

# ON THE WAY BACK TO NORMAL

## 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



The 335-seat Parsons Theatre has first-class equipment and amenities, which helps provide excellent experiences for patrons and performers.



The city's pre-school program now has facilities specifically designed to facilitate learning, fun and safety for youth ages 3 to 5.

The exercise area provides more space for fitness programs, with two group exercise rooms, an indoor running track and lots of new workout equipment.



**As we look back on 2021, the biggest event by far was the opening of the new Northglenn Recreation Center, Senior Center and Theatre. (It was so big - we had four days of events in celebration of its opening!) This \$54 million, 87,887-square-foot facility will allow for top-notch services, programs and experiences for residents and visitors from throughout the north metro area.**

Accolades are coming in, as the center has already won a statewide award.

▶ See Page 9 for more on this!



Excerpt from February 2022 Issue of the

## Northglenn Connection

We all hoped that after a year of social distancing, quarantine and missing out on friends, activities and opportunities, 2021 would herald a return to a pre-COVID-19 Northglenn.

*Hmmm ... not quite.*

In 2019, a five-year strategic plan was adopted to focus the city government's efforts by setting benchmarks to track and goals to achieve.

The 2021 Year in Review shows that the city made progress on or achieved a number of these targets while simultaneously providing day-to-day services and combating the ongoing effects of COVID-19. This is just a sample of what your city government accomplished this year.

To view the 2019-23 Strategic Plan, which has been updated to show completed tasks over the past three years, go to [www.northglenn.org/strategicplan](http://www.northglenn.org/strategicplan).

Still, while managing face masks and variants, the city charged ahead with implementing programs, pushing initiatives and keeping Northglenn strong from the underground up to the tallest ... water slide.

### City Council Strategic Goals

- High-Performance Government
- Housing Opportunities
- Community Engagement
- Diverse Community
- Public Safety
- Sustainability
- Business Retention and Growth
- Infrastructure

## Northglenn Undeterred in 2021

Dear Northglenn residents and community partners,



Leighty

As I look back at 2021, I am amazed at all Northglenn accomplished during another challenging year. COVID-19 continues to heavily impact our lives...and our community contin-

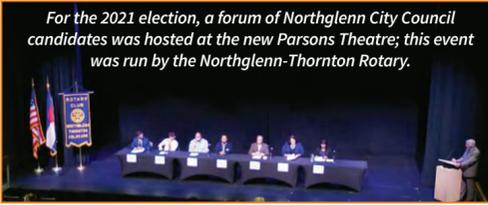
ues to demonstrate resilience and optimism. Those traits alone are huge points of pride in our current environment.

I feel those qualities also heavily contribute to our successes – our local economy is strong, new construction and infrastructure improvements moved forward, people come out to connect and celebrate with each other, and we find ways to support increasing needs of Northglenn residents and businesses.

Glance back at this wholistic summary of how we moved the needle on our strategic goals last year. It inspires me to see what we have done and makes me look forward to tackling our future goals. These achievements make me confident we will continue work through challenges, and those challenges will also help us learn and grow.

Thank you,

– Mayor Meredith Leighty



For the 2021 election, a forum of Northglenn City Council candidates was hosted at the new Parsons Theatre; this event was run by the Northglenn-Thornton Rotary.

### Priority Area #1: High-Performance Government

Council hosted local state legislators Kyle Mullica (HD-34) and Faith Winter (SD-24) during its annual Legislative Dinner to discuss the upcoming session.

In the November election, Nicholas Walker (Ward 1) and Jay Jaramillo (Ward 2) were elected to City Council for the first time, while incumbents Julie Duran Mullica (Ward 3), Shannon Lukeman-Hiromasa (Ward 4) and Jenny Willford (Ward 4) were selected to serve again.

**5,231:** Total votes cast in the five City Council races in the November election

For the first time, City Council candidates submitted answers to questionnaires that were published in the Northglenn Connection.

