#### CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE MEMORANDUM #4-2025

DATE: Jan. 13, 2025

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

FROM: Heather Geyer, City Manager

SUBJECT: CR-3 – Approval of the 2025 Legislative Issues Guide

#### PURPOSE

To consider CR-3, a resolution approving the 2025 Legislative Issues Guide for the 2025 State Legislative Session, including a new Federal Issues insert.

#### BACKGROUND

The Legislative Policy Committee has developed the 2025 Legislative Issues Guide for consideration by the entire City Council. The guide can be considered a policy statement, is intended to be general in nature, and serves as a tool for County and State officials to reference during the 2025 Legislative Session. It would be distributed to elected officials and other stakeholders during and after the Legislative Dinner on Jan. 16, 2025.

Changes to the 2025 Legislative Issues Guide include:

- Addition of a Federal Advocacy insert
- Updated photos throughout the document
- Updated What's New in Northglenn section
- Updated content as necessary
- Updated bills that the Legislative Committee supported, opposed, monitored, or sought to amend during the 2024 Legislative Session

#### **BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of the printed document is approximately \$331.50 for 50 copies. Document design is done in-house.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of CR-3.

#### STAFF REFERENCE

If Council Members have any questions, please contact Heather Geyer, City Manager, at hgeyer@northglenn.org or 303.450.8706.

CR-3 – Approval of the 2023 Legislative Issues Guide

#### SPONSORED BY: <u>MAYOR LEIGHTY</u>

#### COUNCIL MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION NO.** 

No. <u>CR-3</u> Series of 2025

Series of 2025

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN 2025 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES GUIDE

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn has an interest in providing input on proposed legislation that may impact the residents of the City of Northglenn and may also impact or influence municipal operations;

WHEREAS, the City Council Legislative Policy Committee has developed a Legislative Issues Guide, which identifies the City's position on legislative issues; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Issues Guide will be utilized as guiding policies when reviewing and responding to proposed legislation of interest to the City of Northglenn.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The 2025 Legislative Issues Guide, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted by the City Council.

DATED, at Northglenn, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY Mayor

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COREY Y. HOFFMANN City Attorney

**EXHIBIT A** 

Northglenn

# 2025 State Legislative Issues Guide



### NORTHGLENN CIVIC CENTER

City Hall → Recreation Center → Senior Center →

Page 3 of 16

# What's New in Northglenn •

#### New Northglenn City Hall

The new Northglenn City Hall is now open. Located just east of the old facility, the 32,600-square-foot facility houses much of the City's staff, along with City Council Chambers. Additionally, the new Community Rooms provide space for City meetings.

Sustainability is a priority. The facility is Net Zero, meaning it generates as much energy as it uses. Also, it is striving for a CORE Green Building Rating, and would be the first municipal building in Colorado to achieve that certification.

The cost for the new City Hall was approximately \$33.78 million – and the City had the money to pay for it; no new taxes were necessary. The funds were generated by the ½% sales tax and the 4% Special Marijuana Tax, both of which can only be used for capital projects.

#### **Civic Center Phase 3**

City Council has begun re-imagining work for Phase 3 of the Civic Center Plan. This will complete a multi-year process that has completely redeveloped the main civic area for the City, near 120th Avenue and Interstate 25.

Council will now look at options that best serve the community's vision and expectations for the area while taking into account its economic potential.

Northglenn has already secured a Federal Brownfields grant for \$2.75 million to help cover remediation of the land to make sure it is ready for redevelopment.

- Phase 1: New Northglenn Recreation Center, Senior Center & Theatre
- Phase 2: New City Hall
- Phase 3: Redevelopment of the old rec center site

#### Subarea Plans

As part of its 2023 Comprehensive Plan, the City adopted 11 "Areas of Focus" to help guide redevelopment efforts and refine future land use recommendations for sections throughout Northglenn. A subarea plan will be created for each of these Areas of Focus that will have goals and recommended policies to achieve a land use and transportation vision.

Planning is underway for Section 36, a unique area a few miles north of the main City boundaries. It contains the Northglenn Wastewater Treatment Plant and the North Metro Fire Training Center. Following that will be the 104th Avenue corridor and Marketplace area.

