



Littleton Report

October/November 2024

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What's Inside

All meetings, programs, and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation.



Collaborative debut performance features local talent (page 5)



Crafters congregate and Fall descends upon Museum (page 6)



Bemis Halloween Parade and other events (page 7)

Littleton's 2025 Budget Healthy but Cautious

Littleton's 2025 budget will continue enhanced services that were approved in previous years, while exercising caution amid a challenging economic climate.

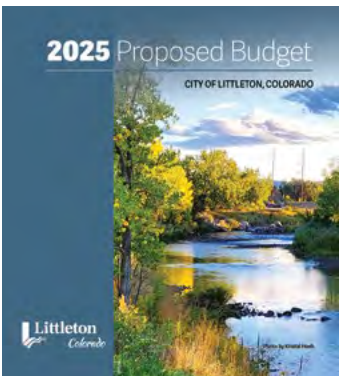
While the city remains financially healthy, the budget does not include any new services. Sales tax revenue fell short of both previous and projected levels, requiring the city to re-assess its revenue projections in 2024 and beyond.

Some of the largest projects for next year include upgrading pedestrian and bicycle connectivity around the Mineral Light Rail Station, a shared use path along County Line Road, the reconstruction of the Mineral Avenue and Jackass Hill Road intersection, and work along Euclid Avenue to improve safety and mobility.

The 2025 budget emphasizes advancing city council's highest priority initiatives as outlined in the city's Capital Improvement Plan. Many of the large-scale projects proposed for 2025 center around roadway and pedestrian connectivity and safety. Other priorities include competitive wages, benefits, and professional development for city staff.

The city will continue to invest in its existing facilities, with renovations to the Littleton Municipal Courthouse, the Littleton Center, and the Belleview Service Center all included in the budget. The transition of the city's vehicle fleet to electric vehicles continues to receive funding as well.

While the 2025 budget is flat compared to 2024, there is significant planned retail growth in Littleton coming next year, and the city expects sales tax revenues to return to historic levels and potentially increase in 2026 and beyond.



The first reading of the budget will be at the October 1 city council meeting, followed by the second reading and public hearing at the October 15 meeting.

Residents Share Civic Pride, Concerns in Community Survey

A large majority of Littleton residents say quality of life in the city is good, while housing affordability, homelessness, and traffic are the most pressing issues facing the community, according to results from the 2024 Littleton Resident Survey.

Every two years, the city contracts with Polco, a national polling company, to conduct a comprehensive survey about many aspects of life in Littleton. A postcard was sent to 6,400 randomly selected Littleton households with an invitation to participate in this year's survey, and 636 completed the survey for a response rate of 10%.

About nine in ten people rated the quality of life in Littleton as "good" or "excellent," similar to previous years. The top three reasons people gave for living in Littleton were the city's location; parks, recreation and open spaces; and safety. The top-rated community characteristics were the city's support of local businesses, safety, and schools.

Affordable housing remains a top concern, with 38% of respondents saying it's one of the most pressing issues facing the city. Only 12% of respondents said an affordable cost of living is a reason they live in Littleton, down significantly from 30% in 2012 and 2014. Thirty three percent of residents also named homelessness and traffic as the city's most pressing issues.

About eight in ten people said the city provides "good" or "excellent" municipal services, up slightly from 2022 and similar when compared to other Front Range communities. Services that were rated high in importance but lower in quality, representing potential areas for improvement for the city, included traffic enforcement and traffic flow, economic development, environmental sustainability, snow plowing, and the Littleton Police Department (LPD).

The LPD received a 77% "good" or "excellent" rating, the same as in 2022. When asked about the LPD's relationship with the community, residents rated officers highly for acting in the best interests of the community, responding to emergency calls, and being trustworthy.

However, residents felt the LPD could be better about in-



viting community members to provide input and communicating regularly with community members. The LPD's "good" or "excellent" rating dropped for crime prevention and crime solving when compared to recent years.

The top-rated aspect of city government was once again the open space, trails, and parks available in Littleton. The Carson Nature Center, Hudson Gardens, and South Platte Park were the top three rated services in the city. The Bemis Public Library and Littleton Museum also received consistently high "good" or "excellent" ratings for their programs and resources.

Sixty-nine percent of residents believed Littleton City Council decisions represent the best interest of citizens to a "great" or "moderate" extent, up from 64% in 2022. Most categories of city government performance were rated similarly or improved when compared to 2022, and the city's ability to provide information about city plans and programs and attracting companies to Littleton both saw significant improvement.

Residents also said city newsletters and websites were their primary sources of information for what's happening in the community. The top information source was the *Littleton Report* print newspaper, followed by the official city website, and VisitLittleton.org, the city's new events and tourism website.

Looking ahead to the future, residents said the most important projects the city should undertake over the next five to eight years were maintaining and improving city infrastructure and reducing traffic congestion on city streets.