Council Member Antonio B. Esquibel resigned in June to move out of state; council selected Lukeman-Hiromasa to fulfill his term.

A Paid Family & Caregiver Leave Policy was implemented for City of Northglenn employees.

**8:** City-sponsored COVID-19 vaccine and booster shot clinics held in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Tri-County Health Department (TCHD)

**\$15:** Minimum wage instituted by the City of Northglenn for its employees

### Priority Area #2: Community Engagement

The 2021 resident survey was sent out to the community; results will be presented in early 2022.

**38,131:** Official population of the City of Northglenn, according to the 2020 Census

**73.8%:** Self-response rate for the Census by Northglenn residents

**29:** Number of Good Neighbor Award winners honored

**Over 650:** Number of bicycles repaired by the Northglenn Bike Program volunteer group

**12:** Number of ward meetings

**2:** Number of Mingle with the Mayor events

**Over 10,000:** Number of volunteer hours donated to the city, including on committees, boards and commissions, and assisting with city operations and events

**Some of the Public Events in 2021 Included:** Daddy Daughter Quest | Farmers' Highline Canal Cleanup | Kids' Fishing Derby | Public Works Open House | Full Moon Bike Rides | Six Grab 'N Gos | Pirate Fest | Stonehocker Porch Concerts | Three July 4 events | PRIDE Night | Two Bike Rodeos | Safe Street Halloween | National Night Out | Noel Northglenn | Northglenn Arts Performances | Northglenn Youth Theatre Performances



### BACK IN THE SPOTLIGHT 9TH ANNUAL BUSINESS APPRECIATION EVENT

The Business Appreciation Event returned after a year's hiatus due to the pandemic, this time in the new Parsons Theatre.

Ten businesses were honored for their success and/or contribution to the community.

One of the highlights of the evening was the special COVID-19 recognition. These organizations, businesses, governmental agencies, places of worship and non-profits were nominated for this special recognition for going "above and beyond" to support Northglenn during the pandemic.

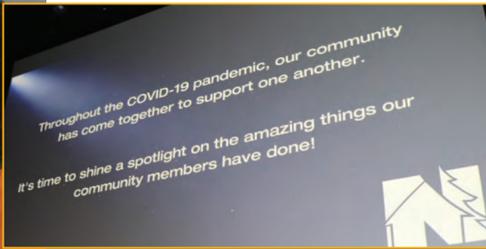
More than 300 people attended.



City Council and City Manager Heather Geyer passed out special COVID-19 recognition awards.

Jeff Althaus of Althaus Law celebrates receiving the Small Business Award from Council Member Becky Brown.

Some of the business award winners and COVID-19 honor recipients.



### Priority Area #3: Public Safety



The Crisis Response Unit (CRU) launched; they respond to mental health calls for service, homelessness, case management and neighbor mediations.

The Community Co-Production Policing (CCPP) Advisory Board launched to work with the Northglenn Police Department (NPD) and City Council based on the belief that the community should be integrally involved in shaping the policing strategies that affect it.

The NPD Traffic Unit doubled from two to four officers.

**6:** Number of neighborhoods participating in the No Need for Speed program, which is designed to calm traffic in residential areas

A Hate Crimes Forum was held with residents, Police Chief Jim May, District Attorney Brian Mason, and an FBI representative serving on the panel.

Randall Darlin came from the Chicago Police Department to become the city's deputy chief.



Body cameras (highlighted in the gold box) were added to the standard uniform of NPD officers.



500 people attended Northglenn PRIDE at E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park on June 26, the first government-sponsored LGBTQIA+ pride event in Adams County history.



On June 14, Gov. Jared Polis signed HB21-2165 at Northglenn's own The Glenn Bar and Grill. The bill offered state sales tax relief over the summer to food-related industries hard hit by the pandemic.

The \$26 million Force Main A and Lift Station A replacement project extended the life of the city's wastewater network through upgraded infrastructure.