#### **Updated Strategic Plan**

Council recently completed its 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, which will guide the City's focus and actions through the rest of the decade. These items are divided into six strategic focus areas, listed below.



Attracts and retains a wide range of businesses to maintain a strong local economy that cultivates community pride.



#### Diverse & Engaged Community

Cultivates diversity, inclusion, and belonging.



### Introduction •

#### Council has identified several legislative issues for 2025 and developed a formal policy statement.

The City of Northglenn was founded in a location that was once the "edge" of the Denver metro region.

Times have changed and the City now finds itself encompassed by suburban growth but competitively positioned along



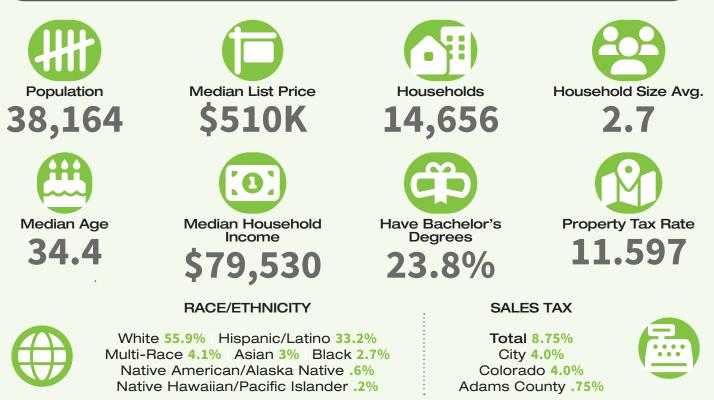
the Interstate 25 corridor, nearly in the center of the Denver metro region.

This advantageous location provides easy access to most destinations, including downtown Denver, Boulder and Denver International Airport, as well as a variety of employment centers in all directions.

Its competitive location strategically positions Northglenn for both future residential and new business growth.

This guide can be used by County, State, and Federal elected officials to inform legislative decisions that would be supported by the City.

# Northglenn at a Glance



2025 City of Northglenn State Legislative Issues Guide • Page 3 ·······

# Local Control & Municipal Home Rule

# Colorado has a tradition of local control and decentralized governmental authority.

That is reflected in the home rule provisions of the State constitution and in substantial grants of power to Colorado municipalities in State statutes.

These provisions reflect a belief that local issues and needs are generally best addressed locally. The City strongly shares this belief.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports State legislation that enables and facilitates the resolution of local issues locally.
- Opposes State legislation that would pre-empt or otherwise limit municipal authority, including legislation that aims to diminish or intrude upon the authority of home rule municipalities, such as land use.

### Public Safety

# Public safety is a primary responsibility of the City.

- The Northglenn Police Department (NPD) has embraced the Community Co-Production Policing philosophy of law enforcement. This is based on the belief that the community should be integrally involved in shaping the policing strategies that affect it.
- NPD has invested heavily in technology over the past few years to assist officers and provide transparency in policing. These include body-worn cameras for all sworn officers, vehicle dash cameras for all marked patrol vehicles, and automated license plate readers at strategic City locations.
- Like the rest of the Denver metro area, Northglenn is combating increased crime such as automobile theft and burglary. In response, NPD joined the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force, and is collaborating with neighboring jurisdictions regarding patterned burglary investigations.

- Opioid settlement monies have been identified and utilized to enhance the City's enforcement, treatment and education of those suffering from addiction.
- Northglenn is working with local municipalities and law enforcement agencies on a new detox and mental crisis facility and family justice center for the area.
- Northglenn is investing in drone technologies to enhance its ability to respond to and investigate criminal activity as well as search and rescue capabilities.
- The City is also seeking partnerships with local agencies in the development of a real-time crime center and the potential of using drones as first responders.
- In an ever-competitive market, the City has made significant strides in developing a competitive compensation package for new and veteran officers.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports State legislation that resolves the issue of medical expenses for individuals in custody with an equitable solution for all parties.
- Supports State and local programs to address the youth vaping crisis and opioid epidemic.
- Supports providing communities with resources to address chronic homelessness, supportive housing, mental health, suicide prevention, and substance abuse.
- Supports area and regional facilities for homelessness and substance abuse, as none exist in Adams County.
- Supports State legislation that holds individuals accountable for criminal conduct to include both misdemeanor and felony offenses
- Opposes State legislation that would jeopardize or impair the reliability of the E-911 system.