Safer Streets: School Zone Evaluation

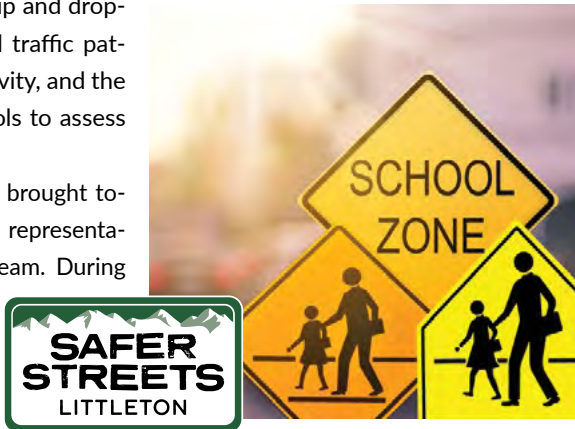
Littleton's Public Works planners and engineers are working with Littleton Public Schools and members of the public to make walking and biking to school safer, following the findings of the groundbreaking School Zone Safety Evaluation completed this year.

Part of the Safer Streets Littleton initiative, the evaluation conducted by Y2K Engineering focuses on ensuring that all students can commute safely between home and school. By aligning with national best practices and adopted regulations, this evaluation seeks to establish consistent, safe environments across school zones in Littleton.

This School Zone Safety Evaluation is being conducted alongside a citywide traffic calming evaluation aimed at fostering safer speeds and enhancing roadway safety. The coordination between these two projects ensures safety improvements are holistic, and the city's infrastructure is consistent with national best practices and evolving standards.

Last spring, evaluators from Y2K and city staff conducted site visits at each of 12 schools within the city limits during pick-up and drop-off times. Observers documented traffic patterns, pedestrian and bicyclist activity, and the overall environment around schools to assess behaviors and safety concerns.

A School Safety Summit in June brought together school staff, school district representatives, city staff, and the project team. During the summit, key findings were shared, and attendees provided their feedback and perspective.



Brent Soderlin Named Public Works Director



Brent Soderlin has been named Littleton's Director of Public Works, Littleton City Manager Jim Becklenberg announced.

Soderlin served as the Interim Director of Public Works for the last four months, and as the Deputy Director since 2022. Before joining Littleton, Soderlin had 22 years of engineering and project management experience. He served communities in Nebraska as a consulting engineer, followed by positions in Jefferson County and Commerce City.

"As an Interim Director, Brent has truly stepped up as a leader, keeping important initiatives on track, advancing management needs, and digging into department challenges," Becklenberg said. "The trust that the Public Works Department has in Brent shone through during the recruitment process."

Soderlin said he's proud to serve Littleton.

"I'm honored to continue to work alongside our dedicated public works team and to continue to promote Littleton's core values," Soderlin said. "I am very excited to improve bike and pedestrian safety through our Safer Streets Littleton initiative, promote sustainability throughout the city, and to upgrade and maintain the city's infrastructure."

Amanda Lessmann Named Littleton's New Judge

Amanda Lessmann was sworn in as Littleton's next Presiding Municipal Court Judge at the September 3 city council meeting.

Lessmann's appointment was approved unanimously by city council. She replaces Judge Loretta Huffine, who is retiring September 30 after two years with the city. Lessmann's contract is for a two-year term, beginning September 23.

Lessmann served as Senior Deputy District Attorney for the 1st Judicial District Attorney's Office since 2016. Prior to that, she was a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney in Chicago from 2008 to 2015. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Florida with a major in sociology and minors in criminology and Spanish.

During her time as an attorney, Lessmann tried all types of cases to juries, from misdemeanors and traffic violations to murders and other violent felonies. She also analyzed thousands of cases for criminal charging decisions and worked closely with law enforcement.

"I am honored for this opportunity to combine my extensive criminal justice experience with my commitment to this amazing city," Lessmann said. "As a citizen of Littleton, I am invested in working diligently and humbly as your judge to help ensure that we prioritize our community's safety and needs, and that all who appear before me are treated with fairness and respect."

Lessmann has lived in Littleton since 2015, moving to Colorado to be closer to family. When she's not working, she can often be found playing tennis and on the sidelines of youth sports.



Election Information

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5!

Most of Littleton's voters are in Arapahoe County, while some neighborhoods are in Douglas or Jefferson counties.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters starting October 11. Voters can ensure they receive a ballot by visiting GoVoteColorado.gov to verify they are registered at their current address. Those not registered to vote can download paper registration forms from the website.

Voters can find election information, including drop box and voting center locations, replacement ballot instructions, and much more at their county election websites.

Arapahoe County: ArapahoeVotes.gov or call 303-795-4511.

Douglas County: Douglas.CO.us/elections or call 303-660-7444.

Jefferson County: JeffCo.us/396/elections or call 303-271-8111.

Don't miss the deadline. All ballots must be received by 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 5, at a 24-hour drop box or voting center. Voters in line by 7 p.m. at a voting center will be allowed to cast their ballot.

Important dates for voters in Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson counties:

Friday, October 11: Ballots begin mailing to eligible voters

Monday, October 21: Voting centers open

Monday, October 28: Last day to register and receive a ballot by mail

Tuesday, November 5: Election Day! All ballots must be received by 7 p.m.

Master Plan to Guide Arts and Culture

The City of Littleton has engaged Keen Independent to create an Arts and Culture Master Plan to guide the city in supporting its creatives and enhancing the community's quality of life through arts and culture.

