

City Manager's Update

City of Louisville



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Meet New City Manager Jeff Durbin



I've now been in Louisville for 4 weeks and have met so many of you in that time. It's incredible how much is really contained in that short sentence.

Many of us are directly involved in the Marshall Fire Recovery and are working hard to ensure that the City continues to deliver day-to-day services for residents. Both are equally important and I continue to be impressed by the City's professional and inclusive environment – which is part of what drew me to Louisville in the first place.

Public service is both important and rewarding for me, having spent over 26 years dedicated to it. I have an extensive background in community development, organizational change and community engagement and I plan to apply this experience to my work in Louisville.

In the coming months, I'm committed to working alongside the Management Team and our newly appointed Recovery Manager Peter Gibbons as our Recovery Plan develops. In parallel, I'll also be working with City Council to develop their work plan for 2022. There's a lot to do, but I also hope to begin to enjoy all that Louisville has to offer, including the city's vibrant dining, shopping, and events. I would love to hear your favorite parts of Louisville, so please [send me an email](#) to share your suggestions.

I'm honored to be your new City Manager and I look forward to working with all of you.

Fire Response & Recovery

- Thanks to all City staff who continue to work diligently to meet the needs of the community during this challenging time. You can read all the latest updates at www.louisvilleco.gov/marshallfire. Here are a few of this week's highlights:
 - The **deadline for the right-of-entry (ROE) form for the coordinated debris removal has been extended to February 8**. To-date more than 1,000 residents have submitted a ROE form to indicate whether they will be moving forward with Boulder County's program or moving forward on their own. The latest update is available at <https://www.louisvilleco.gov/Home/Components/News/News/5653/17>.

- **Curbside collection of smoke and wind-damaged household items will begin on Monday, January 31.** Volunteer organizations are available to help residents who need assistance removing smoke and wind-damaged items from their homes for curbside pickup. Please call the debris hotline (303-214-3203) or email roe@bouldercounty.org for more details. For more information on the debris removal program, please visit <https://www.bouldercounty.org/disasters/wildfires/marshall/debris-removal-program/>.
- **Connect for Health Colorado has opened a Special Enrollment Period for health insurance for all Coloradans affected by the wildfires and/or COVID-19 through March 16.** Visit <https://connectforhealthco.com/get-started/disaster-relief-enrollment-period/> for more details.
- The Disaster Recovery Center (formerly the Disaster Assistance Center) consists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) along with multiple state agencies in the south half of the building located at 1755 S. Public Road in Lafayette. **The Disaster Recovery Center is open 9 AM to 5 PM Monday through Saturday.** Individuals can visit this site to apply for assistance with FEMA, get updates on their case status and provide any necessary documents.
- **Louisville's Call Center remains open Monday-Friday, 9 AM to 3 PM.** If residents have questions, they should email MarshallFire@LouisvilleCO.gov or call (720) 824-3100. If you get

the voice mail, please leave your name, your phone number, and your question and a staff member will call you back.

- Boulder County urges anyone who has been impacted to continue to register their recovery needs at www.boco.org/marshallfire and fill out the online form for financial assistance at <http://www.boco.org/MarshallFireAssistance>.

Marshall Fire Recovery Museum Projects

Click [here](#) to learn about cleaning and stabilizing fire-damaged items and help replace photo memories that residents lost in the fire.

The Louisville Historical Museum's photo and story collection projects have received some media attention in the last week. You're invited to watch the [9News](#) and [Fox 31](#) coverage or read the full articles. City staff are invited to participate in these projects. Many City staff played an active role during the Marshall Fire and continue to do so in helping the community in the aftermath. The Museum is collecting stories and photos about all aspects of the Marshall Fire and the community relief efforts in its aftermath. The Museum welcomes staff stories (or stories you have heard from others) and photos. Share your story, experience, perspective, and photos via "[Marshall Fire Stories](#)" [webpage](#). Your stories/photos will become part of the historical record of this time.

What to Read & Watch during Black History Month

February is Black History Month. This is a time to celebrate and highlight the achievements of the Black community throughout our nation's history. It is also a time to reflect on misconceptions and wrongdoings of the past, including the erasure of Black stories in American history.

The Louisville Historical Museum views this as an opportunity to reinvigorate the research into Black experiences in Colorado history and continue sharing narratives that were traditionally left out of history. We must educate ourselves and work towards a more inclusive and holistic history of Louisville, Colorado and the United States.

This month, the Louisville Historical Museum recommends that we all spend some time getting to know more about the history and experiences of the Black community in the west, and specifically Colorado. There are a lot of great resources out there but the Museum staff have chosen a few options to get the whole family started learning about the history and experiences of the Black community in Colorado:

- Watch: [“Mr. Barney Ford”](#) (from the Colorado Experience Series, Rocky Mountain PBS). This hour-long documentary is free to watch and follows the life and work of Mr. Barney Ford, who escaped after enslavement and was determined to gain an education, make a name for himself, and fight for the rights of Black people in early Colorado.
- Watch: [“Remnants of A Dream: The Story of Dearfield Colorado”](#) (Documentary by Chuck Nuckolls). This 2-hour documentary is free to watch and follows the story of O.T. Jackson and other black homesteaders in Colorado who sought to create a haven for Black residents to work and live together. The story takes viewers as close to

Louisville as Valmont Rd. in Boulder and then follows the trials and successes of Dearfield, a Black settlement near modern-day Greeley.

