



## TWO ELECTED AND TWO RE-ELECTED IN CENTENNIAL

Centennial voters have elected two new City Council Members Ken Lucas and Stephanie Piko and re-elected Council Member Vorry Moon and Council Member Keith Gardner. City Council terms are four years. The election results for the City of Centennial are:



### **Vorry Moon, Council Member District 1**

Incumbent Vorry Moon ran against Sharon West and Jack Walmsley. Moon filled the vacated seat of Ron Phelps in 2010 and is currently Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Moon received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics Education

from Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN. He is a retired US Air Force pilot, a member of the Arapahoe Highlands Civic Association, Omega Psi Psi Fraternity, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and immediate past President of the Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.



### **Keith Gardner, Council Member District 2**

Incumbent Keith Gardner is the incumbent for this seat on City Council and defeated Craig Klosterman and Matt Jordan. Council Member Gardner is a Software Quality Assurance Specialist and graduated from

the University of Northern Colorado. He serves as a City representative on the Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable, a liaison to Littleton Public Schools and the

South Metro Fire Protection District. He is also a member of Centennial's Land Use Committee.



### **Ken Lucas, Council Member elect District 3**

Ken Lucas ran against Andrea Suhaka. Lucas is a Navy combat Veteran with more than 25 years of executive management experience in finance, accounting and internal audit. He has served as CEO, CFO on numerous boards of directors and is a small business owner. He is past

president of the Foxridge Homeowner's Association, and has been a precinct leader and election judge. Currently, Lucas is a member of the Centennial Budget Committee.

### **Stephanie Piko, Council Member elect District 4**

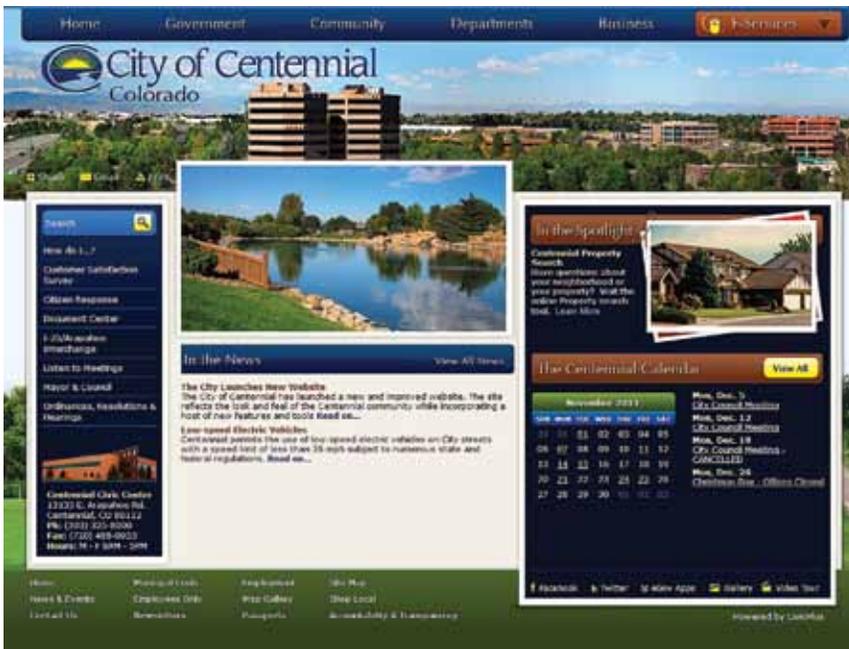


Stephanie Piko defeated Maelyn "Mac" Stringer for this seat on City Council. Piko is a Computer Technician for the Cherry Creek School District. She is Chair of the Open Space Advisory Board, was part of the committee to develop the Parks, Trails & Open Space Master Plan for the City and serves as an

alternate on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Currently Piko is President of her Homeowner's Association in Orchard Valley.

All newly elected officials will be sworn in January 4, 2012.