### • Unfunded Mandates •

Programs and regulations mandated by the State or Federal government upon local governments without adequate funding force local governments to divert scarce local funding away from pressing local needs.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports protection of statutory and constitutional provisions that protect local governments from being obligated to comply with unfunded mandates.
- Opposes unfunded State or Federal mandates.

# Sales & Use Taxes

Like most Colorado cities, Northglenn is highly dependent on sales and use tax revenues, providing 65% of our tax revenues annually.

Under Colorado's constitution, Northglenn and other home rule municipalities are entitled to locally collect and administer this tax.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports efforts that would simplify the tax system for those remitting tax, provided that such measures would not materially jeopardize the revenue raising capacity of the tax system or its legal basis.
- O Supports efforts to facilitate "main street tax equity" by requiring the collection of tax on remote sales by Internet or mail-order vendors within the City.
- Opposes legislation that would jeopardize the City's home rule authority over sales and use tax matters, through resultant litigation, or otherwise.

### Urban Renewal Authority

# The City's urban renewal authority is an invaluable and proven tool to remedy urban blight in economically challenged areas.

In 2023, the Northglenn Urban Renewal Authority (NURA) issued \$67,041 in business grants, improved 70,505 square feet of commercial space, and leveraged \$22.7 million in private sector improvements.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a unique mechanism that enables an Urban Renewal Authority to use the net new tax revenues generated by projects within a designated urban renewal area to help finance future improvements.

TIF is a new source of tax revenue, not an additional tax, that would not be available but for new investment.

In recent years, the General Assembly has proposed a variety of bills on this subject, some of which have been enacted.

#### Therefore, the City:

Opposes further watering down of municipal urban renewal authority and/or downtown development authority by the General Assembly.

#### Northglenn Marketplace

The City's original urban renewal development project, the Marketplace is the highest sales tax-revenue-producing shopping area in Northglenn. Located at Interstate 25 and 104th Avenue, staff continues to work with majority property owner Hutensky Capital Partners to further its status as an economic hub for the community and the north metro area.

#### **Washington Center**

The proposed redevelopment project will rehabilitate approximately 60,000 square feet of retail/commercial space, focusing on façade improvements, parking lot redesign, site signage, landscaping, and new tenant spaces. This project primarily involves funding through NURA.

#### Washington Point

NURA and the City are exploring opportunities for this 20-acre retail shopping center with a grocery store anchor. Though the center has multiple property owners, the site's location on 120th Avenue makes it a valuable retail property.

#### **Prost Brewery**

This company has invested in Northglenn, opening its brewery, headquarters, and biergarten at the Marketplace. Prost is expected to attract 300,000 visitors per year and generate an estimated \$13M in sales between the brewery and biergarten. Prost's arrival has re-energized the shopping center, with a number of new businesses opening. A 12,000-squarefoot indoor children's entertainment center recently opened, bringing the center's occupancy to 87%.

The Prost brewery, biergarten and headquarters encompasses over 19,000 square feet of space.

t redesign, site signage,

**Urban Renewal Projects in Northglenn** 

## Education •

#### Northglenn is a unique community with 13 K-12 schools within a 6.5-square-mile radius.

The City believes an effective education system supplies our municipalities with an educated and well-trained community and workforce that will both allow existing businesses to expand and attract new business investment.

The most effective programs are those partnerships among our educational institutions, local stakeholders and local governments. Due to its importance to our communities, the City supports education as a community-wide value.

The City has worked with Adams 12 Five Star Schools to have School Resource Officers at all school levels. This helps the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, while officers build relationships with the youth who will eventually lead Northglenn.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports State and local policies and initiatives that encourage greater early learning, K-12, higher education, workforce training opportunities and lifelong learning opportunities that allow cities to attract and retain an excellent workforce.
- Supports access to information and resources that help parents and caregivers give students the greatest chances to learn and grow in safe and healthy ways.
- Supports State initiatives that enhance creative and innovative partnership opportunities with businesses and educational institutions. This includes shared facilities, school resource officers, and enhanced programming.
- Supports education funding that is balanced between State and local sources and takes into consideration all sectors of the economy.
- O Supports funding that would enhance early childhood education opportunities.

