

Timberlines

THE OFFICIAL CITY OF LONE TREE MAGAZINE | ISSUE 110

TROTTING INTO THE SEASON



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on the Rise*



Minutes with Mayor Harmon

Dear Residents and Businesses of Lone Tree,

As we approach the winter solstice and the heart of our festive holidays, both religious and secular - I want to extend my warmest wishes to you, your families, and friends for a joyous holiday season. While this time of year is a celebration of gratitude, hope and love, it can also be a period of sadness and loneliness for some. I encourage all of us to take the opportunity to connect with loved ones and reach out to those in our community and neighborhoods who may need a little extra support. When we come together, whether through shared celebrations, volunteer efforts, or simply checking in on one another, we reinforce our collective spirit and continue to build upon a community rooted in compassion, understanding, and support to ensure everyone feels the warmth of belonging. This is what makes the City of Lone Tree a very special place.

With the holiday season comes a variety of celebrations, events and activities that call for dining options, gift selections, playing at your favorite destinations, or finding the perfect hotel for your out-of-town guests. To help you prepare for all your holiday festivities, we have included our *Winter Splendor Guide* in this issue of Timberlines. This guide provides everything you need to know about dining, playing, shopping, and staying in Lone Tree. Additionally, our website offers a comprehensive directory of local eateries categorized for your convenience, services for pampering, entertainment venues, and a complete list of hotels. We encourage you to choose Lone Tree for all your holiday preparations and to support our small businesses

during this festive time. As a small business owner myself, I know firsthand how much your support means to our community entrepreneurs. By choosing to support small businesses, you are not just making purchases; you are investing in the future of our community.

Finally, the City Council, staff and I invite you to join us for the last City event of the year – Merry Days – at the Lone Tree Arts Center on December 6. As always, our staff is hard at work planning a unique holiday celebration that has become a cherished tradition in our community. This event is for everyone, and we look forward to celebrating the season together with every member of our community at Merry Days in Lone Tree!

I would be remiss if I did not emphasize the importance of staying safe this holiday season. Your well-being matters and it is my sincere hope that you find time to rest, recharge, and connect with loved ones. As we reflect on the year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve such a vibrant, supportive, and thriving community. Thank you for making Lone Tree such an incredible place to live, work and play. I am deeply grateful to serve as your Mayor and look forward to all the possibilities the New Year will bring.

Gratefully yours,

Marissa Harmon

Mayor
City of Lone Tree

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Meet Your LONE TREE CITY COUNCIL



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IN MEMORIAM Patricia Braden 1938—2024



The City of Lone Tree is deeply saddened to announce the passing of former Lone Tree City Councilmember Patricia Braden. Patricia served on the City Council, serving from 2002—2010, and played a key role in shaping the City's early development. Her true passion was for the local arts, and she dedicated much of her public service to the planning, funding, and development of the Lone Tree Arts Center, which opened in 2011. In addition, Patricia was instrumental in acquiring artwork as a member of the Lone Tree Arts Commission, with many of the pieces still gracing the community today. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family and friends.



Braden and members of City Council breaking ground on Lone Tree Arts Center in 2010.

FORMER MAYOR PRO TEM SHAW RECOGNIZED AT DRCOG 2024 AWARDS CELEBRATION



Former Mayor Pro Tem Wynne Shaw and DRCOG Board Chair and Arapahoe County Commissioner, Jeff Baker



Left to right: Councilmember Mike Parr, Communications Director Melissa Gallegos, Councilmember Alecia Brown, Mayor Marissa Harmon, City Manager Seth Hoffman, Public Works Director Justin Schmitz, Assistant City Manager Austin Good, and Assistant Director of Public Works Jacob James.

City Council and staff attended the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Annual Awards event this past August. DRCOG is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy and allocate funding in the areas of transportation, personal mobility, growth and development, and aging and disability resources. Lone Tree is a member of DRCOG, joining other cities, counties, and towns to collaborate and make decisions for the benefit of the region.

At the awards celebration, which brought 500 elected officials, organizations, and sponsors to celebrate regional excellence, 18 winners representing individuals, projects, programs and collaborations were recognized for making the Denver region a great place to live, work, and play.

Lone Tree's former Mayor Pro Tem Wynne Shaw, who served as a Board Member and Chair of DRCOG from 2016 to 2024, was honored with a Distinguished Regional Leadership Award as Chair of the DRCOG Board. Lone Tree congratulates Shaw for this

distinguished recognition of her leadership, commitment, and work to improve the quality of life of communities and the region.

For more information about DRCOG's awards celebration, go to drcog.org/awards. ♦

LONE TREE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Lone Tree City Council meetings are open to the public and are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Lone Tree Civic Center, 8527 Lone Tree Parkway. All study sessions begin at 4:30 p.m., and regular meetings at 7 p.m. Agendas for upcoming City Council meetings are published the Friday before the Tuesday meeting.

For agendas, meeting packets, and meeting minutes, visit the City's meeting portal at cityoflonetree.civicweb.net/portal/

Upcoming City Council Meetings:

December 3 **January 7**

December 17 **January 21**

CITY COUNCIL LEARNS ABOUT BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Caption: Left to right: Mayor Marissa Harmon, David Lemnah, Co-Owner of Lokal Homes, and Councilmember Alecia Brown

The Home Builders Association (HBA) of Metro Denver hosted a Housing Affordability Bus Tour this past summer, designed for elected officials interested in learning more about the building industry's commitment to housing attainability. Mayor Marissa Harmon and Councilmember Alecia Brown joined other elected officials and traveled by charter bus to several different developments in different stages of construction to learn more about the main impediments to housing affordability in the Denver metro area.

At the conclusion of the tour, attendees left with a good foundational understanding of the major challenges the building industry faces when bringing more attainable housing options to market, including the

complexities of Colorado's construction defect laws. These legal challenges often slow development and increase costs, making it difficult to deliver affordable housing. However, the tour also highlighted the innovative solutions that builders and developers are implementing to lower costs, navigate regulatory hurdles, and improve the quality of life for current and future generations of Coloradans.

Lokal Homes, currently building condos and townhomes in Lyric at RidgeGate, was one of the builders featured on the tour. For more information, visit lokalhomes.com.



LONE TREE PROUDLY JOINS EAGLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY FOR WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY

In October, Lone Tree proudly joined Eagle Ridge Elementary for a fun Walk and Roll to School Day 2024! Faculty, students, and parents came together with Lone Tree Mayor Marissa Harmon, City Councilmembers Mike Parr and Jay Carpenter, City Manager Seth Hoffman, and our favorite Lone Tree School Resource Officers, Kyle Goudy, Kris Larson, and Mark Pane to promote healthy habits and community spirit while enjoying a refreshing stroll. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect and celebrate the benefits of walking and biking as a safe way to get to school.

Walk and Roll to School Day, part of the International Walk to School Day event, began in 1997 to promote walking and biking for children. Today, it is celebrated annually with schools and families across the world participating in walking and biking to school together. ♦



Councilmember Mike Parr, Mayor Marissa Harmon, Eagle Ridge Elementary Principal Doug Humphreys, and Mayor Pro Tem Jay Carpenter



2024 TOWN HALL A GREAT SUCCESS

Over 75 residents attended the 2024 Lone Tree Town Hall on October 29, 2024, at the Lone Tree Hub. The evening provided insightful information, presented by Mayor Marissa Harmon, about projects around the City, as well as a look at some exciting developments on the horizon, including the Entertainment District, the City's new Justice Center and Public Works Operations facility, and High Note Regional Park. Residents also learned about Public Works projects, a Police Department update, and how residents can access, learn, and stay connected about happenings in the City. An engaging dialogue also took place between residents, the Mayor, and City staff, allowing for an in-depth discussion on various topics.

If you missed the Town Hall, you can learn more about the City by visiting lonetree.com or reach out to the Communications Team if you have any questions at communications@cityoflonetree.com. You can also reach out to the City Council; their contact information is provided on page 4. ♦





NEW LADDER 34 INTRODUCED BY SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE



Councilmembers Alecia Brown and Mike Anderson joined South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR) as they introduced their first tractor drawn aerial to the community. The new tiller, known as Ladder 34, went in service on the morning of September 24, 2024, at Station 34 in Lone Tree. This tiller was specifically designed to be housed at Station 34 and to be able to maneuver the streets with good sight lines for the engineers and operators driving and guiding the apparatus. Ladder 34 can also perform as a primary response unit offering specialty support on calls needing heavy rescue and technical rescue capabilities.

SMFR's Ladder 34 is the first tractor drawn aerial to arrive in the Denver metro area in 20 years. It replaces two older pieces of equipment that were set for replacement, however, SMFR opted to consolidate them into Ladder 34 for cost savings.

Congratulations to SMFR and appreciate all the work they do to keep our community safe. ♦



LONE TREE CELEBRATES THE REBRANDING OF SKY RIDGE TO HCA HEALTHONE AT SKY RIDGE



Mayor Marissa Harmon and City Manager Seth Hoffman celebrated the brand relaunch of Sky Ridge to HCA HealthONE at Sky Ridge. HCA HealthONE unites more than 170 care sites in Denver under one name in a signal to patients that they can receive personalized, specialty care close to home under a single system, backed by HCA Healthcare – one of the nation’s leading providers of healthcare services. While HCA HealthONE facilities have been a part of the HCA Healthcare family for years, the new name will make it easier for patients to recognize how the system’s facilities are connected to each other.

For 21 years, Sky Ridge has been a key driver to the economic growth of Lone Tree and the surrounding area, by providing high quality health care services to residents and visitors. HCA HealthONE has made a significant impact on the quality of life of our community and the City looks forward to their continued investment in health care, community, and their deep commitment to enhance the patient experience. ♦



Left to right: HCA HealthONE Sky Ridge CEO Eric Evans, Mayor Marissa Harmon, Douglas County Commissioner Abe Laydon, City Manager Seth Hoffman; and HCA HealthONE President & CEO Chad Christianson.

CBC MEMBERS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL APPRECIATION

On October 24, 2024, at the Lone Tree Arts Center, the City honored nearly 50 dedicated volunteers who have served on City commissions, boards, and committees (CBCs), making significant contributions to the Lone Tree community. Their commitment, time and expertise have played a vital role in enhancing the quality of life of Lone Tree. Through their hard work and passion, they have helped shaped policies, programs, services, and initiatives that has made the City of Lone Tree what it is today and has provided the framework to shape our future.