To complete the Arts and Culture Master Plan, Keen Independent will conduct:

- Background research, which includes learning about Littleton's history and heritage.
- Mapping and inventory of existing assets and placemaking.
- In-person and virtual public engagement.
- Assessment of the community's arts and culture needs.
- Analysis of other relevant plans and how the Arts and Culture Master Plan can contribute to community initiatives.

Keen Independent is a national research firm with expertise in arts and culture, equity, and economics. The study launched in June and will be completed in December.



Public feedback will inform this project including interviews, focus groups, public meetings, a virtual workshop, and a survey.

Find out more or provide feedback at the project website: KeenIndependent.com/studies/LittletonArtsAndCulture; call the study hotline at 602-767-7067; or email the study team at LittletonArtsAndCulture@KeenIndependent.com.

Senior Property Tax Refund Deadline October 31

Since 1977, the Littleton City Council has annually renewed its Senior Refund Program, providing the city's senior residents with a partial property tax refund.

The program is available to both renters and property owners. For property owners, the refund is based on the property's assessed valuation. Refund amounts range from \$10 to \$100. Refunds for renters range from \$10 to \$30.

Property owners whose property is in a trust or other legal entity for estate planning purposes may be eligible for a property tax refund based on the property's assessed valuation.

To be eligible for a refund in the current tax year, applicants must be 65 years of age or older on or before December 31 of the previous year, and reside within the Littleton city limits for the entire previous year.

Find an application form and more information at LittletonCO.gov/senior-refund. The deadline for 2024 is October 31. To request assistance with the online application, or for other questions, call 303-795-3764.

Voters to Decide on Marijuana Tax Changes

Littleton voters will decide in November whether to raise the city's sales tax rate on retail marijuana.

At its August 20 meeting, the Littleton City Council unanimously approved placing Ballot Question 3B on the ballot, which would raise the retail marijuana sales tax rate by four percentage points.

The city's current sales tax rate for retail marijuana is 3%. If the ballot question is approved by voters, it would rise to 7%, which, when added to the city's regular sales taxes and state taxes, would put Littleton's rate on the higher end of the range compared with surrounding communities.



If approved, all the funds raised by the additional tax would be dedicated to public safety and homelessness prevention services, such as mental health crisis and proactive safety programs, and the Tri-Cities Homelessness Action Plan. City staff estimate that a four-point increase could bring in as much as \$646,000 in annual revenue for these kinds of services.

In the 2024 Resident Survey, 83% of residents indicated "strong" or "somewhat strong" support for a rate increase. The election will be November 5.

Broadway Corridor Study Results Presented

Littleton's Public Works Department presented the results of the Broadway Corridor Study at the August 20 city council meeting.

The study was a collaborative effort between Littleton and nearby municipalities and transportation organizations whose goal was to provide a vision for improvements to Broadway that would increase safety, support more transportation options, and enhance community character.

The recommended design presented to council includes sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes along Broadway separated from the road by green space. The study also includes options for frontage roads in residential areas and spaces for new bus stations.

There is no funding to begin construction on any improvements on Broadway, but once funding is identified, the study recommends improving the High Line Canal Trail crossing, mid-block crossings, and road access management as the first projects to undertake.

City staff estimated bringing the proposed improvements to the full length of Broadway in Littleton would cost \$185 million, so any projects would likely have to be done in phases as funding becomes available.

For more information, search "Broadway Corridor Study" at LittletonCO.gov.

Montview Flats Housing Development Receives Federal Tax Credit

South Metro Housing Options' planned Montview Flats development received a 2024 Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) award from the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority.

The award is a federal income tax credit worth \$1,450,000. The LIHTC is designed to attract investors to provide financial support for affordable housing projects and subsidize the costs to help make affordable housing feasible to build.

Montview Flats will be a 50-unit development on South Rapp Street adjacent to Arapahoe Community College. It will have 37 one-bedroom units and 13 two-bedroom units serving residents earning between 30% and 70% of the Area Median Income.

The Littleton City Council, staff, and the city's housing task force collaborated to implement the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, passed by council in 2022, that created incentives making projects like Montview Flats possible. The city provided \$1 million to assist with land acquisition with support from Arapahoe County and the City of Centennial.

These new units will help the city meet its Proposition 123 goals of having 3% annual growth of affordable housing in Littleton.



Public Works Making Progress on 'Big Things'

Littleton's Public Works team has been hard at work in 2024 to accomplish infrastructure projects citywide.

Items in progress or completed:

- The intersection of Bowles Avenue and Bell Flower Drive received ADA-focused crossing improvements and signal replacements.
- Church Avenue received buffered bike lanes, improved pedestrian crossings, and ADA ramp upgrades between Rapp Street and Nevada Street, in coordination with Prince Street upgrades.
- Road surfaces in Aberdeen Village have been regraded and repaved.
- Damaged concrete infrastructure is being removed and replaced at numerous locations citywide, preparing for a project to mill and overlay asphalt road surfaces in 2025.
- Mill and overlay work in the Arapaho Hills neighborhood is nearing completion.
- Work is underway on a multi-phase effort to construct a new multimodal trail along Slaughterhouse Gulch, ultimately connecting the Mary Carter Greenway to the Community Trail, beginning with the segment in Geneva Park between Prince Street and Rio Grande Street.

