

# 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW



## Meeting Our Strategic Goals



**Leighty**

*We Wrapped Up Our 2019-2023 Strategic Plan This Year.*

We picked eight focus areas in 2019 (*see right*) and made tremendous progress. I am proud of the work that has been done and, specifically, in how we utilized, leveraged, and found resources through city funds, partnerships, grants, innovative ideas, and best practices to make it all happen.

In 2023 alone, we celebrated big milestones. Construction started on our new City Hall, the Public Works Department earned national accreditation, new flock cameras went into operation to enhance public safety, we joined a solar co-op, welcomed Prost to Northglenn, finished widening 120th Avenue, met new neighbors at Karl's Farm, and – thanks to voters – when I refer to the City Charter I now read “the Mayor” instead of “he” and “his.” Please read our Year in Review for a summary of all the great things we accomplished in Northglenn last year.

Our current council is excited to jump into the next iteration of our Strategic Plan. What would you like to see change, grow, or happen in Northglenn in the next five years? Part of the development process will include public engagement. I look forward to hearing your views on our city and our future this spring.

Northglenn is a shining example of what can be accomplished through working together. It shows how gathering input and practicing transparency builds trust and partnerships. It shows how council and staff advocacy

### Council Strategic Goals

-  High-Performance Government
-  Public Safety
-  Housing Opportunities
-  Sustainability
-  Community Engagement
-  Business Retention & Growth
-  Diverse Community
-  Infrastructure

In 2019, a five-year strategic plan was adopted to focus the city government's efforts by setting benchmarks to track and goals to achieve.

The strategic plan had around 190 individual initiatives, of which all but three were either accomplished, implemented, underway or deemed to be not feasible or possible at this time.

▶ To view the 2019-23 Strategic Plan, go to [www.northglenn.org/strategicplan](http://www.northglenn.org/strategicplan).

in organizations throughout the region plants seeds for collaboration to benefit our community and others. There is more to tackle...and our past successes show us if we keep moving forward the rewards are a stronger, more engaged, safer, sustainable, financially-sound, and beautiful community.

Thank YOU, Northglenn, for your support of solutions that improve our quality of life.

– Mayor Meredith Leighty





Northglenn held its first **State of City** on July 20 at Festival Lawn.

Mayor Meredith Leighty gave an overview of the city's accomplishments over the past five years as well as some of the goals and projects moving forward.

## High-Performance Government



### New Council Members Selected & Elected

In February, Tim Long was selected by council to take Jenny Willford's vacancy as Ward 4 representative as she now serves in the State Legislature.



Long



Willford



Burns



Witkovich

Also, Megan Burns was chosen for Ward 1 in March after Ashley Witkovich left office. Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa was voted Mayor Pro Tem on Feb. 27.



Nowicki



Roper

in the election, Adam Nowicki and Jody Roper were elected to serve Ward 2 and Ward 4, respectively. Mayor Meredith Leighty and council members Burns, Katherine Goff, Rich Kondo and Lukeman-Hiromasa were all re-elected • [northglenn.org/council](http://northglenn.org/council)



Lukeman-Hiromasa

Also in the election, **residents voted to extend the existing ½% sales and use tax** without a sunset clause, the money generated will be dedicated to supporting public safety, capital improvements including residential streets and park amenities, and other general operations.

The city began updating its **Parks, Recreation and Culture long-range plan, called the Northglenn Playbook**. It will guide the city's investment in parks, open spaces and recreation facilities and programming for years to come. Work began in 2023 with completion scheduled for 2024.

• [northglenn.org/playbook](http://northglenn.org/playbook)

The Public Works Department earned **full accreditation from the American Public Works Association (APWA)**. Northglenn is only the ninth Colorado city to achieve this honor.

The city's preschool program received a **Level 5 rating from Colorado Shines**, the highest possible. Colorado Shines is the quality rating and improvement system for all of Colorado's licensed early care and learning programs. • [northglenn.org/preschool](http://northglenn.org/preschool)

### STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS COMPLETED

- ✓ Performance Evaluation Program
- ✓ Advocate for fare equity of the N Line

### STAFF AWARDS

**Tamara Dixon**, Human Resources Director & Chief Diversity Officer: *2023 Muriel M. Morse Achievement Award from the IPMA-HR Western Region*

**Kate Fisher**, Recreation Coordinator – Senior Services: *Marianne Logan Professional of the Year Award from the Colorado Parks & Recreation Association*

### By The Numbers

**1,328** Requests closed through Access Northglenn, where anyone can go to report an issue with the city

**\$68.8M** Budget total approved for 2024

**165** Resolutions and **14** ordinances approved

**14** Straight years the city has won the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) 🏆

**33** Consecutive years the city has earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. 🏆



## 2023 Northglenn Year in Review



### Prost Brewery & Biergarten Opens

Prost opened its headquarters and biergarten in the Northglenn Marketplace in December. Their arrival is a cornerstone to the city's economy, and is already bringing in other tenants to the Marketplace. [www.northglenn.org/prost](http://www.northglenn.org/prost)

