

# CENTENNIAL CONNECTION

## Autumn 2023

A publication by the City of Centennial



Centennial Center Park Amphitheater



### 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 your convenience by visiting [centennialco.gov/meetthemayor](https://centennialco.gov/meetthemayor).



## INSIDE OUR CITY

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## ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

The City of Centennial has partnered with Arapahoe County and other local organizations to address homelessness in the community. The City and County have established a new role, the Centennial Homeless Outreach Liaison, to help reduce the number of people living in tent encampments, vehicles, or other inadequate and unsafe housing situations.

Vanessa Gates was selected to fill the role, and since coming on board in March, Ms. Gates has conducted outreach with unhoused individuals and families throughout the City, connecting them with available resources from service providers for basic needs like housing, food, clothing, hygiene, and healthcare.

The City has already seen positive outcomes from Ms. Gates efforts. In one case earlier this summer, she made multiple outreach visits to an unhoused

couple living together in a tent that would soon be cleared out and removed by law enforcement. Through her tireless efforts, Ms. Gates was able to get the couple accepted into a transitional housing program. Another success story saw Ms. Gates working with several faith-based organizations to connect a family with two young children under 2 years old. They had been living in their car in Centennial and were assisted with resources to cover their immediate basic needs, as well as transportation out of state to reunite them with family members who could provide them with housing and help get them back on their feet. We are excited to see the long-term impact that the Homeless Outreach program will have for those that are unsheltered or at risk of becoming unhoused in our community.

Want to learn more? Call **303-325-8000** or visit [centennialco.gov/homelessness](https://centennialco.gov/homelessness).



VANESSA GATES  
Centennial Homeless  
Outreach Liaison

# VOTE

## NOVEMBER 7 • ELECTION DAY YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR VOTE.

**Voting Reminder** - Ballots start mailing Oct. 16, Vote Nov. 7.

Elections for a seat on City Council occur every two years in odd numbered years, on the first Tuesday in November. Nine candidates are running to fill four seats in the November 7, 2023 election.

View the candidates at [centennialco.gov/election](https://centennialco.gov/election).  
Visit [arapahoevotes.com](https://arapahoevotes.com) for latest election and voting information.



## EPIC Campus for Innovative Education

The City of Centennial is excited to welcome the EPIC Campus to the Littleton Public Schools community for Centennial residents and their families to Explore Pathways for Innovative Careers (EPIC)! Students will experience hands-on learning, technology, and innovation for seven in-demand career pathways.

EPIC Pathways:

- Aerospace
- Business & Entrepreneurship
- Computer Science
- Construction Trades
- Future Educator
- Health Sciences
- Natural Resources

We're excited for the next generation and their future EPIC education and impact! *#ItsGoingToBeEpic*



The City's vision is to have a connected community where neighborhoods matter, businesses are valued, and innovation absolute. Centennial works with local businesses and regional partners to establish and maintain a vibrant and diverse local economy. This includes retail centers where there have been major shifts in consumer behavior to online shopping and an increase in an overall desirable customer experience.

The City recognizes retail is at a crossroads and is proactively working with property owners, developers, and businesses, to address experience, creativity, customer engagement and vitality to re-energize retail centers throughout Centennial. Having an active and lively retail space for our neighborhoods to enjoy and be proud of is why the City initiated a Retail Center Revitalization Program for various corridors. To learn more, visit [centennialco.gov/retailcorridors](https://centennialco.gov/retailcorridors) or sign up for the "Retail Center Revitalization" updates at [centennialco.gov/notifications](https://centennialco.gov/notifications).

## Proposition 123

The City of Centennial is actively studying housing issues, including those related to Proposition 123, which aims to address affordable housing concerns across Colorado. Proposition 123, approved by voters statewide in November 2022, established the State Affordable Housing Fund, allocating 40% of funds to the Affordable Housing Support Fund managed by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and 60% to the Affordable Housing Financing Fund overseen by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), for housing programs.

Centennial has decided to opt-in to the program to explore potential housing options, though no specific projects have been planned yet. Once accepted, the City will evaluate opportunities through the program, and others interested in affordable housing can also seek Proposition 123 funding within Centennial.