Still on the agenda in 2024 or early 2025:

- Intersections on Platte Canyon Road at Mineral Avenue and Bowles Avenue will receive pedestrian, bicycle, and transit safety improvements, signal equipment replacement, and vehicle capacity improvements.
- Construction will begin on pedestrian and bicyclist safety projects on Mineral Avenue east of Santa Fe Drive, including safe crossings, paved multi-use trails, and buffered bike lanes.
- Reconstruction of the intersection of Prince Street and Church Avenue, including new concrete pavement, traffic signal replacement, widening the sidewalk across the Prince Street bridge, and installation of bike lanes on Prince Street from Lake Avenue to Alamo Avenue.
- Deficient joints on the Mineral Avenue bridge over the South Platte River will be replaced, smoothing the roadway for motorists.
- Construction on the "quad road" intersection redesign at Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue, to improve safety and capacity by rerouting left-turn movements, is scheduled to begin in early 2025.



FALL LEAF COLLECTION RETURNS

Don't let those piles of leaves stay piles - drop them off at the Fall Leaf Collection Event!

WHEN: Monday-Friday, October 28-November 8, 8 a.m. -4 p.m. daily;

Saturday, November 2, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

WHERE: A1 Organics, 2300 W. Radcliff Ave., Englewood
Leaf drop-off: \$4 per vehicle per visit for leaf recycling only (includes large trucks and trailers, loose leaves and bagged leaves). Participants must provide proof of residency by driver's license or utility bill.

For more information, search "Fall Leaf Collection Event" at LittletonCO.gov.

Littleton City Council



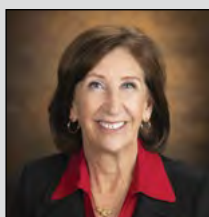
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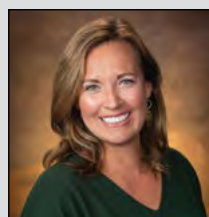
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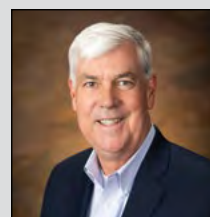
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Ketring-Gallup Park Master Plan Completed

Littleton took a step forward in the process of improving two of its most popular parks as city council voted unanimously to adopt the Ketring-Gallup Park Master Plan at its July 16 meeting.

The plan lays out a vision for a wide range of new features at Ketring Park, Gallup Park, and Gallup Gardens, as well as safety improvements to South Gallup Street and Library Lane.

At the heart of the plan is a “Cultural Core” in Gallup Gardens, between the Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum. This would include a new playground, plazas and picnic areas, a small amphitheater, and a restored water feature and gardens.

Proposed improvements in Ketring Park include a new boardwalk over the west side of Ketring Lake, native vegetation plantings on Ketring Lake’s east side, and additional seating and shaded areas throughout the park.

Library Lane would also be converted into a “shared street,” making it safer and more accessible for pedestrians. This would involve wider sidewalks, special paving, and the elimination of some parking. In addition, the street would be able to be closed to vehicles for special events like markets or craft fairs.

The estimated cost of the project is around \$31 million. It will be built in stages based on funding. The first stage will likely focus on pedestrian connectivity, including installing crosswalks on South Gallup Street. In addition to appropriating money in the annual city budget, other potential funding sources include Arapahoe County Open Space Shareback funds, South Suburban Parks and Recreation, and grants.

For more information, search “Ketring-Gallup Park Master Plan” at LittletonCO.gov.

Trees to Return to Downtown for Holiday Season

The Littleton Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) is looking to bring some holiday cheer to Downtown Littleton this year with its new Holiday Tree Program.

The LDDA will purchase, install, and maintain evergreen trees along Main Street from November through January. The trees will be placed in temporary planters and lit with decorative lights. At the end of January, the trees will be moved and planted at permanent locations around the city.

The program calls for 34 trees to line Main Street, each about five or six feet tall. Potential species include Austrian Pines, White Firs, Douglas Firs, and Blue Spruces.

Community members can sponsor the program at various levels, ranging from \$500 to \$2,500. Each sponsorship level includes logo placement on the LDDA website and e-newsletters, a social media mention, and a name or logo displayed on a plaque near the sponsored tree. Higher sponsorship levels include receiving a tree or two at the conclusion of the program to plant or donate to an LDDA-approved partner and additional social media mentions and recognition.

The goal of the program is to temporarily replace the trees that were removed from Main Street due to disease in 2023. New permanent trees won’t be planted until the 2025 Denver Water project along Main Street is completed and construction on the city’s Project Downtown initiative concludes.

For more information about the LDDA’s Holiday Tree Program, visit LittletonDDA.org.

Rodriguez, Schneider Rack Up Wins at Criterium



The weather was hot, but the racing was hotter at the 11th annual Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium August 3.