### Attainable Housing

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The City is committed to a housing market that offers a variety of options for all residents, in every stage of their life, including those on fixed incomes or of limited financial means.

The General Assembly has enacted laws that have attempted to include remedies for homeowners with construction defects, but are also widely regarded as having caused a dramatic decline in the construction of multi-family, owner-occupied housing (condominiums) in Colorado.

The City adopted a new policy based on the recommendations of a housing assessment completed in 2022 and its newly-adopted comprehensive plan. These were made possible through a \$75,000 DOLA grant aimed at expanding affordable housing opportunities for residents.

The policy updates the City's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), centered on expanding the uses for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) to include short-term rental and allowing for pre-approved, prefabricated ADUs to potentially reduce the time and cost of construction.

• Additionally, the City approved mixed-use overlay districts that will allow for an expansion of uses and opportunities for many areas within the City. The overlay districts include provisions

that incentivize investment in locations where it is impeded due to small lot sizes, inefficient shape of the property, the existing underutilized development, the existing "strip" development impedes pedestrian friendliness, or development is functionally obsolete.

Karl's Farm Apartments has 162 units for people ages 62 and up.

• The new Karl's Farm development has income-qualified housing for seniors. This allows long-time residents to transition into more appropriate accommodations while remaining in Northglenn.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports a balanced approach to resolving construction defects concerns between builders and homeowners, as exemplified by the City's adoption of a model ordinance on the topic.
- Supports increasing local government's ability to regulate, manage or generate alternative sources of funding for attainable housing and public/private partnerships.
- Supports leveraging funding through State and local partnerships to provide homeownership assistance.
- O Supports continuation of a senior homestead tax exemption.
- Supports State funding to address housing affordability.

#### The City is committed to building a framework for environmental sustainability for the future.

- The City has continued to work with Xcel Energy Partners in Energy to implement the City's Energy Action Plan, which was adopted in 2020. This plan sets both municipal and community energy goals as well as connecting residents and businesses to opportunities that reduce energy consumption and energy bills.
- Northglenn is finalizing its Climate Action & Resilience Plan, which is meant to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the resiliency of Northglenn to current and future effects of climate change.
- As part of the Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort, the City has committed to reaching 100% Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions in residential and commercial construction.
- The City's Electric Vehicle Plan is well underway; see Page 9 for more details.
- The City operates a curbside trash and recycling program with recycling drop-off sites for the public.
- Northglenn participates in the Love My Air Program and collaborates with the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC), contributing to healthy air quality for the community through programming, education, and information.
- Additionally, the City operates water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities in a financially-sound, reliable, safe, and environmentally-friendly manner.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports maintaining or enhancing funds for parks, trails, forestry, horticulture, and recreation services and facilities.
- Supports equal or greater funding levels of Great Outdoors Colorado grants awarded to municipalities.
- Supports municipal and State reuse, composting and recycling programs and exploring incentives for end markets.
- Supports collaboration between State and Federal government agencies and Colorado's local governments to advance local climate protection.
- O Supports equitable strategies to enable and accelerate building electrification.
- O Supports regional collaboration and programming to increase community air quality.
- Supports accelerating retirement of existing fossil fuel generating facilities and their replacement with cost-effective and reliable clean energy supplies, through means that protect both utilities and consumers.
- Supports community and regional scale energy efficiency and clean renewable energy programs.
- Supports responsible water conservation programs and regional collaboration to promote water conservation activities such as water-wise landscaping.
- O Supports limitation on plastic and Styrofoam consumption.
- Supports funding and partners such as Xcel Partners in Energy to assess and become electric vehicle ready.
- Opposes legislation that would diminish the authority of local government to regulate environmental impacts to the City.



Partnering with Anheuser-Busch and I-O Glass, the City opened a glass-only recycling bin in November 2024.

