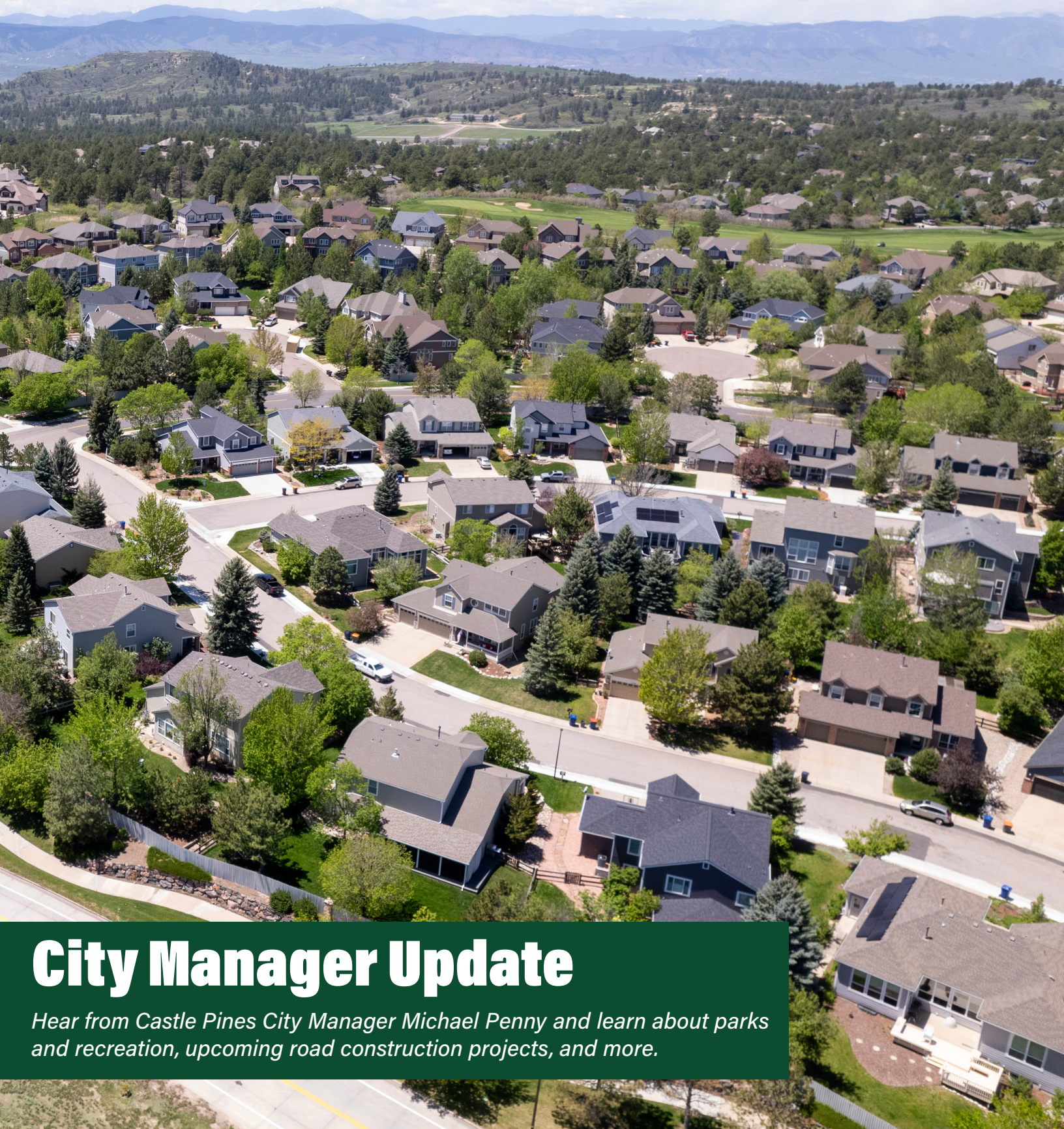




City Manager Update

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

A letter from your City Manager



Happy spring to all of you! Before diving into updates on exciting projects you will start to see around our city this year, I wanted to share a bit of history about how our local government in Castle Pines came to be. When our community was incorporated in 2009, it operated as a Statutory City until the City's Home Rule Charter was approved by the voters in 2019. Our Home Rule Charter moved significant policy-making authority from the Colorado Statehouse to our locally elected City Council. In moving policy-making authority to our City Council, the policies that govern Castle Pines are tailored to our community's specific needs.