The country’s top bicycle racers descended on Littleton for the penultimate race in the American Criterium Cup (ACC) series. More than 10,000 spectators turned out to watch racers maneuver the tight course through Downtown Littleton.

Alfredo Rodriguez and Skylar Schneider took first place in the men’s and women’s pro races, respectively. The final race in the ACC series – the Bommarito Audi West County Gateway Cup in St. Louis was held September 1.

The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium will return in 2025! For more information, visit LittletonCrit.com.

Courthouse Renovation Loan to be Paid Off

The City of Littleton will make the final payment in November on a 25-year loan to renovate and activate the Littleton Municipal Courthouse.

Dedicated in 1908, the building served as the Arapahoe County Courthouse until 1987, then sat vacant for 11 years until the renovation project began in 1998. The city issued \$3.4 million in certificates of participation (COPs) to finance the renovation in 1999 and re-financed in 2011. The renewed courthouse was dedicated in 2000.

Littleton has also used COPs to fund renovations to the Littleton Museum, a fleet building, and the construction of a fire station.

Littleton has minimal debt as numerous COPs have been paid off or soon will be. Future COPs will likely be issued to fund forthcoming projects such as improvements to Downtown Littleton and new buildings at the Bellevue Service Center.



Historic Barn Moved, Preserved

The historic 1918 Canary Barn on the Toll Brothers property at the southwest corner of Mineral Avenue and Santa Fe Drive was moved into position atop a new foundation July 23, ensuring the landmark will stand for years to come.

At one time a candidate for demolition, the barn’s preservation is the outcome of a 2022 agreement between Historic Littleton, Inc. (HLI) and Toll Brothers, which is developing the surrounding property into single family and multifamily housing.

Once used to house prizewinning Hereford cattle, in later years the barn was used by the Green Valley Turf farm. Though eligible for historic landmark designation, HLI’s agreement with Toll Brothers includes a stipulation not to seek any landmark status for several years while Toll refurbishes the structure.

The structure is a rare “bank barn,” characterized by an earthen ramp leading to the upper/main level, with walk-out access below.

A crew from Mammoth Moving and Rigging moved the barn from its original location on the site to a purpose-built foundation. The barn will serve as the centerpiece of a community gathering area for the new residential development on the site. The lower level of its new foundation will be filled in with dirt. There are no plans to allow access to the interior, which would need extensive and expensive renovation to be usable.

HLI director Gail Keeley says the barn offers a rare connection to Littleton’s agricultural past.

“This is a connection to our roots,” Keeley said. “We should remember where we came from, and in Littleton, that’s farming and ranching.”



Hudson Gardens Vision Plan: Cultivate the Future

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPRD) is inviting the community to “cultivate the future” of The Hudson Gardens & Event Center through a public engagement campaign beginning in October. Community members are encouraged to share their ideas and help shape the future of this beloved scenic space.

Hudson Gardens is committed to serving as a recreational, educational, and cultural hub for the community. The Hudson Gardens Vision Plan will enhance the gardens as a destination for celebrations and events, expand offerings, and ensure long-term sustainability.

Since assuming operations of Hudson Gardens, SSPRD has allocated more than \$5.4 million for capital improvement projects through 2025. The largest to date is the \$2.6 million Pond and Stream Improvement Project. The Hudson Gardens Vision Plan will build on these investments and guide future improvements and programming over the next decade.

The public will have multiple opportunities to provide input this fall, including events at Hudson Gardens, pop-up events in the area, stakeholder and focus group discussions, and online surveys. Visit GamePlan.ssprd.org/Hudson-Gardens-Vision-Plan this fall to find out how to share thoughts and ideas.





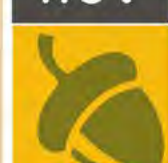
Littleton Events

FALL
2024

OCT



NOV



5 **Littleton Craft Fair**
 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Ketring Park
 Get ahead of holiday shopping with over 240 booths of handcrafted items. Booth fees benefit Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum. Info at LittletonCraftFair.org.



6, 20 **Downtown Littleton Farmers Market**
 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Nevada Street and Main Street
 Support local producers and load up on fruits and veggies, every first and third Sunday through October. Info at LittletonQ.com



12 **Harvest Festival**
 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Littleton Museum
 Wagon rides, vintage carnival games, and other fun family-friendly activities. Leave with pumpkins! Admission to farm, music and photo opportunities are free. Games, refreshments, and wagon rides require tickets, which can be purchased at event or online and picked up at will-call. Purchase pumpkins with cash or check (ATM on-site). Info at LittletonMuseum.org.



12 **Big Pride Littleton**
 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Bega Park
 Celebrate Littleton's LGBTQIA+ community! Featuring local businesses and performers, this family-friendly event will be one for the books. Info at LittletonQ.com.

18 - 20 **The Hunchback of Notre Dame**
 Friday 7:30 p.m. | Saturday and Sunday 3 p.m. | Littleton United Methodist Church
 See Victor Hugo's classic tale brought to life on stage, featuring thrilling musical performances. Collaboration of Colorado Syphony Orchestra, Voices West Choir, and Town Hall Arts Center, presented by Littleton Arts and Redstone Bank. Info at TownHallArtsCenter.org.



