

City Manager Update

Hear from Castle Pines City Manager Michael Penny and learn more about parks and recreation, upcoming road construction projects, and more.



A letter from your City Manager



Happy spring to all of you! Looking ahead in 2025, I can't wait for all the new and exciting projects planned for the community. From continued road improvements to construction of new park amenities, your City Council has continued to prioritize several exciting projects across the community.

Before diving into a few upcoming projects, I wanted to share a bit more about our local government. The City of Castle Pines operates under the Council-Manager form of government. While the City was incorporated in 2009, it operated as a Statutory City until the City's Home Rule Charter was approved by voters in 2019. Simply put, the

Home Rule Charter moved significant policy decision authority from the Colorado Statehouse to the locally elected City Council. Your elected Castle Pines City Council is responsible for hiring the Municipal Judge, City Attorney, and City Manager.

The City Manager is responsible for the management and operation of the municipal organization and is tasked with implementing the City Council's adopted policies. In Castle Pines, we have 18 employees providing a vast range of services for the approximately 16,500 residents who call this community home. We provide these services directly through our high-quality staff and via contracts that carry out numerous operational components in the service of the community. We are considered a contract city as most municipalities of our size could easily have more than four or five times the number of employees. This has been a key policy directive of the City Council.

The City is responsible for many services, including things like land use and building permit applications, stormwater management, communications, road operations and maintenance, parks and recreation operations and maintenance, finance, and administrative support of the City Council, Planning Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The staff reviews all land use applications, building permits, and right-of-way applications to ensure they meet code requirements. We also inspect any new building construction, new roadways, and anything constructed that will become the City's responsibility.

Looking ahead to 2025, there are an abundance of exciting projects on the horizon. I've highlighted a few in the following pages. If you have questions about any of these projects or about something I don't highlight, don't hesitate to contact me at Michael.Penny@CastlePinesCO.gov or 303-705-0206. I've always happy to chat and answer your questions.

MICHAEL PENNY
CITY MANAGER



Conceptual plan of the proposed improvements to Coyote Ridge Park.



Improvements to Coyote Ridge Park approved for 2025

During the 2025 annual budget approval process, the City Council authorized \$4 million for Phase One of upgrades and improvements at Coyote Ridge Park. City staff is currently working to complete final engineering and construction documents. Then, staff will solicit bids for construction. Construction of the improvements are expected to begin by early 2026. Improvements were identified following input from Castle Pines residents. Visit CastlePinesCO.gov/ParkPlanning for more information about the public outreach process. Phase One improvements include:

Mobility and Accessibility Improvements

- o Accessible walk connections to existing shade

structures and replacement of one picnic table under each shade structure.

- o Accessible walks between the north and south sides of the drainage, between the playground and ballfield parking lot, including a plaza and small pollinator garden, if possible.
- o New pedestrian connection to the community.
- o Bike racks adjacent to the existing playground and shade shelters.
- o Improved maintenance access along the north side of the playground to the multipurpose field.



LEARN ABOUT THE PROJECT

Playground Improvements

- o Replacement of existing play equipment with updated equipment that will provide a play environment for all ages.
- o Age-separated play for 2-5-year-olds and 5-12-year-olds.
- o Replacement of play area surfacing with surfacing that is more inclusive, including poured-in-play surfacing or synthetic turf.

Fencing at the Basketball Court

- o Fencing at the edge of the existing basketball courts to minimize balls going into the drainage area.



Public input was gathered at numerous public outreach events in 2023 and 2024



Aerial rendering of Monarch Boulevard.

2025 Monarch Boulevard Reconstruction project begins in June



SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

SCAN TO REGISTER TO RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES ABOUT IMPORTANT CITY NEWS.

I know many of you use Monarch Boulevard every day to travel to and from the community. This year, we will begin the final phase of the multi-year reconstruction project for the stretch of Monarch Boulevard from Castle Pines Parkway to the northern city limits.

This final phase of work will resume just past Berganot Trail. The project will include waterline and service connections along Monarch Boulevard from near Berganot Trail to Buffalo Trail, where the water line portion of the project ends. The roadway portion of the project will continue to remove the old concrete pavement, reconstruct the subgrade, and place new asphalt along with any required sidewalk and related improvements. The same detour from 2024, which includes the temporary traffic signal at Buffalo Trail, will be reinstalled.

Construction is expected to start this June, after the completion of the current school year, and will continue into early fall. To help put this phase

in perspective, which includes waterline work and roadway reconstruction, this year's project is approximately 1,650 feet in length. This is much less than the nearly 6,000 feet of work completed in 2024, which we expect to result in a much quicker project length in 2025.

I also want to say thank you to the Castle Pines North Metro District Board and staff, who have been amazing partners on the Monarch Boulevard reconstruction project. Our joint efforts have allowed us to provide upgraded service for both transportation and water at a fraction of the cost.

Finally, Public Works staff are working to finalize project details. Stay tuned for more information on this year's project. If you'd like to receive more frequent email updates about the project, use the QR code to the INSERT DIRECTION to update your email subscriptions for City-related news and updates.