**\$25M** Investment by Prost

**200** Net new jobs at full capacity

**52,847** Square-foot brewery

**40-50K:** Bier barrels produced per year at top capacity

**300,000+** Annual visitors to the city

**22,673** Square-foot indoor/outdoor biergarten

### Community Engagement



#### STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS COMPLETED

- Identify neighborhood and sub-area plans
- Council feedback on volunteer programs

#### By The Numbers #

- 20** Good Neighbor Program honorees
- 27** Youth honored by City Council through the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards. **4** of the **27** were honored by the county.
- 16** Council public meetings, which included the newly-established Neighborhood Nights program
- 628** Refurbished bicycles donated through the Northglenn Bike Program
- 48,610** Combined attendance at the city's large events and festivals
- 15K+** Volunteer service hours through the city

### Business Retention & Growth



The land at Washington Street and 112th Avenue will soon be turned into a **small suite/office incubator space**. The Northglenn Urban Renewal Authority (NURA) sold the parcels to a private developer, who will start work in 2024.

The city recognized nine local businesses for their achievements and contributions to the community at its **11th Annual Business Appreciation Event** on Oct. 17. This was an opportunity for the city to showcase its amazing businesses that are making a positive difference in the community. Winners are listed below. • [northglenn.org/bab](http://northglenn.org/bab)  
**Home-Based:** Missing Piece Puzzle Exchange | **Rookie:** Lizzie's Axe Throwing - Northglenn | **Small:** Denver Recovery Group - Northglenn | **Mid-Size:** Performance Woodworking | **Large:** Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain (IECRM) | **Longevity:** Wearer Family Dentistry | **Young Entrepreneur:** Ulises Gomez and Derwin Velazquez, UGDV Rugs | **People's Choice:** SpineGeek Chiropractic | **Investment:** Los Dos Potrillos Cocina y Cantina

#### By The Numbers #

- 42** New storefront businesses opened
- 545** New jobs created

**101,227** Square feet of commercial space absorbed



## Public Safety



### Slow Down on City Streets

The city focused on speeding in residential areas in 2023.

**Safety Sensitive Zones** went into effect June 1. • [northglenn.org/ssz](#) • Fines for speeding are doubled in these four zones:

Most of **Fox Run Parkway** from roughly North Park to South Park

**Irma Drive** from south of Fowler Drive to E. 115th Avenue

**Community Center Drive** from SCL Health to Boondocks

**Melody Drive** Near Northglenn High School

The Northglenn Police Department also spent more time on enforcement, leading to **2,413** citations for speed violations. This is up **41.3%** from 2022.

NPD partnered with **Flock Safety license plate reading technology** to help prevent and solve crime. The Flock cameras capture objective vehicle details needed to track leads and solve crime.

The Police Department and Economic Development Department started working with visitors, tenants and property owners at the **Washington Point Shopping Center on safety concerns**. These efforts will continue into 2024.

### STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS COMPLETED

- ✓ Identify ways to improve the safety and perception of E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park
- ✓ Increase community outreach through public meetings to include apartments, businesses and ward meetings
- ✓ Maintain 100% success rate for officers completing the POST Academy
- ✓ Develop and implement a succession plan with career development opportunities to encourage longevity, increase career satisfaction, and provide ease in transition when vacancies occur at the supervisory level
- ✓ Implement a traffic unit
- ✓ 80% of sworn personnel rate job satisfaction as 'good' in employee survey

### By The Numbers 📊

**1,234** Cars that came through the Police Department's shred event in August

### Police Statistics Comparison

Category: 2023 to date\*, 2022 to date | % Change

\*Stats through November, otherwise December

**Traffic Accidents:**  
1,280, 1,251 | ↓ 2.3%

**Speed Violations:**  
2,413, 1708 | ↑ 41.3%

**Aggravated Assault\*:** 143,  
148 | ↓ 3.4%

**Burglary\*:**  
92, 117 | ↓ 21.4%

**Motor Vehicle Theft\*:** 240,  
373 | ↓ 35.7%

**Drug Violations\*:**  
255, 286 | ↓ 10.8%

## Housing Opportunities



In August, the city's Crisis Response Unit (CRU) hosted the **Bridge Summit to bring together entities working to help people experiencing homelessness**. Local municipalities, non-profits and service providers discussed possible solutions and how they could work together to tackle this issue in the north metro area.

Council approved changes that **allow for rock and gravel driveways** and the option to use rock and/or mulch for the entire front yard.

🏆 The CRU won the **National League of Cities' Capstone Challenge** to address homelessness

### By The Numbers 📊

**123** New residences at Karl's Farm

**694** Number of people served by the city's Crisis Response Unit (CRU). This includes work with people experiencing homelessness, an emotional/mental issue and more.

**43** Yard of the month honorees

### Safebuilt Statistics

Safebuilt handles the city's building division duties.

