution from industry, gentrification pressures, and lack of opportunities for youth. I am not only a steady voice but a STRONG VOICE that has brought millions of dollars to our community in grant funding, solar infrastructure, air monitoring, education and environmental justice. I do not steal from my community nor deliver to corporate predators. I believe the wealth of this community is in its people, not corporations or outside interests. That's why I stand for People Before Profit. Protecting public education, Protecting the environment, Expanding public transportation, Housing, Ensuring public safety, bringing back unity and community trust.



Alexander (Jake) Jacobson
Age: *Not provided*
Occupations: *Not provided*
Years in the city: *Not provided*
Phone: 720-784-1245
Website: *Not provided*
Email: aljacobson@yahoo.com

Why are you running for council?

When I first moved here to Commerce City I was very touched by just how friendly everyone was. People went out of their way to welcome me and to offer assistance with my new home. So, recently I have decided to serve them in the City council. I am looking forward to being heir representative.



José Guardiola
Age: 45
Occupations: Executive Director of College and Career
Years in the city: 42
Phone: 720-249-8869
Website: joseguardiola.com
Email: jguardiola5@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

community home since 1983. Today, I live in Belle Creek with my wife, Lisa—whom I met at Adams City High School—our son, Jose Luis, a third-generation Eagle, and our pug, Gus. I'm a proud graduate of MSU Denver and Adams State, and I currently serve as Executive Director of College and Career Readiness for Sheridan School District #2, helping students across the Denver metro area access opportunities for brighter futures.

I previously served a full term on the Commerce City Council and have spent decades working with organizations like INSPIRE, Homie Unidos, and Reaching Hope. From making Veterans Park ADA-accessible to advocating for equity in city government, I've focused on building a more inclusive and responsive city.

I'm running again to deliver on what matters most to residents: safer streets, reducing crime, addressing housing affordability and homelessness, and bringing more good-paying jobs to Commerce City. I believe in creating partnerships with businesses, nonprofits, and community leaders who want to invest in our city's future. As a proud Latino leader, I will continue fighting for accountability, diversity in leadership, and a city government that truly listens to its people.

CANDIDATES FOR WARD III



Renée M. Chacon
Age: 40
Occupations: CO Founder of a non-profit
Years in the city: 7
Phone: 720-224-4204
Website: TBD
Email: Reneemchacon@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

I am running for council because community needs equity, health, and safety protections more than ever and my works in policy can protect our communities and future generations.



Jacob Wilson
Age: 45
Occupations: Sales Professional
Years in the city: 9
Phone: *Not provided*
Website: *Not provided*
Email: votejacobwilson@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

I am running for council to strengthen Commerce City's position as one of the most attractive places in Colorado to live, work, and do business. I want to ensure we manage growth responsibly, support business development, and maintain a balanced budget that allows us to provide top-tier services without overburdening taxpayers. My goal is to bring a results-driven, business-minded approach that helps Commerce City achieve long-term prosperity.



Joanna Sandoval
Age: 37
Occupations: Business Opportunity Specialist
Years in the city: 9 Years
Phone: 720-663-9347
Website: www.Joannasandoval.com
Email: Joanna.Sandoval.87@outlook.com

Why are you running for council?

I am a hard-working wife and a mom of 5 kids that works full time and for the last 9 years I have sat on the board of my Metro District in Potomac Farms. I pride myself on the positive impact that I have had in my neighborhood, and I would love to expand that to the entire city.

I am a servant leader and I believe I can be an asset to the city, but more importantly represent the needs of my ward. I bring over 18 years of experience in small business consulting, economic development and I specialize in government procurement.

I know I possess the skillset to help address some of the challenges the city is facing.

CANDIDATES FOR AT-LARGE



Stefanie Trujillo
Age: 43
Occupations: Legal Professional/Adjunct Professor
Years in the city: 6
Phone: *Not provided*
Website: trujilloforcommercecity.com
Email: trujillo4cc@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

I am a Colorado native that has lived in Commerce City for 6 years. The reason I am running for City Council At-Large is because I am a concerned citizen. Throughout my life, I have been an advocate and servant leader at heart. My life has been and will continue to be dedicated to service. As a mother, legal professional, and community leader, I bring the lived and professional experience to move Commerce City forward and be a city where we can all thrive.