Citywide wildfire mitigation efforts nearly complete

At the direction of the City Council, the City began wildfire mitigation efforts for all public open spaces on the west side of the community. Mechanical mitigation efforts began in August 2024 and are expected to be completed later this spring. The wildfire mitigation project included a total of 255 acres at a cost of \$XX?



Mitigation needs were identified by developing the Community Wildfire Prevention Implementation Plan. The Plan was created in partnership with wildfire mitigation specialists. The Plan addresses the most immediate mitigation needs of open space parcels in the city and established guidelines and best practices for conducting effective wildfire mitigation work, ensuring long-term fire resilience.

Ongoing maintenance work will continue to ensure the maximum wildfire protection in the future while maximizing the value of the natural landscape. Visit the City's website by scanning the QR code to the INSERT DIRECTION for more information about wildfire mitigation or the Community Wildfire Prevention Implementation Plan.

Find tips and resources for a wildfire mitigation on your personal property by visiting CastlePinesCO.gov/WildfireMitigation.



Mechanical mitigation efforts began in City-owned open spaces in August 2024.

Headline here that fits

City partners with Douglas County for improvements to the I-25 Happy Canyon Interchange

City and County staff continue to work towards Federal and State approval for improvements to the Happy Canyon Interchange. This project will improve safety and mobility for the region and will support current and future growth in Castle Pines and the surrounding areas.

The preferred alternative shown to the INSERT DIRECTION, referred to as a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI), is being evaluated by a joint effort between the City of Castle Pines, Douglas County, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highways Administration. A DDI is a relatively newer interchange design that has been used across the country and more recently here in Colorado. Several of these interchanges were built along the I-25 corridor. Final design approval is expected this year with construction beginning in 2026 or 2027. Learn more about the project at CastlePinesCO.gov/HCInterchange.



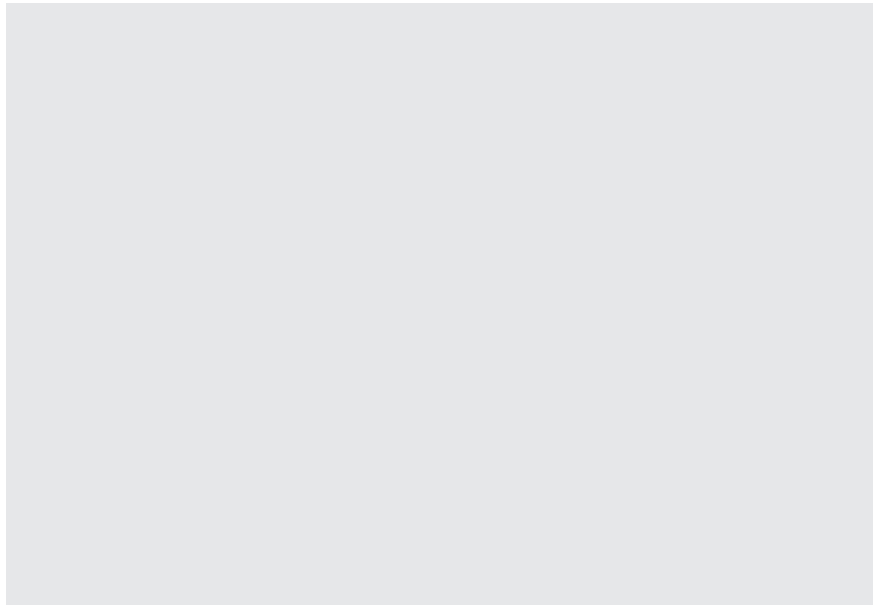
Rendering of a diverging diamond interchange at Happy Canyon Road and Interstate 25.

Learn more

- Join us for a Happy Canyon Interchange project open house!
- Monday, March 31, from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
- Castle Pines Library (360 Village Square Drive)

Life Time working to finalize land use application for fitness facility

As of this writing, Life Time is working to finalize its land use application for a facility on the east side of I-25, near Canyonside Boulevard. The City expects Life Time to complete this process later this spring with a possible ground breaking on the building later this summer. While this timeline is not confirmed, Life Time has conveyed to City staff that it intends to develop a facility in the community in the near future.



Life Time facility rendering

Join us at an upcoming event

March 31

**Happy Canyon Interchange
Open House**

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

**Castle Pines Library
360 Village Square Drive**



**SPRING
CLEANUP
DAY**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5 | 10:30 A.M. - NOON
CASTLE PINES PARKS**



April 5

Spring Cleanup Day,

10:30 a.m. - Noon

Castle Pines Parks

April 19

Egg Scramble

The Ridge Golf Course

Driving Range

1414 Castle Pines Parkway



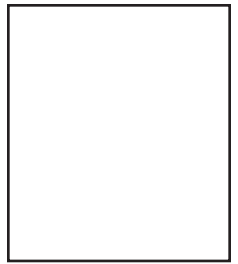
April 23

New Resident Welcome

The Ridge Golf

Course Clubhouse

1414 Castle Pines Parkway



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City of Castle Pines



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