27 **Littleton Stride**
 8 – 11 a.m. | Littleton Museum Start/Finish
 Annual race benefitting, supporting and celebrating Littleton Public Schools. Bring a friend, race, or cheer along the route! Info at LPSFoundation.com.



5 **General Election**
11 **Veterans Day**
 11 a.m. | World War II Memorial, Ketring Park
 Public ceremony to honor and recognize veterans. Includes remembrances of veterans who have recently passed, and comments by community leaders.



23 **World Children's Day**
 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Bemis Public Library
 Celebrate children around the world with music, dance, arts, crafts and treats scheduled throughout the day. Info at BemisLibrary.org.

28, 29 **City offices closed for Thanksgiving**

29 **Candlelight Walk and Holiday Parade**
 5:30 – 8 p.m. | Main Street, Downtown Littleton
 Littleton's annual holiday parade featuring Santa Claus, holiday music, dancing elves, live reindeer, and hot cider amid the charming old buildings of Downtown Littleton. Info at VisitLittleton.org.



ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE | Find more events at visitlittleton.org
DEC 8 **Holiday's Evening**
 5 – 8 p.m. | Littleton Museum
 Popular outdoor evening on grounds of the living history farms. Info at LittletonMuseum.org.





Final Public Hearing for 2025 Budget

Wednesday, October 23 | 7 p.m.
 Board Room, South Suburban Sports Complex, 4810 East County Line Road
 District residents are invited to provide input on South Suburban's 2025 budget and spending priorities. For more information, call the South Suburban Administration Office at 303-798-5131, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Magic of the Jack O'Lanterns

October 3 to November 2 | Hudson Gardens
 Visit Hudson Gardens to experience a glowing trail of more than 7,000 magnificent, hand-carved pumpkins. A magical light show illuminates a nautical seascape, a pirate ship, dinosaurs, dragons, and so much more! More info at MagicOfTheJackOLanterns.com.

Hole-O-Ween

Through October 31 | Colorado Journey
 Hole-O-Ween at Colorado Journey miniature golf course is back! Ghosts, fairies, witches, spiders, and more are out to ensure a frighteningly good time. Hole-O-Ween is fun for all ages, featuring Halloween-themed holes and spooky kid-friendly decorations. Daily admission rates apply. More info at ssprd.org.

Play and Explore at Thanksgiving and Winter Break Camps

Kids can learn, play, and stay active during school breaks at South Suburban camps! Registration for all winter camps, classes, and programs opens October 15. Activities at full-day camps include games, crafts, swimming, and more. Campers can also discover new interests at specialty sports, arts, or enrichment camps. More information at register.ssprd.org.

Hudson Holidays

Hudson Holidays at Hudson Gardens is back and brighter than ever! The tradition kicks off after the Candlelight Walk on Friday, November 29. Sparkling trees, warm beverages, and selfies with Santa will highlight the event. Follow Hudson Gardens on social media to learn when tickets are available.

Moonlit Masquerade

October 18 at South Platte Park
 An evening of live music, s'mores, and storytelling by the campfire! Wear a costume or make a mask at the event, then explore on a guided moonlit forest walk. Register at ssprd.org.

Pumpkin Plunge

October 19 | Buck Recreation Center
 Take a plunge to find a perfect pumpkin. Swimmers of all ages are invited to dive for pumpkins in the Buck Recreation Center pool and turn them into spooky masterpieces at the decoration station. Register at ssprd.org.

LITTLETON MUSEUM EVENTS

The Littleton Museum is one of the region's premier cultural destinations. It features two authentic living history farm sites, with costumed interpreters portraying life in early Littleton. The museum building includes a permanent exhibit focusing on Littleton history, and two rotating galleries. The museum is at 6028 South Gallup Street. There is no charge for admission, but donations are accepted. Find out more at LittletonMuseum.org.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER EVENTS

Littleton Craft Fair

Saturday, October 5 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Get a jump start on holiday shopping with more than 240 booths of handcrafted items. Booth fees benefit the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum. Info at LittletonCraftFair.org.

Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 12 | 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Wagon rides, vintage carnival games, and other fun family-friendly activities. Leave with pumpkins! Admission to the farm, music, and photo opportunities are free. Games, refreshments, and wagon rides require tickets, which can be purchased at the event or online and picked up at will-call. Purchase pumpkins with cash or check (ATM on-site).

A Place for All People Smithsonian Speaker

Thursday, October 17 | 6 p.m.
 Dr. Ariana A. Curtis is the first curator of Latinx Studies at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, where she leads research and collections that center Latinidad through an African American lens. She has also held leadership roles in major Smithsonian Institution initiatives including Reckoning with Our Racial Past and the American Women's History Initiative. A seasoned public speaker, her TED talk about women and museum representation has over three million views. Free, RSVP requested at LittletonMuseum.org.

Town Hall Arts Center Events

Cannibal! The Musical

October 25 to November 3
 Catch the wild and bloody story of "Colorado Cannibal" Alferd Packer in *Cannibal! The Musical*, the dark comedy by South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone.