It is really important to me that our children (and future generations) can create a life here, and call Commerce City home for many years to come. As a mother who has raised two young adults establishing their independence and a young child at home, I know firsthand the challenges facing families at every stage. I understand how city decisions impact our day-to-day life, from neighborhood safety and reliable infrastructure to housing costs.

My professional background as a legal professional, and as an adjunct professor teaching property law, civil litigation, and legal research will be extremely beneficial when council is considering issues before them. As a volunteer non-profit executive, I understand the importance of partnerships. Serving as a Governor Polis Appointee to the Colorado Commission on Judicial Discipline allows me to hold public officials accountable for their actions. This same commitment to accountability will be brought to council. Recently, I helped lead an access to justice initiative at the state level, which has allowed Coloradoans to have access to more affordable legal services.

Further, I will bring transparent leadership, proven advocacy skills, and fiscal responsibility to council. I look forward to building a stronger, more equitable city that works for everyone.



Alejandro De Leon
Age: 30
Occupations: Not Applicable
Years in the city: 17
Phone: 720-982-7286
Website: alejandrodeleon.com
Email: mail@alejandrodeleon.com

Why are you running for council?

I believe Commerce City deserves thoughtful leadership that prioritizes community engagement, smart growth, and transparency. Our city has tremendous potential, but we need leaders who are committed to solving real issues like affordable housing, traffic congestion, and supporting local businesses. As a resident, I'm focused on creating a safer, more sustainable city, while ensuring that all voices are heard and respected. My goal is to work with you to foster a community where families thrive, businesses grow, and we continue to build a "Quality Community for a Lifetime."



Jennifer Allen-Thomas
Age: *Not Provided*
Occupations: Registered Nurse, Family Nurse Practitioner
Years in the city: Made in Commerce City
Phone: 303-204-3446
Website: www.jenniferallenthomas.com
Email: jatforcc@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

Living in the same house my entire in Commerce City inspires to want to get involved again, representing the people I love, which are the residents of Commerce City. Be the voice for the residents! As a prior council member for four years and Mayor Pro Tem for 2 years, Experience matters.



Kristi Douglas
Age: 71
Occupations: Semi-retired Independent Realtor
Years in the city: 21
Phone: 720-205-2627
Website: kristidouglasforcommercecity.com
Email: c3kristi@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

I am running again to continue working relentlessly toward delivering the quality community for a lifetime that we all should not only expect but truly deserve. I believe that if we work in partnership with those who look to do business here, especially those who look to do both – run a business and/or work and live here - we all can thrive like nowhere else. I call it living up to our potential. We are at a crossroads, and now is the time to ensure we take the path that takes us all into an amazingly prosperous future.



Lori Young
Age: 54
Occupations: Executive Director, Adams 14 Education Foundation
Years in the city: 20
Phone: (720) 218-7680
Website: <https://www.loriforcommercecity.com/>
Email: loriyoungspeaker@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

As a 20-year resident and devotee of much of my career to Commerce City, I have the experience, expertise, and steadfast commitment to effective leadership our city needs. I raised my family here and care deeply about our city. I want to give back to the city that's helped my family to thrive. Commerce City is a community of passionate, dedicated people. Our residents possess a wealth of knowledge to contribute to the growth of our community. I'm passionate about bringing trust, collaboration and vision to our city's leadership. I believe the experience I've accumulated sets me up to make an impact on day one.

My desire to be a City Councilmember is a culmination of the years of service and my commitment to give back to the community in the following capacities:

- Currently: Executive Director of the Adams 14 Education Foundation where we develop tomorrow's talent through teacher grants, student scholarships and community leadership programs.
- Previous Development Director of Community Uplift Partnership (CUP), opening Reunion Coffee House in 2018
- Currently Vice President of the Commerce City Chamber of Commerce
- Current President Elect of the Commerce City Rotary Club



Michelle Deon Lee
Age: 54
Occupations: CEO/ Franchise Partner Seniors Helping Seniors/ The Lash Lounge /Lash & Brow/ Public Service advocate
Years in the city: 10year
Phone: 303-483-9822
Website: <https://yourrightsmatters.org/>
Email: *Not provided*

Why are you running for council?

I have dedicated over 30 years of my life to public service, working across federal, state, and local levels. My extensive experience has provided me with a deep understanding of how laws, rules, ordinances, and statutes that govern our city all originate from strong, effective city council leadership. I am a people's person and take pride in being a voice for the community. I champion the needs and concerns of residents, ensuring that their voices are heard and their interests are truly represented. My commitment is to serve with integrity, empathy, and a focus on building a better, more inclusive Commerce City for everyone.