THE CITY EXTENDS ITS APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING CBCS AND THEIR MEMBERS:

Arts Commission

Sagine Israel, *Chair*
Maura Adamson
Tonya Fallows
Diana Guetig
Julie Kemerling
Tamara Madden
Tiemdow "Dow" Phumiruk

Audit Committee

Scott Bennewitz
Paula Lopez
Bruce McDaniel

Board of Adjustments and Appeals

Gary Godden, *Chair*
Ronald McDaniel
Kurt Miller
James Steimel
Jack Swift

Living and Aging Well Commission

Joyce Lew, *Chair*
Ada Anderson
Lili Brown
Cheryl Cobler
Wynne Shaw
Sharon Van Ramshorst
James Wightman

Planning Commission

Glenn Hertzler, *Chair*
Kyle Adamson
Michelle Bechamps
Julie Britti
Jack Rohr
Jack Swift
Frankie Valenzuela

Lone Tree Elevated Steering Committee

Kyle Adamson
Michelle Bechamps
Jeannie Bidner
Alecia Brown
Jill Clark
Tonya Fallows
Mario Hanson
Lindsay Keiffer
Mike Parr
Jason Rauch
Keith Simon
Micah Starr
Neijla York

Recreation Advisory Committee

Raymond Bikulcius, *Chair*
Damian Grayson
Karisa McCulloch
Howard Moore
Tom Rundell
Carol Sorensen
Joe Wilson

Youth Commission

AJ Parasuram, *Chair*
Aiden Chamberlain
Anoushka Chandy
Madeline Gieser
Luke Hoffman
Harshi Hemant Kapadia
Robert Kenney
Melika Sier
Nora Snody





YOUR VOICE MATTERS:

APPLY TO SERVE ON A CBC

The City of Lone Tree offers a variety of volunteer opportunities where residents can serve on City commissions, boards or committees (CBC). Every member of a CBC, appointed by the City Council, can engage in thoughtful discussions and make recommendations to the City Council and staff on specific issues or projects, contributing to the future direction of the Lone Tree community.

Lone Tree's CBCs include the Arts Commission, Audit Committee, Recreation Advisory Committee, Planning Commission, Living and Aging Well Commission, and the Youth Commission.

ARTS COMMISSION

The Arts Commission develops, supports, and assists various cultural activities and interest groups in the City. They act in an advisory capacity to the City Council through recommendations on acquisition of public art and suggestions on other cultural avenues that may be of interest to the community.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee effectively addresses issues identified by the independent audit of the of the City's financial statements.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Recreation Advisory Committee works closely with City staff and the South Suburban Park and Recreation District to enhance the City's recreation opportunities and services.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission makes recommendations to the City Council on land use applications and proposed planning documents and regulations.

LIVING AND AGING WELL COMMISSION

The Living and Aging Well Commission is committed to creating opportunities for residents to remain independent and active by identifying and advocating

for issues and concerns; linking with existing social, health, financial and support agencies; providing avenues for social interaction; and supporting educational opportunities. The Living and Aging Well Commission hosts a number of programs for seniors in the community, including monthly luncheons at the Lone Tree Golf Club and Hotel, with different entertainment each month; Cocktails & Conversations; and a variety of special tours and outings. To learn more or register for events, visit cityoflonetree.com/living.

YOUTH COMMISSION

The Youth Commission advises the City Council on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population in the area. Commissioners work together on an annual project as well as get a chance to learn about how local government functions. The Commission is comprised of residents currently enrolled in 8th-12th grade.

Apply by December 1, 2024 for 2025 Openings



The City is currently accepting applications for 2025 appointments to its CBCs. Applications are collected annually and are kept on file for one year to fill any vacancies that may arise during that period. When a vacancy occurs, City Council will review the applications and invite selected individuals for interviews.

To learn more about serving on a CBC, please visit go.cityoflonetree.com/CBCs or email City Clerk Patricia Leyva at patricia.leyva@cityoflonetree.com.

To view meeting agendas for each of the CBCs, visit go.cityoflonetree.com/CBCs

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Lone Tree Youth Commission



Anoushka Chandy



Harshi Kapadia



Cara Lippitt
Cochlear Americas



Eric Evans
HCA HealthONE
Sky Ridge



Robert Kenney
Xcel Energy

THE LONE TREE YOUTH COMMISSION RETREATS TO THE MOUNTAINS

The Lone Tree Youth Commission attended their annual retreat in October. Hosted at Snow Mountain Ranch, commissioners were able to plan for their projects, learn some leadership skills, and have a little fun.

Amongst the nine members, Commissioners attend eight different schools across the south metro area. While all of them are Lone Tree residents, they have different classes, peers, extracurriculars, and backgrounds. Their retreat was a way to learn more about one another and develop not only working relationships, but strong friendships as well.

The Youth Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population in the area. Commissioners hold regular meetings twice a month, work together on annual projects, and get a chance to learn about how local government functions. ♦



VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICES (VIPS) RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LTPD

This past September during an annual appreciation luncheon, Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) were recognized for their support to the Lone Tree Police Department (LTPD) and their contributions to the community. In 2023, VIPS contributed 8,852 hours of service, equivalent to more than four full-time employees. Since the beginning of the program, volunteers have contributed 96,420 hours of their time. That value to the Police Department in dollars equates to about \$3.2 million!

“We could not provide the excellent level of service to Lone Tree without the time and expertise of our VIPS,” said Chief Kirk Wilson. “Their commitment to volunteering has made a significant impact on the safety of our community through their invaluable volunteer service.”

The LTPD VIPS program was established in 2007 to encourage the effective use of volunteers who wish to donate their time and talents to further the goals of the Police Department. The mission of the VIPS is to serve the Police Department and enhance the effectiveness of community policing through the provision of administrative and support services. Volunteers serve in a variety of volunteer roles at the Police Department, including customer service and records specialists, Community Partnership Unit assistants, patrol support, special projects assistants, and victim services advocates. VIPS are requested to serve at least four volunteer hours per week to the Police Department throughout the year.

The following is the current list of VIPS of the LTPD we would like to recognize:

- Breanna Atnip
- Lois Books
- Ron Books
- Lili Brown
- Lucero Cuevas
- Ryan DeLeon
- Stephanie Dickens
- Darrell Gallo
- Mike Greenstein
- Kent Higgins
- Kyleen Hinojos
- Kelly Korzekwa
- Holly Oksendahl
- Kathryn Paniello
- Jim Peterson
- Peter Roozing
- Ed Savitsky
- Wynne Shaw
- Collin Sheppelman
- James Steimel
- John Stuart
- Tim Swiader
- Vitalik Walle
- Denise Werner
- Lindsay Zinsmeister

For more information about the LTPD VIPS program, email LTPDCommunityPartner@cityoflonetree.com or to apply, visit our website at go.cityoflonetree.com/LTPDVIPS ♦



SCAM ALERT

STAY INFORMED



Scammers are actively looking to take advantage of unsuspecting individuals with creative tactics. It's crucial to remain vigilant and informed about the latest scams to protect yourself and your loved ones. Here are some common scams currently making the rounds and some tips on how to recognize them. If you feel you may be involved or have fell victim to a scam, call the Police Department at 303-799-0533 for assistance.

Law Enforcement Requesting Money for a Warrant

Scammers pose as a member of federal, state or local law enforcement and advise the person of a warrant, ticket or missed jury service. The scammers request an amount of money to clear the warrant, ticket, or fine for missing jury duty. Money is requested to be sent using bitcoin ATM's.

Law enforcement will never call people and request money to clear any warrants, tickets or missed jury duty service.

Romance Scam

Criminals create a fake online identity to gain a victim's trust and then steal their money. Scammers use social media, dating apps, and other online services to find people looking for love and friendship. They create fake profiles to manipulate and influence their victims to buy something or discuss investment opportunities. After gaining your trust, they may ask you to buy them something or send them money. Or the person may

"mistakenly" send you money and ask you to send it back or forward it to someone else. The victim sends money to the suspect via bitcoin, suspect breaks communication and the victim is out of money.

Protect your heart and your wallet. If you are love struck, take your time and get to know the person first. If they ask you for money or take an interest in your financials early on, be cautious of their intentions.

AI Phone Scam Mimicking Your Voice

AI voice scams use artificial intelligence (AI) to create realistic-sounding voice recordings of people, which can be used to impersonate friends and family. The goal is to trick victims into giving money or personal information. The scammers use a small audio clip of your voice, and they can create an AI robocall. Most common calls are from family members saying they are incarcerated, injured or kidnapped and requesting the family member to send money.

Prevent scammers from using your voice by thinking twice before posting videos on social media. Also, use the automated voicemail greeting on your phone, instead of your own voice. If you feel you received an impersonation call, contact the family member directly. ♦

LTPD CORPORAL GRANT COLLINS HONORED WITH 2024 HERO AWARD

The Lone Tree Police Department is pleased to announce that Corporal Grant Collins was named a Hero Awards recipient by the Douglas County Community Foundation (DCCF) at their annual Heroes Gala this past September at Centennial Airport. The event raises awareness and support for all Douglas County first responders, Armed Forces members, veterans, and non-profit partner organizations that support these brave heroes.

Collins, along with Sophia Lind, a mental health clinician for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Community Response Team (CRT), was recognized for their work in saving two lives in one night in back-to-back calls on December 21, 2023. Corporal Collins responded to two different calls for service where both suspects were emotionally distressed. Through Corporal Collins' communication skills and rapport building ability, Corporal Collins defused both situations and the suspects were placed into custody without any harm to themselves, the public, Corporal Collins, or other police officers.

Collins received a Medal of Valor for his heroic acts demonstrating bravery, courage, and self-sacrifice for others.

The Douglas County Community Foundation is committed to responsibly managing philanthropic contributions, maintaining agile funds for emergencies, inspiring generosity, and providing support to local nonprofit organizations serving the needs within our community. Created to help preserve and enrich the quality of life through consolidated efforts in Douglas County, the DCCF focuses on the community's greatest needs through people, donors, charities, organizations, businesses, and government agencies together with charitable giving and philanthropy. For more information, please visit dccf.org. ♦



Left to right: Corporal Grant Collins, Sophia Lind, and Douglas County Sheriff, Darren Weekly



STAYING SAFE IN LONE TREE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Lone Tree is a safe community to live and work, but it's important to stay vigilant, especially during the holiday season. This time of year can attract criminals seeking opportunities to disrupt the festivities. Always be aware of your surroundings and take precautions to ensure the safety of you, your family and friends.

- **Stay Aware** - Be mindful of your environment, especially in crowded areas.
- **Secure Your Home** - Lock doors and windows and consider using timers for lights to give the appearance that someone is home.
- **Avoid Oversharing Online** – Be cautious about posting travel plans or valuable gifts on social media.
- **Keep Valuables Hidden** – Don't leave gifts or valuables visible in your vehicle, store in your trunk if possible.
- **Be Cautious of Strangers** – Be wary of unexpected visitors or solicitors approaching you for any reason. Many criminals will use different methods to distract you with the intention of taking your money or merchandise.
- **Use a Shopping Buddy** – Shop with a friend or family member for added security.
- **Keep Wallet or Purse Secure** – Use a crossbody bag or keep your wallet in a front pocket.
- **Be Cautious with Purchases** – Don't flaunt shopping bags or expensive items while walking through the mall. Don't flash a lot of cash and use only one credit card to avoid having multiple cards compromised.
- **Park in Well-Lit Areas** – Always park in populated areas and never walk out of the mall by yourself when the mall closes.
- **Be Suspicious of Callers** – Scammers claim to be from your credit card company and request to verify your information. Do not give out any personally identifiable information over the phone unless you have confirmed the legitimacy of the caller.