**1,064** Plans reviewed | **8,209** Inspections performed | **1,608** Permits issued



## 2023 Northglenn Year in Review



A **climate action discussion** was held May 23. Experts and community leaders talked about the risks posed by climate change and the actions that are and could be taken by the community.

### Sustainability



Northglenn partnered with municipalities across the metro area and nonprofit **Solar United Neighbors (SUN)** to launch Solar Switch. This program leveraged the power of group buying to provide resident participants a quality system at a discount.

**89** Northglenn residences signed up for the Solar Switch Program

In late April and early May, **150 Spanish goats grazed the Oscar Arnold Nature Area**. This provided environmentally-friendly noxious weed and fire mitigation to the land that is normally done with either lawnmowers or chemicals. The goats covered twice as much area as originally planned, and the city will bring them back in 2024. As a bonus, nearly 1,500 people came out for a live goat encounter on April 30.

On Oct. 18, the city welcomed the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** and other local officials during a media event highlighting community-led air quality monitoring projects in Adams and Jefferson counties, funded in part by the EPA. Since May 2022, Northglenn has had two air quality monitors, one near City Hall and one in Northwest Open Space. • Go to <https://clean.lovemymair.com/> to check today's air quality.

#### By the Numbers 📊

**232** Residential solar permits issued

#### Resource Central Programs

**8K** Estimated square feet of lawn converted to Xeriscape

**93** Gardens in a Box sold to residents, which should save **600K** gallons of water over their lifetime

### Diverse Community



**Deza Estates**, a collection of houses in the southwest corner of the city, was named to the **National Register of Historic Places** in November. The custom homes were built in the late 1950s and recognized for their Modern Movement style.

In the 2023 election, voters approved updating **language in the City Charter to be gender-silent**. Gender-specific references such as “he,” “Councilmen,” and “Policemen” will be replaced by the use of position titles such as “Mayor,” “Council members,” and “Police Officers”.

On Feb. 21, the city hosted the **Anti-Defamation League Mountain State Regional Office** for an informational session on antisemitism.

Northglenn Arts worked on its **first long-range plan**, which will be complete in February.

A new, accessible fishing platform opened in September at the southern end of the **Croke Reservoir Nature Area**, near Huron Street and Naiad Drive. Shoreline stabilization measures and new signage were also installed.

#### By The Numbers 📊

**38,558** Attendance at Parsons Theatre events

**1,043** Participants in the Northglenn Youth Theatre program, which includes actors, students and crew

**1,580,446** Sports field users

**104,932** Rec center reservation attendees

**115,150** Member visits and daily admissions to the rec center



HIGHLIGHTS FROM SOME OF YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES IN 2023

## 2023 Northglenn Year in Review

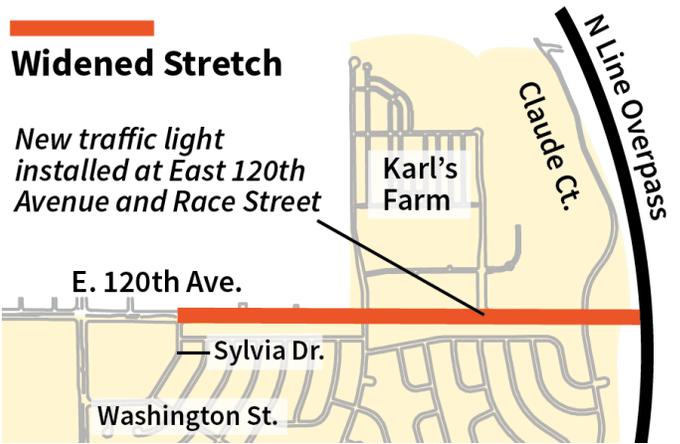


**The 120th Avenue Improvements Project** started in January and completed principal construction in November. 120th Avenue was widened from two lanes to three from roughly Sylvia Drive to the N-Line bridge. • [northglenn.org/120thavenue](http://northglenn.org/120thavenue)



### Widened Stretch

*New traffic light installed at East 120th Avenue and Race Street*



## Infrastructure



**The new City Hall** broke ground in June. The new facility, located just to the east of the current city hall, is scheduled to open in the fall of 2024. • [northglenn.org/newcityhall](http://northglenn.org/newcityhall)

### STRATEGIC PLAN ITEMS STARTED

- Create a long range transportation plan that will be a unifying document to integrate a number of official documents into project short-term needs and long-term goals.

### By The Numbers

- 86.3** Tons collected at Dumpster Day in July that filled **29** roll-offs
- 294** Loads dropped off at the city's two free landfill days.
- 1,226** cubic yards of materials were dropped off, enough to fill **41** roll-offs
- \$2.12M** Amount in Adams County Open Space Grants given to the city. These will be used for Kiwanis Pool improvements, Alvin B. Thomas Memorial Park renovations, three new Fox Run playgrounds, an aquatic obstacle course at the recreation center pool, and more
- 13** Miles of road re-paved, including the work on 120th Avenue (see above) and finishing Huron Street south of 104th Avenue



HIGHLIGHTS FROM SOME OF YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES IN 2023