

CITYWIDE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

City of Longmont



January 2020



CITY OF LONGMONT MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Crosscutting Initiatives

- Adopted the Sustainability Evaluation System (SES) to be applied to development projects (PWRN and Planning).
- Began reorganization to improve operations and alignment with City priorities, and to establish a structure that supports future growth. Hired two new Executive Directors to lead Electric and Broadband in LPC (City Manager's Office, HR, PWRN, LPC).
- Through the first 11 months of 2019 the special tax generated by marijuana sales was \$265,116. That revenue goes into the Special Marijuana tax revenue fund with half of it earmarked toward affordable housing (City Clerk's Office, Community Services).

Departmental Highlights

PUBLIC WORKS & NATURAL RESOURCES

BY THE NUMBERS

19.6

lane miles were completed for asphalt rehabilitation, as well 19.6 lane miles were completed for pavement preservation.

21

businesses were certified as Sustainable Businesses through the City's program. The SBP assisted 29 additional businesses.

100%

Renewable Energy by 2030 – the goal of the Sustainability team. Staff completed 10 listening sessions, 4 workshops and received 562 completed surveys.

402

acres of land were acquired including the Double 6 Ranch property (71 acres), Tull property (216 acres) and the Distel-Camas property (115 acres).

629

volunteers logged more than 2,500 service hours with help from the JoinUs online volunteer portal – total an estimated \$65,000 of contributed time.

2,200

feet of 30-inch water lines were installed for the Clover Basin Water Transmission Line.

5,200

feet of 24-inch raw water line was replaced for the North St. Vrain Pipeline.

8,500

feet of 6- to 12-inch water lines were replaced during the Water Distribution Rehabilitation project.

31,360

pounds of household hazardous waste were diverted from the landfill during the annual event.

\$1.2 MILLION

Gov. Jared Polis awarded the additional money for the Resilient St. Vrain flood recovery, river corridor, and greenway reconstruction project. Total awards are now at \$13.1 million.

\$44 MILLION

was spent on Capital Improvement Projects across the City.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Completed construction for the Biogas Treatment and Renewable Natural Gas project, with testing and start-up of the equipment scheduled for January 2020. The project turns biogas generated at the Waste Water Treatment Plant into a renewable natural gas fuel used to power trash-collection trucks.

Installed two new regional air quality-monitoring stations, one at Vance Brand Airport and the other at Union Reservoir.



Longmont City Council passed a resolution declaring a climate emergency in October. In early December, City Council approved creation of a Climate Action Task Force, which met for the first time on Dec. 18.

Completed and adopted an updated Wildlife Management Plan.

Generated strong public engagement in year 1 of the 2-year Button Rock Management Plan update.

Began integrating a robot into snow removal and mowing operations at several City parks. Longmont is the first city in Colorado to use robots for mowing operations.

Wetland sod was the first obvious vegetation planted in the Resilient St. Vrain Project's (RSVP) City Reach 2A in 2019. The sod was an immediate success, creating almost instant established vegetation and restored habitat along St. Vrain Creek.



The Windy Gap Firing Project reached another milestone this year as construction bids were let and an administrative contract for construction was awarded. Also, the Colorado River Connectivity Channel, a related project, began with award of that design contract.

In November, voters approved making the 3/4-cent street fund sales and use tax a permanent tax. Dollars generated from this tax fund a variety of City transportation services, programs and improvements. These dollars are also used to meet local match requirements for outside agency grants. The tax had previously been extended in 5- or 10-year increments since its inception in 1986.



Business Services performed a cost-of-service analysis for the water utility and recommended a 5-year rate schedule, approved by City Council, to support ongoing utility operations and maintenance.

Quiet Zones: began design of needed improvements for 16 rail crossings that are currently at 90 percent plan completion. Presented funding plan to City Council and received approval/direction to fund construction for two years. Staff applied for a Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) grant to assist in funding the project. Grant recipients will be notified in the first quarter of 2020.

The Resilient St. Vrain Project (RSVP) continues to make improvements along St. Vrain Creek to restore the St. Vrain Greenway trail and protect people, property and infrastructure by reducing flood risk throughout the City.

City Reach 2A (from Main Street to South Pratt Parkway/Colorado Avenue) is nearing the end of construction, with completion scheduled for early 2020.

Completed Bonus Ditch Pump Station and Peck Ditch Augmentation Station.

Completed several capital improvement projects, including phase one of the Civic Center rehabilitation and numerous water and wastewater projects.



SHARED SERVICES

BY THE NUMBERS

19

Capital vehicles were added to the fleet for a total cost of \$615,495

57

Vehicles were replaced for a total cost of \$3,092,205

72

New mobile data computers were purchased and installed in all City police vehicles, for a cost of \$198,780.

800,000

Gallons of diesel fuel will be replaced by using 11 new Renewable Natural Gas Sanitation trucks. New trucks totaled \$4,022,758

\$831,000

Total proceeds from three vehicle and equipment actions with a total of 148 lots sold.

\$34.7 MILLION

Total recovery reimbursements to-date maintained by Finance



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

City Manager's Office Completed Building STEAM visualization process for the St. Vrain River Corridor.

Launched Sharing the NextLight program for low income students in the St. Vrain Valley School District.

Conducted Race Equity training for staff and started a steering committee.

Communications launched new City brand.

Launched Engage Longmont online community involvement system.

Constructed new entryway sign on Hwy 119.

Conducted public engagement process and RFP that led to selection of Longmont Public Media as new Public Access Communication provider.