Report Suspicious Activity

Keep an eye out for suspicious activity. If something doesn't feel or look right, and makes you pause, pause. Report your observations or concerns to the Lone Tree Police Department by calling 9-1-1.

Porch Pirates Getting Ready to Hit the Neighborhoods

It's that time of year when thieves are gearing up to steal your packages from your doorstep. Porch Pirates are opportunistic and work quickly to steal your packages and move on to the next home. Outsmart these criminals by taking proactive steps to safeguard your packages.



- Install a visible security or doorbell camera on your porch
- Use Package Lockers
- Schedule deliveries when you are home.
- Leave instructions to conceal the package.
- Have packages delivered to your neighbor
- Require signatures on all packages
- Use a porch lock box
- Follow package tracking
- Get packages delivered to your workplace
- Request deliveries to a pick-up location

Theft Ring Alert

Suspects work in teams where one individual distracts the customer causing them to forget their purse is unattended in the shopping cart, while another individual swiftly takes the purse.

Don't get distracted.

Residential Property Watch

Going out of town or on vacation for the holidays? If you are a resident of Lone Tree, you may request increased patrols of your home and street while you are away by a member of the LTPD. To request a Resident Property Watch, visit cityoflonetree.com and submit Property Watch request form online.



LTPD Mall Unit

Lone Tree Substation at Park Meadows Retail Resort

Did you know there is a team of police officers assigned to the Lone Tree Police Substation at Park Meadows Retail Resort to build relationships and ensure the safety of mall patrons and retailers? Through their friendly presence, officers are always available during mall hours to offer assistance and support to resort shoppers and employees. The Lone Tree Substation is in front of the Cheesecake Factory in the Vistas with its main entrance facing north. Officers are available Monday through

Saturday, from Noon to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. A call button to the Lone Tree/Parker 9-1-1 dispatch center is available at the substation entrance should officers be in the mall or patrolling the parking lots.

For more information or to contact the LTPD Mall Unit, please email Sergeant James Nunn at james.nunn@cityoflonetree.com or call 303-495-4289.



**Wednesday
December 4, 2024**

11 am to 1 pm

**Nordstrom
Ebar Artisan
Coffee**

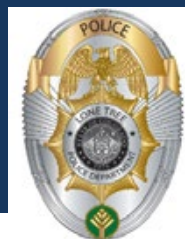
**in
Park Meadows Retail
Resort**

**8401 Park Meadows Center Drive
Lone Tree**

**JOIN YOUR LONE TREE POLICE
OFFICERS FOR
COFFEE AND CONVERSATION!**

**No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice
concerns, and meet the Police Officers of the
Lone Tree Police Department!**

**Hosted by the LTPD Community Partnership Unit
303-799-0533 /cityoflonetree.com
cpu@cityoflonetree.com**



REACH OUT

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHECKING IN ON LOVED ONES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

LONE TREE CRT PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT

While the holidays can be a time of joy and celebration, they can also bring stress and trigger difficult emotions for some, making it essential to check in on one another. Some signs that someone may be having a hard time during the holidays include withdrawing from social activities, changes in mood and behavior, increased stress, decline in communication, mood swings, and physical symptoms like fatigue or headaches.

If you or someone you know is having a mental health challenge at any time, the Lone Tree Police Department and Douglas County offer a program to support adults and youth experiencing a mental health crisis. A Community Response Team (CRT) in Lone Tree offers a coordinated response to mental health emergencies, not only addressing an individual's immediate needs, but also promoting long-term mental health and well-being in the Lone Tree community.

The team includes a full-time, dedicated law enforcement officer paired with a mental health clinician who ride together 40-hours a week, responding to mental and behavioral health emergencies. Additionally, each team has a dedicated Resource Specialist that facilitates connection to appropriate and accessible resources after the initial crisis has passed. The CRT program aims to help individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis avoid going to jail or the emergency room unnecessarily and instead connect them with the appropriate treatment and services.

Service calls for the CRT in Lone Tree are generated from 9-1-1 calls and referrals regarding potential suicides, welfare checks and behavioral health.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a life-threatening mental health crisis, please call 9-1-1 and the Lone Tree Police Department CRT is here to help you or your loved one with the support you need. The CRT is available seven days a week. You may also call the Colorado Mental Health Line at 988, a free service available to anyone in Colorado experiencing a mental health, substance abuse, or emotional crisis. ♦

STOP PUFFING

LEAVING YOUR CAR RUNNING FUELS CRIME



With winter upon us, it might seem convenient to leave your car running to warm up while you stay inside, but this practice empowers criminals and makes it too easy for them to strike. Known as “puffing,” this behavior is not only risky for getting your car stolen, but it's also illegal. Every year, law enforcement sees an increase in the number of car thefts during the winter months due to puffer cars left running unattended during colder weather.

In Colorado and in Lone Tree, it's illegal to leave your car running unattended. While cars left running with the keys in the ignition are the primary target for car thieves, it's illegal to leave your car running even if you use a remote starter. It's also illegal to leave your car idling for more than five minutes even if you're in the vehicle. This law is in place to protect the environment by reducing vehicle emissions while the unattended motor vehicle law is in place to reduce the occurrence of preventable car thefts.

How do you protect yourself from car thieves and police citations? Never leave your vehicle running unattended especially with the keys in the ignition, and keep your vehicle always locked.

For more information, please call the LTPD at 303-799-0533. ♦

UNDERSTANDING THE CITY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PREPARE FOR UNEXPECTED EVENTS

As residents and businesses of our vibrant City, it's essential to understand how the City of Lone Tree prepares for and responds to emergencies within our community. At the heart of these efforts lies the City's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), a comprehensive framework designed to ensure our community's safety and resilience before, during, and after disasters, ranging from natural events like wildfires and tornadoes to man-made crises.

What is the Emergency Operations Plan

The EOP outlines how Lone Tree will respond to various emergencies. It serves multiple purposes:

- **Coordination of Resources:** The EOP details how different City departments, agencies, and organizations will work together to manage a crisis effectively.
- **Communication Protocols:** It establishes clear communication channels to ensure timely and accurate information is disseminated to residents and stakeholders.
- **Resource Allocation:** The plan identifies the resources required for emergency response, including personnel, equipment, and funding.
- **Training and Exercises:** Regular drills and training sessions are outlined to prepare staff and volunteers for potential emergencies, ensuring a swift and organized response when it matters most.

In times of crisis, the City may need to escalate its resources quickly to meet the demands of an emergency. The EOP is designed to facilitate this process efficiently:

1. Pre-Determined Resources and Responsibilities

The plan includes comprehensive lists of resources, such as emergency personnel and equipment that can be mobilized quickly. It also outlines organization and assignment of responsibilities of multiple internal departments and external agencies, that defines the roles and procedures to guide emergency operations. This pre-planning ensures that the City and its partners can act swiftly, minimizing delays in response.

2. Multi-Agency Collaboration

The EOP outlines partnerships with external agencies, including special districts and neighboring communities. Mutual aid agreements and the national standardized operations system allow for the sharing of resources and personnel – regardless of jurisdictional boundaries – ensuring that if Lone Tree faces an interruption in normal operations, help can arrive promptly or is otherwise prepared to support emergency response.



3. Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Douglas County Office of Emergency Management (DCOEM) is a significant partner and serves an important role for major incidents that happen in Lone Tree. If an incident exceeds or is anticipated to exceed City capacity in terms of what the City can manage with its resources alone, the City will coordinate with DCOEM to escalate incident support and activate the Emergency Operations Center. When activated, the EOC serves as the command hub for response efforts. It is equipped with technology and resources to support decision-making and coordinate the deployment of escalated resources efficiently.

4. Funding Mechanisms

The EOP includes plans for securing emergency funding. This might involve tapping into state or federal disaster relief funds or reallocating City budgets to meet urgent needs. The ability to access these funds quickly is vital for effective response and recovery.

Additional Preparedness Plans

While the EOP serves as the primary guiding plan for emergencies, additional planning is necessary to continuously advance the City's preparedness. Along with the assignment of responsibilities and established agreements with partner agencies, the City also maintains a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP),

which outlines the organizational roles and operations to ensure the continuing delivery of essential services to the Lone Tree community in the event of a disaster, emergency, or disruption. Other plans also include Closed POD (large-scale public health emergency), Hazards Mitigation Plan, Lone Tree Arts Center Emergency Plans, and Warming Shelter Plan for severe weather.

In 2025, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) will be complete and available to the community. The City has also prioritized the development of an Evacuation Plan for 2025, with additional emergency plans earmarked for the future.

Keeping Residents and Businesses Informed

The EOP also emphasizes the importance of keeping residents and businesses informed. Effective communication during a crisis can save lives. The City uses multiple channels, including:

- **Social Media and City Website:** Regular updates and emergency notifications are posted across multiple platforms.
- **Local News Outlets:** Partnerships with local media ensure that information reaches a broad audience.
- **Code Red (Reverse 911):** Residents can sign up for CodeRed (Reverse 911) alerts via text, email, or phone calls to receive real-time information during emergencies. This is a vital communication tool, and the City encourages all residents and businesses to sign up.

Sign up at dcsheriff.net/codered

What Can Residents and Businesses Do

As Lone Tree residents, you play a crucial role in the overall safety and preparedness of our City. Here are some steps you can take:

Stay Informed: Sign up for CodeRed (Reverse 911) to receive real-time information during emergencies. Sign up at dcsheriff.net/codered. You can also sign up for Xcel Energy outage notices through your online Xcel account. Visit co.my.xcelenergy.com to sign in.

