

TO: **Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees**
FROM: **Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator**
DATE: **January 29, 2026**
ITEM: **Administrator's Report**

ORDINANCE
 MOTION / RESOLUTION
 INFORMATION

The Town of Lyons will hold the next regular Municipal Election on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, to elect a mayor and six trustee seats on the Board of Trustees. The following candidates have been confirmed as having eligible nomination petitions:

Mayor: Mark Browning
Paula Williams

Trustee: Greg Lowell
Leigh Williams
Tanya Daty
Doug Matthews
Julie Jacobs
Amy Schwarz
Mike Schwieger
Mariah McCreary
Jen Wingard

Residents have until Monday, February 2nd at 4:30 pm to add a write-in candidate or to withdraw from the election ballot.

SS4A Grant Announcement: US 36 Foothills Bikeway

We have received notice from Boulder County that their application to the USDOT for the US 36 North Foothills Safety for All Project, through the FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program, was not selected for funding.

They have requested a debrief with USDOT to better understand why the application was not awarded funds. We will use this feedback to inform future applications, including re-applying for SS4A. They strongly believe they submitted a competitive application that reflected our regional collaboration. They will continue to seek funding opportunities for this significant project!

The county also applied to the USDOT Build America Bureau's Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program for funds to complete the bikeway's full design. They are still awaiting word on this award and will share the outcome when they receive it.

224 Seward Update

We have received an update from Boulder County Housing Authority that they plan to spend the \$200K of AAHT funding earmarked for 224 Seward in 2026. They plan to contract for a Market Rate Study and an Environmental Study of the property and host several Community Engagement sessions to gauge interest in home ownership versus rental units and the type of density the community and neighborhood are seeking. They will also be applying for rezoning, which will require surveying and other associated land use costs.

CDPHE Greywater Systems

CDPHE confirmed that they received a copy of the Town of Lyons' ordinance banning the installation of greywater systems. They also confirmed that, for now, they are collecting the ordinances and keeping a list of cities and counties that opt in or out.

Current Snowpack

From a January 23, 2026, Northern Water article:

https://www.northernwater.org/news/2026snowpack?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery.

This year's snowpack in the Upper Colorado River basin is at 57 percent of its average. The snowpack in the South Platte River basin is at 66 percent. This is important because the South Platte River basin provides the base water supply for the farms and cities of northeastern Colorado, and the Upper Colorado River basin supplies most of the water for the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, which supplements local supplies.

The good news: water storage in the [Colorado-Big Thompson Project](#) is above its 69-year average for this time of year, meaning water will be available for delivery during high-demand season. Also, there is still time for more snow to accumulate, building a larger snowpack for the year.

Tebo Property Update

The Tebo properties were annexed into the Town in April 2025. Since then, Town staff and Tebo's design team have met a few times to begin discussing the specifics of the redevelopment. At a high level, there are ongoing discussions with the Tamburello property owners regarding the location of shared access, preliminary conversations with CDOT regarding the location and design of vehicular access into the site and required upgrades to the intersection, and preliminary conversations with the two ditch companies that hold prescriptive easements affecting the ability to develop the property.

Staff continue to be responsive with inquiries and support for redevelopment. In the meantime, staff and Lyons Fire have been working with existing tenants to improve building safety. Numerous code violations have been remedied, and a few remain ongoing. Staff will continue to work on life-safety compliance with the businesses; however, the condition of the buildings themselves presents certain challenges that are difficult to remedy without substantial investment.

Update and Request for Assistance Re: CWRC Enforcement Support

Good Afternoon DFPC Partners,

I am reaching out to you all today because you indicated in the survey we sent out several months ago that your agency may need assistance from DFPC in enforcing the new Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code. Based on all the information you've provided us, we've submitted what we think is a very reasonable supplemental budget request. Although the request would not completely fill the enforcement needs of our local partners as we understand them, it would begin to fill those needs by providing DFPC the spending authority necessary to employ three FTE this fiscal year, increasing to a total of 5 FTE next fiscal year and ongoing.

The Governor's office has been very supportive of this effort and approved moving forward with the request. Unfortunately, the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) again rejected the proposal during a hearing that was held yesterday. We have already filed a comeback request for the Committee to reconsider their decision.

As part of the comeback request, we are reaching out to you all for support. If you are willing to provide a letter or make a phone call to the members of the JBC to express your support of this request and communicate your community's need related to having these state resources available to you, please contact our Legislative Liaison, Natalie Seils, who is included in this email. Natalie will coordinate your efforts and help ensure that your outreach is delivered at a time that will be most impactful to the Committee's reconsideration of this request.