# CITY UNVEILS NEW, IMPROVED WEBSITE



news items and emergency alerts. Favorite pages may be saved within 'My Dashboard' making information easier to find.

- "iCalendar" allows users to import internet calendars and/or events into their personal calendar applications (Microsoft Outlook, Apple iCal, Google Calendar and Most Smart Phone Desktop Applications). Users can add a single event or subscribe to the entire calendar for automatic updates.
- "Resources iPhone App" links the iPhone to the online Resource Directory. This directory lists community services, local businesses and non-profit organizations serving Centennial. A description of the service or business contact information, web addresses and direction for each resource is listed in the Resource Directory.

The City of Centennial has launched a new and improved website. The website, [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com) has a fresh new design providing visitors a more user-friendly and interactive experience. The site reflects the look and feel of the Centennial community while incorporating a host of new features and tools designed to help residents, visitors and community partners quickly locate the information and services they need. The new website is easy to navigate and presents information in a variety of formats.

Some of the site's new interactive features include:

- "My Dashboard" is a customized viewing experience. Visitors may choose the modules, features, keywords and favorite pages they would like to view most often including calendars,

- "Photo Gallery" allows users to view photos or slideshows. Select a picture to view full size or to give it a "Thumbs Up" to vote for a spot in the "People's Choice" spotlight.

The City plans to continue enhancements to the site. In 2012, the site will offer the "Facilities iPhone App" where users can search Centennial Center Park's availability, browse its amenities, view maps and photos of the facility, retrieve location information and reserve the space, if available. In addition, the site will offer the "Citizen Request Tracker iPhone App" and "Citizen Request Tracker Facebook App" which allows citizens to report issues such as potholes, graffiti, down streets lights, etc. to the City and track requests and comments.

## 2011 Street Rehabilitation Programs Completed

Each year the City appropriates capital improvement funds to improve streets throughout the City. There are four programs that occur each year:

- Concrete Replacement – repair of damaged concrete curb and gutter along streets that are to receive new pavement.
- Surface Treatment Program – a thin layer of new asphalt to extend the life of the pavement surface. The City began implementing this program in 2008.

- Asphalt Overlays – milling (grinding) of existing asphalt, patching of damaged pavement and placement of a new asphalt layer on the surface.
- Street Reconstruction – complete removal of all asphalt pavement, treatment of the soil beneath the pavement and placement of new asphalt.

Streets are evaluated each year and a ranking list is established based on nine different criteria, including

maintenance cost, pavement condition, visual observation and citizen requests among others.

### 2011 Highlights:

- Completion of 14 centerline miles of surface treatment, 10.3 centerline miles of overlays and 1.3 centerline miles of street reconstruction;
- Tested pavement rejuvenator surface treatment on Alton Way and Otero Ave. that provides extended pavement life;
- Assessed cape seal treatment (slurry seal on top of chip seal).

# Sharing the Road... Improvements for Bicyclists and Pedestrians in Centennial

The City of Centennial recently completed construction of 18 miles of new on-street bike lanes with striping and signage throughout the City. This project is part of a city-wide biking network connecting parks, schools, and existing trails.

Phase I of the Centennial Regional Trail Link was completed in October providing a safe and easily accessible non motorized east west trail connection to Peabody Elementary School, Goodson Recreation Center, deKoevend Regional Park and the High Line Canal trail enhancing recreation and transportation opportunities for the south metro area.

The Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan recognizes the need to increase pedestrian and bicycle connectivity across the community.

The Master Plan identifies a network of community trails to focus funding of Open Space dollars to effectively create a community wide trail system. On-street bike lanes are a critical component to achieving this goal.

The Master Plan states, "This is the first Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan to be completed by the City of Centennial since the City was incorporated in 2001. As such, it establishes a far-reaching vision to transform the City's "green space" system into its "outdoor living room," where parks become the community's social heart, where prairie drainage ways become the backbone of its open space, and where a rich network of pathways connects residents to the City's amenities."