The Hunchback of Notre Dame

October 18, 19, 20
 Littleton United Methodist Church, 5894 South Datura Street
 Littleton's biggest talents will come together like never before to present Disney's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, featuring the Voices West community choir, Littleton Symphony Orchestra, and Town Hall Arts Center. The trio of organizations is dubbed Littleton Arts, the brainchild of long-time Littleton arts and culture champion J.D. McCrumb.

Tickets and more info at TownHallArtsCenter.org.



More Local Events

Depot Art Gallery Presents Side By Side

Through October 26 | Depot Art Gallery, 2069 West Powers Avenue
 Each year, local artists take on the challenge of replicating the composition, colors, techniques, or expression of an artist they admire. Info at DepotArtGallery.org.

Depot Art Gallery Holiday Boutique

October 29 to December 29
 Give the gift of local art this holiday season. Art, gifts, cards, and holiday decorations. Info at DepotArtGallery.org.

Fostering Our Youth: A Free Community Forum

Thursday, October 10 | 8 a.m. | South Fellowship Church, 6560 South Broadway
 Youths in foster care who age out of the system at 18 suffer distressing outcomes, including low rates of high school graduation, and high rates of homelessness, substance abuse, trafficking, mental health issues, and suicide. Learn what can be done to improve outcomes for these vulnerable young people, from a panel including foster youth and parents. Hosted by the South Metro Community Foundation. RSVP requested at SMCFinfo.org.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Friday, October 4 | 6 p.m.
 Travel back in time with a walking tour of the Downtown Littleton Historic District. Tour guides from Historic Littleton, Inc. share the stories of downtown's marvelous architecture and characters from the city's past. Free, but donations are appreciated. Reservations are not required. Meet at 6 p.m. at the Depot Art Gallery, 2069 West Powers Avenue. More information at HLinc.org.

The Stride

Sunday, October 27 | 7:30 a.m.
 The Stride, now in its 29th year, is a 5k/10k/fun run benefiting the Littleton Public Schools Foundation, raising funds for Littleton Public Schools students and educators. All ages and abilities are invited to participate, and visit the Wellness Expo, featuring local businesses and organizations. Information and registration can be found at LPSFoundation.com.

National Night Out

Littleton Police officers were proud to participate in National Night Out gatherings across Littleton August 6.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Registered block parties can receive grants up to \$500.

Learn more at LittletonPolice.org.



BEYOND BOOKS

EVENTS AT BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | BemisLibrary.org

FEATURED PROGRAMS



Cinema Classic: Clue
October 11, 6 p.m.

Enjoy a special after-hours screening of the classic comic mystery *Clue: The Movie* (PG, 1985). Based on the popular board game, the movie is a farcical and fast-paced mystery. Come in costume as a favorite character, enjoy refreshments, and play along with interactive games. The library doors will open from 5:45-6:15 p.m. only for this after-hours event.

An Indigenous History of Music
October 15, 6-8:30 p.m.

With multi-generational ancestral roots in both Pioneer and Native American cultures, Leon Joseph Littlebird inherited a passion for local history, storytelling and music. He creates stories that weave the lives and talents of the earliest inhabitants of Colorado into a vibrant musical heritage.



Colorado Women in World War II with Gail M. Beaton
November 19, 6:30 p.m.

Colorado author Gail M. Beaton shares stories of some of the Colorado women who served in World War II. Weaving together oral histories, interviews, newspaper accounts, and historical photographs, Beaton offers a rare look at how the war profoundly transformed the women of this state.



Right-to-Read Book Club

Second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m.



Book challenges and censorship are on the rise across the country. Join Bemis Public Library for a new book club celebrating the freedom to read, and engage in thoughtful, respectful conversations about difficult topics, censorship, and why libraries fight to protect the right to read freely.

Colorado Ballot Issues with Active Minds
October 3, 6:30 p.m.

Join Active Minds for an objective review of the issues on the ballot this fall. They will review each proposal, presenting the arguments on all sides. They will also explain the referendum and initiative process in Colorado. This nonpartisan educational session does not promote or support any particular election outcome.



SENIOR PROGRAMS

Medicare Update

October 8, 1 p.m.

Join Allen McGill from McGill Insurance to learn about new changes regarding Medicare including timelines to avoid missed opportunities.

Active Minds: Salem Witches

October 28, 2 p.m.

In 1692 in Salem, Massachusetts an extraordinary series of events resulted in what is referred to as the Salem Witch Hunt. Hundreds of individuals were tried for the crime of witchcraft and many were executed as a result. Join Active Minds as we seek to understand this astounding moment in our country's early history.

Life Savors Guided Storytelling

First Tuesday of every month, 1 p.m.

Join facilitator Daniel Martinez the first Tuesday of each month to savor and share life stories in a positive environment. Find common experiences and unique perspectives with seniors in the community.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Takeover: Keychain Exchange*

October 16, 5-6:30 p.m.

Bring baubles, gizmos and charms to turn into keychains and exchange with the group. Odd objects will be provided to Franken-design cute or creepy accessories.

Teen Takeover: Friendship Bracelets*

November 20, 5-6:30 p.m.

Make, trade and collect different styles of woven and beaded friendship bracelets to layer up or give as gifts.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Fire & Ice with Mad Science of Colorado

October 18, 11 a.m.