### Seniors

#### Northglenn advocates for seniors.

The City partners with Adams County, DRCOG and local non-profits to ensure access to affordable services and resources to help our seniors thrive.

Northglenn's Senior Center offers programming to support social-emotional needs, physical fitness, companionship, learning for enjoyment and a resource/referral center.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports legislation to protect the Senior Homestead exemption in Colorado and funding to address gaps in services.
- Supports funding to support diversity of housing options, including assistance to help seniors remain in their homes.
- Supports continued State advocacy for Social Security and Medicaid funding.

# Crisis Response Unit

The Denver metro area has experienced increased homelessness over the past few years, and Northglenn is no exception.

People are living in situations that are unsafe, unsanitary, and away from needed resources.

In response, Northglenn's Crisis Response Unit (CRU) works with area and regional municipalities to provide services and address issues that stem from homelessness. This helps alleviate the strain on the City's law enforcement, parks and public works staff.

 CRU works with referrals from the Northglenn Police Department (NPD), Neighborhood Services (code enforcement), Northglenn Municipal Court, community partners and individuals to help focus on a pathway from crisis to stability.

- NPD and CRU are initiating a Targeted Violence Prevention Program to support and intervene when people are displaying concerning behavior.
- CRU continues to build relationships across Adams County and the metro area to assist those needing support in basic needs as well as mental and behavioral health.

From 2021 to 2024, the City utilized \$1.32 million from ARPA to fund CRU. In 2025, the City will pay for CRU. An Adams County grant will fund two more positions in 2025 and 2026. Moving forward, CRU will need other funding sources to support behavioral health services including crisis stabilization units, walk-in crisis centers, and mobile mental health.

#### Therefore, the City:

Supports State funding for behavioral health services including crisis stabilization units, walk-in crisis centers, and mobile mental health.



| <b>CRU Accomplishments</b> Jan. 1<br>to Oct. 31, 2024 |  |
|---|--|
| 33  | Individuals moved out of<br>homelessness into permanent<br>housing (95 overall since<br>program inception), with a<br>projected four more by the end<br>of the year.   |
| 1,054   | Times NPD requested CRU<br>assistance, with 427 having<br>mental health concerns as the<br>primary reason for the request.   |
| 21  | Individuals referred by<br>Neighborhood Services that<br>resulted in 293 calls for service.<br>All referrals except one became<br>code-compliant without<br>citations. |
| 2   | People referred by the<br>Northglenn Municipal Court,<br>which resulted in 46 case<br>management sessions. All<br>became compliant.                                    |
| 325   | Times community partners requested CRU services.   |
| 76  | Encampments responded to.  |

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By the Numbers

Members of the Northglenn Crisis Response Unit

## Telecommunications •

Access to reliable, high-speed and affordable broadband and cable programming is a priority for the City.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports the retention of municipal regulatory authority over broadband and cable television systems.
- Supports affordable access by all municipalities to state-of-the-art telecommunication and information services.
- Opposes Federal or State restrictions on local control of municipal rights-of-way or on the authority of local governments to develop or acquire their own telecommunications infrastructure.
- Opposes Federal or State restrictions on municipal franchising, regulatory and taxing authority over telecommunications systems.

## Transportation •

With its position along the metro area's major north-south corridor, the City naturally has a strong interest in State transportation planning and financing.

The City is in the midst of its Electric Vehicle Fleet Transition Plan. Gas-powered vehicles are being switched out for electric, and charging stations are being installed at City facilities, both for City and public use. The 2023 Colorado EV Plan strives to increase EV sales to at least 70% by 2030 and 2.1 million by 2035.

A future goal is to partner with local agencies to assess first and last-mile connection to local mass transit. For Northglenn that includes the N Line and Wagon Road Park-N-Ride.

#### Therefore, the City:

- Supports the completion of RTD's FasTracks N Line commuter rail to end of line as originally planned.
- Supports local control of public roads, public transit, pedestrian paths, and bike lanes to address emerging modes of transportation that serve the entire metro area and Adams County.
- O Supports alternative methods of funding transportation infrastructure needs.
- Supports effective implementation of Colorado's vehicle emissions standards and other regulatory and programmatic activities designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from mobile sources.
- Supports implementing the 2023 Colorado EV Plan and other efforts to increase electrification of all motor vehicles.
- Supports increasing funding and policy incentives for multimodal transportation and multimodal-friendly development statewide.
- O Supports fare equity for public transportation.
- O Supports State implementation of ozone reduction measures.