The use and restrictions of bike lanes is currently governed by the official signage and markings placed along the roadway. The City has placed and will continue to maintain traffic control devices such as directional signage on its streets and highways to regulate, warn, or guide traffic conforming to the Model

of Traffic Code (MTC) and the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

## Colorado Bicycle Law

Bicyclists are allowed to ride on public streets according to Colorado law. Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) provides laws regarding the operation of many different types of vehicles including motor vehicles, low-power scooters and bicycles. Driver's licenses are required for motor vehicles and low-powered scooters; however they are not required for bicycles by state law. Bicycles require no registration, title or driver's license.

Bicyclists are required to follow the same "rules of the road" as other vehicles on Colorado's roads and can in fact be issued a citation by a law enforcement officer for not following the law.

Colorado is a yield to pedestrian state, meaning a complete stop is not necessary when pedestrians are present. However, it is strongly encouraged.

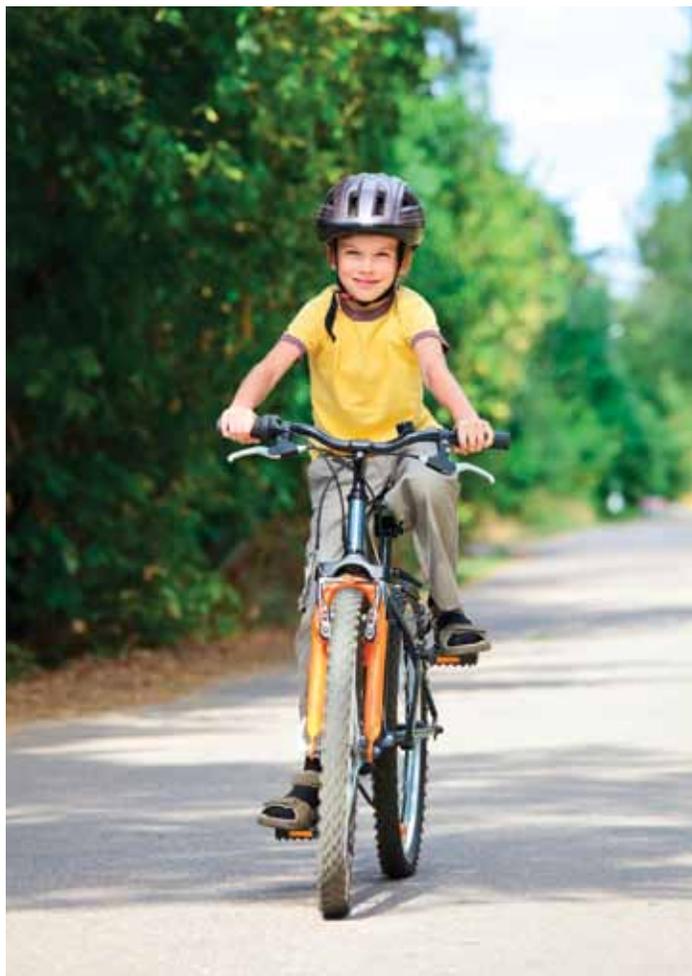
## Parking Near and Crossing a Bike Lane

It is legal, although discouraged, to cross a solid white line pavement marking in the State of Colorado. When making a right hand turn along a marked bike lane, a car should move into the bike lane before the intersection by first signaling the lane merge, then yielding to any bicycles in the lane,

then merging right into the curb lane, and then finally making the actual turn when safe. All motorists should exercise caution when crossing a bike lane when bicyclists are present.

## Lane Widths and Striping

Striping of the bike lanes is designed to have 10' car travel lanes on each side. (A 10' travel lane for cars is the recommended minimum width for a street posted at 30 mph).