Prepare an Emergency Kit: An emergency supply kit is an essential preparedness item that can help you and your loved ones during an emergency. It is important to create an emergency supply kit that would be useful in the specific types of emergencies you are most likely to face. Consider the following list of supplies to include in your emergency supply kit:

- Food and water – Make sure to include non-perishable food and water that last for at least 3 days. During a disaster, the food and water supply may be cut off, so having a three-day supply is essential.
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Whistle
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Masks
- Soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes
- Tools, such as a wrench or pliers to turn off utilities

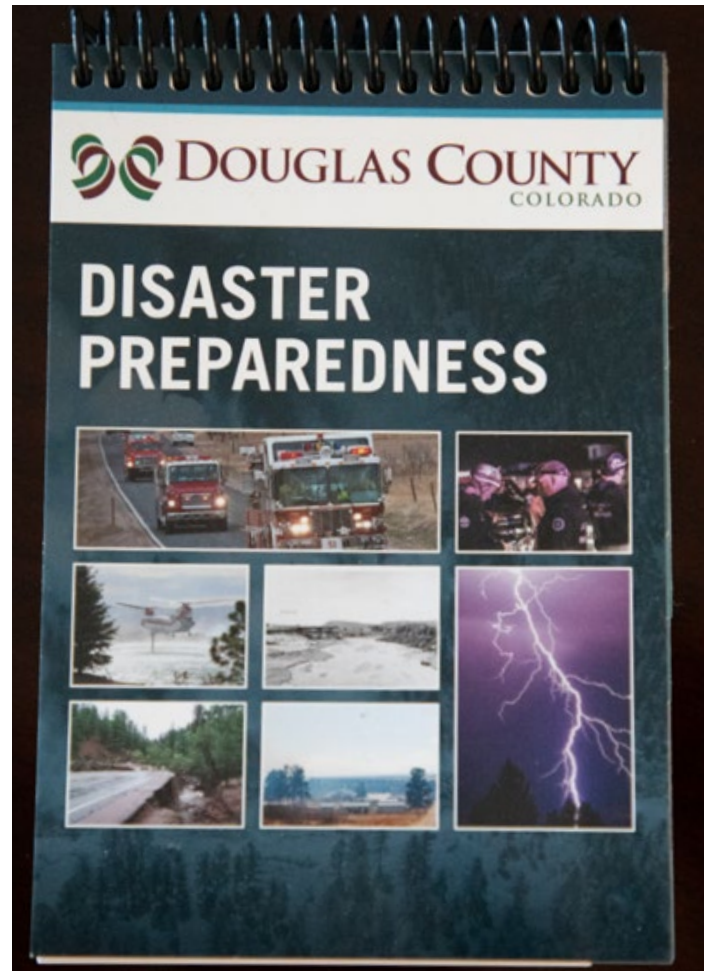


Have a Plan: Make a plan today. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which types of disasters could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Consider the following tips when making a plan:

- o Evacuation – identify several places you could go in an emergency, and become familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation
- o Create an emergency communications plan with your family, so you'll know how to reconnect if separated.
- o Plan for how you will care for your pets in an emergency.
- o Shelter in place – sometimes emergency officials will ask you to stay where you are. In this case, prepare for: going inside immediately, preferably in a room without windows; tune the radio to 850 AM; stay off phones, as overloaded circuits can keep actual emergency calls from getting through.
- o There are numerous resources at the local, state, and federal levels to help you plan and prepare for various emergency scenarios. Visit the following links to learn more about making a plan today.

Visit ready.gov/kit to learn more about building an emergency kit.

For additional preparedness resources, visit cityoflonetree.com/preparedness ♦



Pick up a disaster preparedness booklet at the Lone Tree Municipal Building! Douglas County has prepared tips and resources for everyday life and specific emergencies.

Emergencies can happen at any time. Don't miss out on alerts that can keep you safe.

CodeRED alerts and updates on tornadoes, blizzards, fires, police activity, and shelter in place orders to keep you and your family informed.



Learn more and sign up at dcsheiff.net/codered/

DUI ARRESTS ON THE RISE

LTPD REVEALS STRATEGIES FOR IDENTIFYING IMPAIRED DRIVERS

Driving under the influence (DUI) behavior is on the rise in Lone Tree. The Lone Tree Police Department (LTPD) is observing a significant increase in DUI incidents, making 181 DUI arrests so far in 2024 compared to just 66 in 2023. The LTPD attributes this alarming trend to the poor decisions of drivers and their failure to understand their own tolerance levels. In addition, LTPD officers have undergone enhanced training to better identify impaired drivers, a key factor in its success in keeping intoxicated drivers off the roads and preventing accidents.

"It's concerning to see such a sharp increase in DUI incidents in our community," said Chief of Police Kirk Wilson. "Our goal is to continue to raise awareness about this important community safety issue and we are committed to doing everything we can to keep our roads safe."

The impact of DUIs, including both alcohol and drug impairment, affects every demographic, all of whom share one common issue – a lack of understanding of personal limits. The misconception runs deep, affecting everyone from those who insist they've only had a few drinks to the last person leaving the bar, to others who mistakenly believe they can quickly sober up by eating a meal, taking a shower, or sleeping it off. The reality is that far too many individuals underestimate their impairment and are unfit to drive.

"Alcohol impacts everyone differently and its crucial for individuals to assess their own state before getting behind the wheel," said Sergeant Michael Travis. "Just because you feel fine doesn't mean you're fit to drive a vehicle. It's better to be safe than sorry and call a friend or an Uber."

The LTPD has set a high standard for addressing DUIs in the Lone Tree community. Their focused approach has enhanced their officers' ability to respond effectively to the increasing number of DUIs through proactive patrols

that identify key indicators of impaired drivers. Among the most common driving behaviors triggering a police traffic stop include weaving in and out of traffic; driving without headlights; equipment violations; driving the wrong way down a one-way street; excessive speeding or driving too slowly; failing to use turn signals; following too closely; running stop signs and traffic signals; and expired license plates.

"We use a variety of indicators but the most notable we see are unstable vehicle movements and no headlights," added Sergeant Travis. "These signs most always signal a DUI."



The LTPD attributes its record number of DUI arrests to its proactive patrol strategies and its dedication to training and national certifications of its officers. Along with Police Academy training, all officers have attended an additional training in Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) and Standard Field Sobriety Tests (SFST's) training. HGN is an involuntary jerking of the eyes that occurs when a person looks to the side. During the HGN test, a police officer will have the subject follow a stimulus, like a pen, with their eyes only as it moves from side to side. The jerking indicates impairment. The SFST is a series of three tests that police use during a traffic stop including the HGN test, the walk-and-turn test, and the one-leg-stand test.

Another significant mention for the LTPD is they have three Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) within the department, making them the only DREs of a law enforcement agency in the south Denver metro area. This type of training helps officers determine if people that are driving impaired or under the influence of illegal or prescription drugs. This is a national certification of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and one of the most difficult certifications to obtain by a law enforcement officer. Lastly, the department was awarded a DUI Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (LEAF) grant which provides funding to cover overtime for officers to work extra duty to apprehend DUI drivers.

This grant has provided funding for additional officers to enhance patrols in Lone Tree, increasing the department's capacity to make DUI arrests.

"With advanced training and a greater presence of additional officers on the streets, our Police Department is deeply dedicated to keeping the roads of Lone Tree safe from DUI drivers," added Chief Wilson. "We urge anyone planning to drink to carefully consider the risks before getting behind the wheel. There are no exceptions - if you've been drinking, please do not drive." ♦



Tips for Avoiding a DUI

- **DESIGNATE A DRIVER**
Agree on who will drive you home.
- **CALL A RIDESHARE SERVICE**
Call a taxi, Uber, Lyft, or Lone Tree's Link on Demand service.
- **KEEP TRACK OF DRINKS AND TIME**
Alternate alcohol with water or soda.
- **EAT FOOD WHILE DRINKING**
Eating decreases the rate at which your body absorbs alcohol.
- **DON'T DRIVE THE MORNING AFTER**
Even if you feel good, your alcohol level may be higher.

Don't Drink and Drive, Use Link on Demand

To access Lone Tree's free, Link on Demand Service, simply download the Link on Demand app, sign up for an account and book your ride. Riders can also book over the phone by calling the Link on Demand Dispatch Center at 719-212-2430 or visit cityoflonetree.com/link-on-demand/

The Link on Demand Service operates the following days and times:

Monday—Thursday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday, 7 a.m to 10 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m to 10 p.m.

Sunday, No service.



CENTENNIAL AIRPORT

A KEY PARTNER IN THE REGION



Centennial Airport, located in the heart of the Denver south region and just 10 minutes southeast of Lone Tree, is more than a general aviation airport and transportation hub; it serves as a vibrant gateway to business, leisure, and innovation. Renowned for its exceptional facilities and service, the airport is a key player and community asset. As one of the busiest general aviation airports in the world and spanning both Arapahoe and Douglas counties, Centennial Airport is home to over 125 businesses creating more than 10,000 jobs and is responsible for generating approximately \$2.1 billion in economic impact for the local and regional economy.

Centennial Airport was conceived by the visionaries behind the development of the Denver Technological Center (DTC), who recognized the need for an airport that would significantly benefit the new business community. Initially named as the Arapahoe County Airport, Centennial Airport opened in 1968. In 1975, the Board of Arapahoe County Commissioners created the Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority, and the airport property title was transferred from Arapahoe County to the Airport Authority. In 1984, the airport was renamed Centennial Airport. In 2003, federal legislation was passed to preserve Centennial Airport as a general aviation airport, ensuring it remains free of scheduled commercial services (like Denver International Airport). This important legislation was the result of successful lobbying by surrounding communities in response to rapid growth and development in the Denver south area.

Today, Centennial Airport is one of the busiest general aviation airports in the country with an average of 1,000 takeoffs and landings per day. In 2023, the airport had 362,407 civil and military aircraft operations. Its brand for a general aviation airport is unique in that it offers 24/7/365 service to its users, including 24/7 customs services for international travelers. The airport caters to a wide variety of users including corporate businesses, charter operations, medevac and air ambulance service, military and Department of Defense, flight schools, research and development, cargo, and more.

In addition to serving as a vital transportation hub for the Denver south region, Centennial Airport serves as a crucial link for communities throughout the state. From medical evacuation flights that transport patients to specialized care facilities delivering essential aid, the airport plays a pivotal role in connecting individuals in need of vital resources. Additionally, some of the largest air ambulance companies in Denver operate from Centennial Airport, facilitating the transport of patients, blood, and organs across the state and beyond. Strategically situated near four major hospitals, the airport supports nearly 50 medical operations each day. In addition to aeronautical use, the airport is home to the Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight Museum, South Suburban Family Sports Center, Ice Arena, and Golf Course, the Perfect Landing Restaurant and Avalanche Grill, Colorado Skies Academy aerospace-focused middle school, and a hotel (coming 2024). In addition, South Metro Fire Rescue Station 35 is located on airport property.

Centennial Airport is owned and operated by the Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority, a quasi-governmental entity. It is governed by a board which includes five voting members appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners and three ex-officio Douglas County Commissioners or their appointees. The airport is also financially self-sufficient through three funding sources including fees and taxes collected by fuel sales; land leased to tenants; and fees from concessions, commercial activity, and construction. No taxpayer money is used to fund the airport, and it does accept federal and state grants for capital improvement projects that are also funded through federal and state taxes on aviation fuel.

To help address public health impacts such as noise and leaded emissions, Lone Tree is one of several government entities who participate in the Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable (CACNR). Created in 2009, the CACNR works with the airport to explore ways to reduce and mitigate impacts of the airport on surrounding communities. In addition to local elected officials and appointed community representatives,



the roundtable includes airport staff, airport users, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Colorado Department of Transportation's Aeronautics Division. The FAA has exclusive control over the operation of aircraft in the air and on runways at Centennial Airport.

Centennial Airport is currently undergoing its second Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Planning Study. This important initiative focuses on evaluating land use and noise levels in the airport vicinity, while identifying strategies to mitigate noise and address incompatible land uses through a Noise Compatibility Program (NCP). The study has successfully completed the Inventory of Existing Conditions. The next phase involves obtaining approval for the Forecast of Aviation Activity, a key FAA-approved document that projects operations—including takeoffs and landings—over the next 5 years and 10 years. Once this forecast receives FAA approval, the team will create Noise Exposure Maps that reflect both current and anticipated conditions.