Recently, I attended a city council meeting and noticed what was missing was direct community involvement. My goal is to increase community participation so that residents have a stronger voice in decision-making and their concerns are front and center in our city's development. I believe that a thriving city is built on active engagement and open communication with its residents



Ryan Keefer
Age: 43
Occupations: Managing Director
Years in the city: 4
Phone: (303) 800-7566
Website: <https://www.keefe4council.com>
Email: RyanKeeferForC3@gmail.com

Why are you running for council?

I'm running because I believe Commerce City deserves leadership that listens, asks hard questions, and puts residents first. As president of the North Range Metropolitan District #1 board and a member of the city's Planning and Zoning Commission, I've seen firsthand how decisions made today will shape our community for decades. Too often, those decisions have favored outside interests over the people who live and work here.

I want to use my experience and my voice to ensure that growth is balanced, transparent, and fiscally responsible. My goal is simple: to make Commerce City a place where families can thrive, businesses want to invest, and residents know their concerns are heard and acted upon.

Stay connected with the city: Register for email alerts from the city at c3gov.com/Subscribe. Report a city concern at c3gov.com/AccessC3. Submit your comments or questions on published stories with Connected Editor Javi Bañuelos at Jbanuelos@c3gov.com.

COUNCIL CORNER



Mayor Pro Tem
Susan Noble,
Ward IV

One of the greatest strengths of Commerce City is the way neighbors care for one another. This spirit of connection is what makes the community strong, and it's what will carry our city forward into the future. At the heart of any future are the children who deserve every chance to grow up safe, healthy and free from fear.

Safety also extends to every resident, to making sure they feel secure and valued, no matter their background. Members of our valued and diverse population should be able to walk children to school, shop at local stores, or enjoy a park without fear or uncertainty. When everyone feels safe and is safe, the bonds of trust grow stronger, and

the entire city benefits.

Everyone in Commerce City will benefit with more shopping, dining, and entertainment choices close to home. Strong retail development elevates our economy, creates local jobs, and generates sales tax revenue that funds essential service. In just the past two years, our Economic Development team has grown from three to seven people, giving us more capacity to bring in the kinds of businesses that make our community stronger and more vibrant. Advocating for the kinds of businesses that ensure you stay local remains a priority.

Fiscal responsibility is just as important. Every tax dollar represents hard work and should be treated with care. That's why accountability and transparency are essential. As a councilmember in the middle of my second term, guarding your hard-earned tax dollars means asking tough questions because I know you expect your money to go toward the things that matter—public safety, good roads, and the services and amenities we all use.

Looking ahead, Commerce City can embrace innovative development that recognizes Commerce City's changing climate, creates walkable neighborhoods, provides opportunities for all incomes and enhances our community to make our city even more vibrant. Thoughtfully designed people-friendly spaces can create healthier and more livable city for everyone. At the same time, new homeowners should be protected from unfair costs created by developer-friendly state laws that allow taxation without representation.

Ensuring that every resident's voice is heard and valued remains essential to building a fair and thriving community. I want to encourage you to take part in the upcoming municipal election on Nov. 4. It's one of the most important ways we can all shape the future of Commerce City, and your vote truly makes a difference.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Final 2025 Yard of the Month winners

WE ARE PROUD TO RECOGNIZE the last group of Yard of the Month winners for this year, closing out another successful season of celebrating residents who go above and beyond to make their homes, and our community, look its best! The following households were nominated by the community and recognized by staff for their dedicated yard care.

The program is part of the city's MyC3 initiative, which encourages residents to get involved in projects and activities that improve neighborhoods and foster community pride. From maintaining beautiful yards to participating in citywide programs, MyC3 inspires residents to take small steps that make a big difference in how Commerce City looks and feels.



Ward I: 10779 Akron St.



Ward II: 6190 Olive St.



Ward III: 11336 River Oaks Ln.



Ward IV: 16822 Parkside Dr. S

Congratulations to all of this summer's winners for their contributions! To learn more about the MyC3 program and find ways to get involved in making your home and neighborhood shine, visit c3gov.com/MyC3.