## MILE HIGH YOUTH CORPS HELPS RESTORE OPEN SPACE



Great Outdoors Colorado awarded the City of Centennial a grant of \$31,798 to remove Russian Olive trees from the 107 acre Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space. The Mile High Youth Corps removed these "invasive" trees in order to restore this area. Clearance and removal of the Russian Olive trees allows for the replanting of native

Colorado trees, grasses and plants which will bring the area back to a healthy environment with improved conditions for wildlife.

Additionally, there is potential for the restoration of the "riparian" or river habitat within the open space which includes more than a mile of the Cherry Creek. The Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space is located just west of Tagawa Gardens near Parker Rd. and Broncos Pkwy.

A crew of eight workers from the Mile High Youth Corp cut 258 Russian Olive trees. They were trained to safely use chainsaws and then cut and cleared the trees to be hauled from the site and recycled into mulch to prevent future spreading.

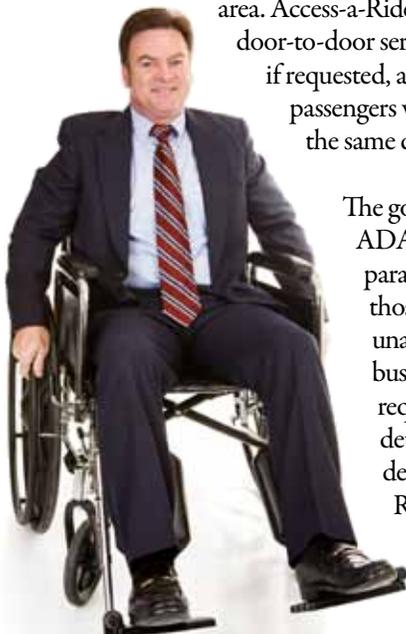
The Mile High Youth Corps serves 15 counties including Metro Denver and the Southern Front Range Regions of Colorado. The mission of Mile High Youth Corps is to help youth make a difference in themselves and their community through meaningful service opportunities and educational experiences.



*Russian Olive tree*

## Eligibility Criteria for RTD's "Access-a-Ride" Service

Access-a-Ride is an RTD service that provides local bus transportation for people with disabilities. This service helps individuals who cannot access the fixed-route bus and light rail system to maintain their freedom to travel around the metro area. Access-a-Ride offers curbside and door-to-door service with driver assistance if requested, as well as subscriptions for passengers who make regular trips to the same destination.



The governing regulations of the ADA law state the purpose of paratransit service is to serve those individuals who are unable to navigate the regular bus service. Transit agencies are required to provide an eligibility determination process. To develop the eligibility process, RTD used an advisory committee consisting of service providers, agency professionals

and members of the disabled community. Performing functional assessments offers RTD staff an opportunity to clearly determine an individual's ability or in-ability to perform the functions required to use regular buses and assures that those truly in need of service are able to receive it. Service is provided within a 3/4 mile of a fixed, local RTD route.

Depending on the nature and severity of an individual's disability, each assessment can range from a face-to-face interview which may or may not include an indoor and outdoor functional assessment. Candidates must provide a physician's statement to verify their disability.

To travel on Access-a-Ride, you must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Be unable to get to and from a bus stop or on and off a lift-equipped bus by yourself;
2. Have a cognitive disability that prohibits your understanding of how to complete bus trips

There are occasions when an individual is eligible for conditional service based on their individual needs. For more information, please call 303-299-2960.

# 2012 BUDGET APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

On November 7th, the 2011 Revised / 2012 Annual Budgets were approved by City Council. The 2011 Revised / 2012 Annual Budgets are balanced and provide the legal basis for the City to appropriate funds and spend money.

## Revenues

Revenues in 2011 increased from \$52.4 million to \$65.6 million. This increase is due to several factors, including an increase of sales tax collections and property valuation at The Streets at SouthGlenn, the annexation in April 2011 of Centennial Promenade Retail Center, and the opening of IKEA Centennial in July 2011 (located near I-25 and County Line Rd.). The City has focused on its Sales and Use Tax Compliance Program throughout 2011 resulting in increased compliance with the City's ordinance regarding licensing requirements and an increase in audit revenues from City retailers.