# Diverse & Engaged Community

Celebrating diversity, advancing equity, and becoming a more inclusive community continue to be a focus for City Council.

- For the City's 11-person Diversity, Inclusivity and Social Equity (DISE) Board, the name is the mission, as it works to influence future decision-making in the City.
- The Northglenn Arts & Humanities Foundation offers programming that reflects the diversity and culture of the community.
- The City hosted the first government-sponsored Pride Fest in Adams County a few years ago, and continued it in 2023 and 2024.
- The City invites cultural groups to present at Noel Northglenn, its annual holiday event.



 Mayor Meredith Leighty selects numerous proclamations each month to commemorate weeks and months honoring different groups.

Thousands of people attend the two-day Pirate Fest every September.

Internally, staff's Northglenn Next Committee strives to foster a sense of inclusion, belonging, respect, and equity within our workplace and beyond.

Northglenn Arts presented 512: The Selena Experience on Nov. 2, 2024.

 The City hosts seven large community events in addition to concerts, performances, activities, showings and sporting events throughout the year.



2025 City of Northglenn State Legislative Issues Guide • Page 9

# Public Employment •

The City supports efforts to maintain its ability to recruit and retain a highquality workforce. Some of the City's efforts to achieve this goal include:

- A \$15 minimum wage for all positions
- Expanded its Family and Caregiver Leave program

above Colorado's Paid Family Leave requirements

• Market-driven increases for civilian staff and sworn officers in response to rising inflation and salaries in the metro area

• Redesigned the Performance Evaluation Program to enhance employee feedback and engagement

### Support/Oppose

The City took positions on these measures in 2024:

#### SUPPORTED

HB 24-1107 Judicial Review of Local Land Use Decisions: Rep. Lindstedt and Sen. Bridges

HB24-1283 Secretary of State Review of Municipal Campaign Finance Complaints: Reps. Willford and Marvin, Sen. Mullica

#### MONITOR

HB 24-1083 Construction Professional Insurance Coverage Transparency: Reps. Willford and Brown, Sen. Cutter

#### AMEND

 HB 24-1313 Housing in Transit
 Oriented Communities: Reps.
 Woodrow and Jodeh, Sens. Hansen and Winter

#### OPPOSED

- HB 24-1372 Regulating Law Enforcement Use of Prone Restraint: Reps. Woodrow and Herod, Sens. Fields and Gonzales
- HB 24-1460 Law Enforcement Misconduct: Reps. Herod and Bacon
- SB 24-194 Special District Emergency Services Funding: Sens. Roberts and Will, Reps. McLachlan and Armagost

- American Public Works Colorado Chapter award for Medium Transportation Project: 120th Avenue Improvement Project
- Westword Magazine

   Best Celebration of
   LGBTQ+ Chicano Culture:
   Northglenn Arts
- Northglenn-Thornton Sentinel Best of the Best:
  - Annual Event: Shred Event
  - Art Gallery: Lucille Ruibal Rivera Gallery
  - Local Theater/ Playhouse: Parsons Theatre
  - Nonprofit Charity