Turn in unneeded medication for safe disposal

Saturday, Oct. 25
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

King Soopers
Reunion Marketplace Center
15051 E. 104th Ave. Commerce City

Keep them safe.
Clean them out.
Take them back.

Visit DEATakeBack.com



FREE

COSTUMES WITH A COP

Saturday, Oct. 11
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Commerce City Police Department at the Civic Center
7887 E. 60th Ave. (east side along Trenten Street)

- FIRST COME, FIRST COSTUMED
- SIZES INFANT TO TEEN
- CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT

Commerce City Police Department

Fall Fest is back!

Get ready for some fall fun! Commerce City's annual Fall Fest returns for its fifth year on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park and Eagle Pointe Recreation Center, 6060 Parkway Dr. This free, family-friendly event has something for everyone, including live music, food trucks, a beer garden, arts and crafts, a pumpkin patch, inflatables, and more! Bring the whole family and celebrate the season with us. Learn more at c3gov.com/Events.

Youth Commission Town Hall

Join the Youth Commission for a special town hall on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Civic Center. This event is a great opportunity to hear about the priorities of various city boards and commissions. You'll also learn how to get involved and help strengthen collaboration between these groups and the community. We hope to see you there! For more information, visit c3gov.com/Recreation.

Discovery Kids (Ages 3 – 5)

Discovery Kids is an interactive class session with a focus on skill building, independence, and hands-on fun! Different themes and activities each month. All classes are interactive and hands-on fun! Happening Tuesdays through Thursdays during October.

Oct. 7 -30	2-4 p.m.	\$120/\$160	Bison Ridge	7152.301
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Junior Jam (Ages 3-5)

Enjoy a night out while we keep the kids entertained with games, crafts, music, and Storytime! A quick note: If your child isn't toilet-trained, we kindly ask that a parent stay in the recreation center during the program.

Mini Fall Fest

Friday, Oct. 10	6-8:30 p.m.	\$15/\$20	Bison Ridge	7172.301
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Trick or Treat Street Wear your Halloween Costume

Friday, Oct. 24	6-8:30 p.m.	\$15/\$20	Bison Ridge	7172.302
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Chatter & Play (Ages 6 Months- 2 years with adults)

Come join the joyful interactions and enriching conversations that aid your child's growth and development. Let's create cherished moments together! Price is per child.

Wednesday, Oct. 15	9-9:45 a.m.	\$5/\$10	Bison Ridge	7195.302
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Sight, Sounds & Stories (Ages 6 Months- 2 Years with adult)

A hands-on class for tots & parents to explore stories through sensory play. This class encourages fine motor skills and curiosity! Price is per child.

Thursday, Oct. 23	9-9:45 a.m.	\$5/\$10	Bison Ridge	7195.303
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Tots and Fam (Ages 2.5- 4 with adult)

Laugh, learn, and grow together in this joyful class designed for toddlers and their favorite grown-ups! Whether you're a parent, grandparent, aunt, or uncle, you're invited to join the fun. Each session includes playful games, music, movement, creative activities, and more—all designed to spark curiosity and strengthen bonds. Tot & Fam is the perfect way to connect, explore, and make lasting memories with your little one. Price is per child.

Mondays, Oct. 6 – 20	9-9:45 a.m.	\$20/\$25	Bison Ridge	7192.302
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Story Times Together (Ages 6 Months- 2 Years old with adult)

Story Time and Together Kids, where imagination comes alive, and every story is an adventure waiting to unfold! This engaging course is designed for young learners who are eager to explore the magical world of storytelling while building essential social skills through collaborative reading time. Price is per child.

Wednesdays, Oct. 8 – 22	10-10:45 a.m.	\$20/\$25	Bison Ridge	7192.303
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NEW Grand Adventures (Ages 6-11 with a Grandparent)

A heartwarming program that connects grandparents and grandchildren through memorable trips and activities. Together, explore new places, share stories, and create lasting bonds while discovering the joys of adventure and the magic of family.

Trinity Acres Pumpkin Patch

Monday, Oct. 13	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	\$20/\$25	Bison Ridge	7262.301
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Cake Bakers Club (Ages 7-14)

Come on this cake-making adventure where you'll learn how to bake from scratch, layer like a pro, and decorate with style. Each week will focus on a new skill, from mixing batter and crafting fillings to mastering piping techniques and creating stunning designs. The final class will be a special celebration where you'll showcase your finished cake and share your sweet success with family!