The City continues to expect greater compliance levels from current vendors through an increase in licensed vendors located outside of the City but doing business in Centennial. Many of these vendors were not previously licensed or collecting and remitting City sales tax. The City's property tax is also slightly higher than expected based on the certification of property tax provided at the end of 2010 by Arapahoe County. Other grant revenues increased \$2.3 million primarily as a result of Open

Space grants through the Arapahoe County Open Space Grant Program and the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund. A \$3 million increase in federal grant revenue was received; the funds were primarily from Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) grants, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The 2012 revenues for all funds are budgeted at \$61.8 million, which is a 17.9% increase from the 2011 Adopted revenues of \$52.4. Sales and property tax revenues are the largest sources of the increase.

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City and represents 82% of the City's total revenue sources. In 2012, budgeted revenues for the General Fund are expected to increase from the 2011 Adopted Budget by \$4.3 million (9.2%). This increase is primarily due to a projected increase in sales tax, automobile use tax, and other fines and fees partially offset by a decline in property tax as a result of a reduction in estimated property valuations.

## Expenditures

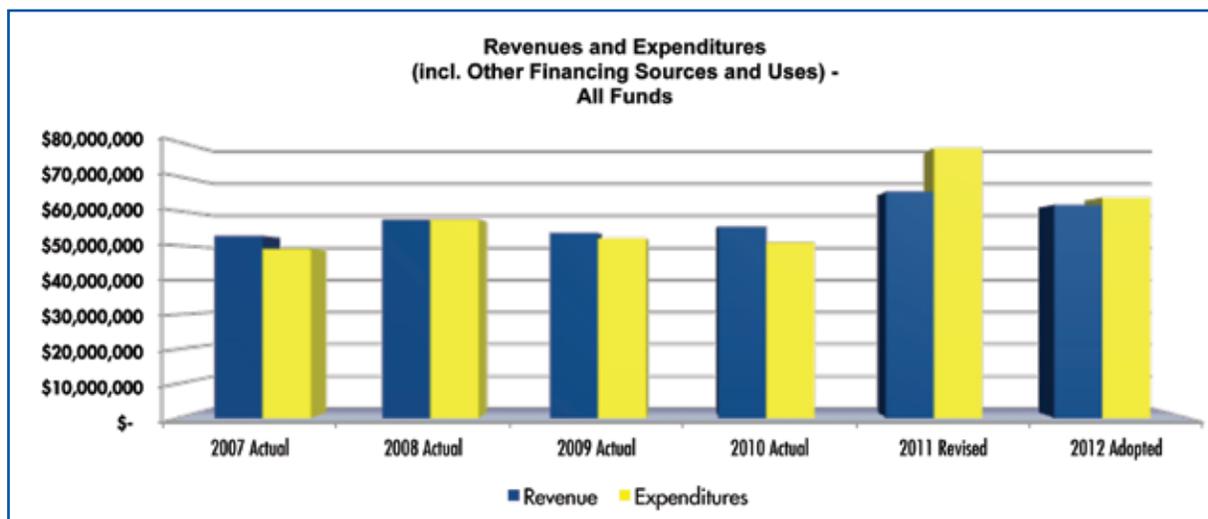
2011 expenditures for all funds are revised from \$53.2 million to \$78.3 million. The \$25.1 million increase is primarily due to Council's commitment to capital projects

(\$2.8 million) and the carry forward of funding for capital projects that were in progress but incomplete at the end of 2010 (\$15.4 million). City Council approved and appropriated funding for several major capital projects in the 2010 Open Space, Conservation Trust, and Capital Improvement Funds. Those projects not completed in 2010 are re-appropriated in the 2011 Revised Budget, including the Centennial Center Park, several City-wide trail projects, and major street and intersection improvement projects.