The next public meeting for the Part 150 Study is anticipated for early 2025, with the study's completion anticipated in 2026. For more information, visit centennialairport.com/part-150-study or apa150noisestudy.com/

For more information about Centennial Airport, visit centennialairport.com. ♦

Centennial Airport Flight Tracking and Noise Reporting System

The airport offers an online tracking system for tracking the movement of flights and air traffic patterns within the Denver and Denver Tech Center area. WebTrak™ Flight Tracking and Noise Information System allows residents to research data about flights to and from Centennial Airport, as well as any transitional air traffic through the region. Residents may use WebTrak to investigate a noise or flight that occurred near their location. The system also simplifies the process for residents to register concerns regarding noise levels.

centennialairport.com/track-and-report-noise.

LONE TREE IS READY FOR THE SNOW SEASON

The winter season is among us, and the Lone Tree Public Works snow team, contractors, and partner agencies are ready to keep over 150 lane miles of roadways in Lone Tree clear of snow and ice for safe passage for residents, businesses, visitors and first responders.

Before the first snowflake drops, the City's snow team prepares for the upcoming storm by staying current on changing weather forecasts, preparing snow equipment, organizing snow shifts for driver, and performing prep work on arterial roadways with de-icing products to reduce the effects of snow and ice accumulation on City streets.

Prioritization of Snow Removal throughout the City

Not all roads can be plowed at once, which is why the City has a process for prioritizing the streets in the City's entire road network to ensure safe travel conditions as quickly as possible. Heavy snow accumulations may require repeated passes over primary roadways before secondary and tertiary roadways are plowed. Operations are repeated until the storm stops and all roadway surfaces are cleared to ensure accessibility and safety. If possible, remove vehicles from the road during storms to assist the snow removal team in their efforts.

The different categories of road priorities are:

Primary Roads

Major roadways that provide for high traffic volumes over medium to long distances. Examples include Park Meadows Drive, Yosemite Street, and Lone Tree Parkway. These are also the most important roads for first responders, who need to get to homes quickly.

Secondary Roads

Collectors that distribute traffic between major and local roads, serve as main connectors within subdivisions, and link one subdivision with another. Collectors generally do not provide direct access to private property. Examples include Carriage Club Drive, Ridgeway Circle, and Fairview Drive.

Tertiary Roads

Local roads and cul-de-sacs that provide for low to medium traffic volumes within subdivisions and provide direct access to residences or private property. Examples include Sweetwater Road, Troon Village Drive, Longview Drive, and Bluffmont Drive.

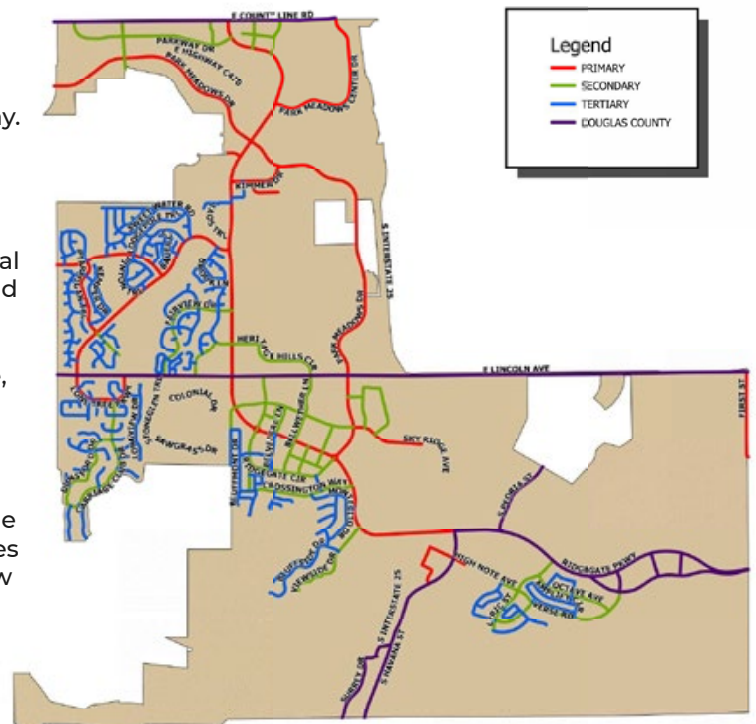
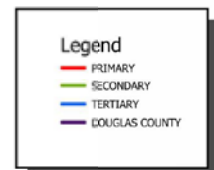
Roads Plowed by Douglas County and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT):

Douglas County and CDOT partner with the City during a snow event to keep our streets plowed. The following roads are cleared by Douglas County:

- County Line Road
- Lincoln Avenue
- Ridgeway Parkway east of Havana Street
- Havana Street
- Peoria Street
- Surrey Drive

The following roads are plowed by CDOT:

- I-25 north and south
- C-470/E-470

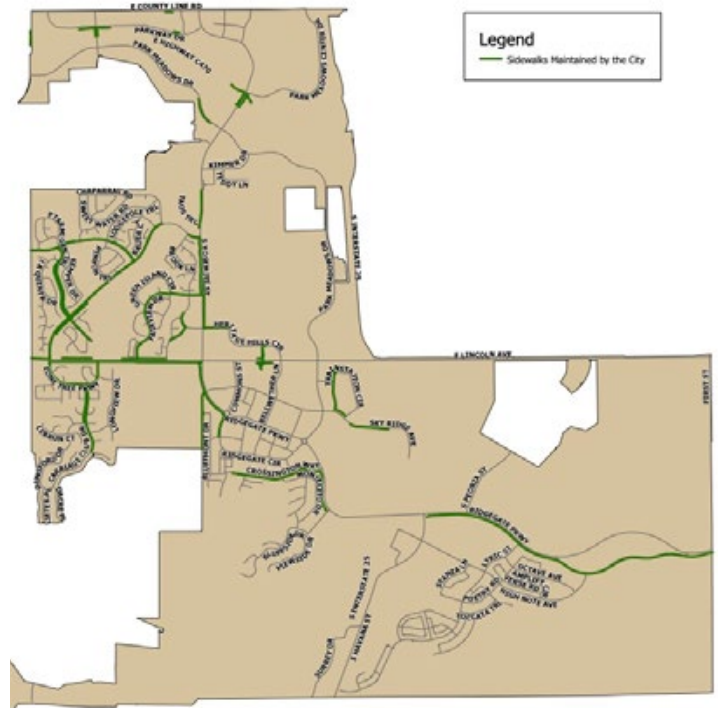


Sidewalks

To ensure a safe passageway for pedestrians, property owners and/or managing entities are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks in the public right-of-way adjacent to commercial, multi-family, or single-family attached homes within 24 hours of a storm. Owners of single-family detached homes are responsible for removing snow and ice adjacent to the property within 24 hours. Most Homeowners Associations (HOAs) require residents to have sidewalks cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a storm. If you would like to file a complaint for untreated sidewalks in front of a private single-family residence, please contact the HOA for that property.

Trails

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPRD) is responsible for snow removal on most trails in Lone Tree. There may be instances where certain trails are managed by an HOA. SSPRD, Metro Districts or HOA's will be responsible for only concrete trails. SSPRD performs most of the snow removal on trails, but it could also be the responsibility of HOA's or Metro Districts. SSPRD removes snow as needed, regardless of the day of the week or the time of day, including holidays. Their goal is to have snow plowed and ice removed or treated within 24 hours. The first priorities are surface lots and sidewalks at SSPRD facilities and routes along or feeding to school properties, followed by routes with commuter trails, bus stops and park trails. For questions or concerns, residents can contact the South Suburban Service Center at 303-953-7626. ♦



Resident Resources

DURING STORM EVENTS

(when crews are plowing and clearing streets and sidewalks):

PHONE 720-990-SNOW (720-990-7669)

EMAIL snow@cityoflonetree.com

AFTER STORM EVENTS

For questions or to report concerns related to the recent snowstorm or to report ice buildup.

Call **303-662-8112** or complete online form at cityoflonetree.com/departments/public-works/snow/



INLET DECK REPLACEMENT COMPLETED

The City's Public Works Department has completed improvements to deficient inlet decks as part of its annual 2024 Drainage Maintenance Program. This replacement aims to enhance community safety by eliminating trip hazards and addressing structural deficiencies.

In total, six (6) inlet decks were removed and reconstructed ranging from County Line Road to RidgeGate Parkway. In addition to the inlet deck replacement, the City enhanced the existing grass swales on County Line Road by installing concrete channels and stilling basins to improve drainage and water quality. The previous grass swales were prone to standing water and inadequate drainage. The new concrete channels will facilitate water flow and allow runoff to exit the swales more efficiently.

All the work was coordinated with the City's asphalt overlay and concrete project, with a total cost of \$123,000.

For more information, email Stormwater Engineer Duncan Rady at Duncan.rady@cityofflonetree.com or call 720-509-1250. ♦



UNDERSTANDING THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN LONE TREE

The City is growing with new development east of I-25 bringing in new residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, and parks, trails and open spaces. In other parts of the City, you'll notice new development, amenities, and investments - including redevelopment of older retail and commercial areas like the Lone Tree Entertainment District.

Thanks to decades of the City's thoughtful leadership, planning and partnerships with members of the Lone Tree community, the City continues to grow in a careful, deliberate and managed way, guided by the vision and goals of the City and its Comprehensive Plan, land use regulations and requirements, and an inclusive process that involves public input, review by City staff, agencies, the Planning Commission and final approval by the City Council.

The City's Comprehensive Plan provides the guidance necessary for City Council and boards and commissions to make informed decisions to balance development goals while maintaining a high quality of life for residents. The plan outlines goals and objectives for topics including land use, transportation, parks and open space, infrastructure, housing, economic development, the natural environment and other topics that could influence the City's growth and development.

Currently, the City is in the final stages of updating its Comprehensive Plan, "Lone Tree Elevated," which was developed based on direct citizen input, community workshops, and extensive study and review by the Lone Tree Elevated Steering Committee, Planning Commission and City Council. Final adoption of "Lone Tree Elevated" is anticipated to be considered by the City Council in the near future.

Lone Tree Elevated is a high level land use plan that informs more detailed zoning regulations within the City. Like most cities in the United States, land in Lone Tree is divided into different zoning districts. Each zone district permits certain land uses and regulates how those uses are developed and function within the city. For example, a property may be zoned to allow a range of commercial uses such as restaurants, retail or offices. If you own land, you are entitled to do certain things with your land and prohibited from doing other things with it. That, in a nutshell, is zoning.

While the City has the ability to guide growth within the community through planning and zoning, private property owners are the ones who decide which specific use will be on their property (within the parameters of City plans and zoning regulations). So, while we may think that our favorite grocer or coffee shop or restaurant would make sense in a certain location, private property rights (and market demand) ultimately drive the specific use. It is private property owners and investors who bring capital and development to the City, it is the job of City staff to shape that capital in a way that benefits the community.

