

Neighborhood Group Leaders Association (NGLA) Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 21, 2026

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Longmont Civic Center

350 Kimbark St, Longmont, CO 8050, Council Chambers

City of Longmont Water Shortage Discussion Panel & Other Resources

1. **Call to Order:** 6:35 pm
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion to accept the agenda made by Gina Underwood, 2nd Bobby Reding. Motion Approved
3. **Approval of the Minutes** with amendment: Motion made to accept the amended minutes by Gina Underwood, 2nd Bobby Reding. Motion approved
4. **Identification of New Members and Visitors:**
 - a. Nicole Hanson Emerson – Meadowview
 - b. Ellen Wilkins – Meadowview
 - c. Josh Dye – Southmoor Park
 - d. Paul Doolittle – Nelson Park
5. **Neighborhood Announcements and Updates:**
 - a. EcoBricks @ Blue Mountain Elementary School. Benches and Free Little Library made from EcoBricks
 - b. Longmont Water Fair, June 14th 11am to 2pm, Dickens Farm Nature Area
6. **City Council Update: Diane Crist**
 - a. Board & Commissions Applications are being reviewed. Appointments will be announced at the City Council (CC) meeting on June 30th
 - b. Ditch Concerns: St Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District over see many of the ditches. If you have questions about a ditch in your neighborhood, contact their manager at jenny.mccarty@svlh.gov or 303-772-4060
 - c. National Day of Prayer was a successful gathering
 - d. Tree limb pickup after the snowstorm will begin on May 18th
 - e. Flag redesign: Coordinated by Art in Public Places. No firm date on redesign
 - f. Questions:
 - i. Short Term Rental changes for Sundance. City Council will discuss increasing the number for a limited time in January 2026
 - ii. Open pit vs propane fires
 - iii. Hyperscale Data Centers: No clear definition of “hyperscale” yet, Still in discussion
 - iv. June 9th CC meeting: E-bike potential ordinances, sales tax deficit.
7. **Public Safety Update: Assistant Police Chief John Garcia**

- a. Staffing discussed. Police calls have increased 29% from 2009-2025. Priority calls 10,000 in 2020, 19,500 calls in 2024: up 80%
- b. During this time of growth, the number of officers has remained flat
- c. Our pay scale is in the top 4 county wide. Fewer people are interested in serving as police officers, the time frame from hire to “on the street” is approximately 12-15 months

8. City of Longmont Water Resources Panel:

a. Hope Bartlett: Water Conservation Specialist

- i. Discussed active vs passive conservation has decreased water use by 3%
- ii. Rebates are now handled by the City. They include toilets and faucets.
- iii. The following are available to assist in conservation: Resource Central, Northern Water. Both have rebates and programs for single family, multifamily, commercial and HOAs.

b. Jim Krick: Ecosystems Manager Parks and Open Space

- i. Historically, short grass prairie had cyclic burn cycles to rejuvenate grasses, increase diversity of species of plant matter, decrease shrubs and tree cover. We were 50% short grass prairie. Fire suppression, development of agricultural conversion, cheat grass and dead thatch increase fire fuel. Grazing with goats decreases the thatch
- ii. Grassland Urban Interface: mow bands of grasses and create defensible space around buildings to decrease fire potential

c. Steve Opie: Deputy Fire Chief

- i. Collaborator with other City departments and neighboring municipalities.
- ii. Preparedness: defensible space. Plant matter, especially junipers, should be at least 5 feet from buildings, storage piles 5-30 feet away

d. Wes Lowrie: Water Resources Manager

- i. St Vrain Creek and Colorado River water feed into Carter Lake, Ralph Price Reservoir (Button Rock Preserve), MacIntosh and Union Reservoirs are our drinking water storage
- ii. Peak snowpack is 5 weeks early this year, we are at 11% of normal snowpack
- iii. Moderate drought declaration made. Our use/conservation are flat overtime
- iv. We are currently in the 2nd year of drought. We have good planning in our 7-year drought plan
- v. Recommending 10% voluntary decrease in water use this year

9. **Staff Business and Discussion:** Tabled

10. **Public Invited to be Heard:** Motion made to table by Bobby Reding, 2nd Gerald Wallner. Motion approved

11. **Adjourn:** 8:33 pm