Additionally, funding has been programmed in the 2011 Revised Budget for revenue sharing agreements as a result of retail developments (\$6.3 million). Fund balances in the General Improvement Districts have been appropriated for use in 2011 should the General Improvement Districts need additional funding for projects (\$0.4 million).

The 2012 expenditures are budgeted at \$63.9 million, which is a 20% increase from the 2011 Budget. The increase primarily results from economic development based incentive agreements, which are directly tied to related revenue sources, contractual obligations required by service providers, and other expenditures such as gas, asphalt, concrete and other materials.

*continued on page 6*



# LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC VEHICLES PERMITTED ON CITY STREETS

Centennial permits the use of low-speed electric vehicles on City streets with a speed limit of less than 35 mph subject to numerous state and federal regulations. Golf carts are not permitted. Under Colorado Revised Statutes § 42-1-102 (48.6), low-speed electric vehicles:

- are self-propelled utilizing electricity as the primary propulsion method;
- have at least three wheels in contact with the ground;
- do not require handlebars to steer; and
- exhibit the manufacturer's compliance with federal regulations or display a vehicle identification number (VIN) in compliance with federal law.

Because low-speed electric vehicles are encompassed within the statutory

definition of "motor vehicle," all regulations pertaining to motor vehicles must be met. The specific requirements such as taxes, fees, titling, plates, insurance and registration are outlined in Colorado Revised Statutes Title 42. For example, low-speed electric vehicles must be plated with the standard green and white passenger license plates and must display current month and year stickers.

To be legally operable on City streets, low-speed electric vehicles must also have the required safety equipment such as head lamps, turn signals and mirrors. Additionally, state law mandates that a triangular slow-moving emblem be displayed on the rear of all low-speed electric vehicles driven under 25 mph.

Low-speed electric vehicles are also regulated on the federal level under

the Code of Federal Regulations and must confirm with applicable federal manufacturing equipment standards. Low-speed electric vehicles must exhibit the manufacturer's compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations or display a vehicle identification number (VIN) as provided in the Federal Regulations.



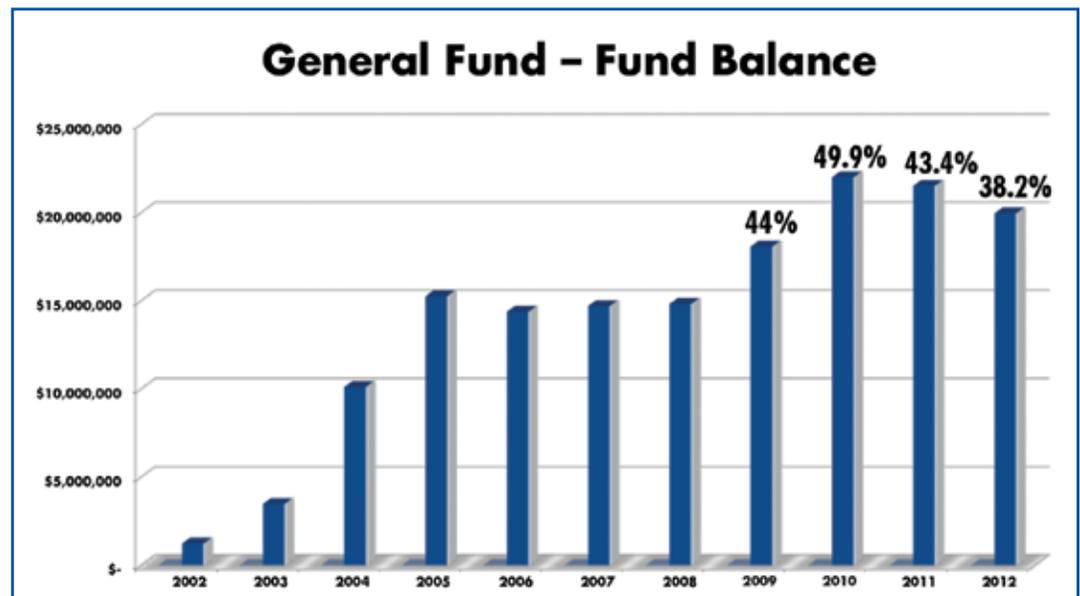
## 2012 Budget, cont.'d.