Sign up to receive updates about Centennial's housing research and policies, at [centennialco.gov/housing](https://centennialco.gov/housing).



**COLORADO**  
Department of Local Affairs



## NEW ROOF?

The City is now allowing virtual or photo inspections for the Mid Roof and Final Roof review, as an additional option to in person roof inspections.

For virtual or photo roof inspections, please find the instructions under the "Building and Project Checklists" drop down at [centennialco.gov/building](https://centennialco.gov/building).





PHOTO BY: Laurie Reed Photography

## Electrical Vehicle Service Extends

Achieving an ambitious vision of powering 20 percent of vehicles with clean, affordable electricity by 2030 won't happen overnight but Centennial is dedicated to innovative, collaborative and cost-effective approaches as we plan for the future. This includes a commitment to electric vehicle (EV) adoption and infrastructure deployment. In 2020, the City initiated its inaugural EV Action Plan in collaboration with Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy, aiming to boost Centennial's EV population to 18,000 by 2030.

CORE Electric recently announced residential EV charging programs, joining Xcel Energy, in providing charging service for homes across the City. The new extended coverage allows for more residents to transition to EV innovation.

Need a charge? The City's Civic Center and Public Works Building have charging stations, starting at \$0.15 per kWh for the first two hours and \$1.50 per hour after the first two hours.

Ready to make the switch? Learn more at [centennialco.gov/centennialev](https://centennialco.gov/centennialev).

## New Art COMING SOON

Colorful new additions are coming to Centennial soon! The Centennial Arts and Cultural Foundation announced the 2023 traffic box art wrap project winners, and we look forward to seeing their artwork unfold throughout the community.



## Spark Businesses Kindle Again in 2023

A core value of the City is innovation, and the Spark Centennial program brings Centennial-based businesses and entrepreneurs together to develop a sense of community. As part of the Spark program, tools, resources and workshops are provided in a sandbox environment, helping with prototyping experiential ideas and new business models.

By supporting local business, you in turn support your neighbors, friends, community, and a vibrant local economy. We encourage you to visit our 2023 businesses and learn more about what they're all about! [centennialco.gov/spark](https://centennialco.gov/spark)



### Congratulations 2023 Spark Cohorts!

- 520 CO, LLC dba Real Lips •
- Charoles •
- Course Masters •
- Farmers Insurance - The O'Reilly Agency •
- Peach Lane •
- PostNet Centennial •
- Tiffany's Parlour •



## Transportation & Mobility

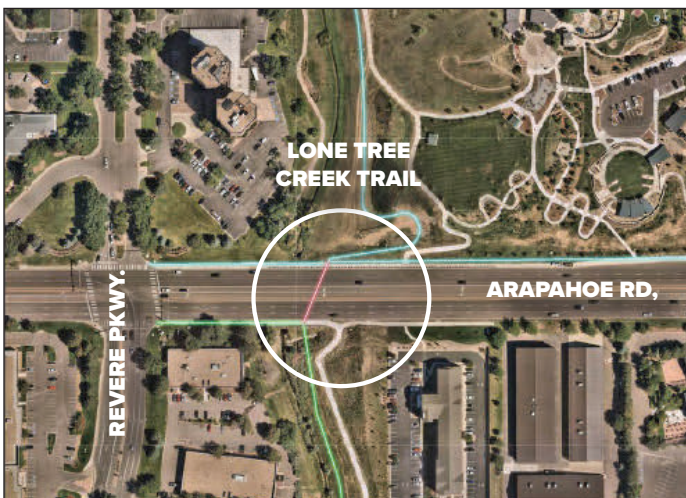
*Transportation & Mobility Brings Economic Vitality*

*The City strives for fiscal responsibility by actively seeking grants to support projects. We are delighted to be the recipient of multiple grants from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and agency partners to assist in funding projects identified in the City's 2030 Transportation Master Plan.*

### **LONE TREE CREEK TRAIL, PHASE III**

The Lone Tree Creek Trail underpass project was awarded an Air Quality/Multimodal grant from DRCOG and CDOT. When complete, construction of the underpass will run beneath Arapahoe Rd. between Revere Pkwy. and Potomac St., connecting the south and the north sides of the Lone Tree Creek Trail between Dove Valley and Cherry Creek State Park. This will provide a continuous link allowing trail users access to other regional trails in the area including Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space, Cherry Creek Ecological Valley Park, Centennial Center Park, and the 40-mile Cherry Creek Greenway.