Finance refreshed the rebate program, added a Sales Tax rebate and launched Longmont CARES one stop, simplified application process.

Conducted general election.

Requested closeout on 31 of 34 FEMA Project Worksheets for the 2013 floods.

Closed all 2015 flood FEMA Project Worksheets.

Received FEMA final closeout documentations on 12 Project Worksheets

Longmont's disaster recovery process received State and national attention for being successful, innovative, and complete

HUMAN RESOURCES

Added 110 benefitted new hires and maintained 10.5% turnover.

Created an active recruitment strategy, including diversity, military, and college/university outreach.

Onboarded and trained new HR partner, and restructured HR Partner function.

LONGMONT POWER & COMMUNICATIONS

Installed a 40 MVA transformer at County Line Substation to increase capacity and redundancy across our entire system.

Created and implemented a Spanish queue to better assist with incoming phone calls.

Completed a cost of service study and recommendations which was approved for implementation in years 2020 and 2021 including seasonal rates.

Installed Automatic Vehicle Locating in 45 of LPC's vehicles. This tracking system enhances LPC's GIS and Outage Management Software and provides additional operational awareness.

NEXTLIGHT

Increased customers to over 20,300 with annual revenue of \$15M.

Began "Sharing the NextLight" program for low-income families with school-aged children and initiated options to donate to the program through monthly NextLight bill.

Added 30 miles of new plant.

PLANNING

BY THE NUMBERS

18

Graduates completed the 2019 Longmont Planning Academy

105

Permanent sign plans were reviewed and approved by Code Enforcement.

230

Completed reviews by the Development Review Committee

7,021

Permits were issued, including 2,552 issued through ACA and 4,469 issued in office

\$3 MILLION

Total cost of St. Vrain Greenway, Phase 13 – Weld County (\$1.5 million)

\$6.9 MILLION

Total cost of SH-119 BRT improvements with the Coffman Street Corridor (\$6.75 million outside dollars)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Record year for ACA (online) permit applications for small projects.

Completed the Main Street Corridor Plan

Formed Longmont's Complete Count Committee to support the 2020 Census

Completion of SH-119 BRT Planning effort and Local Bus Route restructuring plan

Worked with consultant and partner agencies to complete the BRT and local bus planning efforts

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) grant application

The DRC completed over 230 reviews in 2019

Adopted the regulations for the SES evaluation system

Adopted new prairie dog regulations to require relocation

COMMUNITY SERVICES

BY THE NUMBERS

4

New neighborhoods joined the Neighborhood Group Leaders Association (NGLA), bringing the total up to 55

42

People have been housed through the Longmont Navigation Services (Homeless Solutions for Boulder County - HSBC). In addition, 60 people have reunified with family or other community supports; and 6 people have enrolled in other programs.

67

Grants were rewarded to neighborhoods, including 10 Neighborhood Improvement Grants, 38 Neighborhood Activity Grants and 19 Discover Neighborhood Grants

97%

Of CDBG-DR funding has been allocated or is under contract. 64.5% of total funding has been reimbursed to Partners with \$27.8M to spend. 41 projects underway or starting; 18 completed in 2019

449

Families/individuals were helped through housing retention efforts: mediated landlord/tenant issues that helped 300 families/individuals; facilitated eviction court mediations that assisted 74 families/individuals; assisted 40 families in retaining their housing through the Home Steady program; assisted 35 older adults in securing stable, affordable housing.

520+

Latinx youth and adults were engaged in Supporting Action for Mental Health activities that fostered community connection, advocated mental health equity and empowered action toward healing.

10,000+

Average of visitors each month to the Longmont Senior Center

\$145,000

Grant was secured to enhance REWiND services; presented the program at the 2019 Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council and focused on local juvenile justice reform and leveraging community capital.

\$150,000

Was spent to improve our City golf courses and the golf experience

\$1.2 MILLION

Allocated Affordable Housing Funds, leveraging \$49.7 million in other funding providing 79 new and preserving 132 existing affordable homes

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Achieved milestones to position the Longmont Museum to qualify for Tier II funding from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD); this will potentially result in a 600% increase in SCFD revenue in support of Museum operations in late 2020.

Have increased Museum admissions, gift shop sales, summer camp and rental revenue, as well as a 40% increase in memberships and a 33% increase in revenues from grants and private donations.

Longmont Senior Center: Realized significant increase in caregivers seeking education and supportive services; responding to caregivers is now the top issue addressed by supportive services staff.

Began implementation of the Inclusionary Housing program; attended 33 Development Review Committee meetings with residential developers; 22 projects in process (282 affordable homes anticipated, \$1.6M in fees-in-lieu).

Initiated Library Feasibility Study to help determine future services, programs and facilities for the Longmont Public Library and resources needed for sustainable funding of library operations; will be completed in 2020.

Organized Early Childhood Summit from which emerged four challenges to address within our current system of early childhood education: cost of childcare, staff development, licensing and transportation; will be focusing on staff development strategies in 2020.

Partnered with the Longmont Sister Cities Association to host the first-ever Friendship youth exchange with the Northern Arapahoe Tribe from Wind River Reservation.



Awards

GFOA Awards for the CAFR and Budget Clerk

National Procurement Institute (NPI) Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award for the second time, one of only four Colorado public agencies to earn the award

National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) Sterling Award for fully certified professional staff

Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association Procurement Team of the Year Award & Innovation Award

Named “Smart Energy Provider” by the American Public Power Association

PC Magazine named NextLight the fastest ISP and second fastest for gaming in the Northwest region and 3rd fastest in the nation.