This spectacular show thrills audiences with impressive science experiments. The event includes foggy dry ice storms and demonstrates how giant beach balls can float in the air. Be amazed by sizzling, shivering scissors and special bubbly showers!



Annual Halloween Costume Parade

October 24 and 25, 11 a.m.

Have a little Halloween fun at the annual costume parade for children of all ages. Show off Halloween outfits, enjoy songs and rhymes and collect treats along the path.



World Children's Day

November 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Celebrate children around the world with music, dance, arts, crafts and treats scheduled throughout the day.

Thank Goodness for Bluey Party*

November 26, 11 a.m.

For families with children of all ages

Pretend and play like the Heeler family! Explore play stations based on favorite episodes and dance to Bluey tunes in the Dance Mode Zone.



Season's Readings Winter Reading Program

November 23-January 6
For grades 5 and under

Pick up a reading log and complete challenges to earn a free book and prizes.

Gingerbread House Building Contest*

November 30,
10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Sign up with a group or individually to create festive and edible architecture. Bases and basic supplies will be provided. Bring any additional building materials, but all materials must be edible. Houses will be displayed through December 23 for public to vote. The house with the most votes will win \$25. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.



LIRC PROGRAMS

International Conversation Circle

Every Thursday, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Meet people from other countries, practice English, or help others practice English in a social setting.



Visit BemisLibrary.org for more information about everything happening at the library including book clubs, storytimes, technology classes, and more.

* Registration required.
Call 303-795-3961 or sign up through the Events Calendar at BemisLibrary.org/calendar





COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Keller Bros. Auto Repair

Cars have changed a lot since 1974. At Keller Bros. Auto Repair, celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2024, the tools used to work on cars have changed, but the company's values have stayed the same.

"Honesty and transparency are at the heart of everything we do," said Chris Morgan, Keller Bros.' general manager. "We want to educate our customers, and we stand behind the work we do with a three-year warranty."

Keller Bros. dates to 1974, when Marine Corps veteran Terry Keller and his wife Margaret purchased Southglenn Texaco. Still led by the Kellers, the shop has grown to a dozen employees in 11 bays serving up to 8,000 customers a year.

Keller Bros. works on foreign and domestic vehicles, offering everything from oil changes and light bulbs to full engine replacement. Since the 1970s, the tools of the trade have evolved from wrenches and sockets to high-tech computerized machinery. But the goals haven't changed.

"Having a car is freedom," Morgan said. "Freedom to go where you want, to get to work, to take your kids to school. We overcome the stigma of the dishonest mechanic by teaching our customers what's going on, and by presenting them with options."

The company has branched out in other ways, developing its own point of sale system and training programs for other auto shops.

A 50-year track record has inspired a lot of loyalty. "We treat you like family, and we stand behind our work," Morgan said. "It's as simple as that."

Keller Bros. Auto Repair is at 250 East Dry Creek Road. For more information, visit KellerBros.com or call 303-347-1010.

True Find Boutique

Ready to look truly stylish? True Find Boutique offers a broad selection of designer brand consignment clothing and accessories. Owner Rebekah Fisher is a 20-year fashion consultant, offering personalized wardrobe styling and "closet edits." Fisher also offers to travel for on-site styling sessions and consignment contracts. True Find is also home to True Tailor, a full tailoring service capable of customizing garments from minor alterations to from-scratch creations. True Find Boutique is at 2529 Main Street. For more information, visit TrueFindBoutique.com or call 720-877-0340.



Arc Thrift Store

Thrifters rejoice – there's a new spot in town to hunt down secondhand treasures. Arc Thrift Stores opened its second Littleton location in September, the company's 36th location statewide. Arc offers a full array of used items at low prices, from furniture to clothing to dishes to toys and housewares. The store also accepts donations of used items. The company prides itself on employing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and fundraises for The Arc, an organization that supports job training and other support for people with disabilities. Arc Thrift Store is at 7951 South Broadway. For more information, visit ArcThrift.com or call 720-586-6458.

Fish Window Cleaning

Don't be fooled by the name – beyond windows, Fish Window Cleaning also offers gutter cleaning, pressure washing, and will even leave chandeliers sparkling. Now, the company is operating out of a unique spot in Littleton's architectural history. The company recently moved to 5666 South Bannock Street, built in 1953 as the Smedley Dental Clinic. Designed in the Usonian style by noted architect Victor Hornbein, who also designed the conservatory at the Denver Botanic Gardens, the building is among the midcentury modern gems in the Littleton Boulevard corridor. A 2018 architectural survey called the building "a masterpiece of its time and one of the finest buildings in the corridor." For more information, visit FishWindowCleaning.com or call 303-795-9999.



SHOP

Littleton

Open Rewards ★

Littleton Open Rewards

Shop Local, Get Cash Back

Shopping and dining local comes with its own rewards – finding unique items or eating great food while supporting Littleton businesses. Now, shoppers can get cash back for shopping local with the Open Rewards app. Get 5% cash back at participating retailers and restaurants. Search Open Rewards: For Shoppers at LittletonCO.gov to sign up.