Design of the Arapahoe Rd. underpass will be complete in 2024, with construction estimated to begin in 2025. This \$4.8 million project is funded over 80% by the grant funding, with the City contribution of \$931,000.



### **ARAPAHOE ROAD SIDEPATHS**

The City of Centennial was awarded a second Air Quality/Multimodal grant from DRCOG and CDOT for the construction of multimodal sidepaths to fill in gaps between existing sidewalks, creating a continuous route along Arapahoe Rd. between I-25 and Parker Rd. Sidepaths are larger sidewalks, typically double the size, which allows for more accessibility, modes of transportation, and additional room for people to come and go. Other improvements include ADA curb ramps and bus stop enhancements, enhancing safety and mobility for us all!

As the City's only major east/west road and a main arterial in the southern region, sidewalk connectivity along Arapahoe Rd. has been a focus for quite some time. It is a part of DRCOG's 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan, and construction is estimated to begin in 2025. Over 75% of this \$5.2 million project is funded with grant funding, with the City contribution of \$1.145 million.

### **HAVANA STREET & EASTER AVENUE**

With the assistance of a DRCOG financial grant, the City plans to make operational improvements at the intersection of Havana St. and Easter Ave. Updates include traffic flow enhancements, along with pedestrian and bicycle improvements. Overall, it will strengthen Easter Ave. (and Broncos Pkwy.) as an alternative to Arapahoe Rd. for east-west traffic.

Planning is currently underway, and construction is estimated to begin in early 2026. This \$17.6 million project is funded 65% by the DRCOG grant, with the City contribution of \$6.154 million.

### **COLORADO BOULEVARD MULTIMODAL**

Multimodal improvements are planned along Colorado Blvd, from Arapahoe Rd. to Dry Creek Rd., to enhance safety, create more direct routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and improve connectivity to the neighborhoods and schools in the area.

Planning is underway, and construction is estimated to begin in 2026. Over 88% of this \$9.5 million project is funded by the DRCOG grant, with the City contribution of \$1.1 million.





### HOLLY PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON

As part of CDOT and DRCOG's Safer Main Streets Initiative, Centennial plans to install a pedestrian hybrid beacon system (aka HAWK) and crosswalk on Holly St. just south of Easter Ave. A raised median and curb ramps will also be constructed to increase pedestrian safety and visibility to other drivers and bicyclists allowing safer access to the Willow Spring Open Space. Design plans have been finalized, and construction start is pending.



The City of Centennial strives for innovative problem-solving, intentional planning and careful investment to ensure a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation system where our citizens, businesses, and partnerships thrive.



### 2023 MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

The City anticipates completing \$15.5 million of pavement rehabilitation in 2023. Improvements to City streets include approximately:

- 15.5 miles of mill and overlay
- 18.5 miles of concrete rehabilitation
- 15.5 miles of crack seal
- 9.5 miles of pavement preservation (slurry seal) on residential streets

### PERFORMANCE CONDITION INDEX

Centennial's Public Works Department uses a non-subjective review of all City-street segments and generates a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) approximately every 3 years. Data collected during this review rates each street from "Excellent" to "Very Poor" based on the distresses and issues observed. The City's goal is to maintain an overall network category of "Good", near the upper third of PCI rankings. The City has achieved this ranking since the PCI review began approximately 15 years ago.

PCI data is just one factor in determining the City's pavement rehabilitation program. Other factors include budget, other Capital Improvement projects, adjacent development, and other stakeholder input.

Centennial is currently testing a pilot program to perform similar PCI reviews utilizing a data collector mounted to City vehicles, which allows for more frequent reviews and immediate reporting of pavement deterioration.