Thornton Rotary Duck Derby (at July 4th Festival), HNCU Northglenn Shred Event

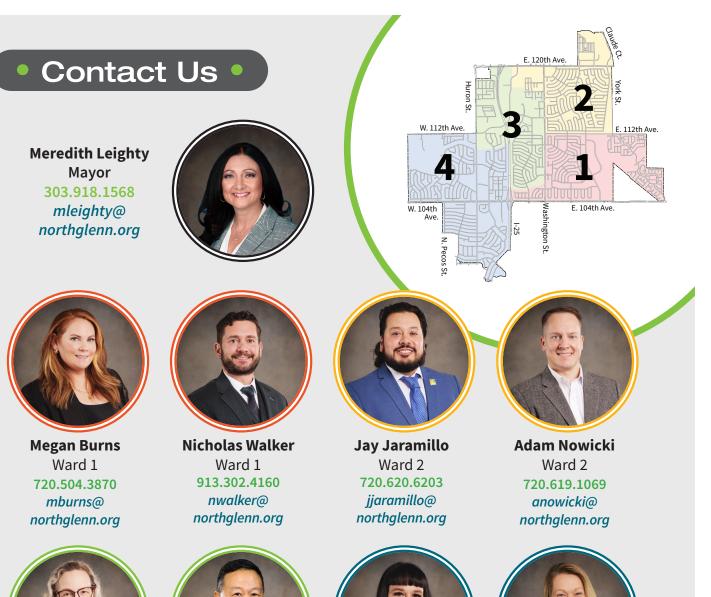
- *Park:* E.B. Rains, Jr. Memorial Park
- Public Art Display: Northglenn Veterans Memorial
- Summer Camp (kids): City of Northglenn Day Camp
- Swimming Pool/ Waterpark: Northglenn Recreation Center
- Trash Service

Consecutive:

- 15 Years: Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA)
- 34 Years: The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA for the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

• 34 Years: Tree City USA

The City installed a Ninja Cross obstacle course above the lap pool at the Northglenn Recreation Center around Labor Day 2024.





Katherine E. Goff Ward 3 720.668.8110 kgoff@ northglenn.org



Rich Kondo Ward 3 303.246.3031 rkondo@ northglenn.org



Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa Ward 4 *Mayor Pro Tem* 970.567.0028 slukemanhiromasa@ northglenn.org

Jody Roper Ward 4 303.523.6503 jroper@ northglenn.org

#### **CITY MANAGER**

Heather Geyer 303.450.8709 hgeyer@ northglenn.org

#### DEPUTY CITY

MANAGER Jason Loveland 303.450.8817 jloveland@

northglenn.org

### Staff ....

CITY ATTORNEY

Corey Y. Hoffmann Hoffmann, Parker, Wilson & Carberry, PC

#### CITY LOBBYIST

Bowditch & Cassell Public AffairsEd BowditchJennifer M. Cassell303.489.8680785.393.0472ed.bowditch@jennifer.cassell@bcpublicaffairs.combcpublicaffairs.com

Flowing Together, the sculpture installation at Northglenn's new City Hall by artist Jodie Bliss

Northglenn

# **2025** State Legislative Issues Guide

**11701 Community Center Dr. Northglenn, CO 80233 •** *www.northglenn.org* • 303.451.8326



# Federal Advocacy



The new Northglenn City Hall opened on Sept. 16, 2024. The building is Net Zero, meaning it generates as much energy as it uses, demonstrating the City's commitment to environmental stewardship.

# Family Justice Center

MAYOR AND COUNCIL SUPPORT DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRIAN MASON'S EFFORTS TO BRING A FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER TO THE 17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

Mason's vision will address a gap in service to victims and survivors of domestic vio-lence.

The 17th Judicial District includes Adams and Broomfield counties in the north Denver area. Currently, a victim has to commute at least 35 miles across the county to access services that are not centrally located, and this is if the victim has transportation available.

Mayor Pro Tem Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa is co-chair of the Community Engagement and Education Committee, which focuses on building support for this effort. City Manager Heather Geyer is a co-chair of the Facility and Location Committee, working on identifying a temporary and permanent location in 2025.

Federal funding is needed to make the project a reality.

# Transportation

TRANSPORTATION IS VITAL TO THE CITY, WITH ITS UNIQUE GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT.

Interstate 25, the Denver area's primary northsouth corridor, traverses the middle of Northglenn. The condition of I-25 impacts the day-today activities of the City's residents, businesses and municipal services.

In response, the City endorses addressing gaps in public transportation, especially using

FASTER funds for the first and last-mile connection to local mass transit. For Northglenn, that includes the N Line commuter rail and Wagon Road Park-N-Ride, which connects the City to downtown Denver and beyond.

Public transportation also aids the environment, a strategic focus for council.

In support of this priority, the City is in the midst of its Electric Vehicle Fleet Transition Plan. Gas-powered vehicles are being replaced with electric when feasible, and electric charging stations are being installed throughout Northglenn. When finished, there will be 16 City stations, with eight available for public use.