Working with private property owners, developers and builders, the City can, and does, play an important role in shaping development. In summary:

- **Land Use Planning** guides the type of land uses the City would like to see in certain areas. Planning involves analysis of a variety of factors including transportation, infrastructure, open space, natural hazards, parks and recreation, housing needs, sustainability, public input and other policies and priorities as directed by the City Council.
- **Zoning Districts** are established and updated as necessary to ensure they are innovative and flexible enough to accommodate the types of development the City wants, consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, while preserving private property rights and stability in older neighborhoods.
- **Economic Development** initiatives can attract the specific types of jobs, businesses and land uses the City would like to welcome and retain to ensure Lone Tree remains a destination.
- **Enhancing and Protecting a High Quality of Life** includes maintaining a safe, clean, and attractive environment where people want to be. Employers, businesses, residents and builders choose to locate in Lone Tree for a variety of reasons, including our convenient location, high quality of life, supportive community, and the strength of our existing neighborhoods and businesses.

Interested in learning more about development in Lone Tree? The Community Development staff would like to hear from you. Visit <https://cityoflonetree.com/departments/community-development/planning>, email Roshana.floyd@cityoflonetree.com, or call 720-509-1180. ♦

CIVIC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED

Improvements to the main level of Lone Tree's Civic Center were completed in November. Originally constructed in 2005, the upgrades to the building ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enhance security, improve evacuation routes, and increase user functionality.

Construction of the improvements began in September and included a complete redesign of the City Council dais, increased seating capacity in the Council Chambers, a main level security door for basement meeting rooms, a new security desk in the lobby, and new updated finishes and lighting throughout the main level. The cost of the Civic Center improvements was \$350,000.

The Lone Tree Civic Center, located at 8527 Lone Tree Parkway, is used for many City events including City Council meetings, Municipal Court proceedings, and most Commission, Boards and Committee (CBCs) meetings. Two community rooms may be reserved to provide a public meeting space for Lone Tree residents and groups. Meeting rooms are available for use daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Civic Center is only available for use by non-profit organizations that have at least one Lone Tree resident as a member. The Civic Center is not available for private events such as birthday parties, wedding receptions, retirement parties, etc.

To learn more about the Civic Center, visit cityoflonetree.com/departments/city-clerk/civic-center/ ♦



AN OVERVIEW OF METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS



Metropolitan districts also defined as Special Districts established by Title 32 of the Colorado Special District Act, is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the state like water, school and fire districts. The formation of metro districts allows the district to finance, design, acquire, install, construct, operate and/or maintain public improvements within its boundaries that are not provided by the county or municipality. Metro districts must provide two or more specific, essential services, including but not limited to: domestic water, sanitary sewer, roadways, irrigation water, park and recreation, transportation, and traffic and safety controls.

Often confused with Homeowners' Associations (HOAs) which are private entities created to enforce rules and to manage the maintenance of HOA common areas in a subdivision, metro districts are funded through property taxes. HOAs do not have the authority to tax residents and are primarily funded through HOA monthly and annual dues.

Generally established by developers for new master planned developments, the metro district can obtain bonds guaranteed by future tax revenue to finance new infrastructure like roads, sewer lines, drainage facilities, landscaping, and other services to support the new development. Each metro district has financial authority to tax and/or assess fees on the current and future property owners of the district for the services it provides. These metro district taxes and fees are added to each property owner's annual property tax bill, and the tax rate or mill levy set by the metro district is applied to the assessed value of a property. The tax revenue collected is used by the district to make payments on the outstanding bonds.

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs is the agency that regulates metro district operations. An elected board governs a metro district, adhering to requirements for transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility. A metro district is also regulated by its service plan, which requires approval by the City in which the metro district is located. The service plan is the metro district's governing document which

outlines its purpose, powers, responsibilities, and financial details. The City does not receive any taxes collected by metro districts nor does it assume any of the responsibilities of the metro districts within its City boundaries.

In Lone Tree, the City has several metro districts that encompass residential and/or commercial property owners, and include:

Heritage Hills

www.heritagehillsmetro.org

Lincoln Station

publicnotices.douglas.co.us/special-district/lincoln-station-metropolitan-district/

Omni Park

www.omniparkmd.org

Park Meadows

www.parkmeadowsmetrodistrict.org

Rampart Range

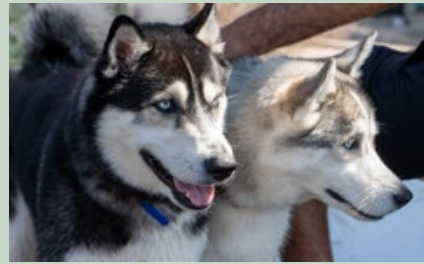
www.rrmd.org

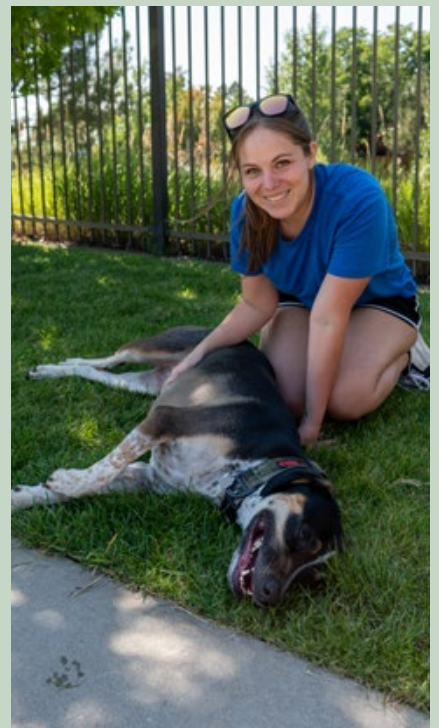
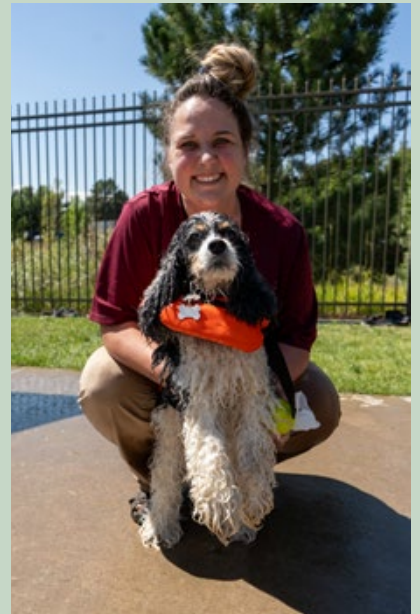
Currently, Colorado has 2,400 metro districts, with more being formed each year due to the rapid growth and development of new housing in the state.

To learn what taxing entities such as special districts for water, fire, and schools, as well as metro districts may be assessed on your property, visit Douglas County at dcdata-dougco.opendata.arcgis.com/ You can also find the list of taxing entities on your recent property tax statement.

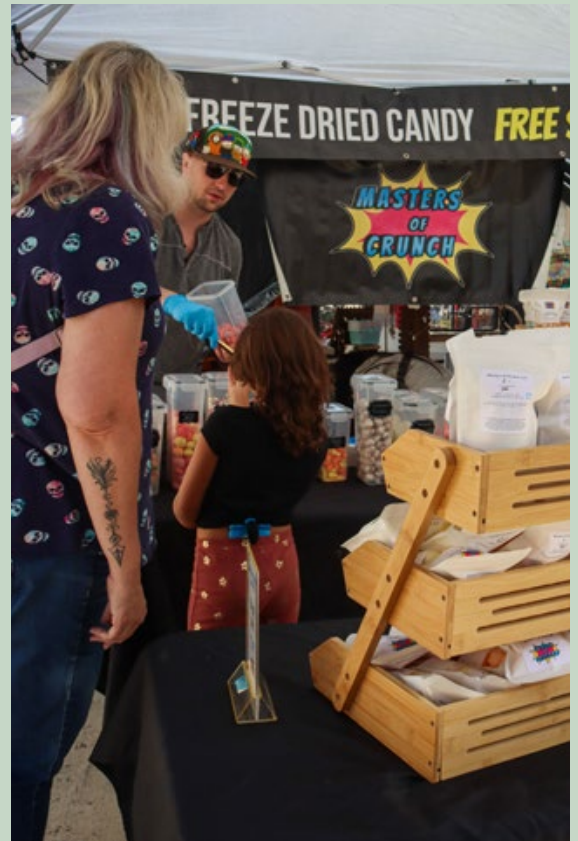
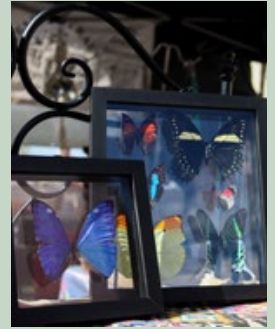
For more information on metro districts, please visit the Colorado Department of Local Affairs at cdola.colorado.gov. All metro districts are required to publish financial and other records annually with the Department of Local Affairs. Those documents can be found at dola.colorado.gov/igis/ ♦

CELEBRATING LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPIRIT WAG N ROMP



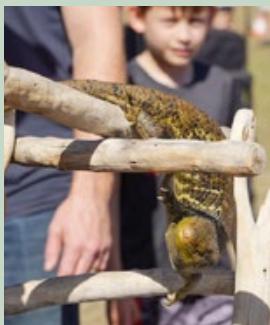
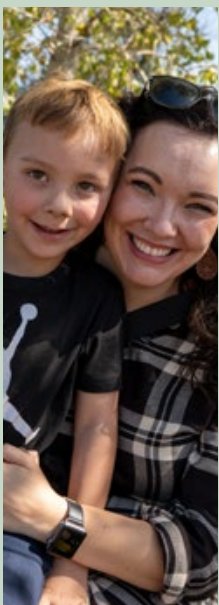


CELEBRATING LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPIRIT PLAZA PALOOZA





CELEBRATING LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPIRIT FALL FESTIVAL



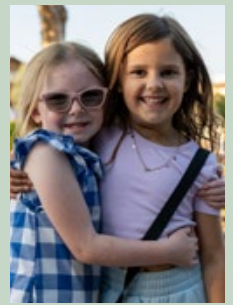
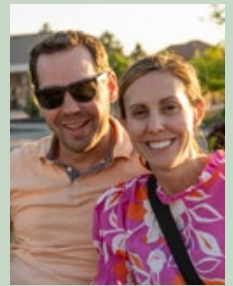


Fall
FESTIVAL
AT SCHWEIGER RANCH
CITY OF LONE TREE



CELEBRATING LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPIRIT HERITAGE HILLS FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS





CELEBRATING LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPIRIT CRAFTOBERFEST



CRAFTOBERFEST





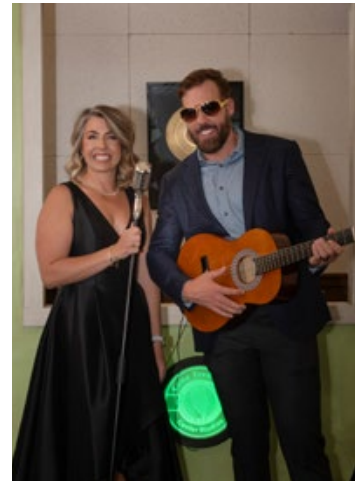
A NIGHT IN MEMPHIS A ROCKIN' FUNDRAISER FOR THE LONE TREE ARTS CENTER

Earlier this fall, supporters and friends of the Lone Tree Arts Center rocked the night away and raised funds for remarkable arts programs at A NIGHT IN MEMPHIS! This annual fundraising event, hosted by the Lone Tree Arts Center, treated guests to a rock 'n' roll themed gala with delicious food from local restaurants like GQue Barbecue, Steuben's, and Hickory House Ribs. The Arts Center's Event Hall was transformed into Memphis's Beale Street with custom made neon signs and a recording booth photo op reminiscent of the famous Sun Studios.

