

December 2016



City of
Wheat Ridge
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor's Matters

AS AN ASIDE

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Deep Roots, Short Commutes



Mayor Joyce Jay

Greetings

This last year has been the year of the community! What a great year we've had together.

This year we really came together and talked about the things most important to us. Community events, district meetings and chats over coffee were in abundance throughout 2016. We also held many City-sponsored public meetings, where we asked questions and shared our thoughts.

We had bike racing and bike touring, parades and fireworks, scary creatures lined up handing out candy from the trunks of cars, and Frosty the Snowman leading a sing-along as he helped switch on our holiday lights. When it came to the serious work, our community came out in large numbers for the big decisions. You helped determine the future of our parks, our developments, and our policies. We also saw a strong showing at the voting booth—our community made a clear statement about investing in the future of our City.

In 2017, while our community will see new developments, new neighbors, and new experiences for our City, it is up to all of us to make it ours by being a part of its ever changing framework.

This is a prime time for the City to invest in its future and for you to provide input about what we want for our community. My wish for all of you, and for our City, is a peaceful and prosperous New Year.





Fruitdale School Lofts Ground Breaking – December 14th

Ground breaking was held on December 14, 2016 for the Fruitdale School Lofts. The Wheat Ridge Housing Authority (WRHA) has owned the historic Fruitdale School since April 2011. Last month City Council approved a reconstruction of the school development agreement between the City, WRHA and Fruitdale School Partners/ Hartman Ely Investments (HEI) for the construction of the project. HEI is an established local development firm with extensive experience in redeveloping and repurposing historic properties.





Special Tree Delivered to Wheat Ridge Police Department

A beautiful tree decorated with “Thank You” ornaments was presented to the Wheat Ridge Police Department (WRPD) from local elementary school students. This was part of a larger project organized by the Wheat Ridge Business Association (WRBA) for local firefighters and law enforcement as a way for local kids to say thanks. City Council member Genevieve Wooden presented the ornaments to WRPD Sergeant Jon Pickett, West Metro Fire and Arvada Fire at the Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 5. The messages are heartfelt and very sweet.

Chief Dan Brennan, Katie Rodgers, Christy Seyfer and Margie Seyfer

Police Department Safety Education Campaign Porch Pirates

Don't let your holiday get hijacked by porch pirates. Each year it appears we hear more stories of packages that go missing after being left unattended on a porch. Here are a few tips to make sure your packages make it to their intended destination:

- If you aren't home during the day, ask a trusted neighbor to take those deliveries inside until you can pick them up.
- The U.S. Postal Service also offers pick up for mail and packages at a location you determine as convenient to work or home. Check with your employer to see if you can accept packages at a work address.
- UPS, Fed Ex and USPS also offer tracking services so you'll know exactly when a package gets delivered and can arrange to be home or have someone meet the delivery.

Don't be a victim of porch pirates this year and make sure yours is a very happy holiday!

Link <https://youtu.be/GH8yulcqOS8>

Coffee with the Mayor

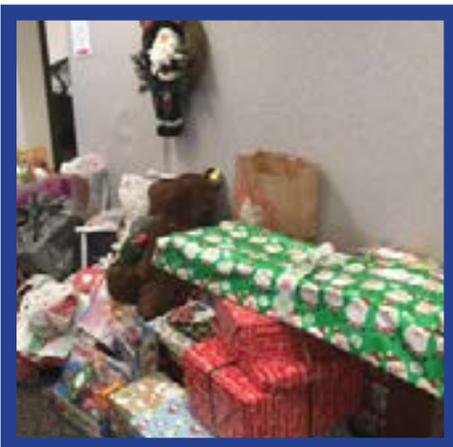
**Saturday January 7th
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Vinnola's
7750 W. 38th Ave.**





City Employees Make The Holiday Special

A special thank you to City employees who assisted Family Tree and the Optimist Club by purchasing and donating presents for children in the community.



For the Holiday Season
City Hall will be closed on:

Monday,
January 2nd

Wheat Ridge
Grange Chili
Cook-Off
Thursday,
January 19, 2017
6:00-8:00 PM

Proceeds will benefit: Wheat Ridge
Feed the Future
Backpack Program

\$10.00 to enter
Chili Contest
\$5.00 to be a
taste tester/judge

Further information contact Dominick at 202-919-2680

American with Disabilities Act Transition Plan Survey

The City of Wheat Ridge is participating in a public outreach program with the goal of developing an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan. The purpose of this plan is to eliminate barriers for pedestrians at facilities within public right-of-ways in the City. The survey will be used to help document concerns and locations of needed improvements to accommodate disabled users of those facilities in Wheat Ridge.

The survey can be taken online at <http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/1543/ADA-Transition-Plan> or if you require this survey in an alternate format, please contact Jess Hastings at 720-473-7576; or jhastings@benesch.com



Top of the Hour Video

Check out the NEW Top of the Hour video about the Wheat Ridge Active Transportation Advisory Team's (ATAT) Ride for Reading: <https://youtu.be/J6dmilr7ep0>

Don't Be a Holiday Driving Hazard

1. Distracted Driving: Texting, talking on the phone, checking web sites for Holiday store hours.
2. Stress Driving: During the holiday season many people are short on time to get all their shopping done along with all their other holiday chores. This often leads to driving too fast for conditions, driving aggressively, failing to yield right-of-way, and basically putting your needs above the safety and needs of others.
3. Impaired Driving: Holiday office parties and family get-togethers often involve alcohol. During the holiday season there is a noticeable spike in impaired driving. When drunk driving increases so do traffic accidents and injuries.
4. Fatigued Driving: The increased demands and social schedules during the holidays bring added fatigue to an already hectic schedule. According to the AAA Foundations for Traffic Safety, people who sleep 6 to 7 hours a night are twice as likely to be involved in a crash as those sleeping 8 hours or more, while people who sleep less than 5 hours are four to five times more likely to be involved in an accident.

From the Wheat Ridge Crash and Traffic team. Please have a happy and safe holiday season.



Tax Receipt App

The City of Wheat Ridge has launched a new app for budget engagement. Tax Receipt is an online app that estimates the portions of sales and property taxes paid by Wheat Ridge residents that are available for city services. Visit <http://wheatridge.abalancingact.com/taxreceipt> and enter some simple information. An unofficial taxpayer receipt will be generated based on that information to show an example of how those tax dollars are spent.



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us to support the Rooney Road Recycling Center. Come into the Chipotle at **7355 W. Colfax Suite 103** in Lakewood on **December 29th between 4:00pm and 8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you are supporting the cause to make sure 50% of the proceeds will be donated to the JRC Foundation.



Volunteers of America
Snow Buddy Program

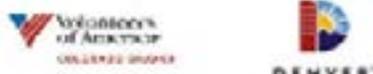


**Volunteers Needed
to help seniors stay safe this winter!**

* * * * *

To volunteer to shovel for a senior in your neighborhood, contact the Snow Buddy Program

303-297-0408 | snowbuddies@voacolorado.org



For more information about the Mayor's Matters e-newsletter, please contact Carly Lorentz, Assistant to the City Manager clorentz@ci.wheatridge.co.us