The lift station is scheduled go be fully replaced by this spring, while the force main work is nearly complete. Go to Page 9 for more information.



### Priority Area #4: Business Retention and Growth

Blighted property on 112th Avenue and Washington Street was purchased by NURA for future redevelopment.

**78:** New businesses that reported to open in the city, as of Dec. 31 (50 storefront, 28 home-based)

Five Below, DD's Discounts, and Painted Tree signed leases at the Northglenn Marketplace and will open in 2022.

The city continued work with a master developer to complete the public-private partnership portion of the final 10 acres and vision for the Civic Center Master Plan (CCMP); this work continues in 2022.

**\$85,663:** Amount of funds NURA granted to city businesses through its BIG and BUAG programs

Karl's Farm development broke ground; plans are in place for 385 multi-tenant units, 178 detached and duplex units, 104 townhomes and 165 units of affordable multi-tenant senior housing.



### Priority Area #5: Housing Opportunities

Building permit applications was made available online.

The city joined the Adams County Built for Zero team, which works to build systems and processes so when a person does experience homelessness it is a brief, one-time occurrence.

**25:** People experiencing homelessness who are receiving temporary shelter at the old rec center from December 2021 through March 2022

A street outreach team was formed based on a Homelessness Task Force recommendation.

The Minor Home Repair Program re-launched in partnership with Adams County.

### Priority Area #6: Diverse Community

A series of community listening sessions focused on policing, diversity, and youth issues.

"Dominion" won the Art on Parade People's Choice Award.

Short videos featuring the city's public sculpture collection were filmed; view them at [www.northglenn.org/sculpturetour](http://www.northglenn.org/sculpturetour).

A Black History Month movie series was hosted by the Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Equity Board, with proceeds going to Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.

The Northglenn Veterans Memorial was re-dedicated after its new plaza was completed as part of Phase 1 of the CCMP.



The celebratory sculpture "Illumination" hangs in the lobby of the Parsons Theatre. The \$187,000 price tag was covered thanks to the NAHF, SCFD and generous donations.

Based on a true story of Chicano workers protesting conditions, "War of the Flowers" by Su Teatro helped celebrate the new Parsons Theatre's opening.

The Deza Estates neighborhood was surveyed to determine its historic significance.

**Over 18K:** People who attended a Northglenn Arts production, in spite of COVID-19 and moving to a new theatre

### Priority Area #7: Sustainability

The Sustainability Committee was launched to advise council on all matters related to sustainability, especially the environment.

The Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan is being crafted through the Partners in Energy with Xcel Energy to electrify the city's municipal fleet, provide infrastructure in Northglenn, and increase public adoption.

Stage 1 Drought conditions were declared in May, leading to a 10% water use reduction by the city and voluntary reductions by residents.

Two air quality monitoring stations were installed in September in cooperation with TCHD, one at the new rec center and the other at Northwest Open Space.

**200,000:** Estimated gallons of water saved annually by residents who utilized Resource Central's free Slow the Flow sprinkler inspection program

**5,000:** Estimated square feet of lawn converted to xeriscap by residents through the city's partnership with Resource Central

### Priority Area #8: Infrastructure

Citywide traffic signals upgrade through CDOT and DRCOG grants began.

The design process to build a new city hall commenced.

Washington Street was repaved in September and October as part of \$2.35 million spent on the 2021 Street Repair Program.

**\$1.715M:** Amount city received in Adams County Open Space Grants for Justice Center West Park (\$1.5M), Croke Reservoir (40K), Jaycee Park ball-field (\$170K) and planting trees along streams and creeks in the city (\$5K)

\$6.5 million in ARPA funds approved for road and utility infrastructure improvements.

The CDOT Off-System Bridge Program awarded the city a grant for Community Center Drive Bridge rehabilitation.

**290:** Residences that shared in neighborhood household clean-up programs, and had use of 30 cubic-yard dumpsters free of charge