After the gala, guests were treated to a performance of *Million Dollar Quartet*, the Lone Tree Arts Center fall theatrical production about the single night that brought together Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, and Elvis Presley for a legendary jam session.

Thanks to the generosity of corporate sponsors and individuals, this event raised nearly \$75,000 to support the Arts Center's life-changing arts programs. Through bringing world-famous touring artists to our community, to producing Broadway quality theater, to providing community impact programs for young children, older adults, people with disabilities, and more, the funds raised allow the Arts Center to reach more and more people each year.

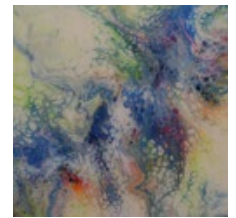
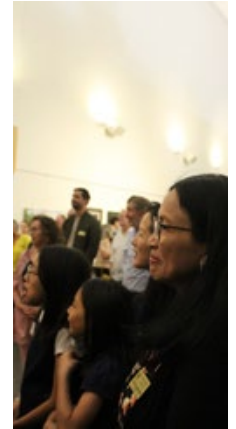
To learn more about upcoming events and how to support these programs, visit lonetreeartscenter.org. ♦





LONE TREE ART EXPO HIGHLIGHTS VARIETY AND ARTISTRY

This September, the Lone Tree Arts Center and the City of Lone Arts Commission welcomed artists and members of our community to celebrate the opening of the 23rd Annual Lone Tree Art Expo. The exhibition features over 50 pieces representing a wide range of media including watercolor, painting, drawing, mixed media, and sculpture. Juried by local plein air watercolorist Gene Youngman, the Art Expo showcases artists from around the Denver metro region and provides awards for outstanding achievement that comes with cash prizes. The Lone Tree Art Expo is available to view until January 5, 2025 – learn more at lonetreeartscenter.org/artexpo. ♦





A HOLIDAY SEASON FOR EVERYONE AT THE ARTS CENTER

The beauty of the holiday season is the variety of traditions that we all cherish. Some of us revel in family dinners, opening gifts together, or baking cookies to share (or not). But there's one thing that carries through most holiday celebrations: music. At the Lone Tree Arts Center, we honor the music to celebrate the season with an unforgettable lineup of artists across a wide variety of genres. Check out our listing of upcoming holiday performances and celebrate the season with us!



The Doo Wop Project
Sunday, December 1 and Monday, December 2
Doo-wopified flare with classic Christmas songs

Gerald Albright's Lone Tree Sessions: Take 6 Christmas
Wednesday, December 11
A cappella icons blending R&B, gospel and jazz

Riders in the Sky Christmas
Friday, December 13
Country Western flavor with a dash of holiday spice

Amahl and the Night Visitors
Friday, December 14
Family-friendly storytelling with beautiful classical music

Eva Noblezada Holiday
Friday, December 20
A Broadway star brings her powerhouse vocals to holiday favorites

Leahy Christmas
Saturday, December 21
A Celtic music celebration with one of the top folk-root bands

The Second City: The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly Sweater
Sunday, December 22
A one-of-a-kind improv comedy show about what brings us together at the holidays

Family Holiday Movie Event: Elf
Monday, December 23
A special screening of the holiday classic movie with activities for the whole family



Upcoming City Events

Holiday Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6th

6 pm – 8 pm

Lone Tree Arts Center

The City of Lone Tree is getting ready to unwrap the magic of the holiday season with the lighting of the tree. Come enjoy a hot cocoa and s'more bar, holiday tunes from The Denver Gents, and roaming holiday characters. Explore our charming holiday market and find one-of-a-kind gifts for your loved ones. The big man in the red suit will be there to listen to your holiday wishes with his reindeer in tow. The holiday festivities continue with our friends across the street at the Lone Tree Library and MorningStar Senior Living. Enjoy activities such as story time, crafts, cider, trivia, cookie and card making.



OTHER HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Schweiger Ranch Austrian Christmas

Saturday, December 7th

11 am – 3 pm

Schweiger Ranch

There will be holiday fun for the whole family. Visit Santa Claus and his real reindeer, take a horse drawn carriage ride, and enjoy authentic Austrian food and music. Stop by the Christkindl Markt for presents that will add a local handcrafted touch to your gift giving. The event culminates with the awe and wonder of the annual holiday tree lighting.

<https://schweigerranch.org/austrianchristmas/>



LONE TREE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE KICKS OFF WITH WALK AND WHEEL PLAN

PUBLIC INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN SURVEY AND PUBLIC MEETING

The City of Lone Tree and South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD) are partnering on the development of an Active Transportation Plan, building on the City's 2015 Walk and Wheel Plan. The plan aims to create a complete, connected network of trails, bikeways, and walkways throughout the City of Lone Tree with an overall goal to ensure that everyone—regardless of age or ability—has a safe and convenient access and connection to workplaces, schools, stores, parks, and to other communities and destinations. In addition to the plan identifying key opportunities to significantly improve and expand the City's existing active transportation networks, the plan will also support new walking and biking facilities, transportation policies, and design guidelines. The Lone Tree Active Transportation Plan will be an important supporting document for Lone Tree Elevated, the City's Comprehensive Plan.

To ensure a complete and thorough assessment of the City's existing network, including sidewalks, trails, and bike facilities, the City and SSPRD are requesting public input to help shape the plan and prioritize improvements.

For more information, please call Dan Raine, Lone Tree Mobility Manager at 303-662-8112 or email dan.raine@cityoflonetree.com ♦



HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP,
and share your thoughts and ideas on the
Lone Tree Active Transportation Plan:

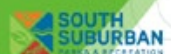
1. Complete the community survey at: go.cityoflonetree.com/activetransportationsurvey by November 30, 2024.
2. Attend the public meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Lone Tree Hub, 8827 Lone Tree Parkway.

Lone Tree Active Transportation Plan Public Meeting

Learn about the plan, give
your input, connect with
your community!



Wednesday, November 20
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
The Lone Tree Hub



LINCOLN CONCRETE PANEL REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED



This past September, the City initiated the replacement of concrete panels along the eastbound lanes of Lincoln Avenue, east of Oswego Street. The project aimed to enhance safety by removing hazards from damaged or uneven surfaces, ensuring a smoother driving experience for motorists. Also, the work helps maintain the structural integrity and prolong the lifespan of roadways while improving their overall aesthetic appeal.

The project utilized a high-early, quick curing concrete to help minimize impacts to traffic along Lincoln Avenue.

The project also included the replacement of damaged concrete on the northern side of the roundabout at RidgeGate Parkway and Park Meadows Boulevard. The concrete panel replacement project was completed in October and cost of the annual project was \$198,000.

For more information, please email Public Works Operations Manager Steven Fletcher at steven.fletcher@cityoflonetree.com or call 303-386-2198. ♦



CITY CELEBRATES 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF LINK ON DEMAND SERVICE

The City celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its Link on Demand Service on October 2, commemorating a pioneering micro-transit program in the country that started as a shuttle for light rail commuters to their jobs in 2014. Today, this service has expanded to an on-demand transit program to transport residents and visitors anywhere within Lone Tree, including the Meridian Business Park.

As part of observing the Link on Demand's success, the City hosted two events. The first event was held at The Lone Tree Hub and included a presentation and luncheon. Moderated by City Manager Seth Hoffman, remarks were delivered by Mayor Marissa Harmon, RTD Director Julian Bouquet, Douglas County Commissioner Abe Laydon, Dave Worley, CEO of Denver South, Congressman Greg Lopez, and Mike Vaccarino, Head of North American Partnerships with VIA. All speakers reinforced the value of partnerships, and how the Link has proven to be an invaluable community resource for facilitating travel in Lone Tree and providing seamless connections between transit, employment, retail, and recreational opportunities and amenities.

After the luncheon, the City and Denver South hosted a public event outside of Target in Lone Tree with some public outreach on the Link on Demand Service in an effort to inform more residents and visitors of the invaluable service.

The Link on Demand Service serves as a blueprint for other communities, looking to expand transportation access for their residents through innovation and technology. Since the City's partnership with Via in 2019, Link on Demand has served more than 170,000 free rides to residents and visitors in Lone Tree. After the expansion into Meridian this year, Link has achieved the highest ridership to-date, with a 77% growth since this time last year.

The City extends its appreciation to its funding partners – RTD, Douglas County, and Denver South for committing funding for the Link on Demand Service to address transportation and mobility in Lone Tree and the region. ♦





To access Lone Tree's free, Link on Demand Service, simply download the Link on Demand app, sign up for an account and book your ride. Riders can also book over the phone by calling the Link on Demand Dispatch Center at 719-212-2430 or visit cityoflonetree.com/link-on-demand/



The Link on Demand Service operates the following days and times:

Monday—Thursday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday, No service.

MOVING GROUND IN LONE TREE

RIDGEGATE COMMONS

Reserve at Lone Tree

11010 High Note Avenue

Expected opening date: Spring 2025

Experience Senior Living is under development for the first location of its new luxury brand, The Reserve at Lone Tree located within the RidgeGate master-planned development. The Reserve will include a nine-story building featuring 124 independent living apartment homes and a five-story building featuring 60 assisted living and 24 memory care apartments. The Reserve brand breaks the mold of traditional senior housing communities by delivering exceptional amenities, cuisine crafted from locally sourced, organic ingredients, and programs ranging from culinary workshops to art classes – all in opulent surroundings.

The Reserve at Lone Tree will feature a courtyard as the focal point of the community, designed to extend its indoor spaces outward, leading to a built-in amphitheater, art and sculptures, greenhouse, sports court, tree-lined streets, and views of the Happy Canyon Creek open space to the east. Luxury amenities and services include multiple interactive dining venues; activities spaces; a maker's space for creating; indoor saltwater pool with spa (steam room sauna, massage); fitness center; roof top bar and restaurant offering views of the Front Range to the west and open space to the east; a dog run; pickle ball court; salon, and coffee shop.

Independent living apartments will be up to 1,650 square feet on the top floor, with assisted living apartments ranging from 430 to 1,100 square feet. Both independent and assisted living apartments will offer spaces in a secured parking structure that is integrated into the main building.