# Education

NORTHGLENN IS A UNIQUE COMMUNITY WITH 13 K-12 SCHOOLS WITHIN A 6.5-SQUARE-MILE RADIUS.

The City believes an effective education system supplies municipalities with an educated and well-trained community and workforce that will both allow existing businesses to expand and attract new business investment.

The most effective programs are those partnerships among our educational institutions, local stakeholders and local governments. Due to its importance to our communities, the City supports education as a community-wide value.

The City has worked with Adams 12 Five Star Schools to have School Resource Officers at all school levels. This helps the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, while officers build relationships with the youth who will eventually lead Northglenn.

# Police

#### THE NORTHGLENN POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS UTILIZED FEDERAL GRANTS FOR STAFFING, **EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES.**

Northglenn supports continued funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for vital equipment purchases and the COPS Grant to support salaries for new officers. Future initiatives include funding additional positions and cardiac screenings for all staff.

# **Brownfields Grant**

#### THE CITY RECEIVED A \$2.75 MILLION EPA BROWNFIELDS CLEAN-UP GRANT TO ADDRESS SOIL CONTAMINATION ON THE FORMER REC CENTER LAND.

This will allow the City to complete Phase 3 of the Civic Center Plan, which includes redevelopment of the area north of Memorial Parkway.

Phases 1 and 2 of the plan included construction of the new rec center, Festival Lawn and new City Hall. Council is now evaluating redevelopment options for Phase 3.

# Crisis Response Unit (CRU)

#### THE DENVER METRO AREA HAS EXPERIENCED INCREASED HOMELESSNESS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, AND NORTHGLENN IS NO EXCEPTION.

People are living in situations that are unsafe, unsanitary, and away from needed resources.

In response, Northglenn's Crisis Response Unit (CRU) works with area and regional municipalities to provide services and address issues that stem from homelessness. This helps alleviate the strain on the City's law enforcement, parks and public works staff.

- CRU works with referrals from the Northglenn Police Department (NPD), Neighborhood Services (code enforcement), Northglenn Municipal Court, community partners and individuals to help focus on a pathway from crisis to stability.
- NPD and CRU are initiating a Targeted

#### Violence Prevention Program to support and intervene when people are displaying concerning behavior.

CRU continues to build relationships across Adams County and the metro area to assist those needing support in basic needs as well as mental and behavioral health.

From 2021 to 2024, the City utilized \$1.32 million from ARPA to fund CRU. In 2025, the City will pay for CRU. An Adams County grant will fund two more positions in 2025 and 2026. Moving forward, CRU will need other funding sources to support behavioral health services including crisis stabilization units, walk-in crisis centers, and mobile mental health.

Stormwater system upgrade

costs are estimated at \$16

to \$19 million. The City is

working to find funding

# **112th Flood Mitigation Project**

IN 2023, THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM ALONG 112TH AVENUE COULD NOT HANDLE A SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL THAT LED TO FLOODING IN THE LOCAL DITCH, ROADWAY AND SOME NEARBY HOMES.

sources for this vital work. Northglenn Supports:

- Continuing cost of living adjustments for Social Security and Medicaid
- Leveraging funding through State, Federal and local partnerships to provide homeownership assistance
- Continuing the senior homestead tax exemption
- Addressing challenges with lack of services and housing for individuals experiencing homelessness

# City Council

MAYOR **MEREDITH** LEIGHTY 303.918.1568 mleighty@ northglenn.org





**NARD 2** 



WALKER

nwalker@

MEGAN **BURNS** 720.504.3870 913.302.4160 mburns@ northglenn.org



JAY JARAMILLO 720.620.6203 jjaramillo@ northglenn.org

ADAM NOWICKI 720.619.1069

anowicki@ northglenn.org





GOFF 720.668.8110 kgoff@ northglenn.org

**KONDO** 303.246.3031 rkondo@ northglenn.org





SHANNON LUKEMAN-**HIROMASA** 970.567.0028 slukemanhiromasa @northglenn.org

JODY ROPER 303.523.6503 jroper@ northglenn.org

• Preventing further victimization of crime victims through decriminalization of offenses.