- Visit the [“African American History in Colorado” Online Exhibit](#) from History Colorado. This digital exhibit is free to access and follows Black history in Colorado from [Lincoln Hills](#) through the Civil Rights Movement.
- Recommended reading lists:
 - Colorado Humanities - [“Changing the Legacy of Race and Ethnicity”](#) adult book list
 - Colorado Parent - [“Share African American History with Your Child”](#) book recommendations for every age

Parks Irrigation Improvements

In December, the Park Irrigation Mainline Replacements project was completed. Three existing irrigation mainlines were replaced from PVC to HDPE pipe along with additional irrigation components (there are tremendous advantages of switching, which most importantly equates to reduced breaks and time spent maintaining). The sites in which the work was completed include the Louisville Sports Complex, a section of mainline at the Cemetery and a 500 foot section of mainline within the McCaslin Boulevard right-of-way.

HDPE pipe has been around for a long time, but its use in park landscapes is just beginning. Louisville is in the forefront of this type of use and is scheduled to continue with another mainline replacement this year at Community Park.



COVID-19 Update

- COVID-19 cases remain high in Boulder County. Please remember to:
 - **Get vaccinated and boosted**
 - **Wear a mask**
 - **Limit gatherings & conduct meetings remotely**
 - **Wash hands frequently**
 - **Get tested if you have symptoms or were exposed**
 - **Practice physical distancing**
 - **Do not come to work if you feel sick**
- We are seeing the impacts of getting a booster dose and **if boosted, are 9.7 times less likely to become a COVID case and 47.5 times less likely to be hospitalized** than if you have no protection at all.
- The CDC recently announced that 12-15 year olds are now eligible for boosters, and announced changes to the [booster recommendation timeline](#).
- Governor Polis signed an [Executive Order](#) declaring Colorado as high risk for exposure or transmission of COVID-19, making every **Coloradan who is 18 years and older and 6 months past their second dose of**

the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or 2 months past their Johnson & Johnson vaccine eligible for the COVID-19 booster. The Governor continues to urge all Coloradans who are eligible and have not yet received any vaccine to get one immediately to protect public health, reduce transmission, preserve hospital capacity and alleviate the stress on health care workers.

- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recommending the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11.** Colorado's vaccination rate for first doses among this age group has surpassed 20%. Information and resources to help parents prepare for their child's vaccination appointment, including information on how to make appointments, are available at boco.org/children-and-teens.
- **Free at home testing kits** are available from the State. Complete the online form to have them delivered to your house. Please note that this is not a PCR test and does not qualify for return to work (or school).
- The federal government recently launched a new website (www.covidtests.gov) in which you can **order four at-home COVID-19 testing kits.**
- In accordance with BCPH's Public Health Order, **masks are required in all indoor public settings in Boulder County for everyone age 2 and older**, regardless of vaccination status. Businesses/City facilities are not required to allow people with mask exemptions to enter but should offer accommodations (i.e. remote options, outdoor classes, etc.). City facilities, including the Recreation & Senior Center and Library, are requiring that all individuals over the age of 2 wear a mask when in the building. If you have follow-up questions, please refer to the State's Mask FAQ.

- **All City of Louisville employees and patrons age 2 and older entering and inside City buildings must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth.**
 - Masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status.
 - Masks must cover your nose and mouth.
 - Masks may be removed indoors:
 - When a person is eating or drinking in a designated eating space and they are 6 feet from any other employees or patrons.
 - In an office space with no other employees or patrons and a closed door.
 - In a City vehicle if there is only one employee in the vehicle.
- City staff should have a mask available at all times.
- Masks must be worn in a City vehicle with 2 or more employees.
- The City of Louisville has provided masks for employees to use when working in City facilities. If you are in need of these supplies, please contact your supervisor who will coordinate getting these supplies with the City Manager's Office.
 - When City provided masks are not available, employees should bring and wear their own masks. Cloth/homemade masks should be washed in a washing machine with hot water and detergent when employees return home and hands should be washed with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- For more instructions on how to **sign up with a local vaccine provider**, visit <https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine> or call 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926, available 24 hours, 7 days a week). City employees are encouraged to sign up for the vaccine. To remove any barriers for City

staff who wish to get the vaccine, the City is allowing staff to get their vaccine during working hours without having to take Public Health Emergency Leave (PHE) hours. It typically takes 2 weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination. That means you can be infected from exposure to COVID just before or just after vaccination.

- **Keep Getting Tested – Even If You’re Vaccinated** - The [free testing site at Stazio Ball Fields](#) remains open. If you’re experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or you’ve been exposed to COVID-19, even if you’re vaccinated, please continue to get tested. It’s really important for our public health authorities to have access to good data about the virus. Visit the [Boulder County Public Health website](#) for more testing options.
- The **City’s Public Health Emergency Leave Policy was recently updated** to provide further clarification around at-home COVID-19 tests and the return to work protocol for symptomatic individuals. City policies can be found in Y:\Human Resources\Policies\COVID.
- A table of **confirmed COVID-19 cases at the City of Louisville** is available on the [City’s COVID-19 Dashboard](#).