As always, thank you so much for your continued partnership and, hopefully, together we will be able to convince the JBC that this request is needed and necessary. Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you in advance. Have a wonderful weekend.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher Brunette, MS
Chief
Fire & Life Safety Section



COLORADO

**Division of Fire
Prevention & Control**

Department of Public Safety



Fire
Marshal

O:303-239-4100

C:720-724-4767

We've moved! We're now located at:

1697 Cole Blvd, Unit 200, Lakewood, CO 80401

chris.brunette@state.co.us | <https://dfpc.colorado.gov/>

Pursuant to Colorado's Open Records Act (CORA), all e-mails sent by or to me on this state-owned e-mail account may be subject to public disclosure.



From the American Public Power Email Brief January 26, 2026

In a report accompanying a fiscal year 2026 appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security, House and Senate appropriators are demanding answers about the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and warning the Administration against the massive layoffs and reorganization the president is reportedly considering.

Report language is not binding, but it is as clear an indication of congressional intent as can be found in the legislative process, the American Public Power Association noted.

The bill, H.R. 7148, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026, was agreed to by House and Senate Republican and Democratic leaders of the Appropriations Committees and released earlier this week. It is expected to come to a vote by the full House this week.

Overall, the bill would increase FEMA funding by \$4.7 billion – up from \$32 billion – for fiscal year 2026, which began on October 1, 2025. The total includes \$26.4 billion for the disaster relief fund – roughly in line with the levels the Trump administration and congressional appropriators proposed last year.

The report states that FEMA “shall maintain staffing levels, including a reservist workforce and its Cadre of Response/Recovery Employees, necessary to fulfill the missions required under the Homeland Security Act.”

It also states, in relation to the President’s FEMA Review Council, that “FEMA shall not implement an elimination or reorganization plan for the Agency or any proposal to inhibit the performance of the Agency’s functions and activities funded by this Act without an act of Congress permitting such measures.”

The report is also demanding answers, including language telling FEMA to report to the Appropriations Committees on:

- The status of hazard mitigation grants;
- The status of Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grants;
- The specific rationale used to cancel BRIC grants and the effect of those terminations; and
- The rationale for disaster declarations and denials in the last year.

The report comes as the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee works to build support for **H.R. 4669, the Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act of 2025**. It also focuses on fixing FEMA and is staunchly supported by APPA. APPA is asking its members to reach out to their congressional delegations in the House to join in cosigning a letter to House leaders in support of H.R. 4669.

“Members of the House have until January 27 to join in signing a letter in support of H.R. 4669, the Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act of 2025. APPA strongly supports the bill, which is intended to greatly simplify and expedite public assistance grants in the wake of an emergency or major disaster, and is asking members to ask their delegation to join in signing it.

The letter is being led by Representatives Chuck Edwards (R-NC) and Don Davis (D-NC). ”

Adventure Van Expo

The sponsors of the Adventure Van Expo (who attended the January 5 BOT meeting) have decided to pursue another location after working with the venue on the layout for Bohn Park. The town offered all parking in Bohn Park, as well as at the 2nd Ave Trailhead. The sponsor wants all vehicles parked on the grass field, and not in the parking lot. This presents a problem for the facilities due to the crushing of irrigation heads and the potential of wet weather ripping up the fields.

Community Foundation of Boulder County (CFBC) Update

Following BOT action on January 5th, the CFBC responded with the following:

Thank you so much for the update, and for bringing the discussion to the Board of Trustees. We really appreciate the thoughtful way the Town has approached this conversation, and we understand the Board's decision not to make additional deposits at this time.

Given the turnover in leadership every two years, and the ongoing need for mental health support, I'd like to offer one additional path that might give the Town maximum flexibility moving forward: **Rather than closing the fund or leaving it inactive, we could convert it to a designated fund that remains open for contributions from anyone in the community.**

This option allows the fund to stay available in case a future Board wants to contribute again, offers community members, businesses, and philanthropic partners the opportunity to support mental health efforts in Lyons if they choose, and the Town to **retain the fund's purpose and identity without any obligation to contribute annually.** It's a light-touch way to keep the door open for the future, especially as needs evolve and new local leaders or organizations may want to participate.

We're completely supportive of whichever direction the Town chooses, but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to share this option in case it serves your long-term goals better than termination or inactivity.

We value our work with the Town of Lyons, and we're grateful for the partnership we've built. Please let us know how you'd like to proceed or if you'd like to talk this through together.

We would update the fund agreement, which is simple to do, and the person signing the agreement could be a member of the board or a member from the community. It doesn't have to be signed by the Town, but certainly can be.

Staff are seeking direction from the trustees.

2025 Annual Report Update:

Staff are working toward the final completion of the 2025 Annual Report. A few local reports are still outstanding; reminders have been sent. Staff anticipates the report will be finalized by February 6, with public publication planned for the week of February 9.