General Fund expenditures, including transfers, are expected to increase from the 2011 Adopted Budget by \$4.8 million (10.2%), primarily due to the City's contractual obligations with public works and public safety service providers, in addition to revenue sharing agreements as a result of retail developments.

the Fund Balance for use in enhancing the street maintenance program in the 2011 Revised / 2012 Adopted Budget, the City anticipates the 2012 ending General Fund – Fund Balance for 2012 to be nearly \$20 million, or about 38.2% of total General Fund expenditures and other financing sources.

### Fund Balance

A healthy fund balance is important to the fiscal strength of the City. It's the City's policy to maintain a General Fund - Fund Balance equal to at least 25% of General Fund expenditures and other financing uses. The City's General Fund - Fund Balance has been well above 25% for the last six years and reached as high as 50% in 2010. The 2011 projection is anticipated to be near 43.4%. In consideration of the deliberate withdrawal from





## CITY OF CENTENNIAL OFFICES

### City of Centennial Offices

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#### Comments and questions:

Allison Wittern, 303-754-3443

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**Main Telephone Number for all City Information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

# 303-325-8000

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

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### Vorry Moon, Council, District 1, Mayor Pro Tem

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## SIGN UP FOR INFO

### Emergency Notification

[www.ArapahoeSheriff.org](http://www.ArapahoeSheriff.org)

### City News - e-News Sign Up

[www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)



Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mayor Cathy Noon is at the Centennial Civic Center to speak with Centennial citizens about ideas, concerns, questions— just about anything that's on your mind. Stop by and say hello!

## Stay Connected!

Keep your neighborhood informed! The City of Centennial wants to make sure that your neighborhood is involved and receives up-to-date information on the latest happenings in the City.

The City believes in transparency; please help us provide the information that's important to you.

By registering, the City has the opportunity to communicate with you about development projects, construction, community events, City meetings and emergency activities.

To register, visit our website at [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com), go to the "Community" section and click "Residents" and then "Neighborhoods;" or call the City at 303-325-8000.

## WINTER MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS AND GUTTERS WITHIN THE CITY OF CENTENNIAL

The City of Centennial's Snow and Ice Plan helps direct our limited resources to address those conditions and circumstances that best serve the greatest population within our community. The City of Centennial's primary focus during the winter snow season is to keep the main arterials and collector streets throughout the City safe for travel.

Due to limited funding and resources, it is simply not possible to clear ice and snow from the approximately 800 miles of sidewalks or the residential streets throughout the City. The City depends on neighbor-to-neighbor cooperation, requesting residents and businesses to voluntarily assist by shoveling the walks directly in front of their property or adjacent to their property within 24 hours after the snowstorm ends.

Residents are asked shovel the snow from driveways and sidewalks onto their yards and not into the street where it can melt, refreeze and cause problems in the future. Clearing snow from gutter areas and pruning shade trees that are on the south side of a street will help reduce ice build-up problems.

### Centennial Public Works crews plow streets in the following order:

- Priority 1 roadways- major arterial streets, streets with four or more travel lanes and streets that provide access for fire stations, the Sheriff's Office and hospitals.
- Priority 2 roadways- minor arterial and major collector streets that connect major arterial streets to residential streets, including school zones, major office areas and larger retail establishments.

The complete Snow and Ice Plan can be found on the City's website at: <http://www.centennialcolorado.com/index.aspx?NID=396>

**Questions? Call 303-325-8000  
or visit [www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)**