HERITAGE HILLS

Chase Bank

9550 Heritage Hills Circle

Expected opening date: End of 2025

Chase is excited to expand into Lone Tree as part of the bank's ongoing growth in Colorado. The new branch consists of a one story, 3,300 square foot building that features modern, bright designs with comfortable meeting areas and booths, and state-of-the-art banking technology, including deposit-friendly ATMs that dispense cash in multiple denominations. The branch will have a 24-hour walk-up ATM in the vestibule and a drive-up ATM. The site will utilize the existing access on Heritage Hills Circle and the existing shared access road through the project site. Pedestrian access will be provided with a new sidewalk that connects to the existing pedestrian pathway/bridge that crosses over Lincoln Avenue. The area on the north side of the property is set aside for a future use.

Chase is the first U.S. bank to open branches in all 48 contiguous states. The firm serves hundreds of thousands of consumers and thousands of local businesses in Colorado. Chase's services are also available through its mobile app and Chase.com.



PARK MEADOWS RETAIL RESORT

Chick-fil-A

8585 South Yosemite Street

Expected opening date: 2025

A new Chick-fil-A restaurant is coming to the existing parking lot south of Floor and Décor and At Home. The new drive-thru restaurant will include 5,380 square foot building with 140 indoor seats and 16 outdoor seats. The project includes two drive-thru lanes and two drive-thru canopies. The order point canopy is placed at the southern side of the parking lot near the drive-thru entrance. The meal delivery canopy will be on the eastern side of the restaurant. Pedestrian access will be provided with a new sidewalk that connects to the existing sidewalk on South Yosemite Street to the east and a new path through the parking lot that connects to the C-470 trail to the west.



RIBBON CUTTINGS AND GRAND OPENINGS

ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT



Sazon Opens its Bar
9447 Park Meadows Drive

Whether you're after the best margaritas, delicious food, or simply a warm atmosphere to unwind, Sazon invites everyone to join in the celebration of their new bar, an authentic slice of Mexican and Latin culture to the Entertainment District of Lone Tree. The bar features a vibrant and welcoming interior striving to achieve their core mission of sharing a heartfelt moment at the table with their guests. Complementing their savoring dishes are signature craft cocktails and margaritas all made 100% from scratch down to the juices being fresh



Left to right: Councilmembers Mike Parr and Alecia Brown, Sazon owner Lisha Quintana, Mayor Marissa Harmon, and Mayor Pro Tem Jay Carpenter.

squeezed in house daily. Enchant your taste buds with the refreshing La Professora Paloma, or the smoky and spicy carrot margarita. Craving something sweet—Sazon has you covered with their sweet and tangy Cherry Pie margarita. Each drink is expertly crafted by the ingenuity and creativity from their general manager, Luis Aguilera, whose passion for flavor creates a festive atmosphere filled with laughter and music.

Visit sazonexperience.com.



Garnish Buffet Bakery Bar & Grill
9271 Park Meadows Drive
garnishfusion.com



Rare Karaoke Cafe
9535 Park Meadows Drive
rarekaraokelonetree.com



GRPL HAUS

8872 Maximum Drive

GRPL HAUS Jiu Jitsu recently opened at South Yosemite Street and Maximus Drive. With 27 classes each week, they serve adults, teens, and kids as young as three years of age. With a focus on families, GRPL HAUS is pushing the sport of Jiu Jitsu into the future with a thriving adult program, a leadership development program for students as young as eight, a weekly women’s program, a youth competition team and so much more. While jiu jitsu is the primary draw, parents

*Founding families of Grpl Haus join Mayor Marissa Harmon
Left to right: Nastia Pratt, Trey Pratt, Mayor Harmon, Rachel Dorsey,
Drew Dorsey, Nika Sanchez, Gonzalo Sanchez*

credit the program with helping their students make friends, build confidence, increase athleticism, and develop life skills that support them beyond the gym. GRPL HAUS currently offers free trial classes, a special track for adult beginners, evergreen discounts for first responders, educators, medical professionals, veterans and service members and grand opening specials through the Fall. **Learn more at www.grplhaus**

INSIDE PARK MEADOWS RETAIL RESORT



BoxLunch

Boxlunch.com

Hot Topic

Hottopic.com



The Escape Game

Theescapegame.com

Gorjana

Gorjana.com

LONE TREE BUSINESS FEATURE

Great Divide Brewing and Roadhouse
9978 Sky Ridge Avenue, #240
greatdividebreweryandroadhouse.com

Lone Tree is now home to a modern brew pub offering home style cuisine and craft beers including pours found only in Lone Tree. Great Divide Brewery & Roadhouse, located across from HCA HealthONE Sky Ridge, is quickly becoming a local favorite. Operated by Vibe concepts, in partnership with Great Divide Brewing, chose to open its second location in Lone Tree from its original location in Castle Rock which opened in 2020 due to the opportunities Lone Tree offers.

“Having lived in Lone Tree for 25 years, I realized the community was underserved and in need of a restaurant that catered to everyone, especially families,” said Dan Shipp, Owner of Vibe Concepts. “Lone Tree is a very family-oriented community, so if you’re going to locate your business here, it’s important to take that into consideration.”

Great Divide Brewery & Roadhouse, led by Executive Chef James Doxon, offers elevated comfort food for brunch, lunch,





and dinner every day including decadent burgers, fresh entrée salads, innovative pizzas, succulent steaks, memorable desserts, and beloved pub favorites that the restaurant group is synonymous with including chicken pot pie, fish tacos, 24-hour brined fried chicken, and wings. Previously the Executive Chef at Tstreet, James Beard-nominated Doxon focuses on creating refined, contemporary cuisine using the highest quality ingredients.

Vibe Concepts has been operating restaurants in Colorado since 1991. In addition to the Great Divide Brewing & Roadhouse, Vibe oversees operations of Tstreet Roadhouse, Roadhouse Boulder Depot, Spanky's Roadhouse, and Reivers Bar and Grill. A third location of Great Divide Brewing & Roadhouse is slated to open in Belmar of Lakewood later this year. ♦

Welcome

NEW LONE TREE BUSINESSES

Aircraft Performance Group LLC

Office

ParkRidge Corporate Center

Rowan Ear Piercing

Retail

Inside Park Meadows Retail Resort

Yu's Noodle Shop

Restaurant

RidgeGate



LONE TREE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

TALL TALES RANCH A LIFE-SHARING COMMUNITY IN THE MAKING

Tall Tales Ranch is a Colorado 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to support people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) like Autism and Down Syndrome. For more than ten years, the Tall Tales organization has been laying the groundwork for their vision to create an extraordinary life sharing, mixed-use residential community on land of Schweiger Ranch in Lone Tree. The land was donated to Tall Tales Ranch via a land lease by the Schweiger Ranch Foundation. The new community would provide a living, supportive and cooperative environment for both people with and without disabilities that honors their individuality, celebrates their uniqueness and helps them to reach their full potential.

The vision for Tall Tales Ranch began ten years ago with the founders, Pat and Susan Mooney and their son, Ross. Ross was not born with a disability, however, at the age of 14, he was diagnosed with x-linked adrenoleukodystrophy, an aggressive genetic disease that deteriorates the white matter in the brain and eventually leads to death. Ross received a bone marrow transplant in 2008, which was successful in halting the progression of the disease. Today, Ross is living with an acquired brain injury and requiring more resources and support. Ross' healthy obsession with tall people and a tendency to stretch the truth inspired the name "Tall Tales Ranch."

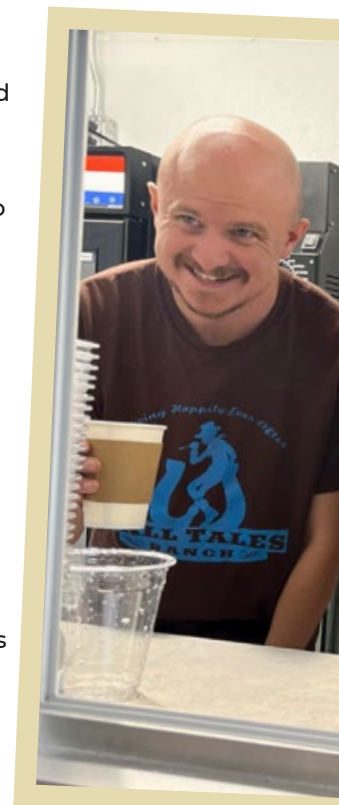
"As Ross' parents, we want for him what all parents want: a safe,

supportive, and wonderful place to live," said Susan Mooney, Founder. "A place where he can experience community, responsibility, challenge, fulfillment, and acceptance for the unique man that he is."

The Mooney's quest to build an inclusive community for their son where neurodiversity is celebrated has been elevated over the years due to the lack of current housing available for people with IDD. Because most adults with IDD live with their ageing parents due to lack of viable options, without access to housing, they are at risk of homelessness, institutionalization or are displaced from their community into the "next empty bed" which may be many miles from their local community.

"We consider this a housing crisis as this is not being effectively addressed in any community for people with IDD," added Mooney. "At Tall Tales Ranch we are building a once in a lifetime opportunity for individuals to live in their own apartments, work at our coffee shop and be a part of the greater community."

Tall Tales Ranch, a four-acre property located on the east side of I-25, directly across the street from the light rail station at I-25 and RidgeGate Parkway, will include a residential village with two sets of paired residential cottages leased to 30 residents with IDD. The new community will include a central community building encouraging gathering, socialization, and activities for the residents and visiting family members. Intentionally separate from, but near the residential part of the campus, a retail coffee shop





“nobody is left behind”

and community event barn will offer opportunities for vocational training and earned wages for those with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities. Weekly programming will include life skills classes, yoga, music, socialization and fellowship, as well as outdoor activities in the property's raised bed vegetable gardens and orchard. The community event barn will also be a rentable venue for gatherings such as weddings, meetings and conferences for approximately 120 guests. The upper level of the barn will house offices of Tall Tales Ranch and a community learning space.

“At Tall Tales Ranch, our friends who are differently abled are called our ambassadors, and they are at the heart of everything we do,” said Mooney.



“At the end of the day, we are set out to enrich the lives of people with IDD with an inclusive community of Tall Tales Ranch so nobody is left behind.”

The Final Site Improvement Plan for Tall Tales Ranch was approved by the City of Lone Tree in 2020 and since then, the organization aggressively launched a \$15 million dollar capital campaign to bring the Tall Tales Ranch vision to reality. Construction of Tall Tales Ranch is expected to begin in 2025.

For more information or to donate to support the Tall Tales Ranch mission, visit talltalesranch.org, email info@talltalesranch.org, or call 303-806-9141. ♦



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CITY OF LONE TREE

Keep up with City updates, news, and important information you need to know about living and working in the City. Your participation and feedback can play an active role in shaping the future of our community.



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Nextdoor
City of Lone Tree



LinkedIn
City of Lone
Tree, CO

Receive our Monthly E-Timberlines via email
Go.cityoflonetree.com/send-me-timberlines

Get SMS Texts from the City via TextmyGov
Go.cityoflonetree.com/city-text-signup