



## Q&A from May 6, 2020 City of Northglenn Telephone Town Hall

Below are **questions/comments from residents** during the call, with *answers and resources*

Meeting hosts: Mayor Meredith Leighty, City Manager Heather Geyer, and Adams County Manager Ray Gonzales

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### **Subject: City Services**

#### **How are we going to pay for the rec center and judicial center with the drop in economy?**

*The City has never experienced a pandemic. We can use recessions as a reference point but the full impact is not currently known because sales tax revenue is a month behind due to remittance deadlines. We will know in June as to the impact of April. Right now, we know the impact of the half of March: sales tax is down by 5%. The City has cut 15% of discretionary spending and frozen hiring for vacant positions. This was done without impacting the level of service to residents. In addition, we have healthy reserves (which can be considered similar to a savings account). There is no danger of the city not being able to fulfill our debt obligations for the new Recreation Center and Justice Center. Council has indicated that we need a cautious and conservative approach as we continue operating in this pandemic.*

#### **Where can I get the Northglenn Hug yard sign?**

*Residents may request a sign and send a neighbor a virtual hug with this program. It's been in high demand, so are catching up on distribution. Simply call or email and let us know the address. Houses must be in Northglenn and signs can only go in yards, with a limit of one sign per yard. If you received a sign, feel free to pass that hug along to another neighbor after you're done enjoying it. If you want to request a sign, email the address to [jmurphy@northglenn.org](mailto:jmurphy@northglenn.org) or leave the address on voicemail at 303-450-8904.*

*We have also started another feature to send a virtual hug to those that are not Northglenn residents. Visit [https://northglenn.org/news\\_detail\\_T17\\_R323.php](https://northglenn.org/news_detail_T17_R323.php) and download the hug GIF or photo to send to someone or post on social media!*

#### **There were a bunch of motorcycles, Mongols and outlaw gangs nearby; several police cars drove by and did nothing. They were congregating in the Studio School in the parking lot and not wearing masks or complying with social distancing.**

*Please give the Northglenn Police Department dispatch a call so we can respond. We will actively monitor the situation. We typically know when these groups are coming through from communication with neighboring Police Departments and State Patrol.*

#### **Concern about Huron Street drag racing. People are putting straight pipes on their cars in order to make more noise.**

*The City is aware of this issue with drag racers on Huron Street and understand that the overall noise impact is a huge inconvenience. When you do hear them, please call the Northglenn Police Department dispatch to let them know. We know that there are a couple of areas where they tend to hang out but it would be helpful to pinpoint the time of day so patrol officers can better address the issue. There is no police shortage due to COVID-19. Shifts are being staggered due to COVID-19 to comply with social distancing guidelines to help minimize the risk of exposure. There are currently 6 police officer vacancies and 20 officers were hired in the last year and a half.*

#### **My neighbor asked me to walk her to Safeway using the tunnel under I-25 and there were homeless camps there.**

*We will send extra patrol to make sure these individuals are getting the resources they need and will monitor the area.*

**Was curious about city services- I dropped off my water bill off today. Will anyone get it?**

*All essential services are operating as normal. Yes, your water bill will be picked up.*

**Is there anything the mayor can do to not allow jake breaks to be used? There is an increase in noise from engine breaks between 104<sup>th</sup> and 84<sup>th</sup>.**

*The City has work underway to identify the impact of heavy traffic on residential streets. We have hired an engineering firm to evaluate this impact, calling it the heavy truck traffic project. Will be bringing forward recommendations to City Council sometime this summer and will be talking about enforcement as well.*

**If we want to have a graduation picnic at the park with social distancing and less than 10 people, can we do that?**

*Parks and trails are open but pavilions are closed. Though this would not technically violate the order, the Governor's intent with the Safer at Home order is still to stay at home as much as possible.*

**About the playgrounds/swimming pools- will they be open this summer? Like Kiwanis?**

*Playgrounds, swimming pools and splash pads are closed. Kiwanis pool, unfortunately, will likely be closed all summer. These types of amenities will be difficult to use with the social distancing guidelines and limit to 10 people. Playgrounds and other amenities will open as soon as state/health department recommendations allow.*

**Subject: County Services**

**Seniors will be hit hard due to Adams County tax increase and homestead exemption.**

**The County assessor raised my property taxes and I will be out my home without the homestead exemption.**

**I'm not elderly but my income is also threatened by the increase in taxes by a couple hundred dollars every year. I would have never bought this house 2 years ago knowing that, what exactly is that about? I love the neighborhood but a \$200 per year?**

*The County Assessor is an independent elected official and separate office from the County. There is an appeal process with the County assessor to dispute valuation of your house. Adams County Commissioners have not raised the mill levy rates in 10 years. County Manager Gonzales will let the County Commissioners know of this concern.*

*The homestead exemption was introduced as an option to balance the state budget and it has not been voted on yet.*

**Subject: Health Related**

**What are the mask wearing guidelines for Northglenn?**

*There is no public health order from Tri-County Health Department or from the State. Along with Tri-County and the State, we strongly encourage everyone to wear a face covering to protect yourself and others. If around people or a chance that you will encounter another person, please wear a face covering.*

**I'm a senior. Where can I get help in getting groceries delivered to me?**

*Please contact the Senior Hub at 303-426-4408 and they should be able to help.*

**Subject: Safer at Home Order**

**Why are we not opening up yet?**

*The City of Northglenn must follow public health orders that are issued by the State of Colorado and Tri-County Health Department. They are using health department data to make their decisions. Neither the Mayor nor County Commissioners have authority to close/open due to public health. The Stay at Home order for Adams County will expire this Saturday, May 9 and we will then be under the Safer at Home order.*

**Specifically what businesses will be open on what specific dates?**

*Starting May 9, retail and personal services will be allowed to operate with strict restrictions. Personal services and businesses are allowed to operate with 10 or fewer people in a single location at a maximum of 50% occupancy for the location, whichever is less to include both employees and customer. However, businesses are not required to open so please contact that specific business to see when they will be opening.*