Old Man Winter Rally Coordination & Road Closures:

Staff is working closely with the Old Man Winter Rally crew, Boulder County, and the Boulder County Sheriff's Office to coordinate logistics for the Old Man Winter Rally—Bike and Run event on Sunday, February 1, 2026.

As part of the approved special event permit, 2nd Avenue will be closed to vehicle traffic from the Bohn Park entrance north to Park Street from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Residents will need to use McConnell Drive during the detour. The closure will be signed and staffed by the Boulder County Sheriff's Office, with all sheriff service fees paid by the event organization. Residents along the route have been notified via door hangers.

Tourism Management Grant Application:

Staff submitted a Tourism Management Grant application by the January 23, 2026, deadline. The proposed project would raise awareness of the town's sandstone and quarry history and further develop heritage tourism opportunities in Lyons. The Tourism Management Grant program is highly competitive and supports tourism-related projects that enhance, develop, or manage visitor experiences in Colorado. Grant award notifications are expected in early March.

Boulder County Sustainability Grant Award:

Staff have received notification of a \$15,000 grant award for FY 2026 from the Boulder County Sustainability Grant Program. Funds will be used to support the costs for the conversion of public streetlights to LED fixtures, which the BOT had approved in the 2026 budget, and will help to improve energy efficiency and reduce long-term operational costs, while enhancing safety.

Wayfinding Signage Update:

The final two wayfinding signs to be installed within the CDOT right-of-way have been approved by CDOT and are now fabricated. Installation is planned for the coming week, weather permitting, with warmer temperatures anticipated. Wayfinding signage was identified by the Economic Vitality Commission as a priority to support local businesses, and staff leveraged an additional \$33,000 in State and County grant funding to cover fabrication and installation costs.

Utility Bill Newsletters

Stay informed, Lyons. Each Utility Bill Newsletter is sent monthly to all Town utility customers. If you miss it, we encourage you to review the newsletter for updates and information. Current and past utility bill newsletters, along with the Town's e-newsletters, are available on the Town website.

<https://www.townoflyons.com/Archive.aspx?AMID=38>

All eblasts are also posted on the Town website

<https://www.townoflyons.com/list.aspx?PRVMSG=247>

Recreation Programs

Spring and summer leagues, classes, and camps are open for registration. Sign up for Girls Recreational Softball, Youth Recreational Baseball, Kids Mountain Biking, Square State Skate Skateboard Lessons, Lyons Creek Summer Camps, Challenger Soccer Camp, Adult Basketball, Senior Bus Trips and more!

Learn more: www.townoflyons.com/Recreation

Blood Drive

The Town of Lyons and the Lyons Regional Library are hosting a community blood drive on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, from 1:30 - 4:45 pm. Please [sign up to donate blood](#) today!

[Link to sign up](#) or use QR code



Wastewater Facility Issues

The town hired a hauler to transport sludge three times while the centrifuge was down, at a cost of just under \$13,000. Operators are still running the machine at a lower speed. The most recent labs still show the cake around 14.5% dryness, which is in the typical range, and we are not seeing an increase in hauling from heavier loads.

CDOT ADA Curb Replacement Project

The Colorado Department of Transportation and its contract partner, Goodland Construction, Inc., continue their Americans with Disabilities Act curb ramp replacement project. The impacts within the rights-of-way (especially public gardens) are quite significant.

Work Schedule: Monday-Wednesday between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm

Lane Closures: Single lane closures and shoulder closures at each curb ramp

Curbside Limb Pick Up

The recent curbside limb pickup was completed in two days, at a cost of \$3,200, by Baer Forestry. The town will continue to partner with Boulder County Wildfire Partners, the Lyons Fire Protection District, and Paul Tamburello whenever possible to offer free drop-off events throughout 2026.

More Graffiti

The recent graffiti spree occurred throughout the town and under most bridges. What staff could not remove was contracted to The Tendit Group for \$2,282.50. The sheriff has an open investigation, and these charges will be included in any restitution that can be collected.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Feb 1	9:00 am	Old Man Winter Rally at Bohn Park
Feb 2		Last Day for Write-In or Withdrawal for Election
	5:30 pm	Board of Trustees Workshop
	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Feb 4	4:30 pm	UEB Meeting at Town Hall
Feb 9	4:30 pm	HHSC Meeting at Library
	6:00 pm	PCDC Meeting at Town Hall
	6:00 pm	PRC Meeting at Library
Feb 10	4:30 pm	LAHC Meeting at Library
Feb 11	6:00 pm	Consortium of Cities Boulder County Courthouse
Feb 12	3:30 pm	Student Advisory Commission at Town Hall
	6:30 pm	SFC Meeting at Library
Feb 16		President's Day Holiday – Town Hall Closed
Feb 17	5:30 pm	BOT Workshop
	7:00 pm	BOT Regular Meeting