Wednesdays, Oct. 1 – Oct. 29	5-7 p.m.	\$50/\$55	Bison Ridge	7375.301
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PARKS & REC HAPPENINGS

Bison Ridge Recreation Center 13905 E. 112th Ave. 303-286-6800	Eagle Pointe Recreation Center 6060 Parkway Dr. 303-289-3760	Buffalo Run Golf Course 15700 E. 112th Ave. 303-289-1500 BuffaloRunGolfCourse.com
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**Commerce City Recreation**

**Commerce CITY**



Free Entry

Saturday, Oct. 4
11 A.M. - 5 P.M.
EAGLE POINTE RECREATION CENTER
6060 PARKWAY DR.
Enjoy Family-Friendly Activities
LIVE MUSIC - FOOD TRUCKS - ARTS & CRAFTS - PUMPKIN PATCH
BEER GARDEN - INFLATABLES & MORE!

c3gov.com/Recreation | 303-289-3760

Register for the Buffalo Run 5k!

Lace up your sneakers and get ready to run! Registration is officially open for the Run with the Buffalo Ugly Sweater Fun Run on Saturday, Dec. 6 at Buffalo Run Golf Course. Whether you're a serious runner or just looking for a fun walk, everyone is welcome. We're excited to be a full, registered 5k race this year! Register by Oct. 27 to get \$5 off with our early bird special. For more information and to sign up, visit c3gov.com/Events.



**Bison Grill**
Buffalo Run
Golf Course

New Hours at Bison Grill

Fall is here, and we are excited to welcome the new season with adjusted hours at Bison Grill. Starting Monday, Sept. 15, you can enjoy your favorite meals and drinks during our new schedule:

- Sunday - Thursday: 6:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Friday - Saturday: 6:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Come on in, get cozy, and join us for a meal! Call 303-289-1500 to make your reservation.



South Adams County Water & Sanitation District

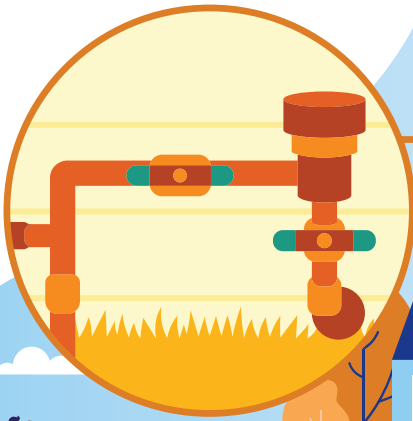
6595 E. 70th Ave. Commerce City, CO 80022 • 303-288-2646

REMINDER

Starting October 15, please begin shutting down your irrigation system for the season.



For step-by-step instructions, scan the QR code to watch the District's how-to video or visit **SouthAdamsWaterCO.gov/Irrigation**. If you have any questions, call SACWSD Customer Service at **303-288-2646**.



Public Hearings for Proposed 2026 Budget and Rates

The District Board of Directors will hold Public Hearings at the November and December Regular Meetings to receive public comment regarding the proposed 2026 budget, and rate and fee changes. At the December Public Meeting, the Board will decide to approve, modify, or reject the proposals, and a decision may be deferred or continued to a future public meeting of the Board. The Public Meeting dates, time, and place are as follows:

Date: November 12 and December 10, 2025
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: District Administration Building
6595 E. 70th Avenue
Commerce City, Colorado 80022



The District's proposed 2025 budget and rates are established to cover the costs of providing reliable water and wastewater services to our customers.

To receive a copy of the proposed 2026 budget and rate and fee changes please contact Byron Jefferson at BJefferson@sacwsd.org. For questions or comments regarding the 2026 budget or rates please contact us through the District website's "Contact Us" form or call the District main office at 303-288-2646.

Follow Us on Social Media:



[Facebook.com/SACWSD](https://www.facebook.com/SACWSD)



[LinkedIn.com/company/South-Adams-County-Water-and-Sanitation-District](https://www.linkedin.com/company/South-Adams-County-Water-and-Sanitation-District)



[Instagram.com/SouthAdamsCountyWater](https://www.instagram.com/SouthAdamsCountyWater)



[Nextdoor.com/Pages/South-Adams-County-Water-Sanitation-District](https://www.nextdoor.com/Pages/South-Adams-County-Water-Sanitation-District)