**Disclaimer:** Please note all project costs and timelines are estimates and could change.



## Transportation & Mobility

### SAFETY ACTION PLAN

With grant support from the Safer Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A) and a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Grant, Centennial is developing City-wide safety action plans. By analyzing existing safety conditions and roadway accident trends the City's goal is to make our roads safer and reduce injuries and fatalities across the community.

The SS4A Safety Action Plan initiative will launch in late 2023/early 2024. Funding for this program is 80% from grants and a City investment of \$55,000. Once the Safety Action Plan updates are ready, they will be publicly available.

**Disclaimer:** Please note all project costs and timelines are estimates and could change.

PHOTO BY: Sara Rohner, Jacobs Solutions

## Schedule your Passport Appointment Today!

Spring break plans? Or, international travel in early summer? The City continues to experience a significant number of passport appointments so please plan ahead and book early! The State is working through an extraordinary volume of passport applications, with routine processing taking approximately 10-13 weeks and expedited services taking 7-9 weeks.

Passport photo services are offered Monday-Friday from 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m. and appointments can be made at [centennialco.gov/passport](https://centennialco.gov/passport) or by calling **303-325-8000**.

### Best practices for your passport appointment:

- Book early! Appointments are available up to 30 days out
- Pay attention to email reminders regarding your appointment
- Complete forms prior to your appointment time
- Ensure you have original and required documents for your appointment
- Visit **travel.state.gov** or reach out to the City's Passport office for any questions you have
- Adult renewal applications are sent directly to the State by the applicant; there is no need for an appointment with an acceptance facility







# THANK YOU SPONSORS!

## Centennial Signature Events Shine Bright

The City of Centennial's Signature Events continue to bring the community together! 2023 has been full with the Districts' Summer Socials, Centennial Under the Stars and the Centennial Chalk Art Festival at the Streets at SouthGlenn.

The City is grateful for the support of our event sponsors, as well as the vendors, entertainers, food trucks, volunteers, participants and residents who make it happen!



**Jacobs** **ting**



**KinderCare**  
LEARNING CENTERS



**ARAPAHOE COUNTY**



**Centennial Hospital**  
A Campus of  
The Medical Center of Aurora

..... **JOIN US!** .....

Centennial  
**SIP IN CENTENNIAL**

**SATURDAY, OCT 21 • 1-5 PM**  
LIVE MUSIC • LOCAL VENDORS & FOOD TRUCKS  
COLORADO WHISKEY & SPIRITS DISTILLERS AND BREWERIES

**CENTENNIAL CENTER PARK**

**Holiday Celebration**  
**Saturday, December 2**  
**1-3 PM**

- Local Artisans and Vendors
- Family Activities
- Live Music
- Food Trucks
- Local Youth Choirs
- Santa
- Family-Friendly Activities
- Free Cookies, Cocoa and Cider

December 4 • 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Centennial Center Park

**CENTENNIAL CENTER PARK**



City of Centennial  
13133 E. Arapahoe Road  
Centennial, CO 80112  
[centennialco.gov](http://centennialco.gov)



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## BRONCO FUNDING FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS

As part of the sale of the Denver Broncos, the City is offering \$900,000 in grant funding to support youth activity programs.

Applications will be accepted on a continual basis until funding is expended.

Visit [centennialco.gov/youthgrants](http://centennialco.gov/youthgrants) to learn more.



## nextdoor

### We're on NextDoor! Are you?

New to the area? Be sure to update your address within the platform so you don't miss out! Nextdoor automatically includes "Agency" updates to those located in the City limits, and we share news, updates, and all the things to keep you in the know within Centennial.

## Center of Generations Offers Something for Everyone

The Centennial YMCA Center of Generations at the Streets at SouthGlenn offers various programs for teens and older adults to enjoy! Adults may participate in Silver Sneakers, WiiSports, Memoir Writing, and other programs throughout the day and special evenings. In the late afternoon/evening, teens can have fun with Esports, 3D Printing, movie nights and more. There is something for everyone!

View the list of available programs and be a part of a multi-generational community by visiting [denverymca.org/centennial-center-generations](http://denverymca.org/centennial-center-generations).

**YMCA Center of Generations**