Through our charter, the City of Castle Pines operates under the Council-Manager form of government. What does this mean? The City Council is made up of seven elected representatives. The City has three Council Districts with two Council Members representing each District who are elected by the residents within the respective districts. Then, the Mayor is elected by the entire community. Your elected Castle Pines City Council directs City policies and is responsible for hiring our Municipal Judge, City Attorney, and City Manager. The City Manager, is responsible for directing the administrative operation of the City's municipal organization and implementing the City Council's adopted policies.

Over the past few years, the City has taken on various services from other municipal bodies, such as the Castle Pines North Metropolitan District. Services we currently manage include but are not limited to land use and building permit applications, stormwater management, communications, road operations and maintenance, parks and recreation operations, and administrative support of the City Council, Planning Commission, and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. To manage these services, we have hired an exemplary staff.

Castle Pines has 18 employees who manage our various services for the approximately 16,500 residents who call this community home. Our dedicated staff provides these services directly and via contracts with qualified professionals. Due to our use of contractors, we are considered a contract city, as most municipalities of our size generally require four or five times the number of employees to provide the services we manage. Our use of the contract city model has been a key policy directive of the City Council.

Looking ahead to the rest of 2025, I can't wait for all the new and exciting projects planned for the community. From continued road improvements to the construction of new park amenities, your City Council has prioritized several exciting community projects. I've highlighted a few in the following pages. If you have questions about any of these projects or about something I haven't highlighted, don't hesitate to contact me at **Michael.Penny@CastlePinesCO.gov** or **303-705-0206**. I'm always happy to chat and answer your questions.

MICHAEL PENNY
CITY MANAGER



Interactive activities were used to identify the community's priorities for park amenities.



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

- Accessible walk connections to existing shade

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

- 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.
- New pedestrian connections to the community.
- Bike racks adjacent to the existing playground and shade shelters.
- Improved maintenance access along the north side of the playground to the multipurpose field.



Playground Improvements

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

Fencing at the Basketball Court

- 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 north of Berganot Trail. The project will include a new 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, 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 shorter project length in 2025.

I also want to thank the Castle Pines North Metropolitan 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 for the 2025 project. 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 left 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 \$510,000, including a grant for \$99,000 from the Colorado State Forest Service.

Mitigation needs were identified by developing the Community Wildfire Prevention Implementation Plan. The Plan was created in partnership with State wildlife and 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 and enhancing the area for wildlife. Visit the City's website by scanning the QR code above for more information about wildfire mitigation or the Community Wildfire Prevention Implementation Plan.

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



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

Happy Canyon Interchange design project underway

City partners with Douglas County for improvements to the I-25 and 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 right, 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 Highway Administration. A DDI is a relatively new interchange design that has been used across the country and more recently here in Colorado. Several of these interchanges have been built along the I-25 corridor. Final design approval is expected this year with construction beginning in late 2026 and ending in 2028. Learn more about the project at CastlePinesCO.gov/HCInterchange.



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

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

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 Lane

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Life Time facility rendering

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.

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 Lane 📍



**SPRING
CLEANUP
DAY**

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



April 5

Spring Cleanup Day

🕒 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

📍 Castle Pines Parks

April 19

Egg Scramble

10:00 a.m. 🕒

The Ridge Golf Course Driving Range
1414 Castle Pines Parkway 📍



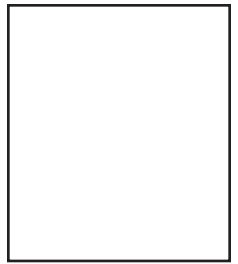
April 23

New Resident Welcome

🕒 5:00-7:00 p.m.

📍 The Ridge Golf
Course Clubhouse
1414 Castle Pines Parkway





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The City of Castle Pines



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Coyote Ridge Park improvements were approved by City Council in the 2025 annual budget appropriations.